# The Zero Page
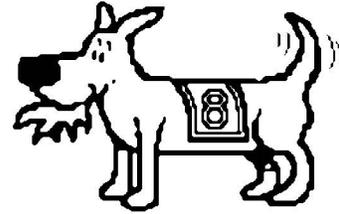
*The newsletter of the Commodore Users of Wichita*

*"For the sharing, learning, and love of Commodore computers"*

Number 22, August 1995

Eight-bit keeps takin' a byte
out of Commodore computing

## Random Access

by Dale Lutes

Hi, friends! *Random Access* is back after being absent from the July newsletter. Some of you know that I was on vacation the final two weeks of June. I had anticipated returning to Wichita on Friday, a full week before our meeting, but actually didn't get back into town until Sunday evening. With the 4th of July falling on Tuesday, I figured that I had less than 24 hours to get the *Zero Page* to the Post Office before they closed up for the holiday. Thanks to my C-128, geoPublish, and an article from Jerry Shook on short notice (please, no jokes about Jerry's height) I was able to get the newsletter done.

I want to apologize at this time to anyone who missed my demo at the July meeting. My daughter's ball team was scheduled for a 3 o'clock game that day, so we moved the demo up to 1 o'clock. If you had some questions about geoPublish that I didn't have time to answer, catch me at the next meeting. I did have a lot of fun preparing for and presenting the demo. And, as usual, I managed to learn a couple of new things about geoPublish in the process.

Baseball kept me away from the last two geoSIG meetings, but I am looking forward to joining the group again this month. If you haven't come to a SIG meeting yet, please give us a try. You don't have to be a GEOS expert and, in fact, most of us are rank amateurs.

Summer has always been kind of a lean period of time for the club. Vacations and other summer activities conflict with our computer time both at home and at the meetings. I know I missed my system while I was out of town. (I might take it on vacation with me next year if my wife will let me!) What I'm getting at, is this is the toughest time of the year for the CUW to find speakers for meetings and articles for the newsletter. If you can take a few minutes to share your experience and knowlege with the rest of us, I'm sure the entire club will be grateful.

As a space buff, I just had to see *Apollo 13,* one of the hottest movies of the summer. As a computer buff, I loved the computer-generated sequences, in particular the Saturn V lift-off. It's interesting to note that our systems have more power than the guidance computers on the Apollo spacecraft. Those special-purpose systems had only 38K words of **core** memory, but were state of the art at the time!

I hope that your summer activities will include the first-ever CUW picnic at the Coleman CERF club on August 26. Details on the picnic can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. See you there!

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## Next CUW Meeting:
## Saturday, August 12
## 1:00 - 5:00 pm
## 1411 South Oliver

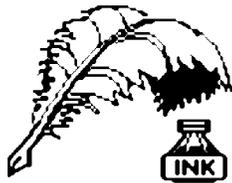The topic for this month's feature demonstration was not available in time to publish here

## August Meeting Agenda

| Time | Activity |
| --- | --- |
| 1:00 - 2:00 | Equipment setup, informal meeting |
| 2:00 - 2:45 | Business meeting |
| 2:45 - 3:00 | Break |
| 3:00 - 4:00 | Feature demonstration |
| 4:00 - 5:00 | Meeting over, informal gathering, equipment teardown |

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## Your CUW Steering Committee members are:

| | |
| --- | --- |
| Arlen Gould | Chair |
| Marie Both | Vice-Chair |
| Robert Bales | BBS Representative |
| Francis Catudal | Public Domain Librarian |
| Nate Dannenberg | BBS Representative |
| Shaun Halstead | Internet Representative |
| Dwayne Howard | geoSIG Chairman |
| Dale Lutes | Newsletter Editor |
| Don McManamey | Disk Editor |
| Jerry Shook | Quartermaster |

## Don's Digest
by Don McManamey

While I have missed seeing you folks, my vacation was fabulous. My wife and I traveled 3,800 miles in 10 days. No we did not fly. We drove our Saturn down to Georgia where we visited my sister and her children and 2 year old granddaughter. After staying a few days we then drove up the coast to Virginia where we had a family reunion. Finally our time drew short and back we came. One can be come quite melancholy at times like this.

Upon arriving home I heard the news that the last American manufacturer of televisions, Zenith, had been sold to a Korean company. Zenith for years had been the best in my eyes and to now be a part of what I considered the worst, Gold Star, was hard to take.

Sit back in your most comfortable chair, close your eyes, and drift back 10 years. It is now August 1985. After months of delays in releasing the new Commodore 128 it has finally hit the market and is doing well. The newer Amiga seems to be plagued with delays as well. Compute's! Gazette has been talking about the decline of the home computer market and coupled with Commodore's lack of leadership since the departure of Jack Tramiel. They wondered if they were simply waiting to get all their problems resolved or what? Could they have been wrong about the home computer and its permanence? Would the home computer go the way of the CB radio which was so hot in the 1970's? We know now that Commodore was on its way down the long road which took about 10 years to travel. This road was not to extinction, not yet, but has taken it out of the country and now our future is as much in doubt as ever.

But are we dead? Not by a long shot. Many of us lost money in a magazine whose name symbolized our feelings. dieHard has bit the dust. But unlike so many before who couldn't compete or for whom the market was just not big enough, dieHard couldn't cope with success. It grew itself to death. Good news and bad I guess. With Commodore World being backed by the largest supporter of Commodore owners along with a relatively stiff price of $29.95 for just eight issues spread over a one year period, then perhaps they will be around giving quality service for many years. We should be willing to pay for a quality product. A low price on low quality is no bargain. The biggest complaint I heard about the Gazette in the last few years was quality. Price was seldom the issue.

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There are still plenty of disks left in our old Commercial Library for sale to CUW members. Take your choice at the August meeting for just 50 cents per title.

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## geoSIG News
by Dwayne Howard

It was mentioned at the last meeting that if we didn't have ten people that we couldn't operate as a SIG. We need at least ten people to pay our way at the Senior Center. Well, we only had seven people show. Let's try to do better this month. If you plan to attend, we need your $1.00 in advance at the next regular club meeting. If you are not up on GEOS and are afraid of making a mistake, well, we all make mistakes so join us.

Let me tell you a little of what we did at the last SIG meeting: We practiced formatting two disks. We began working with geoWrite. We typed a few lines and made some changes, making a few of the lines look different. I will hand out the steps we went through at the next meeting. I had fun and I think we all did. That is what this is all about.
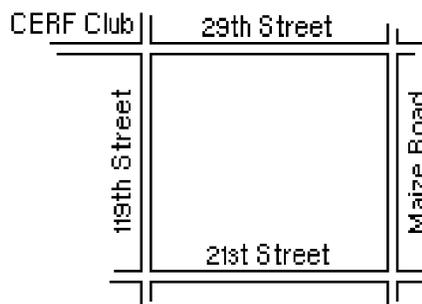
I hope next time Dale won't have to type my notes all out. I will send him a GEOS disk and all he will have to do is put it in the newsletter. But right now he has to type all this in. Good luck, Dale.

Yours truly, Dwayne

*[Thanks for your article, Dwayne. I am looking forward to getting them on disk in the future -- Dale]*

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We will be having a picnic for CUW members and their families at the Coleman CERF Club on Saturday, August 26. Plan to arrive between noon and 12:30. Bring along your own food and drinks. Charcoal and cooking utensils will be provided. The CERF Club's swimming pool and miniature golf facilities will be available to CUW guests at $1.00 for each person.

The Coleman CERF Club is located on 29th Street North, just west of119th Street West (see map). The picnic will be cancelled in the event of rain.



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## The Helping Hand

This page lists those users willing to share their experiences and knowledge with other members of the club.

**Music**
Robert Bales          Nate Dannenberg

**Telecommunications**
Robert Bales          Nate Dannenberg

**Programming**
Nate Dannenberg          Dale Lutes

**Astrology, Biorhythm**
Marie Both

**Printing in Color**
Don McManamey          Jerry Shook

**Labels**
Jerry Shook

**Titling Home Videos**
Sue Harber

**Cards, Posters & Signs**
Fred Earley

**Word Processing & Desktop Publishing**
Fred Earley          Don McManamey
Jerry Shook          Dale Lutes

**GEOS**
Nate Dannenberg          Fred Earley
Dale Lutes

**Family Roots**
Maxine Ulrich

**Helping Hand Volunteers**

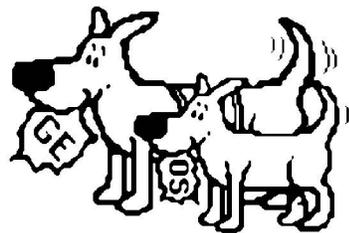| Name | Phone |
| --- | --- |
| Robert Bales | 744-2580 |
| Marie Both | 262-2338 |
| Nate Dannenberg | 777-0363 |
| Fred Earley | 722-4044 |
| Sue Harber | 942-4884 |
| Dale Lutes | 721-0835 |
| Don McManamey | 265-2560 |
| Jerry Shook | 776-2683 |
| Maxine Ulrich | 838-8606 |

Let us know if we may include your name in future Helping Hand listings. If we don't have a category for you already, we'll add one!
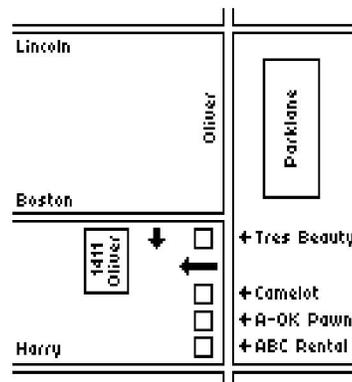
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Join Eight-Bit and Tidbit for the next meeting of the GEOS Special Interest Group



**Friday, August 18, 7:00 PM
Senior Services Center
200 South Walnut**

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The Commodore Users of Wichita is a club dedicated to "the sharing, learning, and love of Commodore computers." Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from 1-5pm. Anyone who owns or uses a Commodore computer system is welcome to attend. Family memberships cost $15 per year. Members receive a monthly newsletter, a quarterly disk publication, access to an extensive library of public-domain software, and the right to vote on matters of club policy. A newsletter-only membership is available for $5 per year. Contact any of the officers (listed elsewhere in this newsletter) for more information. We are looking forward to seeing **you** at our next meeting!

If you own an Amiga computer system, be sure to visit our sister club, the C&AUGW. Contact Board of Directors Chairman, Pete Hein at 943-5215 for information regarding their meeting time and location.



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You may join or renew your membership by mail.
Complete this form and mail with a check payable to:

Marie Both
Commodore Users of Wichita
351 E Marion CT, #2
Wichita, KS 67216

What Commodore systems do you use? (please check all that apply)
❏ VIC-20   ❏ C-64   ❏ C-128   ❏ C-16   ❏ Plus/4   ❏ Other

Type of membership:   ❏ Family ($15)    ❏ Newsletter-only ($5)

Name: _____

Address: _____
_____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

List additional family members who are interested in participating:
_____
_____