

## geo-JOURNAL

The geoJOURNAL is the newsletter of the geoMETRIX GEOS Users Group. The geoJOURNAL is published as often as possible (approximately every 2-3 months) and sent to all current members, subscribers and to various user groups through the Newsletter Exchange Program.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Please send in your copy by the ist of the month. We will place it in the next issue that we are working on at that time. For advertising, we will notify you which issues your ads will be run in. Articles and Ad copy must be submitted in qeoWrite format with artwork in qeoPaint format or a photo album on GEOS disks, and must be GEOS related.

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Advertising in the geoJOURNAL is available at the following rates and must be paid for, in advance.

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You can contact the Editor, Grady Brown by writing geoMETRIX 20224 S. Spraque Road, Oregon City, Oregon 97045-9641; or on the BBS ENTERPRISE by calling (503) 245-8735.

Do you write GEOS programs? Would you like new and wide exposure? Why not send us a demo of your program for a review in the geoJOURNAL. If you're working on a new one, let us know and we'll write about it too.

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Membership in geoMETRIX is open to anyone that is interested in the use of GEOS. As a member you get a 6 issue subscription to the geoJOURNAL, access to the BBS ENTERPRISE, special 'Members Only' offers and access to the geoMETRIX Public Domain library.

# YEARLY DUES

U.S.A. - \$10.00 Canada - \$12.00 International - \$20.00

### MEETINGS

geoMETRIX meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Meetings are held at Pietros Pizza, 12222 S.E. Stark, Portland, Oregon. Come on in and visit us.

# LIBRARY

The geoMETRIX library is available for all members at all meetings. For use outside of the meetings (by mail) we must ask for the following to help with the costs involved. \$10.00 (U.S. funds) for the current geoMETRIX collection in the U.S. and Canada. \$20.00 All other areas.

All programs in the library are carefully acreened to make sure all programs released to our members are in the PUBLIC DOMAIN. If for some reason a program is found not to be in the PUBLIC DOMAIN, please let us know, we will remove it immediately and notify the membership. If you have PD GEOS pros., consider adding them to our library.

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# geoMETRIX GEOS Users Group

20224 S. Spraque Road Oregon City, OR 97045-9641

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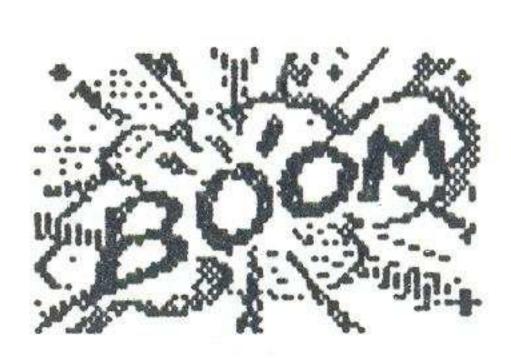
# Feature Articles

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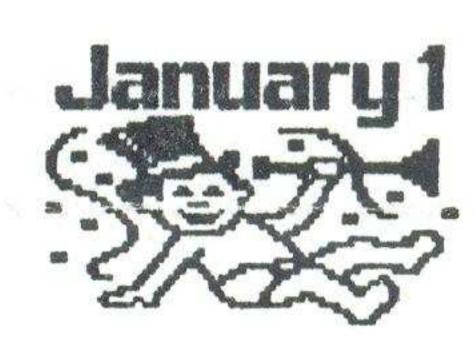
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January 20, 1991 February 17, 1991 Harch 17, 1991

Portland geoMETRIX Meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday of every month at Pietro's Pizza on S.E. 122nd & Stark. 4:00pm-8:00pm



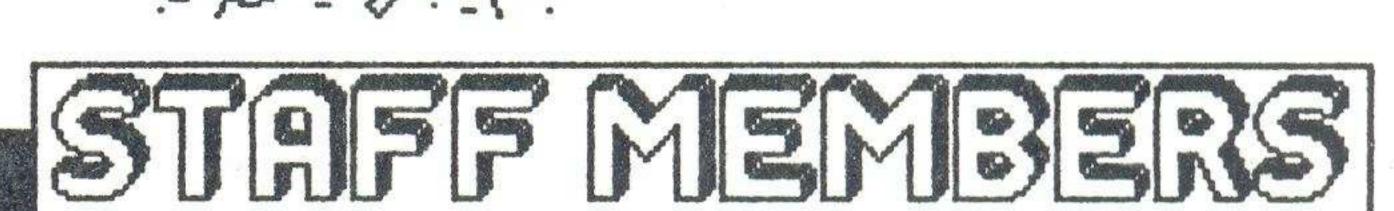








THE OFFICIAL BBS OF GEOMETRIX! SUULEUL Baun 24 Hours Collors 54



geoMETRIX President:

Peter Lerten

geoJOURNAL Editor:

Grady Brown

geoMETRIX Secretary:

Peter Lerten

geoMETRIX Librarian, BBS SYSOP: Ken Nakatsu

HAPPY NEW YEAR ONE AND ALL!!! It's 1991 and things are getting pretty exciting around here.

GEOS is spreading like wildfire and new programs are are cropping up everywhere. Be sure to thoroughly read this **geoJOURNAL** issue so you don't miss even the smallest tidbit of information. Let me give you some specifics...

The front cover is a reflection back on 1990 columns that we've carried, and what's to continue. Everyone is helping out so well. Without our contributors we wouldn't have much in the geoJOURNAL. And without the quality contents, you wouldn't continue to subscribe and support geoMETRIX. Therefore we'd dissappear like so many other publications. THANK YOU for supporting us. YOU make geoMETRIX what it is.

Our very own 'Hardware Hacker' Ken Nakatsu brings us his hardware upgrade project review, upgrading his RAM Expansion Unit from 512K to 1 meg. Read about his project and you'll want to do this too.

And of course, we have your favorite columns from Steve Wehner, Dick Estel, and Terry Witter.

BEGINNERS COLUMN, FONTMANIA, and Geoldiot!

From yours truly, you can read the second installment of Pinting.... This one's about one of the Paint Drivers, Paint Pages.

Check out the 1st item in the GM on Q-Link column.

Look for issue \*10 to give you another full review of a late breaking new desktop replacement called GateWay from CMD. It totally replaces the BSW DeskTop and CONFIGURE files.

So, with no further delay, I bring you **geoJOURNAL** issue number 9. Enjoy, and may 1991 be your best year ever.



# Reference Reference Room A column by Ken Nakatsu

Here is a list of the latest files which have been added to the Library. They are listed by subjuct and filenames just as they appear on Q-link.

Cubicat	Filonoma
Subject	Eilename
Ramboss II	ramboss2.arc.
Ramboss II Docs	rambossdoc.arc
Open Drive B After Boot	opendriveb
New Tools 2 Sample Effects	nt2 christmas
NBA Scorecard GeoCalc	pistons.arc
Debugger Update to 128	debuggerupda
Debugger Update Doc	geodeb.up.doc
Copies Files to Ram	qpikstash.arc
Handyscan to GeoPaint	hs2geo.sfx
Rescue 64 From Ram Crash	rescue 64
Rescue 64 Documentation	rescue 64.docs
Dialogue Box Get File 1.1	dbgetfile 1.1
Select Printer 64/128	select printer
Load Q-link	geoboot 2.0
	12,550

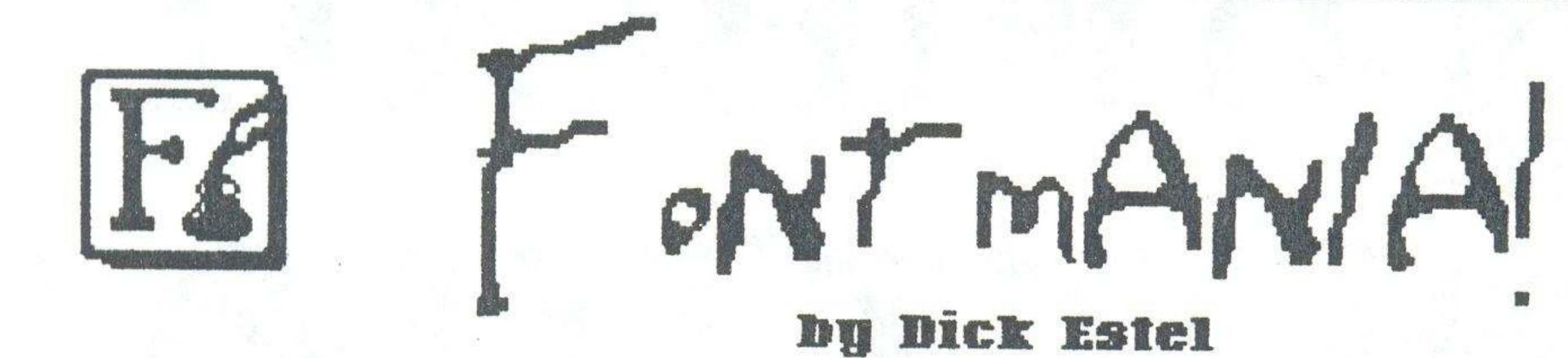
These files will be available on the BBS Enterprise.

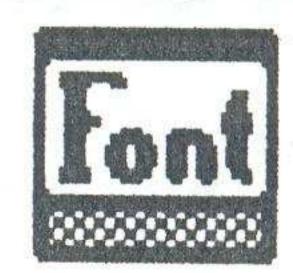
Do to the great demand for the geoMETRIX library and our present inablility to keep pace. I we are putting off getting the font library together at the moment so we can handle the more immediate task of trying to get the orders out for the current library. We appologize for the unwarranted wait that many of you have been experiencing.

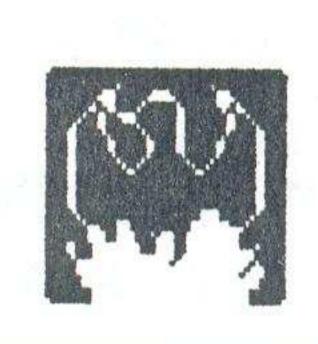
# WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your questions, answers, programs for review, suggestions, or just say Hil Mail To:

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If you've done much collecting of GEOS programs, or have an interest in fonts, you've probably acquired a font editor program along the way. But you may never have used the program.

I am familiar with geoFont, which comes with some of the Berkeley font disks; and Jim Collette's Font Editor (currently at version 2.5). Both editors work in a similar manner, although I believe Font Editor is significantly superior.

There are times that anyone using GEOS can and should use a font editor. Here are four reasons to play with this fascinating GEOS program that you might have overlooked:

to make the font file smaller to add missing characters to make special characters to improve existing characters

> FONT BUFFER SIZES 4,096 geoPublish

> 6,000 geoPaint 64 4,100 geoPaint 128 4,500

> > Table 1

with the Commodore key ('~|{}\). You could eliminate other punctuation marks and even numbers if you can get by without them. A last resort is splitting the font. This involves duplicating the font under a different name or point size, then eliminating different characters from each file (ending up with A-M and N-Z or some variation).

# MISSING CHARACTERS:

Sometimes the problem is sort of the opposite of a font that's too large--missing characters that you want to use. Many font files do not have some or any of the punctuation. Usually this is to keep the font small enough to work in all applications. But sometimes a few characters can be added to a font without exceeding the limit. Again, you can easily check the font's size with the editor to determine if you can add to it.

### MAKING SPECIAL CHARACTERS

Commodore neglected to include a cents (¢) key, but many GEOS fonts have some other character defined as &. However, you can easily create one, or any other special character you might want. These could include foreign letters or perhaps a special monogram for your initials.

### MAKING THEM SMALLER

Each GEOS application that allows the use of geoHrite different fonts has a buffer into which the font file is loaded. The size of the buffer varies between different applications (see Table 1). If the font file is too large for this buffer, the font cannot be used in that program. Although geoPaint gives you a message when the font is too large, geoPublish simply ignores the font.

You will rarely encounter a font that won't work in geoWrite, because most editors limit the size of fonts to approximately the maximum geoWrite buffer size.

Many fonts have unused characters, and if the width of these "blank" characters is more than one pixel, you can reduce them to one pixel width using Font Editor (geoFont has a two-pixel minimum width). You can see the current file size in kilobytes as you work on the font, so you can see when you have reduced it enough.

If reducing blank characters does not bring the font down to size, you may have to eliminate characters. I usually start with rarely used characters, such as those produced

## IMPROVING CHARACTERS

This should be fairly obvious...most of us have looked at a font and said, "I could have designed this font better." Well you don't have to design a new one-just fix up the one you already have. I added some extra pixels to the diagonal parts of the W and w in University.

I have also modified fonts to improve spacing. Most GEOS fonts are proportional, but sometimes the spacing does not look right, so you can always add or subtract a pixel width.

While most of us do not have the ability or desire to design a complete font, we can still have a a lot of fun and accomplish a worthwhile purpose tweaking and modifying existing fonts. वि व

# HANBOUL HOFTUARE



At Rainbow Software, we've made an art of collecting MACINTOSH files to convert to GEOS, combing the world for the very best in graphics, clip art, and full-page pictures. Hundreds of geoPAINTs, converted straight from hi-resolution MacPaint files.

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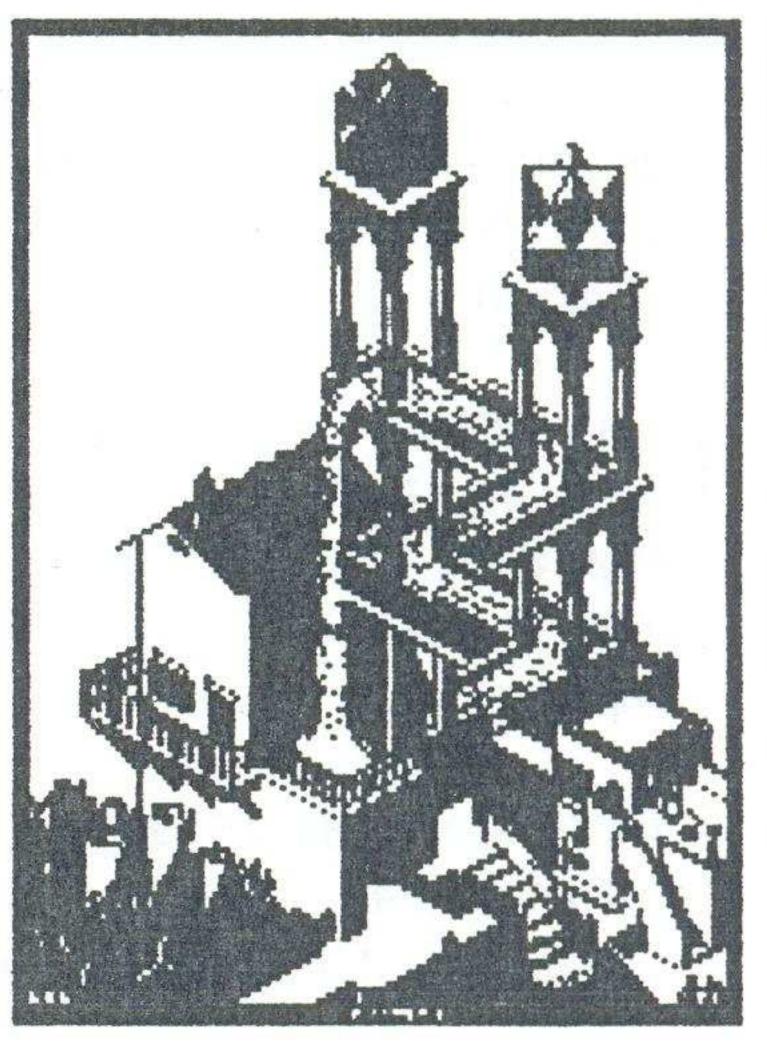
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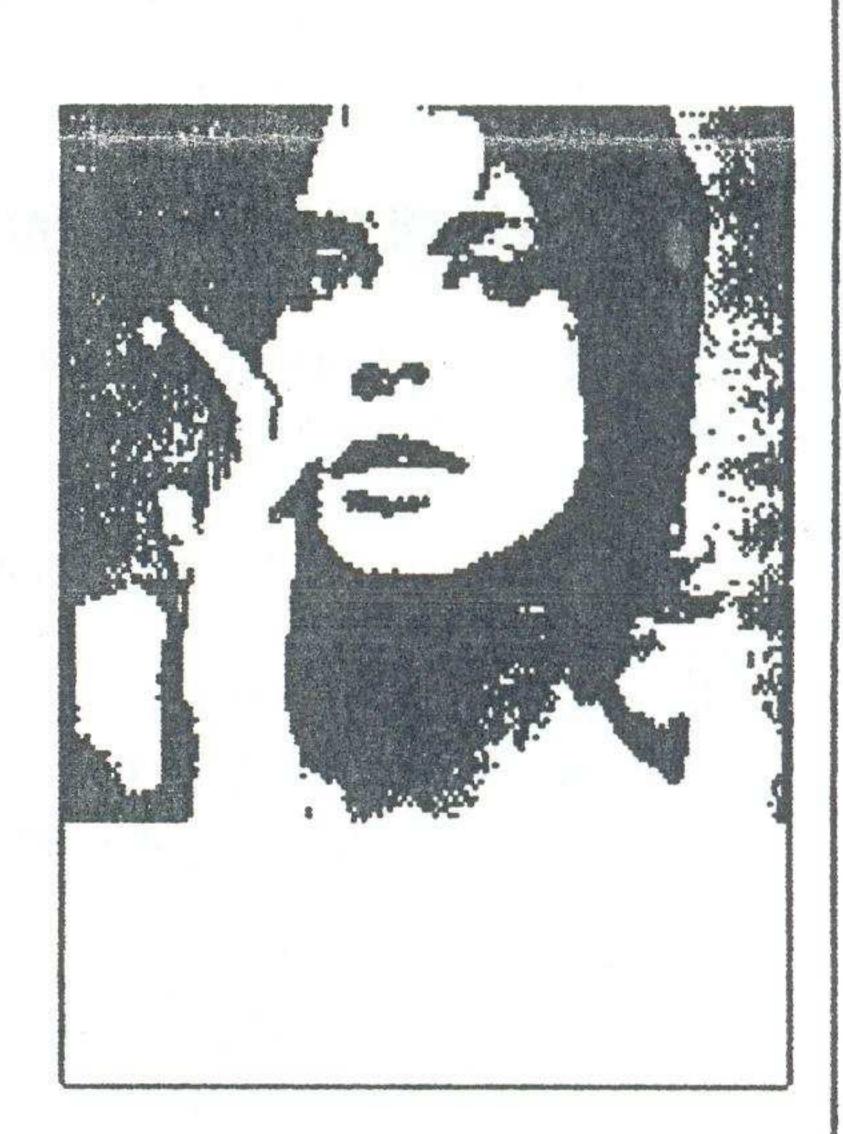


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# SEGINNERS COLUMN

### What Are All Those Files?

by Steve Wehner (Relayer on Qlink)

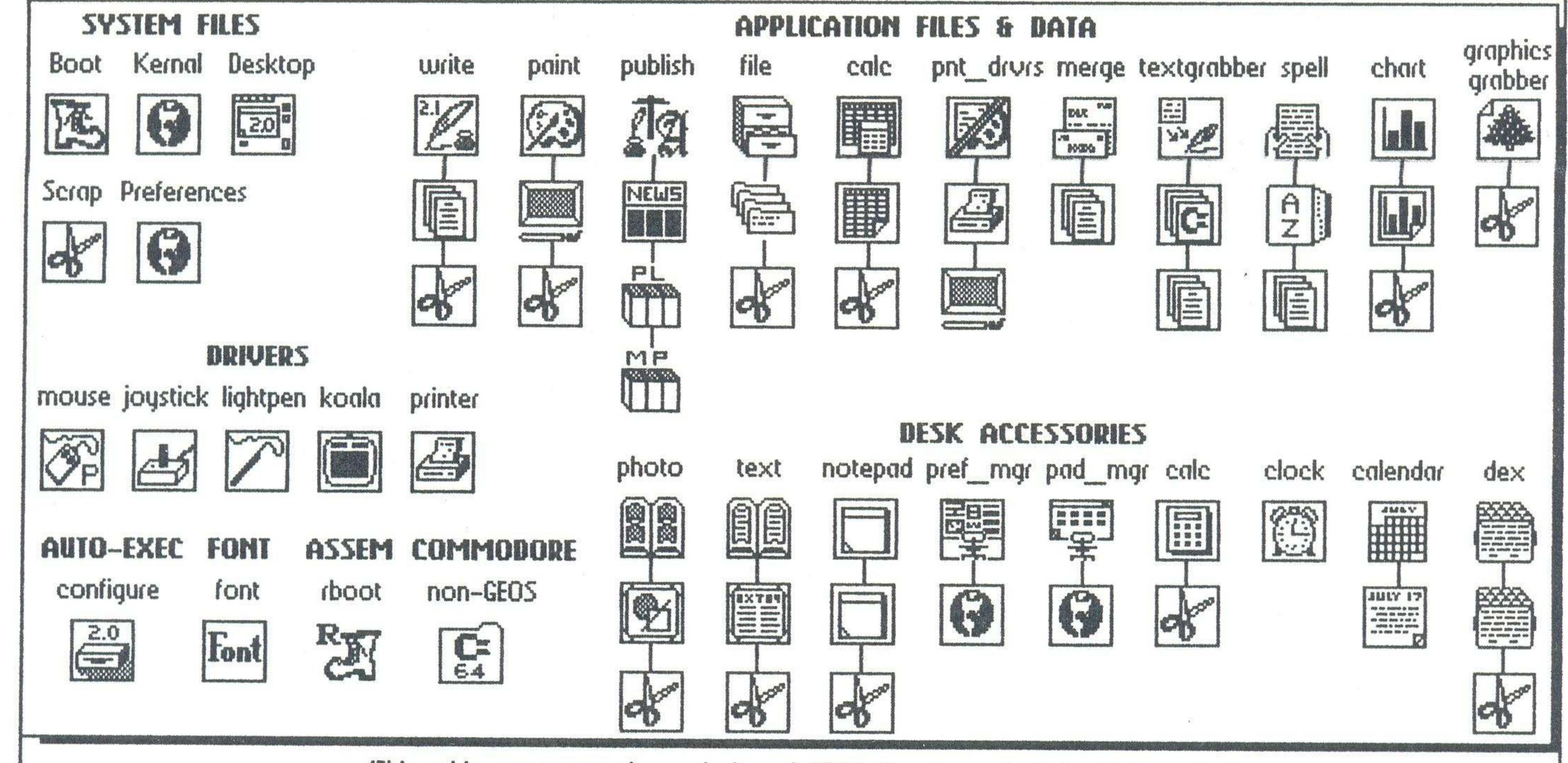
This issue we will forge ahead with a discussion about GEOS filetypes and what they do. We'll also see relationships between certain types and how some files require the presence of others. I will also tell you what files are executable (ones you can double-click on without getting that nasty dialog box that says 'This file can't be opened from the deskTop').

GEOS has major programs which run under it's operating system. These are called parent applications because they produce output in the form of data files (these would normally be called children, but Berkeley Softworks doesn't so we won't either). Sometimes its hard to distinguish between data files and what data files belong to what application. This is where the info block, or info box, comes in handy. Single-click on the data file in question, click on the file menu box, and then click on the info menu item. The info box for the file will appear and you can see what parent application the file belongs to under the class heading. Parent applications that produce data files include geoWRITE, geoPAINT, geoPUBLISH, geoCALC, geoCHART, and geoFILE. There are some parent applications that just perform some manipulation with data and do not produce any data files. Examples of these are Text Grabber, Graphics Grabber, and geoSPELL. Applications are executable (double-click on them to get them going) programs. Their data files are also executable.

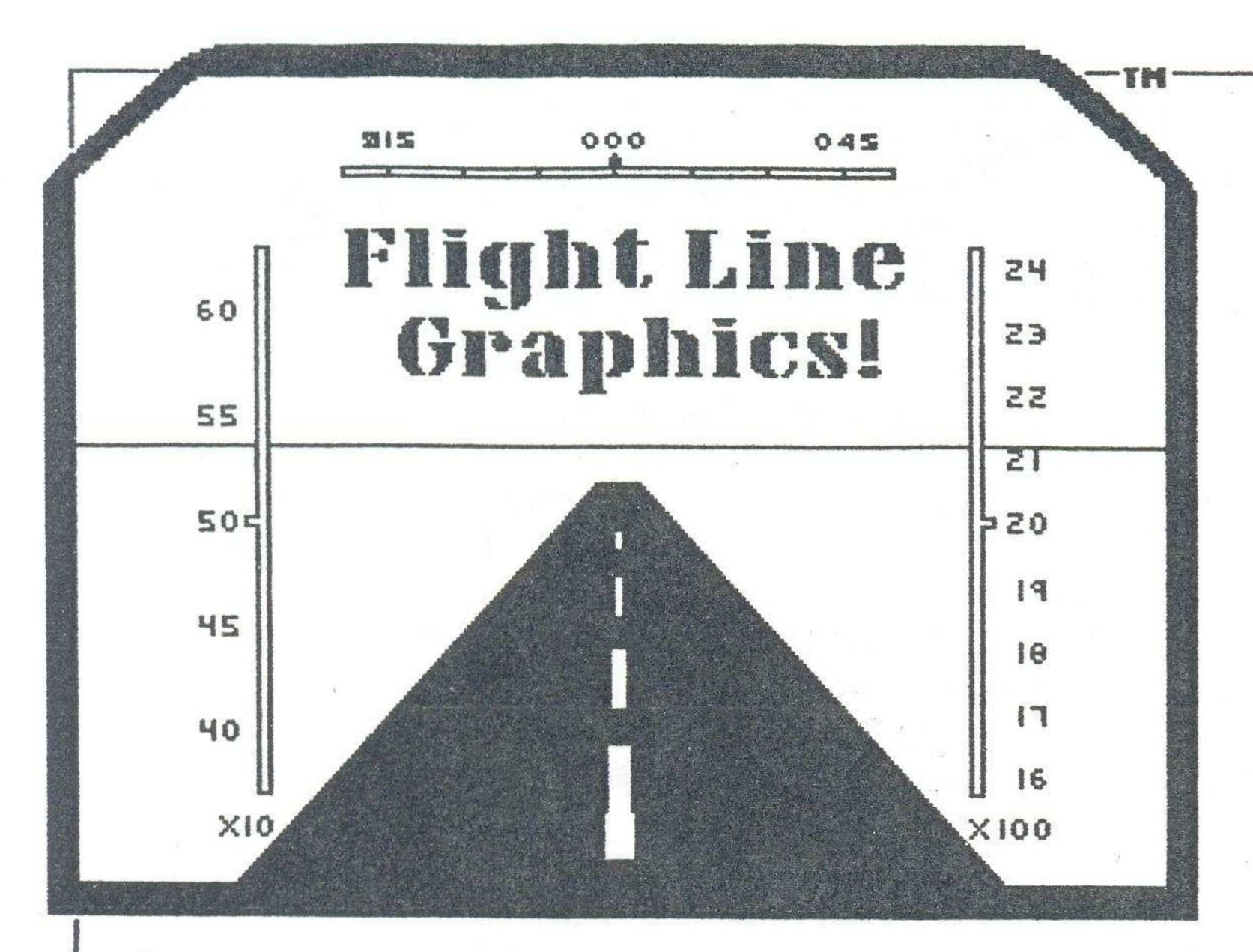
Let's make things a little more complicated. Another

type of file is a desk accessory. These programs are designed to run either from the desktop like applications, or from within applications. To execute an accessory from within an application you would click on the application's GEOS menu item. Any accessories that are present on your disk will be selectable from this pull-down menu. Another unique feature of these files is that when one is selected it is not immediately loaded. What happens first is that whatever resides in the chunk of memory that the DA will occupy is "cutout" from memory and placed into a temporary file on disk called a swap file. The accessory is then loaded into the hole. When you are done with the accessory the swap file is recalled from disk, loaded back into the same memory location it first occupied, and then deleted from the physical disk. This is why your disk should contain as many kbytes free as your largest desk accessory so the swap file will fit on the disk. This whole procedure is called overlaying and GEOS does this a lot (eg. the Desktop consists of modules which are not all loaded at boot time, but get loaded when the need arises).

Desk accessories can also produce data files like applications. Examples of DA's that produce data files are geoDEX, Preference Manager, Photo Manager, Text Manager, Notepad, and Calendar. DA's that do not produce output include Blackjack, Calculator, and the Alarm Clock. Desk accessories can be thought of as pop-up tools that are designed to enhance, or simplify, one's work inside an application. Another nice thing about DA's is that they work [Continued on Page 9]



(This table represents the majority of GEOS files from Berkeley Softworks.)



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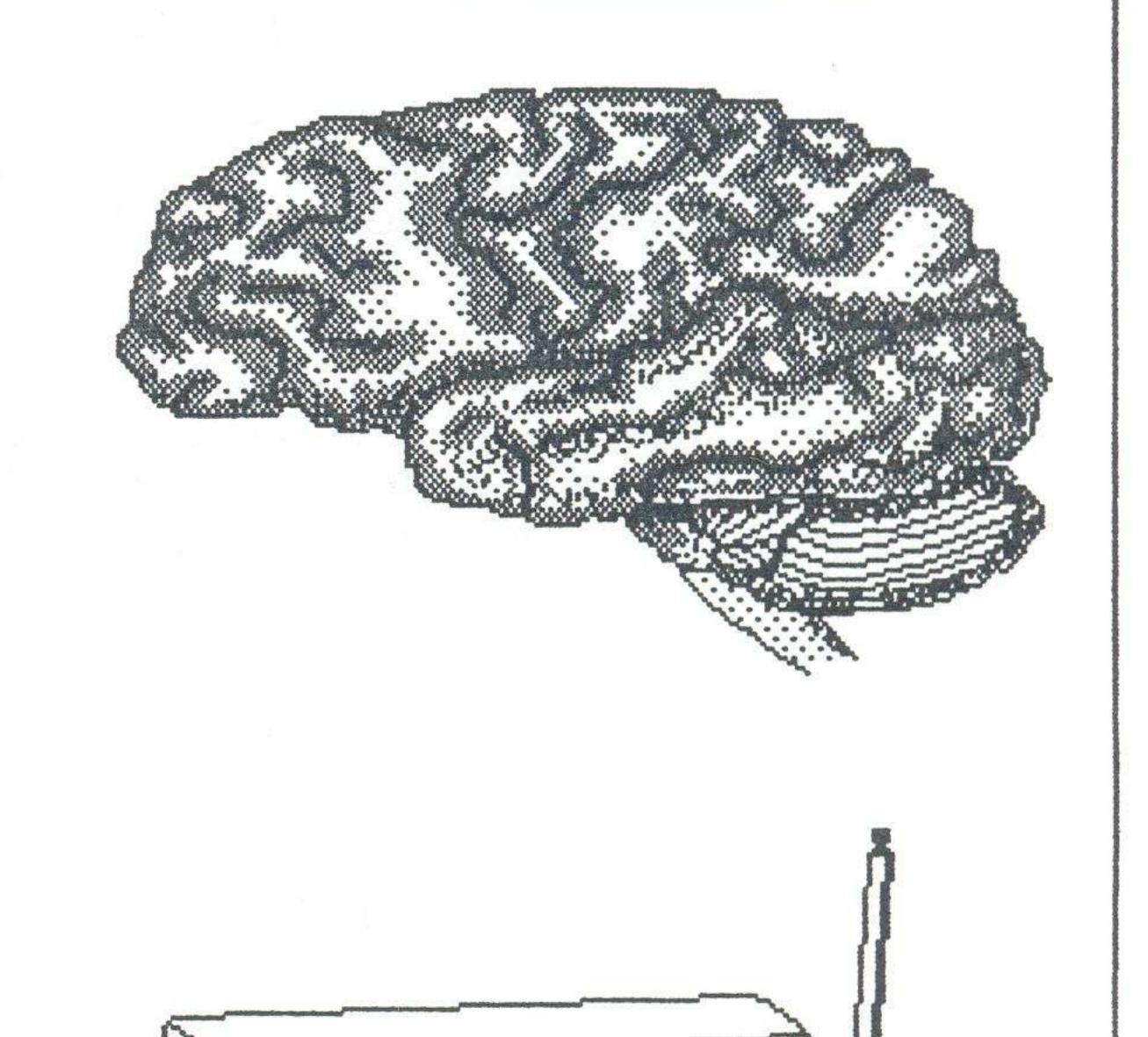
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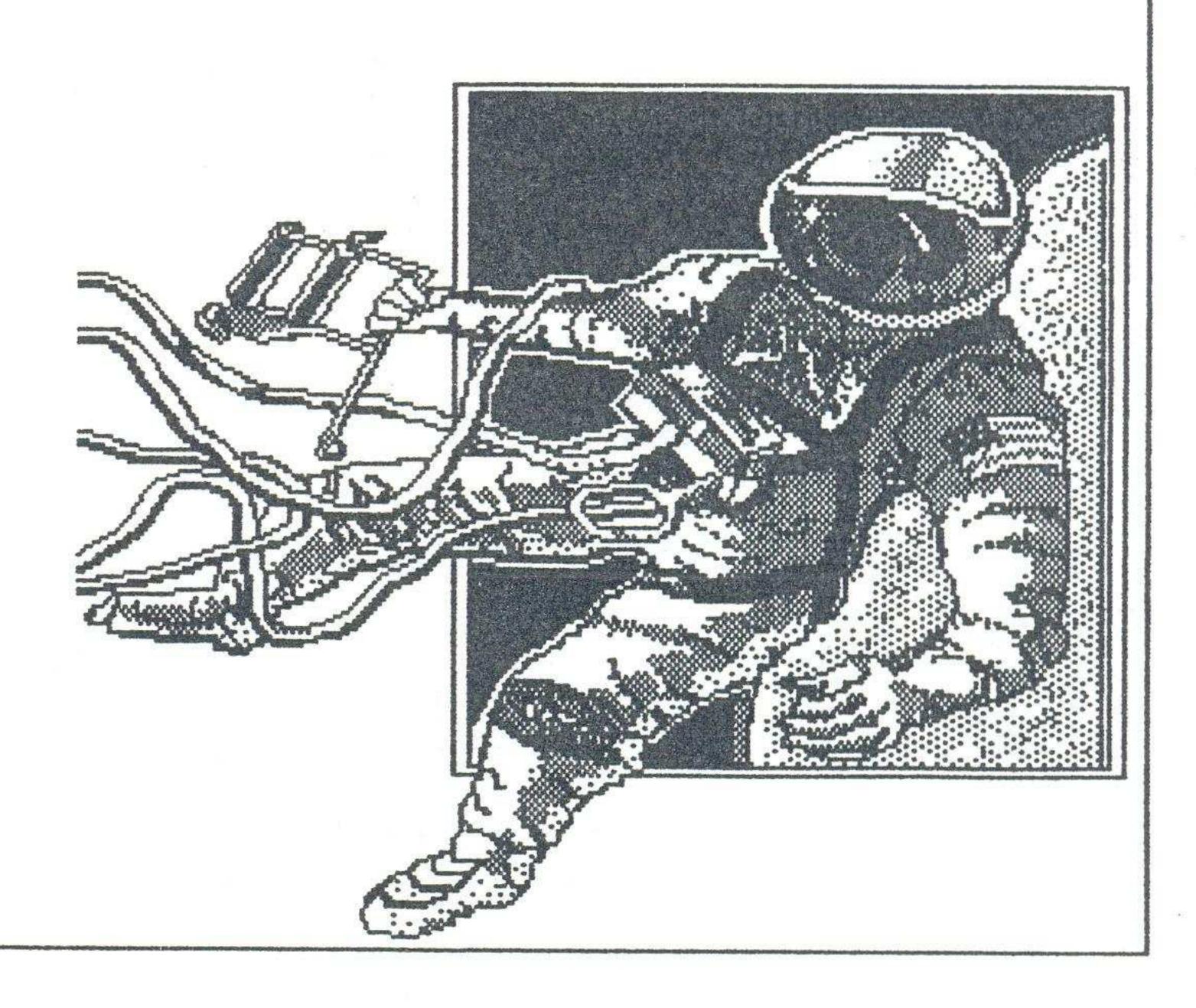
A new line in graphics! TM Flight Line Graphics! (C)1990

GRAPHICS on the right are taken form Volume 1 and 2 Library Disks.

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# BEGINNERS COLUMN (From Page 7)

outside applications, too. Like applications, DA's are executable; but unlike applications, their data files ar not.

Now we come to the specialized files that, for us, do not really seem to do anything except take up valuable disk space and, if not present on a disk, prevent us from using our applications. I'm talking about Input Drivers, Printer Drivers, and Fonts; all of which are not executable. GEOS applications usually require at least one of these to be present on the same disk as the application itself. Input Drivers are required by the operating system itself and GEOS handles these well because it grabs the first Input Driver it finds when booting. The Input Driver is used to move the point—and—click arrow around the screen. For instance, when you decide that the 1351 mouse is just too unstable in geoPAINT, you can change drivers to the joystick . . . provided the joystick Input Driver file is on the disk that is currently active.

Because most GEOS applications produce some form of printable output and because there are umpteen different printers, the operating system requires a Printer Driver that will send the right control codes to your printer. This is so the output looks like something you really meant to print and not some meaningless gibberish. Applications will search for the Printer Driver on the same disk as itself. The driver it searches for is the one GEOS first found upon booting. Again, GEOS will allow you to change drivers if you feel a different one will give you better results. As an example, I own a Star NX-1000 for which there is no specific driver in GEOS. However, because it is Epson compatible I can use the Epson FX-80 or the Star NX-10. In fact, if I want to print geoWRITE documents in near-letter-quality (NLQ) I have to use the Star NX-10 driver to get that typewriter look. The Epson will print, but in a different typestyle (this is because NLQ mode is not a graphics mode and character codes are sent to the printer instead of graphics therefore relying on the printer's character set for characters). Fonts are required only by an application that uses them. Most applications have a resident font, one that is always available with the application. Fonts are niceties, but if you want to use a non-resident font it needs to be on the same disk as the application and not the document (this would be a 2-drive situation).

One other type of GEOS file I want to mention is the **Auto-Exec** file. These files will automatically run when GEOS first boots provided they are placed on the Boot disk. One Auto-Exec file comes with GEOS – the Config file. When you boot GEOS the Config file executes and determines what drives and ram expansion units are hooked up to your system. You should place any other auto-exec files behind the Config file.

Auto-Exec files are like applications in that they can be double-clicked and run from the Desktop. You would do this with the Config file to set up your permanent hardware configuration (I say permanent, but you may reconfigure at any time). An example of an Auto-Exec file is one that puts up a dialog box that allows you to enter the date and time prior to getting to the Desktop.

There are a few other types of files that GEOS recognizes, but we won't spend any time on these. They

include System files (Desktop, the Kernal, Preference Manager data), BASIC files (BASIC programs), and Assembler files (machine language programs or routines). The last file type I want to mention is a file type that GEOS recognizes as a standard Commodore file. If GEOS encounters a file on disk that has no header information (which means GEOS has not tagged the file with one of the types he recognizes) then he assigns it a generic icon and treats it like an application. If you double-click on one of these files GEOS will see if it's loadable. GEOS will turbo-load it if its under a certain size. Otherwise the normal Commodore DOS will load it.

GEOS 2.0 does provide a tool for users to keep better track of what files are what: the **color pad manager**. This DA will allow users with color monitors, or TVs, to assign a color to each of the different file types. Sometimes the icons are just not explanatory enough and that's where the color-coded icons can really help. For instance, you might want to color the application icons red and the application data files light red. Read your manual for information on how to use the color pad manager.

GEOS keeps more filetypes than Commodore DOS, but that is for flexibility within it's operating system. The structure of the files on disk varies, also, but that is beyond the scope of this article. For users these different filetypes simplify the use of the major applications and allow data from one application to be used in another. This is what makes GEOS a totally integrated productivity system for the average home user. Till next time.





By Terry Witter

Here's hopin' yer Christmas season has been a good one, gang... What I plan to do this issue is write a bunch of GEO-BABBLE... -- To those of you out there who are particularly astute, and have grown to assume that geoWrite is my favorite area of GEOS, let me graciously inform you: YOU ARE "CORRECT-O!"... What really riles me, is the 'plaint of those users out there who use geoWrite only "once", then (out of frustration) never try it again...The trick here gang, is to keep yer wit's about you, as both "GEOS" and 'geoWrite' are environments (and programs) which can make idiots out of the best-intentioned user... (As proof: just talk to any "WordPerfect" survivors...-if there are any left out there!-) To use these formats YOU MUST FOLLOW RULES!

First, make sure necessary files: 'R-Boot'(if you have a REU), geoWrite, the printer driver for your particular printer, and fonts are on your work disk,(or in RAM... as the case may be)...

Second, after opening geoWrite... name yer document.

Third, at the blank page screen, set yer margins...(ie: drag the 'm' from both sides of the ruler at the top of the GEO write page to the width you want your text to cover)...—Also, note the little 'p' at the top of the ruler, this'll allow you to keep yer paragraphs correctly formatted—...

Fourth, after you've been typin' awhile, "update"...Then, farther into the document, "update" again!!! I can't emphasize just how important it is to update yer work "frequently"... [as an added security note, you might want to store several different versions of yer work to disk, and give 'em each distinctive titles...-sorta like 'chapters' in a book'-...this can be a good way

to track yer progress through a written work...

Fifth, don't forget to 'close' the file when yer done!

Finally, as my brain is 'nearly balony'...(probably a result of "too much holiday reveree")...let me pass along some neat thoughts:

Just think... only recently, 'we' (and the owners of "that fruity computer") have had sole access to the wonders that only GEOS can bring... That is, til now...(Have you seen the screen shots of GEOS being used on those 'mega-machines' in the computer magazines?)... Oh no! Better batton down the hatches folks, I feel a 'mega byte war' comin' on!

With the advent of GEOS ('excuse me', "ENSEMBLE") for the 16/32+ bitters, what comes next? A Nintendo "GEO-BOY"? I mean, does this amount to a kick in the 'bit', or what???

So, the next time yer at one of those MS-DOS stores, and a customer asks you about GEOS (or ENSEMBLE)... SET 'EM STRAIGHT!... ie: Tell 'em where the "System" originally found its roots!!! I mean, lets stand up and "kick some of thise mega bits"... SAY IT LOUD...'N SAY IT PROUD! Don't cower, my 8-bit buddies, tell 'em straight out: It all began with the "lowly" C-64!!! Who knows, maybe we can start a 'new' movement!!! Then, maybe they'll see the 'truth', and "upgrade" to the Commodore '64/128'!!!

Uh oh...guess I'm dreamin' again, huh?
Witt! (Continued (I Think?) on Page 11)

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# Geoldiot! (Continued From Page 10)

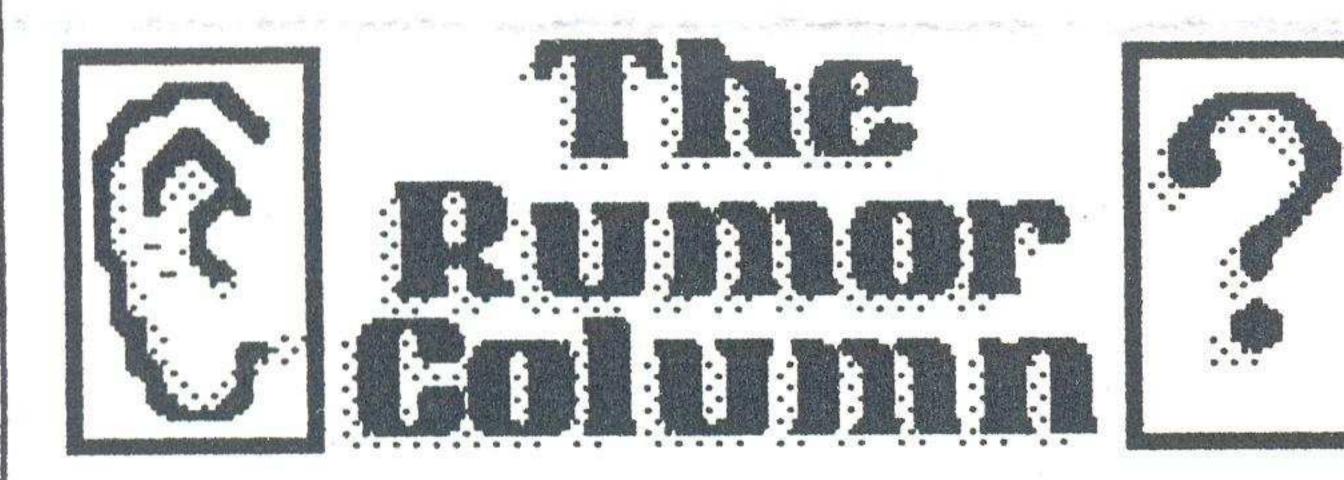
This scenario's giving me nitemares! Pleez, take it over 'Rod'...: (Picture yerself in some "Big Blue" cafe, "Ya want that with 'one gig or two? ...a "Post-Christmas carol" for yer singing enjoyment: (sing it to the tune "Jingle Bells"...or if yer tone deaf; hum it to yerself!)

Com mo dore Com mo dore
Pleez Don't steer us wrong
We've found the eight-bit line to be just fine
All the day and all night lonnnnng

Com mo dore Com mo dore Geos did the trick

One more quip regarding that Amiga schtick and you'll surrrrelllly make us siiiiiiiccccckkkkkk!

Ok...Maybe I'd better 'retire to the geo-farm', before I really get carried away!!!



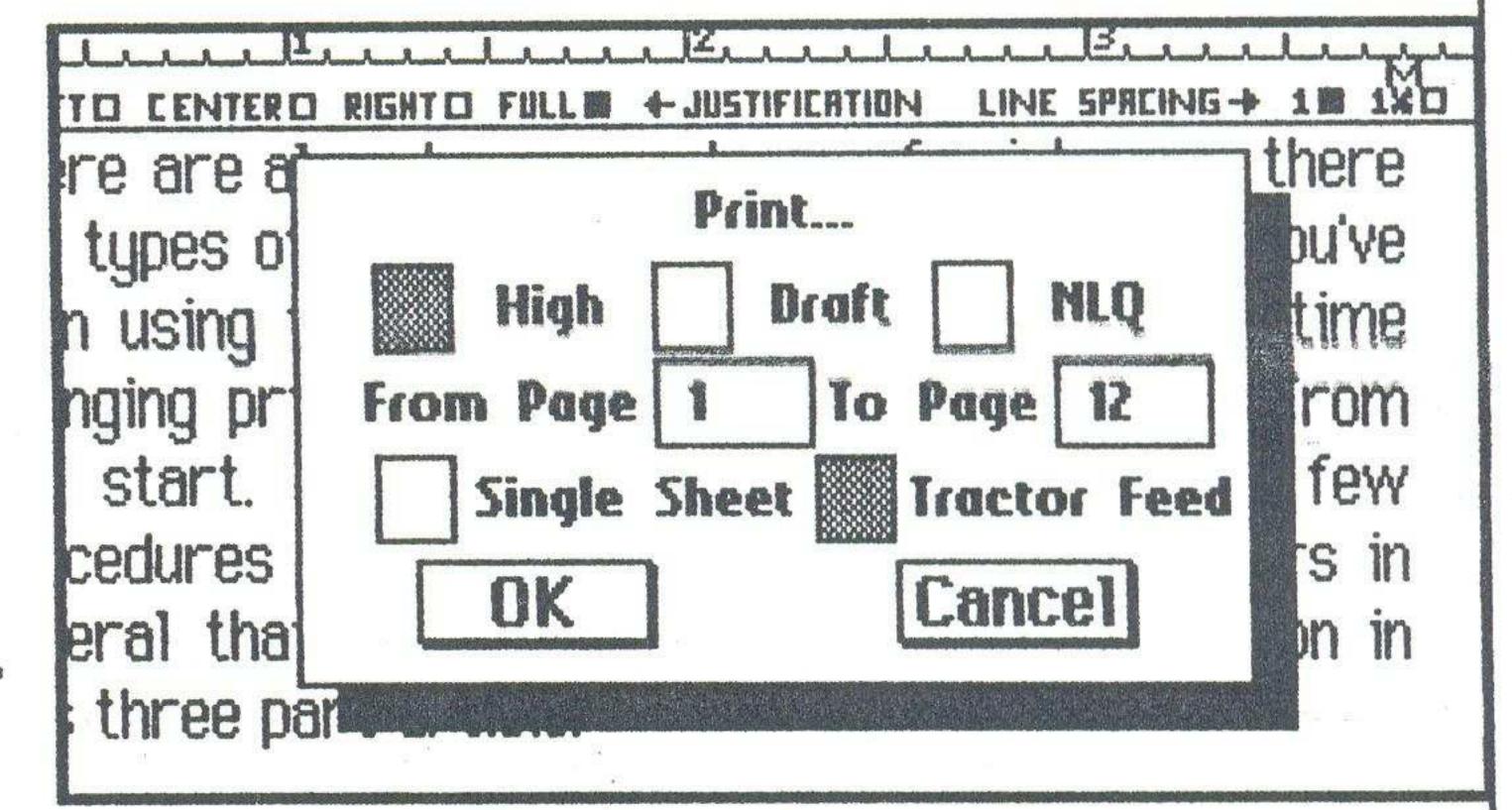
This is a collection of some of the best and juciest rumors that we have heard.

geoJOURNAL wants to keep you up on new things in the works.

DISCLAIMER: This column consists COMPLETELY of unverified RUMORS. And as such, they should not be treated with any amount of seriousness. These rumors may be true, but since they are unverified, they might be completely false. Please do not make any major decisions based on this information, as it might lead to undesireable circumstances.

\* An undisclosed engineer is working on building an interface for the Commodore 64/128 so that any hand scanner may be used.

- \* Hints of possibly hooking up a CD-ROM drive to your Commodore 64 or 128 through the SCSI interface connections of a CMD hard drive are now circulating. All that is now needed is a program like Big Blue Reader to access the CD-ROM drive using SCSI block reads.
- \* Hows about a dual 3 1/2 inch disk drive? The Commodore 1582 disk drive has been talked about in R & D circles.
- \* Bryce Tomlinson may renew as a **geoMETRIX** member.



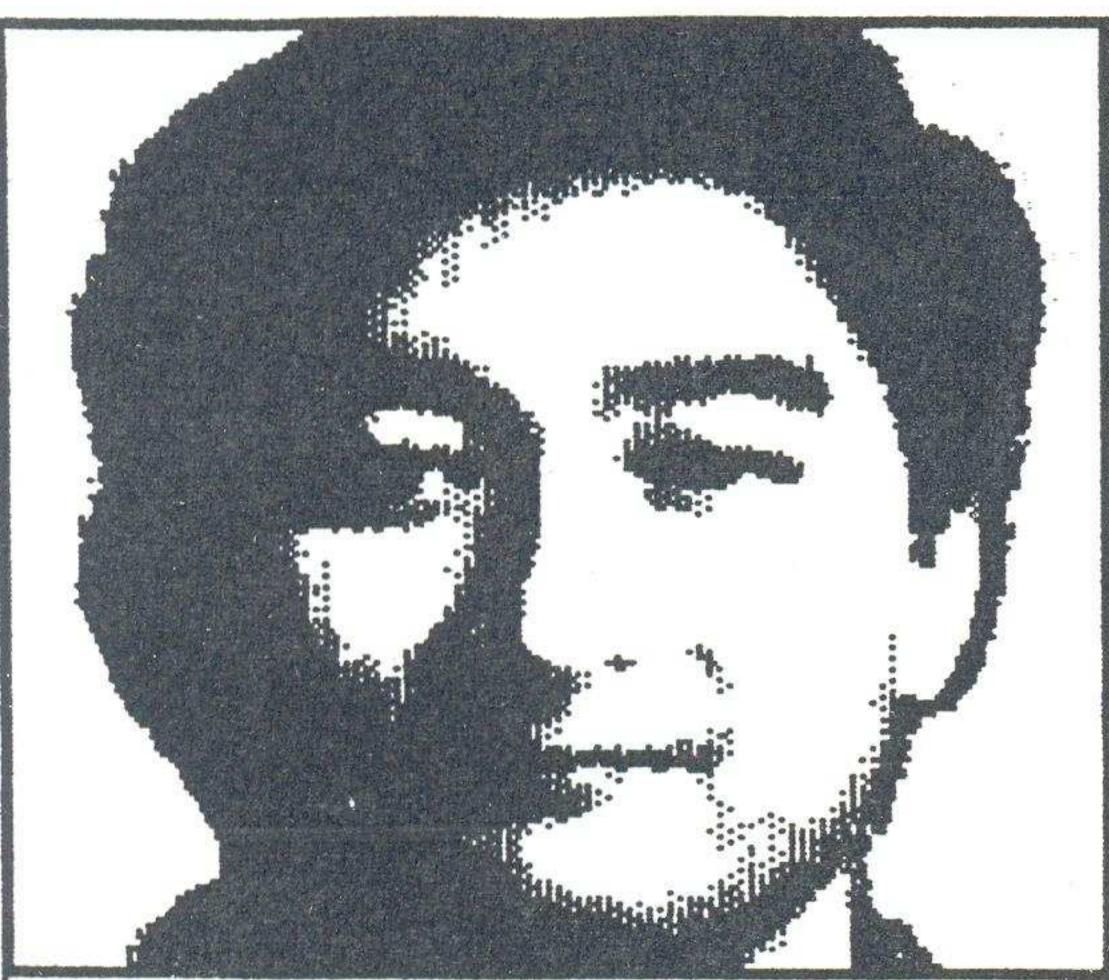
# Frinting. By Grady Brown

Last issue we went over choosing a printer and printer driver for your system. Let's now discuss the use of Paint Drivers. Paint Drivers creates two new printer drivers Paint PAGES and Paint OVERLAY on your disk. We will focus on Paint PAGES for this installment.

Paint PAGES allows you to 'print' a geoWrite or geoPublish document into a geoPaint file so you can use geoPaint's tools to enhance it's appearance with graphics, borders or larger headlines.

First, set up your work disk with DESKTOP, CONFIGURE, Paint Drivers, geoPaint, geoWrite or geoPublish, your printer driver, and your geoWrite or geoPublish document and related fonts. With geoPublish, be sure you have all the related geoWrite text files too.

(Continued on Page 13)



# Up Close and Personal... By Ken Nakatsu

It's my turn to do this? First Bryce and now you Grady. Why is it that these editors make you talk so much about yourselves anyways?

My name is Ken Nakatsu and I am the geoMETRIX librarian, Q-Link account holder, BBS operator, and the guy that gets volunteered to bring his computer to the meetings here in

Portland. I am 34 years of age, I have no wife, no kids and no job. I'm just the best looking guy here that's all.

I graduated from Portland State University with a degree in Design (the emphasis being on product design). My hobbies are generally computer oriented. Commodore computer oriented. I like to play games on them, I like to call bulletin boards with them, I like to run bulletin boards with them, I like to modify them, and I like to do graphics with them. About the only things I don't do with them is to sleep with them and program them, but I plan on changing that too (I'm referring to the programing, of course). Oh!, and like Grady our editor, I am an avid Star Trek Fan.

My first computer was a Commodore 64. I got it about 7 years ago. I've been with Commodore computers since my computer beginings. Pretty much used my 64 as a doorstop for the first 2 years, but now I don't know what I'd do without it. How much do I like my Commodore computer? Well, now I have not only a 64, but I also have two 128's which I have aquired within the last year. I also have two 158Is, an FSD Excelorator II (154I compatible), a 154I, a Lt. Kernal 20 meg hard drive, a 170I monitor, a 1084 monitor, a 1670 modem, an Avatex 2400 baud modem, a 1764 which has now been upgraded to 1 meg (see REU Kit Review elsewhere in this issue), a Panasonic KX-P1080i printer and maybe I'll even get an Amiga 500. Nah!

I've been a member of geoMETRIX for about a year now and that is about how long I've been into GEOS as well. To tell you the truth I wasn't really excited about GEOS even as a member of geoMETRIX, but like my slow start with the 64, GEOS has grown on me and now I'd be hard pressed to do without it. Being the Librarian, was something I did out of the goodness of my heart to help the group. Obtaining the Q-link account was something I did out of the greediness of my soul (heh heh heh it's mine all mine!). Both of these things have really accelerated my warming upto GEOS and I'm really glad to be a part of all of this. By the way, my Q-Link name is "Metrix!".

I wish I could think of more I'd like to say, but I'm really not big on talking about myself, bragging about myself maybe, but not talking about myself. I **would** like to say I think we have a good thing going here and I hope we'll be around for a long time to come. Things have never looked rosier for geoMETRIX than they are now. Your support has been terrific!

Now for my Columbo routine. "Just one more thing I want to say". I'm planning to undertake a revamping of the BBS. I don't know how long this is going to take, but it will involve selling my Lt. Kernal Hard drive. Not to worry though because I plan to get a CMD Hard drive in it's place. Only thing is I can't afford to get one without selling the other. This means that the board may be comming down (TEMPORARILY) sometime in the near future. For how long a period and when is hard to predict at the moment, but I don't anticipate it being more than a month when it happens. Short term suffering will be rewarded by long term returns though as I will be able to use the CMD with GEOS and users will be treated to an all new BBS Enterprise running on OMNI BBS.

# Printing... (Continued From Page 11)

Once your work disk is ready, open the Paint Drivers application by double clicking on its file icon. A dialog box will ask you to "Choose real printer driver type." Click on the printer driver you normally use to print with, and select **OK**. The deskTop will re-appear and you will see two new file icons, Paint OVERLAY and Paint PAGES as printer drivers. Now choose **select printer** from the **geos** menu and click on the printer driver Paint PAGES. Select **OK** and you will be returned to the deskTop with Paint PAGES as the default printer.

Now you're ready to 'print' (convert) your document into a geoPaint file. Please make note that Paint PAGES will convert multi-page documents into separate geoPaint files named PAGE 1, PAGE 2, and so on. If you have other files on the disk named this way, you had better rename them or they will be overwritten with the new files. Also, as soon as you have completed using Paint PAGES, it's best to re-name the files then so there are no mistakes made later, overwriting wanted files. You'll need plenty of disk space available for this conversion process, as the original file is left untouched. Paint PAGES printing time can be extremely long. (Especially when printing a geoPublish document.) REU is greatly This is when an recommended. SPECIAL NOTE: The geoPaint page size is smaller than the original geowrite or geoPublish page by about 1/2" vertically and 1/4" horizontally. Keep this in mind when preparring your documents for use with Paint PAGES.

OK, to print (or convert) your document over to a geoPaint file we act as if we are actually going to print out the document. Click on the document file icon you want printed and click on it again to get the ghost icon. Drag the icon down to the printer and click again to deposit it on the printer. Or, click on the document icon and select **print** from the **file** menu. The Print Options box will appear where you can select the pages you want printed and click **OK**. (If you have limited room on your disk, only print a couple pages at a time.

Then, copy the files to another disk to free up disk space.)

When the 'printing' is complete you will have new files named PAGE 1, PAGE 2, etc. It's best to rename these now as any more 'printing' will overwrite these files. If you're done converting files into geoPaint, you will want to re-select your regular printer driver at this time.

Now you're ready to enter the newly created geoPaint file and begin sprucing it up with graphics, borders or whatever your imagination can come up with. A lot of the geoJOURNAL has been put together with Paint PAGES. HAVE FUN!!!

Next issue we will complete this Three-Part article with Paint OVERLAY creating columns with geoWrite and geoPaint.

Peter Lerten (M-12) 20224 S.E. Sprague Road Oregon City, Oregon 97045-9641 USA

On your mailing label there is a code after your name that tells you (and us) a couple of things. This is not an account number. You're a real person to us, and we'll use your name to identify you. The code is only to identify when your subscription and/or membership expires.

In the example above, the letter stands for your status (M for Member, S for Subscriber, and E for newsletter Exchange.) and the number is the **geoJOURNAL** issue that is or will be your last one in your subscription and/or membership.

# 等。第一次。

Please let us know your new address as soon as possible, so that we may keep your newsletter(s) coming to you without any delays. Just send it to the address listed on the inside front page and we'll update our files.

# An REU Kit Review

by Ken Nakatsu

# Introduction

One of the most powerful hardware component one can have for use with GEOS is the REU (Ram Expansion Unit). It's most notable advantage is speed. In addition to its swiftness, I like it beacause I no longer worry about accidentally altering a file without being able to recover the original so long as I work from the Ram Expander. Without the Ram Expander one must make a backup on disk before working on any file to insure against such a disaster.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to possess an REU know that with the Ram Expander you can configure GEOS to use it as a 1541 ram disk when it has 256k of REU memory, and if it has 512k of REU memory GEOS can be configured to use it as either a 1571 or two 1541 ram disks. For owners of Commodore's 1764 or 1750 REUs there is still more power to be had. The 1764 and 1750 REU can be modified to handle as much as 2 megs of memory. (Those who have read issue #6 of the geoJOURNAL may recall that I refered briefly to this. in an article titled "Let's Expand Memory").

With 2 megs of memory and Configure 2.1 by Jim Collette you can configure GEOS to use your REU as one or two 1581 ram disk(s)! A 1581 ram disk gives you 790k of memory! This is as exciting a development for GEOS as any that has come along in recent months and yet there are many of us who would like to have a 1 or 2 meg REU but don't because of obstacles which makes such modifications unattactive. (1) Going on a search for parts which are needed for the upgrade, (2) deciphering the schematics which illustrate what and in what manner components are to be connected and (3) having the guts to actually perform open heart surgery on your own REU with schematics and docs that were written for a surgeon.

For me the third obstacle was not a deterent since I have had experience operating on my computer previously doing such projects as installing on/off switches, device switches, reset

switches, an internal clock in my 128, an amplifier in my data cassette, and other such niceties on my computer hardware. However, I downloaded 4 files on the upgrade from Q-link and spent 2 days puzzling over them before I got up enough courage to tell myself "I THINK I may actually be able to do this". Then when I went on a hunt for all of the components (here in Porland, OR) I found that no single place had nor could they obtain all the parts I needed under one roof, and those which had the IC's I needed required the purchaser to meet a minimum order, usually around \$25 to \$30. Others still required that I order at least 50 or so of each type of chip. I only needed one!

# The Kit

Well, none of this was very encouraging to me and then I found that Melvin Montgomery of Plano, Texas has developed a kit which eliminates the barriers that were keeping me from persueing the upgrade further. So when I found out about this kit I obtained one.

Melvin's kit contains everything needed for the upgrade (he even includes solder!). I found his documentation to install the upgrade to be straight forwards and the instuctions were stated in easy to follow steps. They also come well illustrated with schematics for both the older and newer style Ram Expanders. The only hitch I encountered worth mentioning is that a couple of steps in the instructions referred to the wrong technique of making a connection, but the location of the connections themselves were correct. I've been in contact with Melvin on Q-link and he has informed me that the documentation has been revised so that those discrepencies no longer exist.

Melvin has not only done the deed of gathering all the parts, but he has also preassembled the 3 ICs used in the upgrade into what he calls the "Logic Board". He has also attached all the leads to the Logic Board. This eliminates the preliminary wiring of the three ICs one would have to do before making connetions to the REU. What remains to be done which requires soldering is to daisy chain the D-rams (memory chips) together, solder them in, solder in a socket for Logic Board (there is an empty slot provided for

one for one in the REU), and connecting the Logic Board leads to the proper places on the REU.

It took me two hours to daisy chain each bank of D-rams and solder them into the Ram Expander. It took me another two hours to solder in the socket for the Logic Board and to connect all the leads from the Logic Board to their respective places on the REU so if your upgrading from 512k to 1 meg then figure on it taking about six hours for the job of getting everything soldered in. To upgrade to 2 megs would have taken aproximately 8 more hours extrapolating the time it took me to do the first two banks of memory. The time it takes may vary as I like to work carefully to get things right the first time.

Externally there is very little about the REU that looks different when your fininshed. All of the upgrade up to the full 2 megs fits inside the REU. Only the dip switch (which sits on top of the Logic Board needs a little 1/4 x 7/16 retangular hole approximately one inch back from and just to the right of where the case plugs into the expansion port) shows. If you want to retain the shielding it will be necessary to cut a 11/2 inch by 3 1/8 inch hole thru the top of it around the Logic Chip so that they don't interfere with one another. One meg fits under the shielding easily and since I haven't upgraded it to two megs yet I don know for sure, but judging from sight 2 megs doesn't look like it would make it with the shielding so I would leave the shielding out since I have heard rumblings about a few REUs getting warm with a full 2 meg upgrade.

The kit came in a padded envolope sandwiched between two layers of styrafoam which were individually wrapped in aluminum foil and held together by tape. Inside you'll find the preassembled and prewired Logic Board, all the prestriped two inch 30 gauge wire you'll need for the size of the kit ordered, a matching amount of memory chips, a 28 pin socket for the Logic

Board, and solder!

Melvin uses a four position dip switch on the Logic Board (though only three are used) which enables you to tailor the REU's memory to different configurations. This is an advantage

over the two position on/off switch in the schematics I downloaded from Q-link.

One thing the schematics from Q-link showed that wasn't an option in Melvins version was plans for a pair of LED indicator lights which are useful in quickly assessing whether a program is compatible with the upgrade or not.

I found the prestripped two inch 30 gauge wire included in the kit to be long for me so I wound up buying prestripped one inch 30 gauge wire which did the job nicely. Granted I could have cut the 2 inch ones down to size and stripped them myself, but I find stripping 30 gauge wire to be no eaus task.

In conclusion, I would like to say that in my opinion this kit is great time saver for those hareware hackers who want to pursue upgrading their Ram Expander. Good as this upgrade kit is, it is MOI a project for those that have no soldering ability or experience modifing hardware. If you have any reservations about performing surgery on your REU my suggestion to you would be to get someone that knows what he's doing to install it for you. The simplist way I can think of to sum up this kit is that "It let's you get right down to the business of soldering the upgrade into the REU without dealing with preparations".

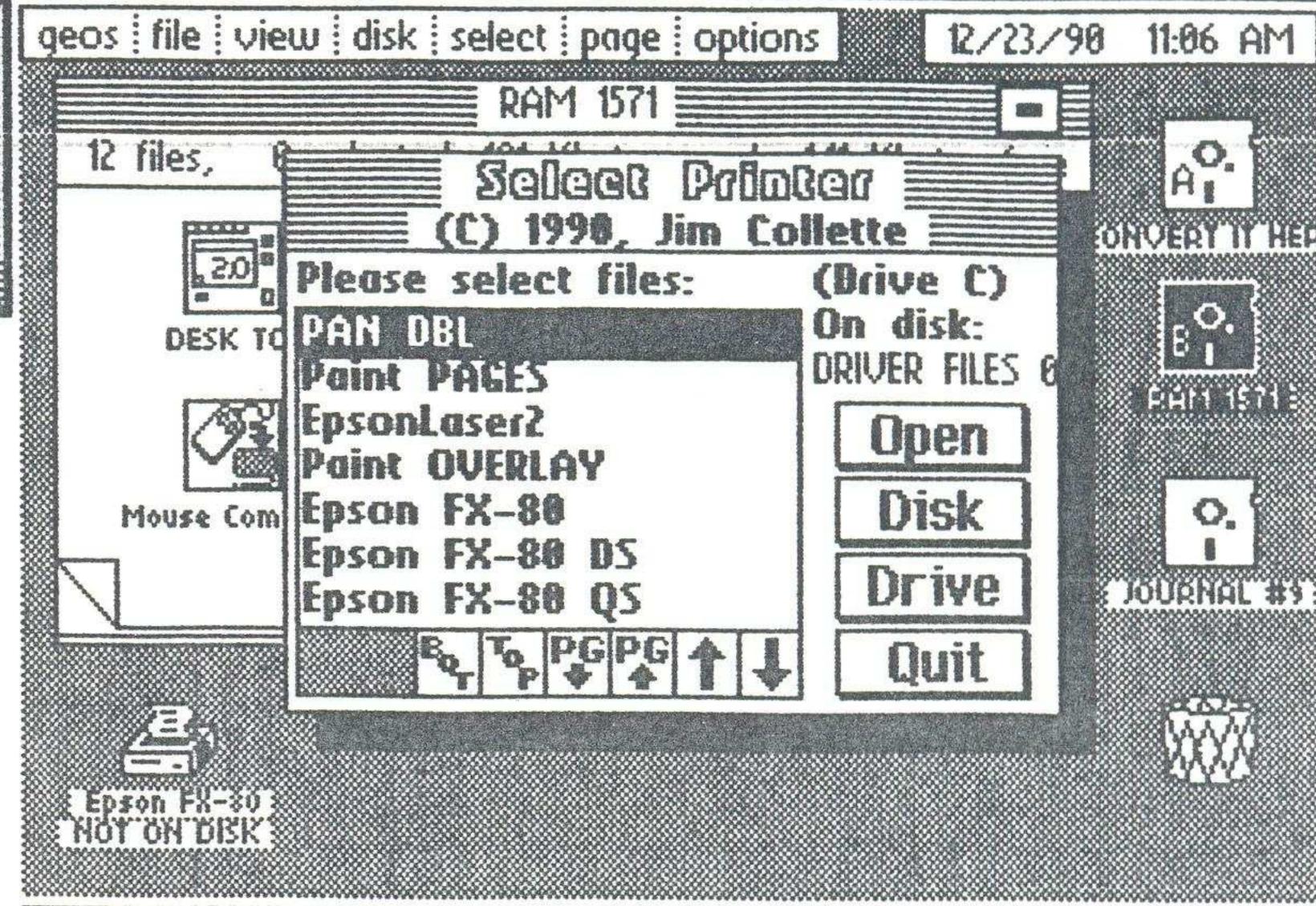
Prices for Mevin's Kit are as follows: 256K REU to 1 meg ---- \$130 256K REU to 2 meg ---- \$230 512K REU to 1 meg ---- \$100 512K REU to 2 meg ---- \$200 Kit for all configurations (less ram) \$50 Ram chips \$1.50 each 256K REU requires 24 chips for 1 meg and 56 chips for 2 meg. 512K REU requires 16 chips for 1 meg and 48 chips for 2 meg. \$4 for shipping in all cases.

# Mailing address for orders:

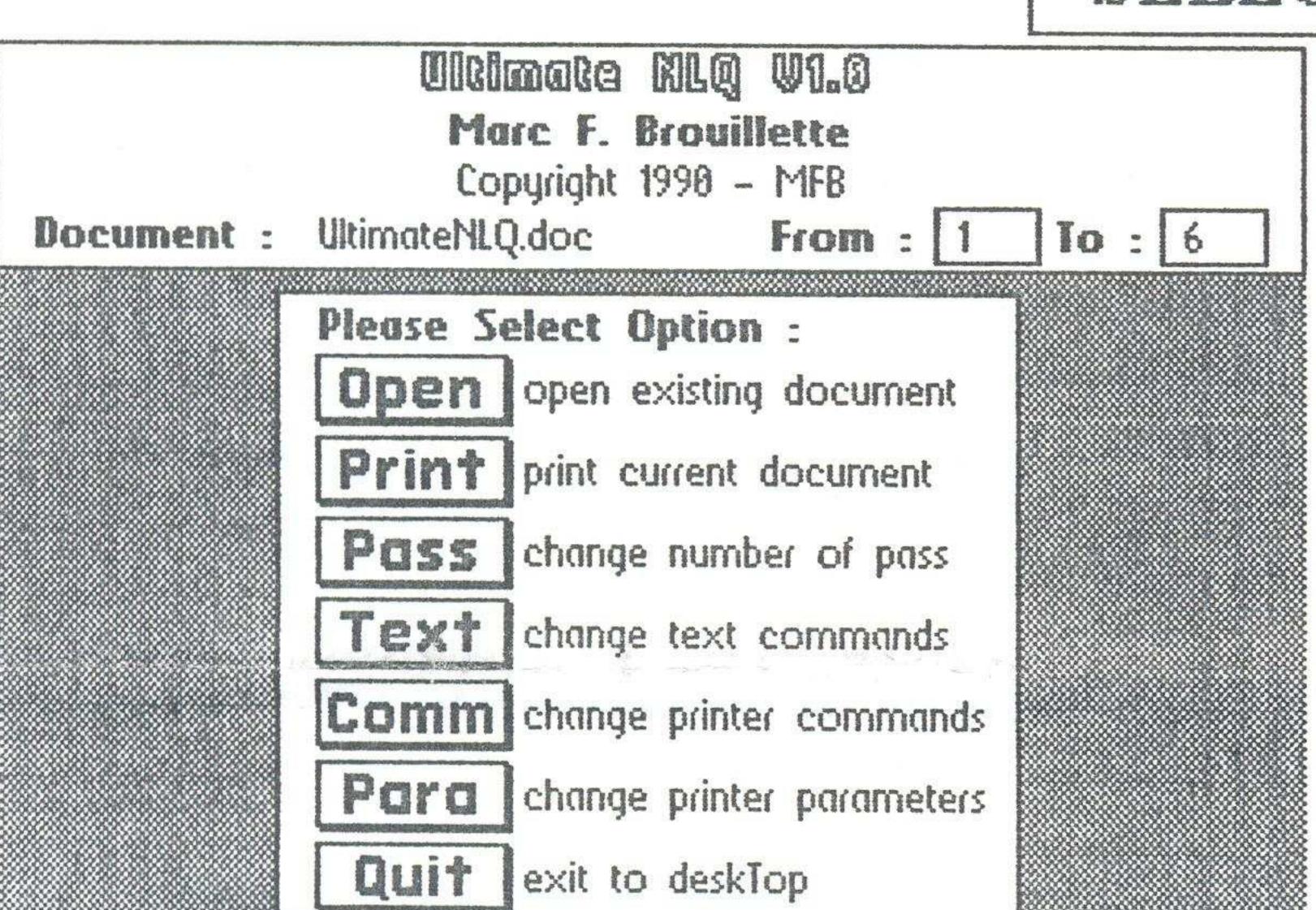
Melvin Montgomery 1504 Amherst Drive Plano, Texas 75075

Melvin can also be reached on Q-link as CMDR 四山 fixer.

This Freeware desk accessory works with GEOS 64 and 128 (40 or 80 columns), and allows you to select the printer driver of your choice from within other programs. Sellect Printer will retain your choice of drivers in an REU RBOOT and is the only one that is compatable with geoWizard. In GEOS 64 you can even use 3 drives. This DA will update the kernal in RAM.



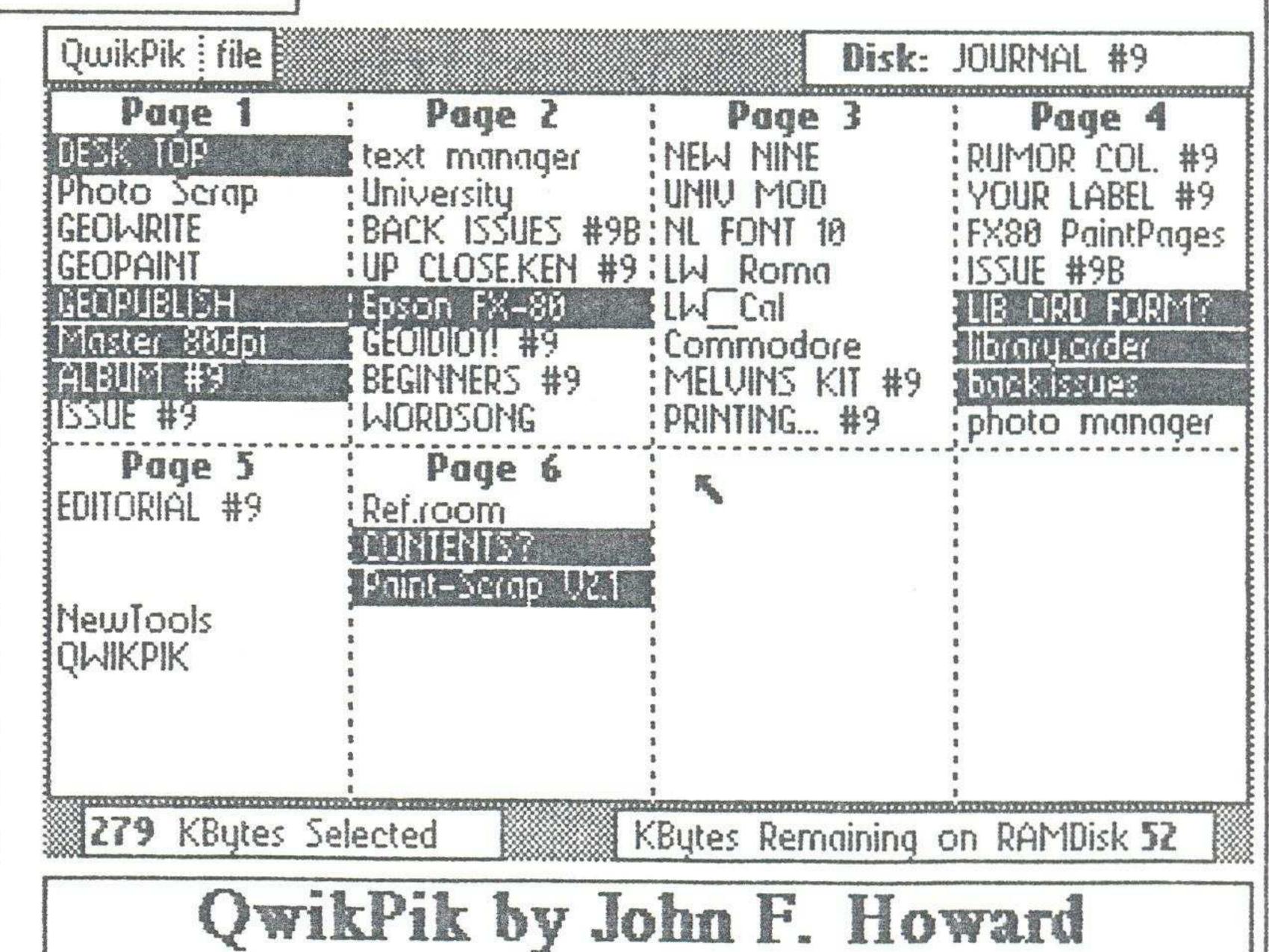
# SELECT PRINTER by Jim Collette

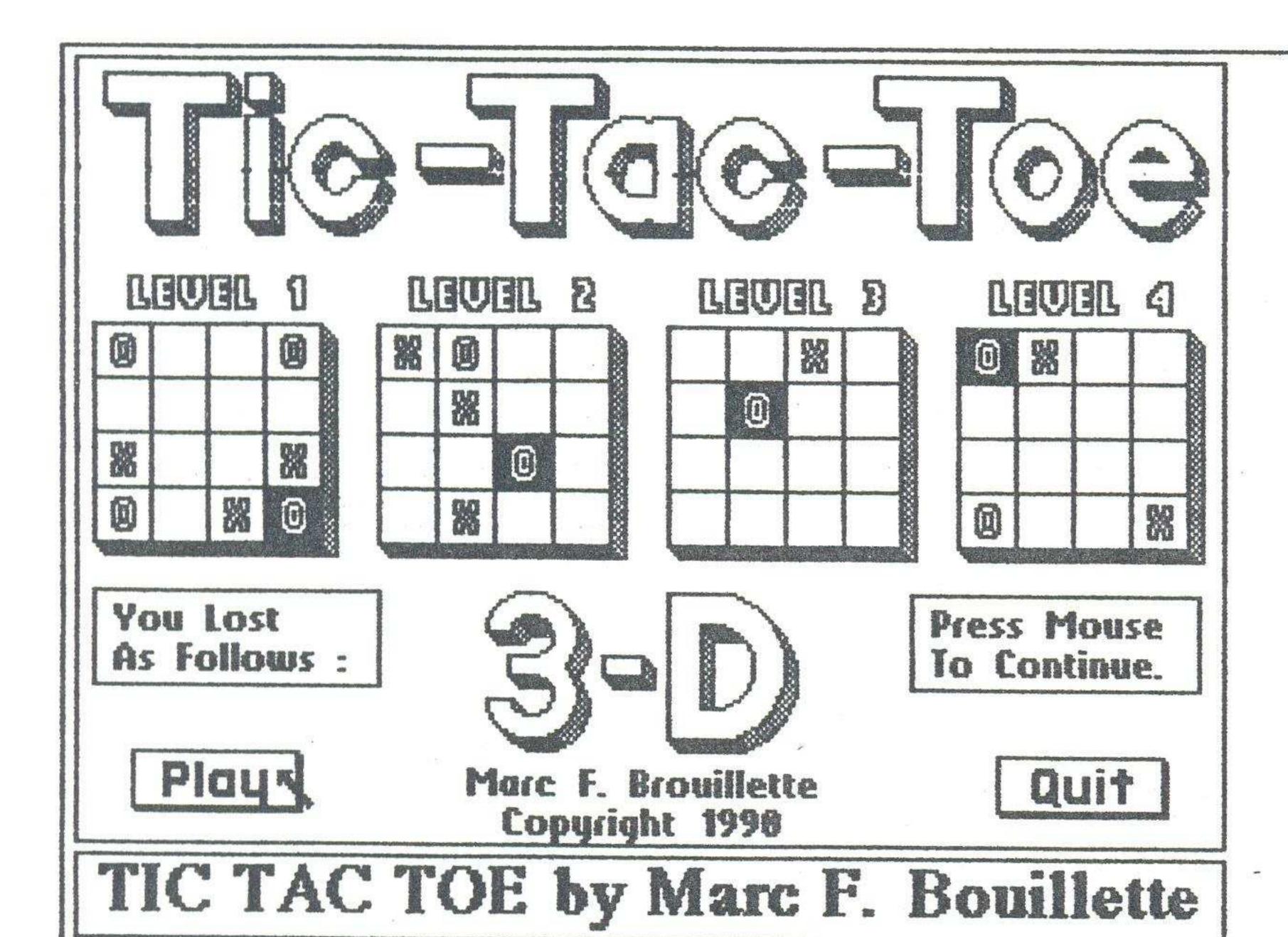


This application will allow you to print geoWrite documents in NLQ or Draft modes with graphics. 8 files comprise Ultimate NLQ so it's self contained with a 30 printer database of control codes and 4 fonts. No need for geoWrite, a printer driver or fonts. Utimate NLQ will maintain your bold, underline, italics, subscript and subscript. Outline is not supported. Only compatable with geoWrite 2.0 or 2.1. Works with either 7 or 8 bit printing heads, 60, 72 or 80 dots per inch, 60 or 80 characters per line. (Marc says that it does not support 24 pin printers yet.)

# ULTIMATE NLQ by Marc Brouillette

QwikPik uses that familiar QwikTop desktop in another of Johns Qwik series programs. This, along with QwikStash will dump your selected programs into the REU during boot up and if wanted, swap the RAMDrive with either drive A or B before your desktop appears. QwikPik designates the files wanted in the RAMDrive and QwikStash copies the files into the REU and swaps drives. Also contains a geoWrite documentation file. Unlike another REU loader, this one does not compress chosen files into one large file thus keeping you from using them on either drive. The files are still intact and usable.

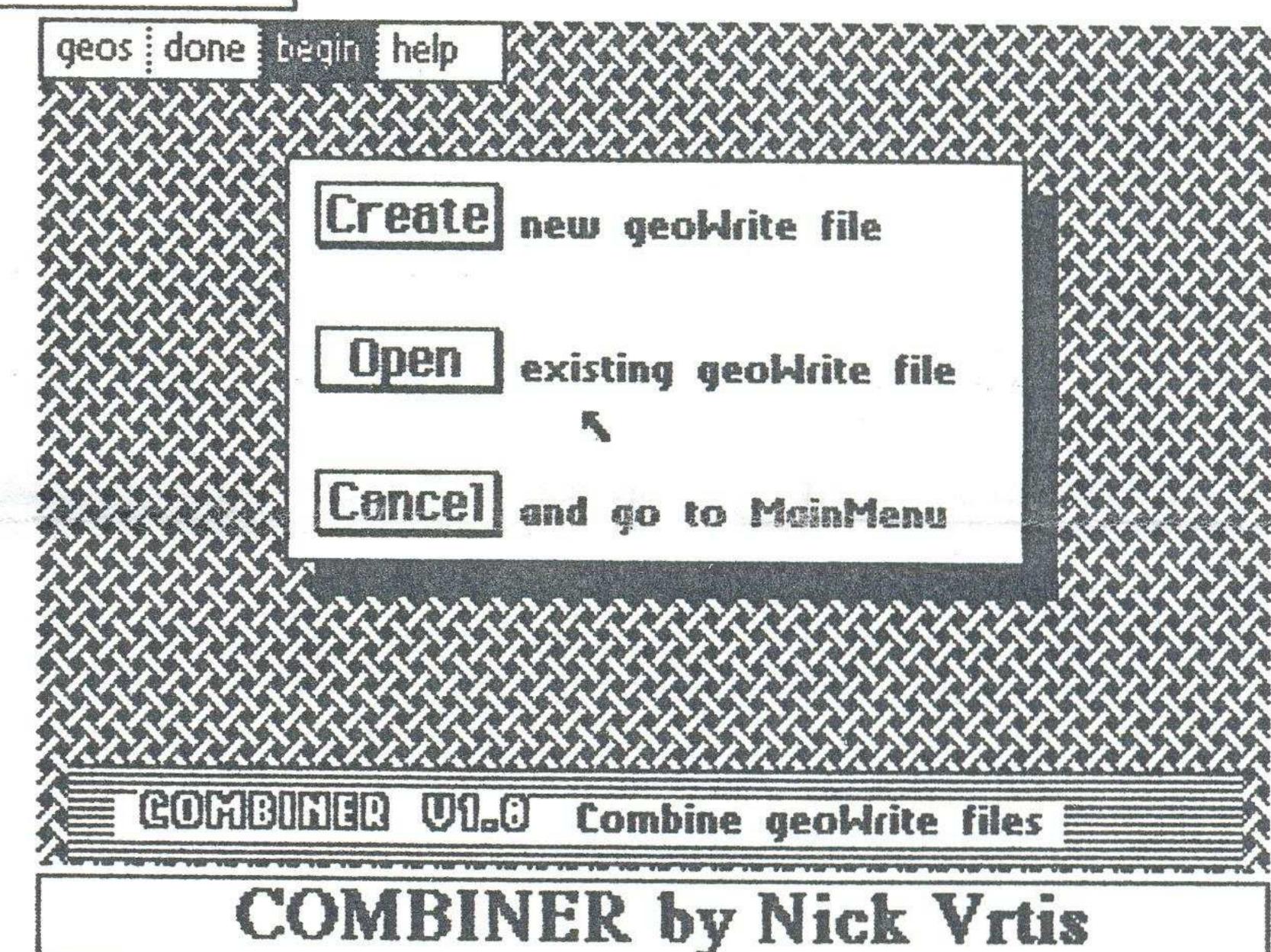




This is a 3 Dimensional version of the age old game of Tic Tac Toe. It is played on a four-level 4x4 grid. You play against the computer or against a real opponent. To win, you must connect four x's or o's in a row horizontally, vertically or diagonally on the same level or between levels straight down or down diagonally. You can't use luck here. You must have a very good imagination and lots of strategic planning. Tic Tac Toe allows you to choose who makes the first move. At the last geoMETRIX meeting, we all found it very challenging. A little too challenging. Give it a try and you'll be hooked on this one.

Combiner is a program to combine multiple geoWrite documents into one. you identify the input and output files to use and then a window allows you to specify the starting and ending pages to take from the input and the page number to place those pages after. You can combine different versions of geoWrite documents but the output version will be determined by the first input document.Beware that if you start with v1.3 and add a v2.?, you will lose some 2.? special features. Graphics can be combined but not headers or footers. You

can also access multiple drives.



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6	11-7	7:30pm	@ Clippers		1	3	1	0.750	4	11
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Pistons NBA Score Card by RYTA

These programs and many more can be found in the geoMETRIX library, on Q-Link, or directly from the authors.

Champion team, The Pistons. Just open up GeoCalc and load the file. Printing it out will give you a two page score card keeping track of the Pistons statistics. It lists game date, time, team played, whether televised, win/loss, game number, score and averages for each team played in the 1990/1991 N.B.A. season.

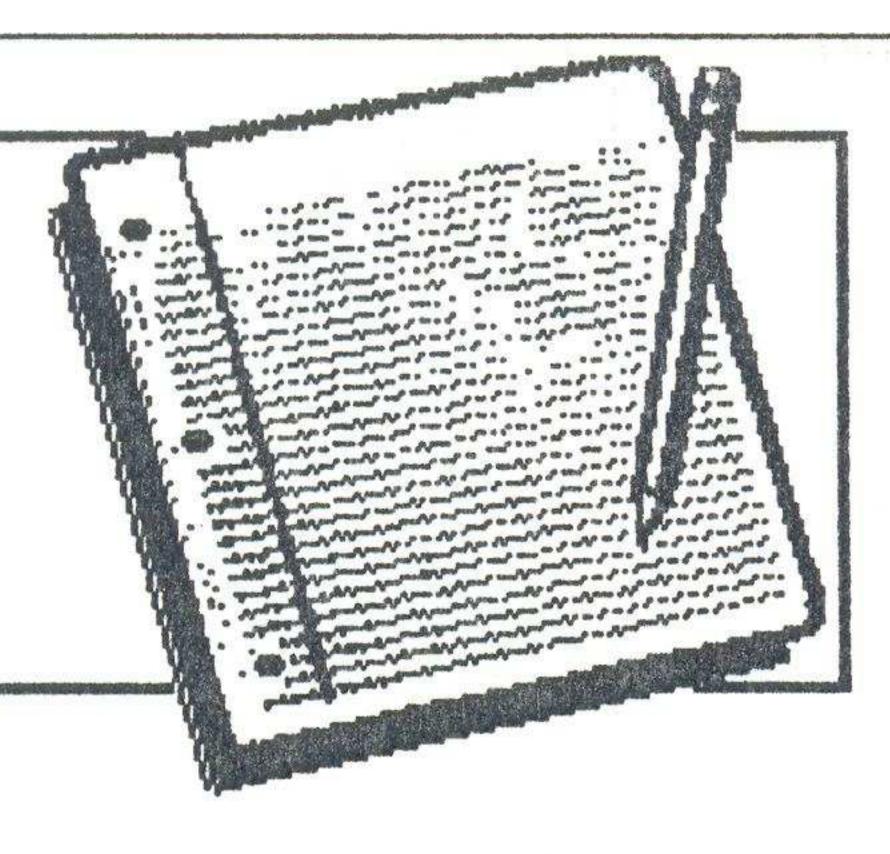
Here is a GeoCalc data file that contains

some very interesting information. The

N.B.A. score card for the 1990 N.B.A.

# Metrix Minutes

by Grady Brown



GEOMBTRIX ON

November 18, 1990 There were 8 members and 1 guest present. Pete Lerten ran a demo of a disk named FLAT DISK by Rich LaBonte. Included on the disk are DeskTop 9.9, a sample of the desktop of the future; and Hollywood Ghost, an extensive trivia game; some graphics and music. All are true GEOS programs.

Orders for the <u>geo</u> METRIX Public Domain Library are coming in and have really shocked us as to the amount. We now have 80 orders. Pete and Ken will be copying disks night and day to get these orders out.

Memberhip was discussed. Total members, subscribers, and newsletter exchanges and the total we have up for renewal with the next few get JOURNAL issues.

NewTools by David M. Ferguson was demo'd by Grady Brown showing the 16 new tools that can be used in geoPaint.

The balance of the evening was spent answering questions and explaining other programs and their uses.

The computer system provided by Ken Nakatsu for the meeting was a 128. THANKS KEN!

December 16, 1990 We had 10 members present with one winning our new monthly meeting door prize. A \$5.00 Pietro's Pizza gift certificate was awarded to Juliann Lansing.

Peter Lerten showed us all his ENSEMBLE (PC GEOS) software package, actually unpacking it here at the meeting. Peter announced information that he has read of regarding the new desktop and configure replacement called GateWay. (See The Rumor Column)

Ken showed us all his completed REU that is now at 1 meg. Yery good job Ken. He also ran a demo of GeoQuatro.

geoMETRIX received a disk of PD programs from Flight Line Graphics, along with some of their other graphics disks. (See their ad on page 8)

Pete announced that orders for the library collection have reached 100. A problem has been located in the copying of the disks, corrupting files. This has caused the delays in shipping the library collections out and will soon be completely solved.

Again, THANKS goes to Ken Nakatsu for supplying his computer system for the meeting.

SUBJ: Pronouncing GEOS (R21)
FROM: GeoRep Tim 12/14/90 S#:465299
Remember that controversy on how to properly pronounce GEOS?

Some members said it should be pronounced GEE-AAHS and others insisted GEE-OSE was correct.

In the glossary of the ENSEMBLE User's Guide we find the answer:

Pronounced GEE-OSE, rhymes with close.

## Controversy over!

SUBJ: 17xx REU + TM + GEOS... (R1) FROM: GEOREP JIM 12/16/90 S\*: 411745

Paul Bosacki has come up with a way to use a Commodore 17xx REU, the Schnedler Systems' TurboMaster, and GEOS together.

For more info, see the message on the Schnedler board (in CIN/Hardware Support Group/Hardware Companies Area) dated 12/08 from Steve Schnedler.

And be sure to post a message if you are interested.

Now, if only they had a TM 128.....

-Jim :

# You scratch our back, We'll scratch your back!

Lend us a hand, and we'll help you out too. We're working on puting together the GEOS BACK SCRATCHERS booklet. This booklet will spell out in writing what we'll do for you in return for you: writing a column for us, exchanging your groups newsletter with us, sending us your GEOS hardware or software for a special review, or advertising with us. We can always use help and are more than happy to help you in return. Keep an eye out for this FREE booklet.

YES! I Certainly would like to read the great articles in past issues of the		2	3
geoJOURNAL. Please send me the issues circled at the right.		5	6
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# geo-JOURNAL Back Issues

#1 Mau/June 1989

How to Tailor Your Systems to GEOS An Inside Look at RUN's Power Pak II Quick-Keys for the DeskTop

#2July/August 1989

A Re-Run for RUN
What's a DeskTop?!?
How to Fix a Fried GEOS Disk
Is Clip Art Getting Bigger?

#3 September/October 1989
GeoMETRIX on Q-Link

#4 November/December 1989

Big Questions to Common Little Problems
Mac: Still a Computer for the Home?
Choosing a Printer
On Dot Matrix
The Facts on RAM
geoDIGEST: Storm Disk I Review
YOYAGES \*1

#5 Januaru/Februaru 1990

Let's Go Faster!
Programming GEOS Assembler
GeoLABEL Review: All purpose Labeler
GeoPRINT Review: Graphics Galore!
A Word from the Sysop

#6 Mau/June 1990

Q-Link Ramblings
Let's Expand Memory
GEOPAINT MENU's
YOYAGES #2

#7 September/October 1990

GEO-idiot #1 - An Introduction
The 'Power User'... WRONG IS WRITE V8
The MAC-GEOS Connection...
Up Close and Personal - Peter Lerten
IBM Geoworks ENSEMBLE
GEO-Gif, a WORLD of graphics!

\*8 November/December 1990

Reference Room - An Introduction
Printing... - Sellecting a Printer & Printer Driver
FONTMANIA! - An Introduction
GeoWIZARD - IT JUST DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER!!
GEO-Idiot! - Refer to yer GEOS Manual
BEGINNERS COLUMN - the Nickel Tour
Up Close and Personal - Grady Brown

#9 Januaru/February 1991

Reference Room - New Products
FONTMANIA - Font Editing
BEGINNERS COLUMN - What Are All Those Files?
Geo Idiot... - GeoWRITE
Printing... - Paint PAGES Driver
Up Close and Personal - Ken Nakatsu
An REU Kit Review

You Asked For It... You've GOT IT!!!

Well fellow geoMETRIX members, we KNOW one of the reasons you joined was to get your hands on our extensive PD Software Library. Well here's your chance to get a copy of EVERYTHING we currently have available at a reasonable cost.

Now what's reasonable you ask? Well how does \$10.00 for the whole library strike you? This just covers our costs for disks and postage, but we want to encourage members to take advantage of this offer.

These disks will be sent on double-sided 5.25" floppies. We feel this is a universal format for everyone. Take advantage of this offer, TODAY. You'll have hours of fun with these disks.

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library for just t	en bucks. Twell METRIX GEOS U GEOMETI 202	nty bucks for ov		am a current
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# Gafe La Toma A Whole New Way of Working with GEOS

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	EECopy	Application doc	5k on		
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	ERAM DISK	Disk Driver	4k on	disk	
	AiconFont	Font	1k on	disk	
	Asmalfont	Font	1k on	disk	
	AGWF	Font	1k on	Armini Service	
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E	EE)fbox	Application doc	8k on	disk	$\Diamond$

# Welcome to the gateWay

More than a replacement for the deskTop, the gateWay offers a unique, streamlined approach to file management under GEOS. With a resizable Note Pad, proportional slider and fuel guage, the gateWay makes it easier to get where your going.

Here at CMD, we took a good hard look at the deskTop, then decided to create the gateWay. As a result, all the functionality of the deskTop can be found in the gateWay. But we weren't content to stop there. We added feature after feature - features that you, the serious GEOS user, have found lacking in the deskTop.

# Better Drive Support

Full three drive support with auto swapping for those applications which recognize only two drives. Imagine launching your favourite application from drive C! Copying to and from drive C without swapping drives! Drive C the way the deskTop should have handled it.

### Disk Drivers

Users without RAM expansion - trash CONFIGURE because the gateWay allows you to intergrate your device drivers directly into the gateWay itself. Not only will you save disk space, but you'll never have to worry whether there's a CONFIGURE on that work disk again. In fact, everybody trash CONFIGURE, because the intergrated Control Panel does it all. We've implemented the DISK DRIVER - now, rather than wasting disk space on drivers you don't need, simply copy the drivers you do require onto your boot disk and that's it. The Control Panel will automatically determine which drives are on your system and mount them.

# Easy Disk Identification

The gateWay also allows you to individually define disk icons. Getting tired of that old 5.25 in. drive icon? With the gateWay you can define your own. Just select set disk icon from the Special menu and the drive's icon becomes that of the currently selected file! And the gateWay remembers - insert that disk later and the gateWay will display the icon you chose earlier.

# Full CMD Device Support

For CMD HD hard drives, RAMLink and RAMDrive owners the gateWay allows full access to these devices. Need access to 16 Mb of online storage, a subdirectory or a partition? Do it quickly and easily with the gateWay!

# An Integrated Control Panel

Choose your colors, gateWay pattern, input and printer drivers, set the time or configure your drives. All from within the Control Panel - always available because its part of the gateWay. The Control Panel includes a Chooser for selecting printer drivers, a Drives selection area for redefining the drives on your system, an area for setting the clock's date and time, and a General area for defining colors, background pattern, mouse and input controller parameters and your default Pad size.

# gateWay Documents

The gateWay supports a new file type - the gateWay document. These are programs which can be intergrated directly into the gateWay, instantly providing it with new capabilities! Imagine an intergrated text scannner, or a photo viewer - with the gateWay, it's all possible.

# Task Switching

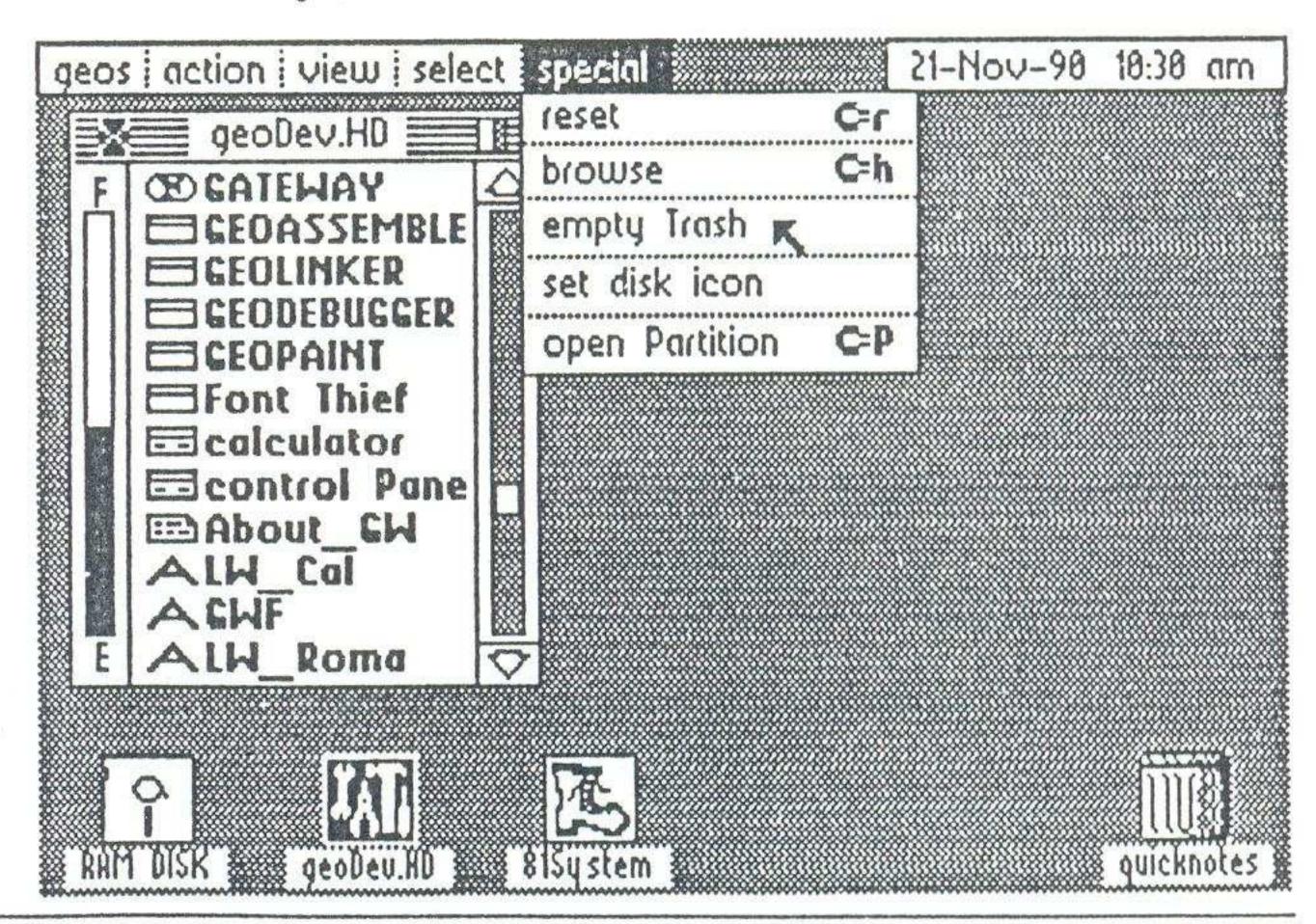
Do you use RAM expansion? Then you can access multiple tasks with GEOS. Our new Switcher (a gateWay document) allows two separate tasks to run concurrently. Imagine having GEOWRITE and GEOPAINT running at the same time. Imagine the ease with which you could paste graphics and text scraps between them. Only with the gateWay - a new intergrated way of working with GEOS.

### · Plus a Lot More...

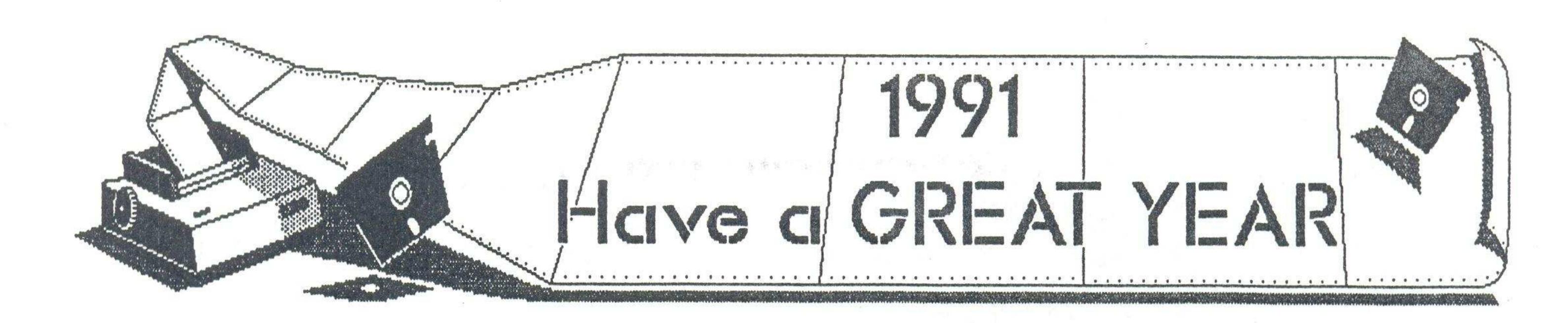
Features like the fuel gauge to indicate used and available disk space. And a proportional slider gadget for moving quickly through the directory. Convenient Status boxes to indicate current copy or delete status and brand new disk and file Info boxes. Plus a file locating browse feature, preprogrammed redefinable function keys, RAM rebooting and a new Trash Can mechanism. Yes, at CMD there's a lot more going on than powerful new hardware development - we're creating the software tools to use it!

Note: The gateWay requires a Commodore 64 or 128, minimum of one disk drive, a mouse or joystick and GEOS 2.0 for operation. Available first quarter of 1991. Projected retail price: \$29.95.

GEOS, GEOS 2.0, GEOS deskTop, GEOWRITE, GEOPAINT and GEOS CONFIGURE are registered trademarks of Berkeley Softworks, Inc. Commodore 64 and Commodore 128 are registered trademarks of Commodore International, Ltd. RAMLink, RAMDrive, CMD HD Series and gateWay are registered trademarks of Creative Micro Designs, Inc.



This ad is a copy of the flyer handed out at the recent World of Commodore by CMD Inc. Thanks go to John Milligan, and Steve Mane, both of Toronto, Ontario, Canada for passing a copy of this along to geoMETRIX. We will supply you with more details as they become available.



# January

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20 21 22 23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31

# April

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# July

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21 22 23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30 31

# October

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20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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# February

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# November

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# June

S M T W T F S

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# September

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# December

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georietrix kational Geos Users Group						
☐ Membership ☐ Renewal ☐ Newsletter Subscription						
Name (First, Last): Q-Name/Other: Address: City, State, Zip:						
Telephone Number: Best Time to Reach You: am/pm Your Local User Group:						
For Membership list, Publish:   Address Only   Telephone Only   Address & Telephone   Date:   Date:   Description of the back for any comments and for additional information.						
Please use the back for any comments and/or additional information. (Do you write GEOS programs?)						
What Type Of System Do You Have?           C-64         64-C         SX-64         C-128         Apple:         PC:           Monitor:         REU/K:         Mouse/Joystick:         Modem/Baud:           Drive 1:         Drive 2:         Drive 3:         Drive 4:         Hard Drive:						
Which Version Of GEOS Are You Currently Using?						
☐ Geos 64: ☐ Geos 128: ☐ Geos Apple: ☐ ENSEMBLE:						
Which GEOS Applications Do You Own?						
☐ GeoPublish ☐ GeoCalc: ☐ ☐ BeckerBasic ☐ GeoChart ☐ GeoWrite WorkShop 2.1 ☐ DeskPack ☐ DeskPack Files ☐ GeoBasic ☐ GeoFile: ☐ Personal Newsletter ☐ FontPack ☐ FontPack ☐ International FontPack ☐ GeoDex ☐ Word Publisher ☐ GeoTerm ☐ GeoProgrammer ☐ Other: ☐ Contract ☐ GeoProgrammer ☐ Other: ☐ GeoProgrammer ☐ Other ☐ GeoProgrammer ☐ O						
What Field Of GEOS Are You Most Interested In?						
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CARD/CERT.

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# "We are your GEOS Connection"

September, 1990

Dear Prospective geoMETRIX member:

Hello! We're glad you've "discovered" our GEOS Users Group. I'll tell you a little bit about the groups history and past. We began life as a small group of dedicated GEOS users here in Portland Oregon, back in June 1989. Actually we were going to form a special interest group off of a regular Commodore club, but decided a seperate group made more sense. This group began to have monthly meetings, and produce a newsletter, geoJOURNAL. We also obtained a Q-Link Users Group account, and started to spread the word on Q-Link, also.

Slowly, but steadily, interest in our GEOS group has grown. Today we have well over 200 members, worldwide. When I say worldwide, we currently have members in Australia, Sweden, England, and New Zealand. There are also quite a few neighbors up North, in Canada, that belong to our group. We recieved a mention in the Aug/Sept. '90 issue of RUN, in the geoWATCH column, that has really gotten the word out about our group.

Membership in geoMETRIX entitles you to 6 issues of our newsletter geoJOURNAL, access to our extensive Public Domain GEOS software library, special "members only" offers, and also access to our club's Bulletin Board System, BBS ENTERPRISE. We also have subscription to the newsletter available, separately. Rates for membership are as follows:

U.S. Canada-OverseasMEMBERSHIP \$10.00/year \$12.00/year \$20.00/year

SUBSCRIPTIONS \$5.00/year \$6.00/year \$8.00/year

(a sample newsletter can be obtained for \$1.00)

I will enclose another sheet with this letter, which is actually the inside cover from our newsletter. It gives some additional details about our group. If you have any other questions, I might answer, I can be reached on Q-Link as PeterMC3, or on GEnie as PLerten1, or on Compuserve as 73207,55. Or you can always drop us a note in the mail, I'll try to reply ASAP. We look forward to hearing back from you, thanks for your interest!

Sincerely,

Peter Lerten

President-geoMETRIX