

DISPATCHDISK

Southern Districts Commodore Users Club Inc.

News Letter

October 1989

COMMITTEE - 1988/89

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Librarian	John Hancock - see above. Library open 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm each general meeting.		
Newsletter	John Hancock - see above.		

Next meeting WEDNESDAY 15th November at 7:30 pm.
Location Salvation Army Hall, Elizabeth Rd. Morphett vale.
Subject

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FROM THE EDITOR

It is now time to elect a new committee. This also marks our third birthday. There have been a number of significant changes in Commodore computers in this time. The Commodore 128D has come and gone, the Commodore Amiga can now be bought for about \$800 (for those for an eye for a special). But for all of the changes the Commodore 64, now over six years old, is still available, and is now cheaper than ever. This is a testament to its innovative and versatile design.

This months dispatch disk features an article by Gregg Dodd, this months presenter, from an early edition of the club newsletter. There is also another article from the same edition on fitting a reset switch to the Commodore 64. For those who do not feel confident to tackle this task you may wish to talk to Gregg Dodd who would be willing to undertake the task for a reasonable fee.

This is also the last edition which I will be editing. I have been editor for the last year and a major contributor for the publications entire life and I feel the need to allow some other member to experience the joys of writing and producing a monthly publication of this type.

80 COLUMN WORDPROCESSORS ON THE COMMODORE 64

The following is a few brief notes on various 80 column wordprocessors for the Commodore 64 written by Gregg Dodd.

GEOWRITE

Geowrite comes in an integrated package included with the GEOS operating system. The other main utility is GEOPAINT, a graphics programme. This is the easiest wordprocessor to use. It's greatest advantage is that it is WYSIWYG screen display combined with the many fonts available, more than 24. Geowrite also has proportional spacing. The main disadvantage is that it only has basic editing facilities. (Editors note: Geowrite and the new Geopublish have been through a number of revisions since this article was written.)

TASWORD

There is a six page limit on the document size with no spelling checker. Changing between 40 and 80 column displays only requires CONTROL-O. It is possible to program the screen colour. In the finished document it is only possible to insert whole lines only, not words or letters.

PAPERCLIP 64 C

The maximum text size is 510 lines. The text may be seen in either 40 or 80 columns but editing can only be done in 40 column mode. Bold is seen in reverse and underline as underline in 80 column mode. There are some number calculating functions. This wordprocessor is like Easyacript to drive.

PAPERBACK (POCKET) WRITER

the main difference between these is that pocketwriter allows the user to programme the screen colours. The 80 or 40 column output is selected before the main programme loads and cannot be changed without reloading. There are extensive help screens, a disk full, (excluding the programme and printer files) to be precise. Any type of file may be loaded and modified. This allows the user to load and modify any document created by another wordprocessor. It is even possible to load BASIC programmes! (Editors note: But not Commodore BASIC.) There is a three megabyte maximum limit on document sizes, but this is offset by the powerful "global" functions, where documents may be linked. Different text features, for example bold, underline, italics, superscript and subscript are displayed on the screen.

It has powerful block define, search and sort features, which are normally only found on a data-base. There are also a number of calculating functions.

CONCLUSIONS

Paperback writer seems to be the best overall wordprocessor. (Editors note: With the upgrades in Geowrite and Geopublish and their WYSIWYG-graphics approach many people may now prefer this package, but it cannot be anything but a little slow.)

WARNING

Always delete old files, do not use S@: and do not allow the wordprocessor to replace the old file. This is due to a malfunction of the disk drive function S@:, save with replace, which causes the drive to sometimes destroy the file being saved. Always, but ALWAYS back up your work.

Gregg Dodd

RESET SWITCH

There is one feature sadly missing on the Commodore 64, a reset switch. There are a number of ways to provide the reset facility.

1. Take a piece of wire and bridge pins 3 and 1 on the user port. **DO NOT DO THIS.** I know two people who did this and slipped and blew their computer.
2. Buy a cartridge with the RESET facility.
3. Wire a switch internally to the RESET line.
4. Wire a switch internally to the RESET timer.

Option 1 is not even to be considered. Options 2 and 3 are possible but not necessarily desirable. Option 4 is described below.

The following are the requirements for fitting a reset switch. A fine tipped soldering iron, a few inches of fine solder, a #1 Philips screwdriver, a small momentary push button switch, a drill, a 10kOhm 1/4 Watt resistor, a length of hook-up wire depending on the position of the reset switch, and a pencil and paper.

FITTING THE SWITCH

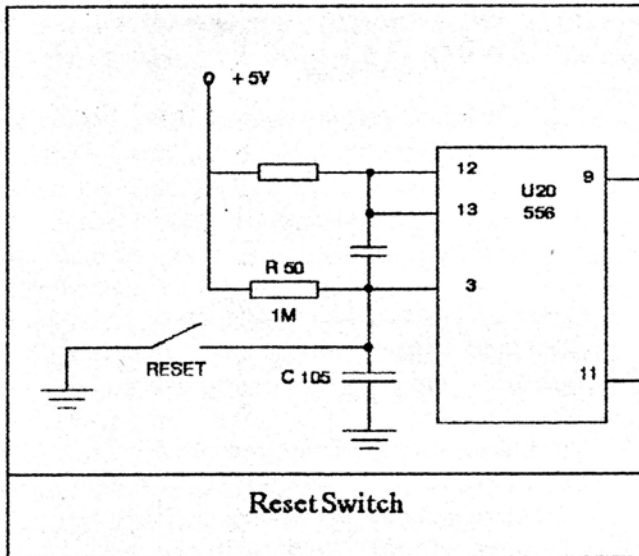
Remove all cables from the computer and place it upside down on a cloth or piece of carpet. Near the front of the computer there are three Phillips head screws. Remove these and right the case being sure to catch the screws as they fall out. Carefully lift the front of the case and unplug the two cables from the printed circuit board being careful to note on the piece of paper their orientation.

Next find a suitable position for the switch, making sure that the switch will not interfere with the top cover or the printed circuit board. Once a suitable position is found, drill a hole and mount the switch.

One side of the switch is connected to pin 8 of U20. This point is connected to R50 and C105, see circuit. There have been many revisions of the C64 and not all of the models have these components labeled as R50 and C105. This point is usually found near the front left of the computer. Cut enough of the hookup wire to go from pin 8 of U20 (or R50) to the reset switch. Solder one end to pin 8 of U20 (or R50) and the other end to one side of the reset switch. Solder one end of the 1k resistor to other

side of the switch and connect the other end of the resistor to ground. Note that the ground track goes under all of the printed circuit board securing screws.

Carefully replace the two connectors removed from the the printed circuit board. Place the plastic lugs on the rear of the upper section into the rear of the lower section at an angle of about 30 to 40 degrees and slowly lower the the upper section into place. Upturn the computer and replace the three screws removed earlier.



Reconnect the cables to the computer and turn it on. Upon pressing the reset switch the screen should shrink slightly for about one second, then the opening screen should appear. If this does not work then you have made a mistake and it will be necessary to check the wiring.

One final hint, if you wish to measure voltages around the circuit use a high impedance meter, for example a digital multi-meter.