Commodore Eight Bit Boosters
Special Computerfest 94 Edition

Volume 4 | Computerfest 1994 August 27th & 28th | Issue 8

The CEBB meets monthly at the Beavercreek Public Library. A short business meeting is followed by a prepared program of general interest to Commodore 64/128 users is presented. At it's conclusion, members may enjoy various services such as the Public Domain Software Library. Visitors are always welcome and membership is open to the general public. The Purpose of the CEBB is to help the Commodore 8 Bit computer user enjoy learning more about their equipment.

Your CEBB Officers
President John Feigleson Vice President Phil Longo
Sec/Tres Mike Dornbusch 236-5528

LAST MEETING

After the business portion there was a general discussion on increasing interest in the club as well as up comming Computerfest. and alternative meeting nights/locations. There was great interest in the GIF Demo so there will be an update at the next meeting in September.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at the Beavercreek Library on. September 28th, 1994 (Wednesday). The doors will open at 6:30pm and the Meeting will start at 7:00pm. There will be the GIF DEMO update, Computerfest Debrief and some hardware and software for sale on the Clubs tables.

DIE SCHWAREZ CAT

(513) 237-0268 BBS System

This BBS serves members of the CEBB as well as the general public. Anyone may log-on. If you have any questions about BBS's, modems or terminal programs just give Mike Dornbusch, who is the System Operator (SYSOP) a call at his voice number 236-5528. Mike will be happy to help you get started in the exciting world of telecommunications.

Commodore Eight Bit Boosters does not condone and will not tolerate commercial software piracy. Piracy is illegal and hampers the continued production of quality software for the C64 and C128 platform. All acts of piracy will be reported to the proper authorties.

Headlines

"JUNKIE" Super Virus is Discovered

Chinese to Execute Software Pirates

Trojan Hourse Alert on the Internet

Samsung: Our Monitors Emits "Good Radiation"

This newsletter is produced on a Commodore 128D, with a 1581 Disk Drive, Star NX1000C Printer and a 1750 REU. The Desktop Publishing Programs used are GeoPublish and Geos 128 as well as Public Domain Fonts, Printer Drivers and Dos Shells.

ComputerFest 1994!

by the Treasurer

Well here it is again the month of August and the up and coming ComputerFest is upon us once again. It seems just yesterday that I was writing an article about it. I have been trying to contact the DMA to see when the Fest package is due to be delivered. Last year we received our package early enough to send out maps and the locations of the tables. I hope to do the same this year. As of this writing the package has not arrived yet. I hope it gets here by press time.

I will try to inform you about last years event and the fun we had being there. It is one event that you don't want to miss. Mark your calendars with this information which will hold true. The HamVention and ComputerFest have always been held on the last weekend of April and the last weekend of August in that order. These are events that happen every year and you should make an attempt to attend one if you can. You can pick up the kind of bargains you have been looking for everywhere and see anything you thought you would never find or see again. These meets have everything you can imagine. Unlike the HamVention the ComputerFest is an event that is indoors and covers almost the entire Hara Arena floor plan. Yes I said in doors, so if the weather is bad there is no excuse not to attend. If the weather is nice you might dress accordingly, as there is no Air Conditioning at the event. You will have to acquire a taste for Pepsi Products or water as they have the franchise on the event. No drinks or food can be taken into the Arena. I think they served beer at the event last year (or was that HamVention?), and that made things worse as the lines quickly grew if you know what I mean. If you plan on eating I suggest you either eat before or after the event as food served is rather expensive. It is nice to go for a full breakfast or evening meal after walking, standing, pushing, getting pushed all day long. It gets sometimes like a human river moving slowly about the isle. One thing is certain, if you see anything you want and the price is right pick it up because it won't be there next time around. The best time to be there for bargains is Saturday morning. By late afternoon most things are sold. There are still some die hard people who won't give up and try to find that needle in the haystack kind of thing. One thing for sure is, if it is still there Sunday you can practically get it for a song. It is unbelievable the things that you find there. Last year the Commodore drives were selling for $20.00, C-64's for $40.00. You have to shop around. There were a few fastload cartridges but they went fast. Mice were going at premium prices. Color monitors were bringing about $125.00 (80 column) on Saturday but on Sunday no one was buying. It will be interesting this year to see what Commodore stuff you will find there being the out of business, door stop, that the big DOS machines like to think it is. I have both MS-DOS and Commodore and you talk about fun, they don't know what they are missing by not utilizing Commodore to its fullest extent. Besides the software is real cheap now when you can find it. I have been looking at some of the data bases in the Public Domain area and you can do the same things with the C-64 stuff. I have been toying with a data base that will do the same things one at work will do ($475.00) and I can get it in the Public Domain Market for pennies. That will come later in the future editions of The Commodore Eight-Bit Boosters Newsletters. We will be writing articles on the best PD software for our members and guest. You can contact the users group for help, or pick up one of the newsletters at your local Computer dealers free literature shelf. Now I have drifted from the main topic of the ComputerFest. There should be a lot of software available at the show. You can check the directory of the user groups (its the book and or paper you get when you first enter the main entrance to the event.) Take a little time to review this book as it is full of good information, and will save you a lot of time wandering around in the human river. Mark the groups, tables, and commercial vendors you wish to visit and check the map enclosed at the back of the book. It works like Magic! (they thought of everything) There is a green machine at the entrance just in case you forgot your money, but remember you only get a limited amount of money from one of these machines and the bad part is you have to pay it back later. (no freebies in life)

It would help to know just what you are looking for so go sit down and make a list out and the price you are willing to pay. You might contact a local store to feel out the price ranges so you know how much to take with you. Most prices at the show run about 15-20% cheaper than you can get on the local market, but remember you can get it Saturday and return it Sunday. After that it is mail order baby and you takes your chances. That's the good point of doing business with a local dealer. Service with a smile, not a stamp! Most of the vendors there are reputable and have made good on all the items sold. You must have your original receipt (be sure you get one) and their address so you

may correspond with them. It is a fun experience going to one of these and I suggest that ComputerFest is the best because of the in door layout. There were about 34,000 people there last year and this year they are expecting more. If the date on your tickets state the date August 28, and 29. They are good tickets as there was a printing error (using last years tickets). I understand the tickets will be honored at the door. I hope to see you there. We will be at the "Eight-Bit Boosters Booth". Stop by and byte us!

Eight-Bit Boosters at ComputerFest

By the Treasurer

The Eight-Bit Boosters had three tables last year at the Computerfest that was manned by several members including the President, and Treasurer. There were members present with a large amount of equipment which most of it sold the first day before late afternoon. There was several complete systems that were sold and other bits and pieces that the membership provided as excess or unused equipment that they found around their homes. The biggest demand was for fastloads, mice, modems, and word processors. Very little Public Domain Software was sold from the club library. Totals sold is not known as the tables were for members use without charging a fee. There were demos given on modem use and programs recommended for each users abilities. Newsletters and other flyers were handed out about the Eight-Bit Boosters and where and when we meet. This year we plan on doubling the amount of advertising being Commodore only gets support by its club and members, now that its been sold lock, stock, and barrel to a group outside the U. S. As I understand it they are going to leave a small group at West Chester to continue some research for the parent company. I wonder why they are doing this? Give you any ideas. I guess even they know where the bright ideas come from. Why couldn't Commodore see this and continue development. There we go being robbed of the job market again. Commodore users (and user groups) still seem to be the orphans nobody wants in the United States and if we want to continue to be the best, we have to increase the membership through these events, getting out and meeting the people, showing them what we are about. This is the only way to present to the public that we are still active in computing and support for the C64/128. Through increased membership and continual contact with other support groups, the Commodore's here should continue to survive. There must be a demand for more Public Domain software. This will create more interest in programming for the 64/128 machines. People interested in programming basic should contact their local user groups to obtain material, or obtain information about programming classes. There are still some schools in the local area that teach the care and feeding of Commodore machines. They are still one of the best, easiest, cheapest, and durable machines still in use today. When you upgrade to the power, speed, and expensive machines you will be able to take your old records with you if you were wise enough to use the proper software. (Geos will convert to MS-DOS through GeoWorks, Ensemble) To obtain more information about your Commodore contact the "Commodore Eight-Bit Boosters" or your local Commodore 64/128 users group. They can be found by contacting your local computer dealer, Public Library, or in support groups list located in popular computing literature. I hope to see you all at the "ComputerFest 1994". Its the best, biggest computer, and software show in the Mid West. Make sure last year was the last time you missed it!

Time Running Out!

Yes time in running out on the offer by Die Hard Magazine. You must have your entry post marked by 31 August 1994 for the free subscription drawing offered by them. The reasons was because of a return address space on the survey they run in a previous issue. Your post card must be address as follows:
Name and address on one side (yours), and theirs on the other side as shown.

Die Hard
Subscription Drawing
P.O. Box 392
Boise, ID
83702-0392

Wanted News Letter Articles!

Contact your Club Officers!

This Newsletter

This Newsletter was produced for the "Commodore Eight-Bit Boosters" using a

Commodore 64/128D, 1581 drive, 15 Meg REU, Super Graphix interface, standard IBM 9 pin printer, GeoWrite 64, GeoPublish. All articles were submitted by the President, Vice President, and Treasurer's and from their notes or other sources. Any errors are due to lack of user input of articles, the spell checker in GeoWrite, or operator. Errors in English are due to translation of sentence to basic and back to a sentence through programming, and wee hours writing article. Your input would be appreciated. (articles) Ours are drying up, and we really don't know what you want in print. Exchange of information is vital for continued growth of the user group. Byte us with something.

Available Help

For help in the following areas contact after 5pm the following persons.

BBS:	Michael Dornbusch	236-5528
Library:	Phil Longo	237-8768
Software:	Fred Middleton	252-9624
Geos:	John Feigleson	(at meetings)
Hardware:	Fred Middleton	252-9624
Repair:	Michael Dornbusch	236-5528

Newsletter contact John Feigleson or Michael Dornbusch at the meetings. You can volunteer your knowledge in any computer related subject by contacting the editor or treasurer.

Die Schwarze Katze BBS

(513)-237-0268

The BBS Wildcat's new software Version 4.0 has been ordered. I still haven't heard anything from the author of Color 64. Its been a month since I have written him requesting information on the latest version. Image is still running but needs work done on it so as soon as I get the software for Wildcat up and running, we will be working to add more to Image. The operation of the BBS is from 300-14,400 baud, 24 hrs, 365 days of the year. To get to Image dial 237-0268. To get to Wildcat dial (tone) 237-0268,,,2222. To get Color 64 Version 128 dial (tone) 237-0268,,,1111. The last four digits may switch if one is down for maintenance. The commas in the number may have to be increased to four to allow for switching. If you hear a different dial tone you have too many commas. (comma tells the modem to wait one second before sending the last four digits. Three commas is 3 seconds)

Some of the following numbers are still active Commodore Boards in the Miami Valley. Give them a call

Casino Royale	988-3517
Doctor's Office	256-3809
Grewvy Times	855-4834
H.O.L.E.	420-9917
Living City	427-3770
Reservation	233-9758
Shadow Gate	845-7389
Wild Zoo	855-3831

Let us know if you find them inactive and we will delete them from the list.

Wanted Demo Ideas!

Contact your Club Officers!

Check Us Out!

By V.P. Phil Longo

For help, updates, repairs, software, info, demo's, a break from those megadollar machines you don't really ***need***, straight talk or B.S. (your choice) and just plain fun, come join us.

Guest are always welcome and for a meager, super low and just plain ridiculously low dues fee of $12.00 U.S. funds, you can receive your very own, (mailed to you) news letter each month, take advantage of the software and hardware libraries, take full advantage of the BBS and get to vote on all issues ya didn't know ya could have. AH?

Attached

This month I collected some ads from four (4) sources and thought it might be of interest to our members and guests to see some of them. Since we have limited pages to be mailed and printed, I could ***not*** put all of the ads in this letter. Look in future news letters for more.

Advertisement Disclaimer

These ads were printed free of charge to the advertisers for our members and guest use only. (C.E.B.B.) The Commodore Eight-Bit Boosters,

assume no responsibility for any errors or omissions and or content of the advertisements. C.E.B.B. does not assume any liability for advertiser's claims

Next Month More!

I plan to continue looking for more ads to print and complete the ones that we could not get into this issue.

Along with the usual stuff, Mike said he will continue to list other BBS info so you can update your listings of "Where to call via modem".

We ran out of time, paper and fingers to put in the 116 ea. source list in this issue, so look for it in future issues this year.

Da, needless to say, I couldn't even think about doing even a partial list of E-mail addresses for the"SuperHighway", so stay tuned as above.

See ya at the ComputerFest
V.P. Phil

Notice About Following Ads

The ads contained in this newsletter are the sole responsibility of the reader to call for current pricing, and availability of the items listed in the ads. The prices are subject to change without notice. The C.E.B.B takes no responsibility for the contents of the ads. They are presented for information only to Guest, and Members of "The Commodore Eight-Bit Boosters" who receive this newsletter. If you encounter any problems with the advertising Dealers please bring it to the attention of one of your club Officers. If you have any sources that we have not covered in our newsletter, please copy the address of the company and where you found their ad. We will share that information with other Commodore users. Thanks for your Support.

The Following Ads are Reference Only
Please Bring any errors to our Attention. Thanks!

Loadstar News

Jeff Jones is about to unleash a new menu system for the Loadstar Disk Magazine. Coded in machine language will help reduce space used. That is; space on the disks; as in room for; not enough of. Got it. For now this space will be used in the form of "packed text" files (more stuff to read, AH!) It is said to have contact sensitive help, HA? This means that help screens will very depending on the areas that you using, HA? Rather then go back and reload the menu system screen from the last program you were in and starting all over again, you can get help a selected subject not previously viewed Got It? During all this there is SID music playing with future support coming for users that have MIDI capability.

Loadstar to Add Another Format

So maybe the above change sounds good? How about adding the choice of 3 1/2" disks to the fire. You should know that a 1581 Drive is Faster, has a more formatted room (880K) and multi-type format friendlier then the 1541's and such right? But you say that you can't buy one? You say there is no software produced for it? Think again Diehard! (No pun intended) Loadstar will soon be or is by this printing, asking is's users to see if they want to switch to the 3 1/2" format. There will still be the 5 1/4" format and there is no intention to stop it. The material on both will be the same except, possibly more (text) stories by Jeff Jones and/or extra Demos that were too big for the 5 1/2" format. As far as not being able to buy a 1581 or Clone drive, CMD has new 3 1/2" drives of varied sized formats or look at Software Hut, Software Support and others on our contact sheet in this news letter to get a refurbished 1581 ect Prices range between $50 and $280 (prices are for a used 1581 to a new F4000).

Let the World Know What You Think

If you want to editorialise, you can on Loadstar's Public Forum section in their newsletter, BBS or on Loadstar Disk. Send your stuff to:

Jeff Jones, Softdisk Publishing,
PO BOX 30008, Shreveport LA.
71130-0008, Phone (318)221-8718
or FAX (318) 221-8870.

Jeff requests that you send articles on Disk because he dosen't have time to type them. Also Send articles by E-Mail on the Electronic-Mega-Super-Duper-Double-Dog Tronic Highway to:
(Internet) Loadstar@Genie.Geis.com
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*obscure ten-dollar spelling of "complete."

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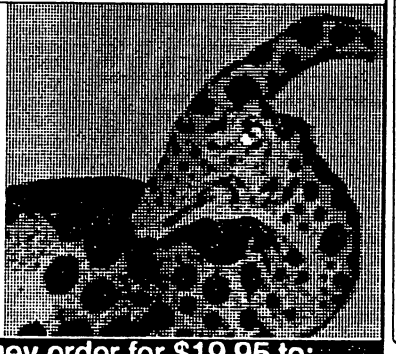

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Single Issue $2.00
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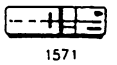
1541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1581

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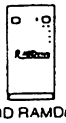
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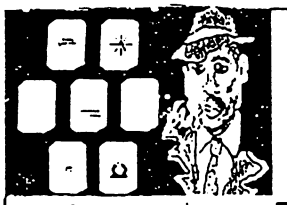

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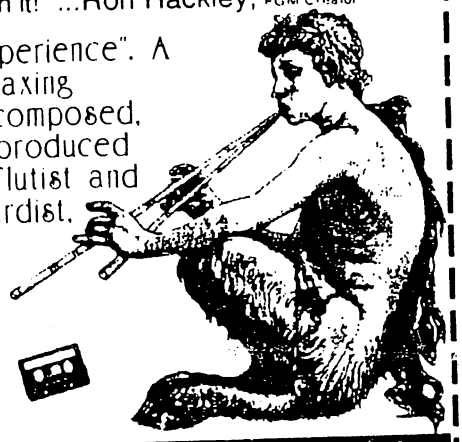

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In its stock form Color 64 supports: 300 to 2400 BPS; up to 38,400 BPS with CMD's SwiftLink; Hayes compatible modems; Commodore or compatible disk drives; CMD HD Series, Lt. Kernal and ICT hard drives: IEEE drives; Commodore REU's up to 2 MB; CMD's RAMLink and MORE. A minimum of 1300 blocks of disk space is recommended as well as some form of disk drive speed enhancement such as CMD's JiffyDOS, Skyles Flash Interface or fastloader.

Color 64 also features: upload and download directories; Punter and Xmodem protocols; an advanced public message system; a full featured message editor; built-in MCI commands for message formatting; 40 and 80 column support; an automatic page pauser; Commodore graphics and color; ANSI graphics and color; Built-in terminal program with phone book; Built-in networking with networked mail, public messages, and file transfers.

More information about Color 64 BBS can be obtained by contacting the SYSOP of the Sonic Temple BBS at 410-285-0428. You can also send GEnie mail to F.OGLE, Inet/Usenet mail to F.OGLE@GENIE.GEIS.COM or U.S. Mail to Fred Ogle, P.O. Box 35427, Dundalk, MD 21222-7427. Send all orders via Mail.

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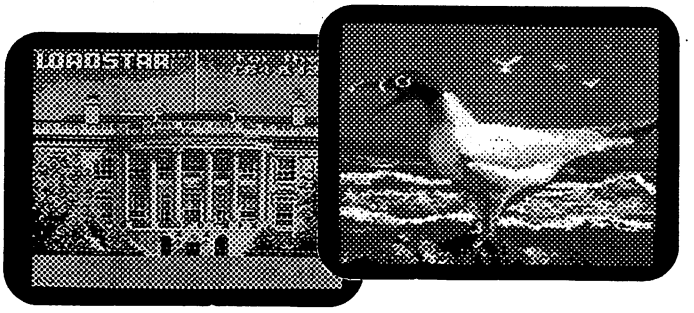

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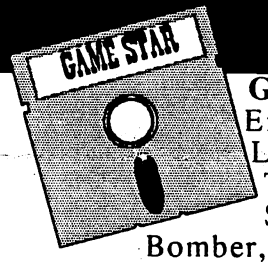

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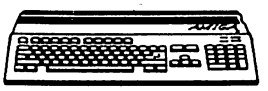

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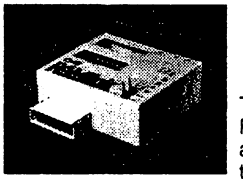

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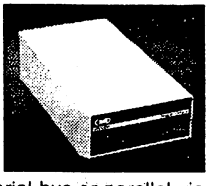

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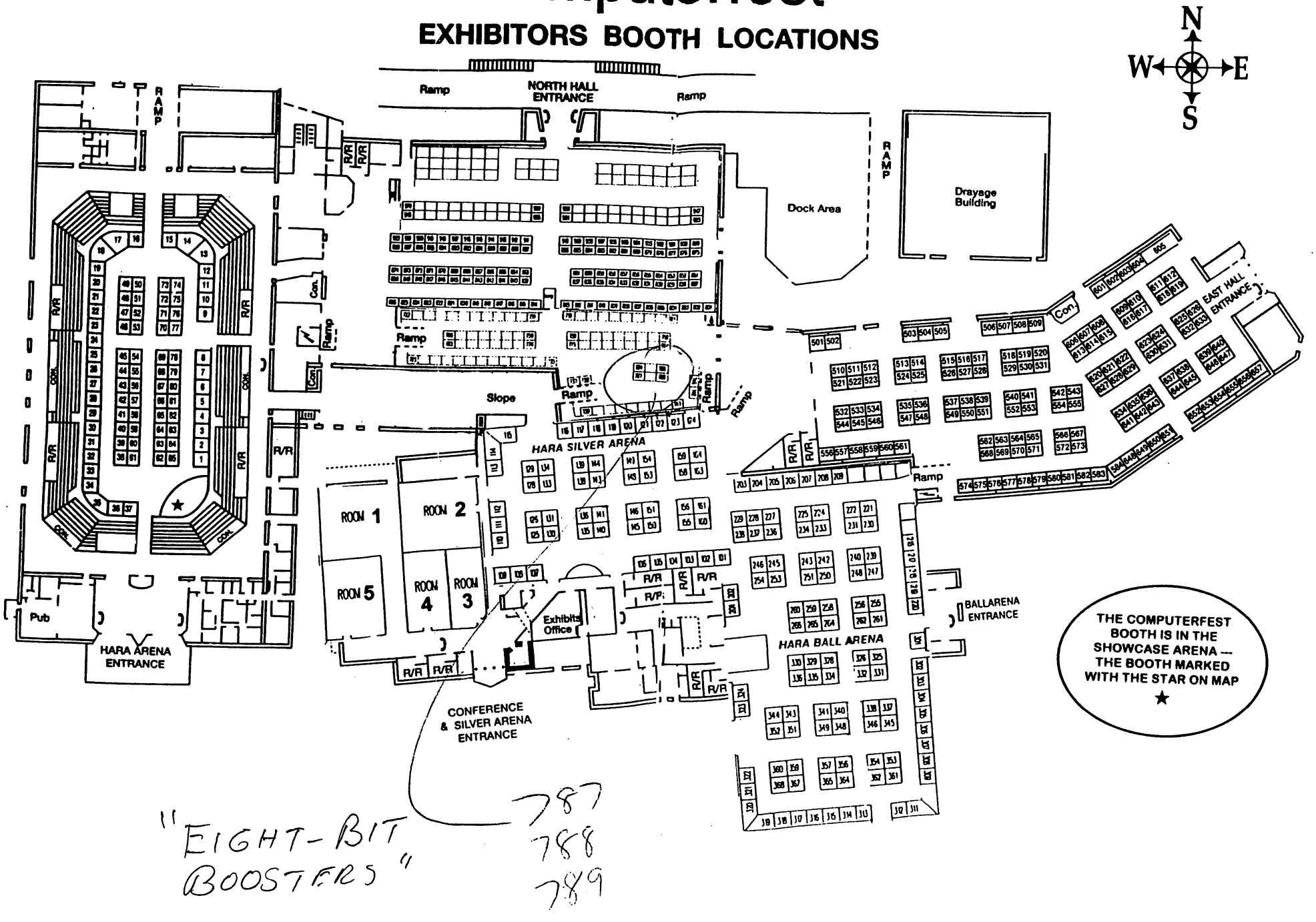

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