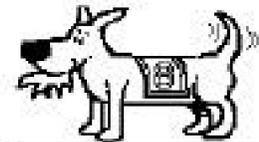


The Zero Page

*The newsletter of the Commodore Users of Wichita
For the sharing, learning and love of Commodore computers*



Eight-bit ahhie' a byte out of computing

Number 74 November 1999

Commodore Users of Wichita will meet on November 13th at our regular meeting place starting 1:00 p.m.

A quote from an unknown source:

"I've finally figured out why this whole Year 2000 problem is causing so much trouble. Fixing it depends on programmers finding a date. This isn't exactly one of their classic strengths."



Don's Digest

By Don McManamey

When Jerry asked for an article I could just see the pathetic look on his face. Fact is that the look on his face is pathetic anyway and it really gets bad when he begs. Sorry Jerry, but it does fit in with my article this month.

I returned to work today after being off for 38 days, all but 6 of which were unpaid. Now you might think that with all that time on my hands that an article for Jerry would be a small order. Not so! I have been off on medical leave and really did not feel much like doing any form of work through much of it. When he did finally ask, my leave was nearly over and I was frantically trying to get some things done before it was all a memory. Memory is one thing that fails me these days. Remember the days when we wore a patch over one eye and had to figure out how to run all that software that we had no documentation for? Well, I am trying to use some very high powered software that I could not and would not buy but since my son lives here with me and has this on his computer it is there for me to use anytime he is not on the computer. Just try to beg time with your child so they can explain how to use that stuff they know in side out and you have not a foggiest idea of how to get it to do anything at all. I did manage to learn something over the last few weeks and hope I will be able to use it enough in the next couple of months to keep in etched in my mind. There is a sense of accomplishment when you finally catch on and create something you can be proud of, even

if the person looking at it is not terribly impressed. Why, they just don't understand what it took to get there.

Now here is another something from the past which came back just a bit different. I remember when I got my first modem. Jerry and I would fight for hours to get connected and then type those little messages back and forth. I am not much of a typist now and was much worse then. Jerry was nothing special either but we got the job done. There were times I asked, Why are we doing this? It was not long distance and we could just call and talk. If it had been long distance it would have actually been cheaper to call because it would have been faster. Now I have this thing called ICQ. It is a bit easier than what we did way back then but it is much the same. My friend Arlen lives in Winfield and that is a long distance call. He connects to the Internet with a local call and we have a cable modem and so are always connected. When we talk this way it is slow and we show off our poor typing skills as well as our bad spelling, but we have fun and it is the next best thing to being there. The first time we did the ICQ thing Arlen had never done anything like that before and thought it was a riot! He just had a ball. Then the other day we did something new. We established a 3-way chat on ICQ. He had been talking, so to speak, with a lady friend in Indiana and suddenly we three were just having a ball. We were LOL and ROTF. What? You say you don't know what that is? LOL is laughing out loud, and ROTF is rolling on the floor. We literally did the former and figuratively did the latter. She is retired and he is a substitute teacher, so they were both off work and of course I was on medical leave. After about an hour of that I finally excused myself and went about doing some work. What a step backward, but what fun. It seems we don't use our computes for fun much anymore. At least I don't. Not to say that doing things like making music CDs and looking at some web site is not fun, but it just isn't the same. I guess it is like being 10 years old. Once you are not, you will never be again. Once we discovered computers and the exploration was the fun. For me anyway, now I don't have much time to explore. I want to get things done. Time to go and work on my wife's resume. Time to get something done.

There was a preacher that was trying to sell his horse.
A potential buyer came to the church for a test ride.
"Before you start" the preacher said, "you should know
that this horse only responds to church talk. Go is praise
the lord and stop is amen."
So the man on the horse says " Praise the lord," and the
horse starts to trot. The man again says "Praise the lord,"
and the horse starts to gallop.
Suddenly there is a cliff right in front of the horse and the
man yells "Amen!!!" The horse stops just at the edge of
the cliff.
The man wipes the sweat from his brow and says "Praise
the Lord."



Moe's Soupbox

By Morris Shouse

This is the second time I am using Wheels 128 to do my column. The first time it worked well. But when I move it over to the IBM world some times Jerry has to make adjustments, so I will have to change my bad habit of hitting return when I get close to the end of the line. I will just let the auto rap do its thing. Also a new devilment at Commodore World, if you don't know already, is that it will be coming out of Germany as GO64. Nate has his first CW replacement but I do not. I called cmd and my subscription is current. I was told that the way magazines are shipped, the guy across country gets his two weeks before the guy on the other side of town, sometimes. But if you think that you got lost in the change call CMD and check, they are very helpful. Also Nate has the E-mail of the people in Germany who put the GO64 together.

Now on to club stuff. There are a few changes I would like to make. And I feel that the club members should have time to think about them. One is I would like to change the date that all membership dues are paid. I would like to have dues paid in Nov, Dec or Jan. If one pays at one of these three meetings they are current for the next year. Now I know that a lot of people will say that around Christmas is a hard time to come up with \$15 more dollars. And that is true, but I think if one plans ahead, one can find tree or four bucks here and there. Also our club has had some hardware and software given to our club. Jerry and I are in the middle of sorting it out. We are going to give some of it to a small church that uses Commodores in their home schooling program.

And will give the donator a tax receipt. And if you have something that this school can use we can give it to them as well.

Now don't forget that November is NOT a feed your face meeting it is a HARDWARE meeting. I don't know what the demo will be, but I may do some more Wheels 128 work. And don't forget the December meeting we hope to have a big Christmas party. I would like to see a lot of people that have dropped out of the club come back for a visit. So if you have the phone number of someone that has dropped out or hasn't been to meeting lately give him or her a call and ask them to come to the December meeting. We would love to have them come to ANY meeting.

THE PERFECT PET

A man goes into a pet shop and tells the owner that he wants to buy a pet that can do everything. The shop owner suggests a faithful dog.

The man replies, "Come on, a dog?"

The owner says, "How about a cat?"

The man replies, "No way! A cat certainly can't do everything.

I want a pet that can do everything!"

The shop owner thinks for a minute, then says, "I've got it!

A centipede!"

The man says, "A centipede? I can't imagine a centipede doing everything, but okay... I'll try a centipede."

He gets the centipede home and says to the centipede, "Clean the kitchen."

Thirty minutes later, he walks into the kitchen and... it's immaculate! All the dishes and silverware have been washed, dried, and put away; the counter-tops cleaned; the appliances sparkling; the floor waxed. He's absolutely amazed.

He says to the centipede, "Go clean the living room."

Twenty minutes later, he walks into the living room. The carpet has been vacuumed; the furniture cleaned and dusted; the pillows on the sofa plumped; plants watered. The man thinks to himself, "This is the most amazing thing I've ever seen. This really is a pet that can do everything!"

Next he says to the centipede, "Run down to the corner and get me a newspaper."

The centipede walks out the door. 10 minutes later...no centipede.

20 minutes later... no centipede. 30 minutes later...no centipede.

By this point the man is wondering what's going on. So he goes to the front door, opens it... and there's the centipede sitting right outside.

The man says, "Hey!! I sent you down to the corner store 45 minutes ago to get me a newspaper. What's the matter?!"

The centipede says, "I'm goin'! I'm goin'! I'm just putting on my shoes!"



The Helping Hand

The Helping Hand

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

Robert Bales 831-0008
Telecommunications, Internet, CMD HD and FD drives

Dale Lutes 721-0835
GEOS, Programming, Word Processing, Desktop Publishing,
CMD FD drives and RAMLink

Don McManamey 265-2560
Word Processing, Print Shop, Printing

Jerry Shook 776-2683
Databases, Label Making, Word Processing, Printing

Carl Poston 776-0735
Commador Plus 4

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!

The Zero Page is a monthly publication of the Commodore Users of Wichita. The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the CUW. Unless otherwise stated, articles in this newsletter may be reprinted by other Commodore user groups without permission provided that the author and the CUW are given proper credit.

Meetings of the CUW are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month. The deadline for articles is 14 days prior to the meeting day. Submissions are accepted by E-mail to jls695@gte.net. In a pinch, paper hard copy will work. Call Jerry at 776-2683 or 776-0403 or mail your articles to:

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