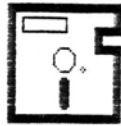


## The Dispatch Disk



April  
1990



The Editor's Desk  
16/4/90

Hello everyone,

I could really start this edition of the newsletter with "Goodbye everyone"! Last Thursday I was advised that I will be transferring to Mount Gambier with my job so that this will be my last edition as editor of "The Dispatch Disk".

Looking back over the first six months of this committee's term, I can see that a lot has been achieved. When we first took it over, the club was in a real mess and it seemed for a while that it might not survive. It did however, and has grown in size to a point where there are over a dozen paid-up members and we are getting several visitors at each meeting.

The library, now that Jeff has taken over, is growing all the time and is now reaching the stage where it contains some useful public domain titles and our thanks go to him for that. We have also started up the magazine library which keeps growing with new titles being added all the time. We still need more so keep on the lookout at Garage sales etc.

Financially the club is relatively healthy with a bank balance of around \$180.00. We have made our usual donation to the Salvation Army in thanks for the use of our club rooms. This year we, the committee, decided on \$140.00 which represents a saving on what we would have to pay for alternative premises. I will take this opportunity to once again thank the Salvation Army for their generosity.

From my own side, there have been several changes to the way I have put the newsletter together. Initially I started off using "The Newsroom" and have now shifted over to G.E.D.S. for its increased versatility. Some of this edition is also being printed on a different printer; one that started off its life plugged in to the back of an Apple IIc computer! Such is the versatility of the Commodore-64.

With my imminent departure, the club will need a new newsletter editor. If you are interested, see me or any other committee member at tonight's meeting. It can take up a fair amount of time, but it is also rewarding and I do have several articles partly prepared that I will be willing to submit (by mail) for future editions in order to help out.

In the meantime, if you do have any articles or classifieds for inclusion for the next edition, give them to Rob or Jeff and they will see that they get to the right person.

In closing I would like to say thankyou to everyone in the club for the friendship that they have shown and for the assistance that they have given to me in the 18 months that I have been a member. If I am in Adelaide at the right time, I will try to attend a meeting. I will be keeping in touch with club events through Rob ( he's my brother in law) and as I said before, I will be submitting a few articles for publication once I get settled in down there. Heaven help the new editor if he forgets to send me my copies of "The Dispatch Disk"

All the best for the future  
Terry Pitt - (former) Editor

## Mister G's First Disk

**Thank you** for ordering our first disk. As you can see, it's full of various files to help you get more out of GEOS. The staff and I really hope you like it.

**\*\*\* STOP \*\*\*** If you have not already made a copy of both sides of this disk then do so now!!! Place the original disk in a safe place and use your backup copy to continue.

### INDEX

#### PAGE

1	Thank You and INDEX
1	About the disk
2	File descriptions
3	How to use CONVERT
3	How to use font ICON files
3	How to use geoCalc templets
4	About the EZ Keyboard Shortcut files.
4	About the Quick Reference file.
4	How to use geoPaint templets
4	How to use geolabel scrap.
5	The last Page

**Why a Mister G disk?** Frankly, our GEOS Users Newsletter expenses (printing, advertising, and buying new applications to review) still exceed the income from subscribers. We thought that putting a disk together was one way to help cover our Newsletter costs.

**Why do both side of the disk contain the same files?** *Side one* of this disk has been formatted using GEOS and *side two* was formatted using Commodore DOS. On *side one*, the files are in their GEOS format. On *side two*, the files are in the Commodore Sequential format and must be changed into the GEOS format before they can be used. The reason for having the files in both formats is simple. We've noted that some disk drives will not read a GEOS disk that was formatted on another disk drive because of alignment problems. However, those problem disk drives will read disks that were formatted using Commodore DOS.

If you have any problems loading any of the files on *side one* of the disk, then use the CONVERT program to change the SEQ file version on *side two* to the GEOS format using your own disk drive. Then replace the problem file with the file you just 'converted'.

**The desktop.** The files on the desktop have been organized by page to help you identify the file's type.

**Page 1** contains geoWrite files. Each of these files (except for Quick Ref 2.0) can be read by any geoWrite version. Convert is also on this page.

**Page 2** contains Fancy Font Icon files for the five fonts which come with every version of GEOS. An Icon file is also included for the Commodore font which comes with some GEOS applications. You can transfer these font icons to your own font files by using the icon buffer available in ICON EDITOR. ICON EDITOR is on Berkeley Softworks DESK PACK 1.

**NOTE:** These are not the actual font files. The file is actually a one line basic program which we've used as a means of retaining the font icon we created.

**Pages 3 - 5** contain Fancy Font Icon files for the fonts on Berkeley Softworks FONT PACK 1. And we've included a few EXTRA icons you might be able to use on this and other pages of the disk.

**Page 6** contains actual Mister G and Public Domain font files. And our geoCalc templets.

**Page 7** contains keyboard shortcut files. These EZ files are all geoWrite files you can use with any version of geoWrite.

**Page 8** contains geoPaint files. Various templets and label ideas. The Label file is a Photo Scrap Album.

**Page 9** contains some our favorite Public Domain files downloaded from Q-Link. Many of our subscribers are not members of Q-Link and don't have access to the fine Public Domain GEOS software that is available.

## How to use CONVERT (64)

We are using CONVERT on this disk as a means of correcting any drive alignment problems. FIRST, be sure you have copied both sides of the disk. You can use GEOS to copy *side one*, but I would not use GEOS to copy *side two*. Use another disk copier such as a Fast Hack em. Then work with your copies. If you cannot access a file on *side one* of the disk or if you could not copy *side one* successfully with GEOS then you will have to use CONVERT.

Try to use the CONVERT file on *side one* first. It is simple to use. Read the rest of this page for instructions. If you cannot the *side one* version to load, then boot GEOS, open *side two* of the disk (use your backup copy) and double click. Read the rest of this page for further instructions.

Presently, Q-Link, GENie, and other telecommunication services can only upload and download NON-GEOS files.

There are two versions of CONVERT. One changes the GEOS file into a 64 Program file which can be uploaded/downloaded to/from GENie. The other version changes a file into a 64 Sequential file which can be uploaded/ downloaded to/from Q-Link. You can use either version for your local BBSs.

We will be using the Q-Link version. When you upload a file you use CONVERT to change the GEOS file into a 64 sequential file and then it will upload normally. When you download a file from Q-Link, you will have to change it back into a GEOS file with CONVERT.

The first thing to do is to copy the downloaded program to a disk (**this is the version that is on side two of this disk**). Next, if you double click on the program it will automatically change itself into an application, the screen will go blank and you will have to reboot. (Sorry about the reboot, but you will only have to do this once. **The application version of CONVERT is on side one of this disk.**)

The rest is easy! Reboot GEOS and double click on the CONVERT icon. Now, choose the menu and choose 'to convert a file from SEQ to GEOS'. A menu will ask you to choose the file.

CONVERT will not copy the file and then convert it. It will convert the file that is there. After you have converted the file, you can choose quit from the file menu or you can select another file to CONVERT.

Sometimes, however the CONVERT is unsuccessful. Always use CONVERT on a copy of the file so you always have a backup available to try to Convert again.

## How to use the FILE ICON file.

These files were designed to be used with ICON EDITOR or any other icon editor with a buffer function.

1. Load the FILE ICON file into the editor and transfer the icon pic into the buffer. Then save the icon back to the original file. This will leave the icon pic in the buffer.
2. Load the file which you would like to have the icon pic in the buffer to have. Transfer the icon pic in the buffer to the current work area then save the file. When you return to the desktop, you should see that the fancy your file now has a 'fancy' icon.
3. Repeat this procedure for each file you wish to change icons.

## HOW TO USE GEOCALC TEMPLETS

These are just two templets which give an example of how you can use GeoCalc. One lets you determine the principle and interest of a loan. It is fast because there are few formulas in it and it does not use a large area of the spreadsheet.

The other is an example of how you can use a spreadsheet for the rows and columns for non-calculating forms. This one gives you information about how to play blackjack with a single deck. Try it with your BlackJack game file!

There are some other spreadsheets which I use quite regularly with Multi-Plan and I had intended to transfer them to geoCalc and make them available here. BUT... geocalc gives a whole to meaning to spreadsheet...SLOWSHEET. The first file that tried to transfer was one that calculated principal, interest, and minimum payment information for credit cards. It calculated this info for the next 60 months if you only made the minimum credit card payments. Multiplan would take about 3 minutes to update the spreadsheet. GeoCalc took 25 minutes to update the slowsheet after each entry. Since there were 3 or 4 entries for the current month info, it would take more than a hour for the sheet to work as it should. Forget it, we have better things to do with our time.

Open **geoPaint** and select "OPEN" and open your "Grey Templet file". Then from within **geoPaint**, from the "geos" pull down menu, select "photo manager". Open **GeoLabel** and pick one you want to work with. When you have selected a scrap, select **COPY** from the **EDIT** menu. Then select **QUIT** from the **FILE** menu. You will be back in the "Work FILE".

Go up to the **EDIT** box (the dotted box next to the **MOVE** arrows) and click once on it. Then double-click to select the entire work window. With the entire work area selected, click on the **EDIT** menu and select **PASTE**. This will place the scrap in the work area. With the scrap in the work area, you are ready to modify it to suit your needs.

Notice that some scraps in the album have long lines across the top and the bottom. You do not need these on your printed label. These Label-Size guides are the "safe zone". Keep all your text and graphics between them, and if align your printer properly, all should come out fine. Align the print head to correspond with the top line on the graphic and if you align it correctly, both lines should be printed on the top and bottom edges of the label. Every printer is different so some experimentation will be needed. The labels themselves are slightly wider than the drawing window, but not much, so it is important to align the printer for the left margin as well as top & bottom.

**NOTE** where these lines meet with the cells in the Grey Templet. You can then use the cells as a means of aligning the labels to fit your printer and the labels that you are using. The "safe-zone" lines are only a guide and should be removed before printing your label. One way to remove them is to use the **ERASER** and simply erase the lines.

Then, get your printer ready to go, and from the **FILE** menu select **PRINT** and you have an instant label! \*\*\* Don't forget to copy the scrap into one of the photo albums provided, or one that you created before moving on to another label! \*\*\*

To copy the new label graphic into an album, just reverse the process. Just double-click on the edit box and select **COPY** from the **EDIT** menu. Open the photo manager and **PASTE** into an album.

### The last page.

A few words about the Public Domain programs on page 9.

**GeoDump** has been around for a while but has a lot of uses.

**GeoDirPrint** is a newer file and of the many directory printing programs around for **GEOS**, I like this one because it prints using **GEOS** fonts. It's also pretty reliable when it encounters a blank space on a page of the desktop.

**Untrash** has also been around for a while in lots of different versions. It's great to have around when you find that you trashed a file in error. Use **Untrash** on the disk as soon as possible and you may recover your file.

**Writer's Cramp** is one of the best things around if you like to work between the different versions of **GEOWRITE**. It will convert a **V2.0** file to **V1.3** and let you read it with one of the earlier versions of **GEOWRITE**. It's also pretty reliable but it may have problems on disks with large directories. Best to use it on a disk by itself.

**Serial** tells you the number of your kernal. This is the number embedded into your newer **geos** applications when you first open a new disk. Just kinda interesting to know. You must have both files on the disk and the **serial#a**. file must (cannot) be converted to **GEOS**. Keep it as a basic file.

**Yahzee**. The guy that wrote this one did a fine job. Hope we see more of this kind of quality programming.

**Jogstick2**. When I first got this file I had just gotten my 1351 mouse and it was a pain switching and unplugging the mouse and joystick when I wanted to change between the two. With this driver on your disk, you can change the driver from within **GEOS** and use the joystick in port 2. No more unplugging. Sadly, I cannot get this file to work with **GEOS 1.28**.

Hope you enjoy the disk and if you share the programs with your friends, be sure to tell them about the **GEOS Users Newsletter**.

If we continue in the coming year (I hope we will), we really need more subscribers. If you belong to a User Group, please tell the members about us. And if you have a local computer magazine (commodore or not) that accepts free ads, please let me know. We're trying our best to get the word out but we sure can use your help. As always, we'd love to know what you think about the disk. It took a lot of time putting it together but it was fun and rewarding.

Mister G  
21634-A Belshire Ave.  
Lakewood, CA 90716

## FILE DESCRIPTIONS

<b>INSTRUCTIONS</b>	- (geoWrite) a read me file.
<b>Music ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>Letter ICON 1</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>Quick Ref 1.3</b>	- (geoWrite) quick reference chart.
<b>Quick Ref 2.0</b>	- (geoWrite) quick reference chart.
<b>Chart ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>CONVERT</b>	- (application) converts GEOS/SEQ files.
<b>\California ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Cory ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Dwinelle ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Roma ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\University ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Commodore ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>Write ICON 1</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Boalt ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Bowditch ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Brennens ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Bubble ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Channing ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Durant ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Elmwood ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Evans ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\FontKnox ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Harmon ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Hearst ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\LeConte ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\MgKonos ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Ormand ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Putnam ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Stadium ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Superb ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Telegraph ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Tilden ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>\Tolman ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>Hand ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>Mister G WRITE</b>	- (font) handwriting.
<b>Mister G CHR</b>	- (font) special characters.
<b>36POINT</b>	- (font) PD from Q-Link.
<b>IBM</b>	- (font) PD from Q-Link by RABID.
<b>LOAD CALC</b>	- (goeCalc) principal and interest.
<b>BlackJack 1</b>	- (goeCalc) basic strategy, 1 deck.
<b>EZ GWrite 64 1.3</b>	- (geoWrite) key short cuts.
<b>EZ GWrite 64 2.0</b>	- (geoWrite) key short cuts.
<b>EZ GWrite 28 1.1</b>	- (geoWrite) key short cuts.
<b>EZ GFile 64 1.1</b>	- (geoWrite) key short cuts.
<b>EZ GDex 64 1.0</b>	- (geoWrite) key short cuts.
<b>EZ GCalc 64 1.0</b>	- (geoWrite) key short cuts.
<b>Letter ICON 2</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>Grey Templet</b>	- (geoPaint) an art templet.
<b>Cross Templet</b>	- (geoPaint) an art templet.
<b>GeoLabel</b>	- (photo scrap album) label ideas.
<b>Mouse ICON</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>Write ICON 2</b>	- (basic) use with ICON editor.
<b>GeoDump</b>	- (application) screen dump to print.
<b>GEODIRPRINT</b>	- (application) print disk directory.
<b>UnTrash</b>	- (application) recover lost files.
<b>Writer's Cramp</b>	- (application) read 2. file with 1.3
<b>Serial</b>	- (application) reads kernal serial #.
<b>Serial*.A</b>	- (application) used with SERIAL.
<b>Yahtzee</b>	- (game) great GEOS version.
<b>JOYSTICK2</b>	- (driver) use mouse in port one and joystick in port 2.

### **About the EZ Keyboard Shortcut files.**

These files have been published in the GEOS USERS NEWSLETTER. We present them here so that you can print them in any format that you like. They are separate file but you can easily combine them using the text manager into one file if you like.

The files are designed to work with UNIVERSITY font and Mister G CHR font. Be sure that these two fonts are one of the first 7 on your disk. First 6 for GEOS 128 users. If you view the files with any other fonts, spacing will be off and you will not see the special characters used to identify keyboard functions.

### **About the Quick Reference files.**

The files are designed to work with BSW font (default) and Mister G CHR font. Be sure that Mister G CHR font is one of the first 7 on your disk. First 6 for GEOS 128 users. If you view the files with any other fonts, spacing will be off and you will not see the special characters used to identify keyboard functions.

Special note, the file for 1.3 also applies to geoWrite 128 V1.1.

You can shorten the files as you like and make a handy reference chart for using geowrite.

These files can be read by any version of geowrite.

### **How to use geoPaint templets**

There are two geoPaint templets on this disk. Both should really make you life a lot easier.

1. Grey Templet: Alternating blocks of white and grey to show boundaries of blocks (cards) within which only two colors can be used. Invisible on printout, even in color.
2. Cross Templet: Small crosses show intersection of blocks (cards) of color. Also shows layout when printed.

### **HOW to use Grey Templet.**

Alternating 8x8 pixel blocks of light grey/white background colors are displayed, allowing you to see the exact position of cells in which only two colors can be used. Since only background colors are used, this templet will be invisible in a printout, even a color one, or it can be erased from the display by turning color off, or by changing background colors with COLOR option.

To use: Move the file to a GEOPaint workdisk, and duplicate it. Open the new file, and you'll see the checker board of alternating grey/light grey background. Select the COLOR drawing option, and for background color (on lower palette), select the "color indicator" box on the far left. Go back to drawing mode by selecting pencil or pen option, and create your picture. If you want to see how the picture looks without the templet, select "color off" from OPTION menu, and the templet will vanish. Select "color on" to go back to drawing. When the drawing is complete, you can erase the greygrid, or add background coloration by selecting COLOR, then select the "color indicator" box for the foreground color (upper palette), and selecting the colors you want for the background from the lower palette: move the square cursor to the picture, and double-click. The background color for that cell will be changed to the color you selected, without changing the drawing, or foreground color.

NOTE: You will see a column of red cells. This identifies where 60 DPI printers will end.

### **HOW to use Cross Templet.**

The Cross Templet will print a page of geoPaint blocks or cells. It will also be seen on the screen. You can print this templet and use it to draw or plan your picture. Then use the Grey Templet to help you identify the corresponding locations.

I have found both of these files a big help when trying to layout the Newsletter or prepare labels.

### **How to use the GeoLabel file.**

These pictures will work on any standard form feed address labels. I use 3 1/2" x 15/16 Printer Labels, mainly because they are easy to get a hold of, and cheaper than regular disk labels.

The first thing to do is, prepare your work disk. On it you will need: geoPaint, deskTop, photo manager, a printer driver, Font files, Grey Templet and the photo albums. Once you have the disk set up you are ready to begin working with. The disk will get VERY crowded VERY quickly.



# NEWS FLASH



The following is an extract from an advert in the latest issue of "Compute!'s Gazette".

"For everyone who's ever waited a tad too long for a GEOS screen to redraw itself or an application to load, congratulations, the wait is over. Your chips have come in.

The GEORAM expansion board - for both 64's and 128's - is here.

## MORE MEMORY, LESS WAITING.

Developed exclusively for GEOS-equipped Commodores, these babies pack an unbelievable 512K of extra memory, which propels GEOS into light speed productivity. Accessories pop up in an instant. Screens redraw in a wink. And applications scream out in a frenzy as you whip them along with your mouse or joystick.

"An additional 512K of memory... is a really impressive upgrade...The usefulness of this becomes evident when using GEOS, as it can practically eliminate the... disk access you normally encounter."

— *Run Magazine*

Hard to believe? Believe it. GEORAM's disk transfer rate is literally 35 times faster than the 1541, 1571 or 1581 disk drive, which has the industry chattering almost as much as when GEOS first arrived on the scene:

"The difference between operating...on a 640K machine instead of a 128K machine could be compared to flying a jet and walking. Tasks, that would normally cause a delay while the disk was accessed, run at the speed of light..."—*Commodore Magazine*

Pretty heady stuff. But every word of it's true. Because GEORAM stores everything electronically. This means your Commodore doesn't waste time spinning magnetic disks searching for data.

That not only increases your machine's performance. It also increases yours. Because the time you used to spend waiting is being put to better use drawing, writing or doing any of the thousands of things for which you're using GEOS.

"It's the same GEOS, but unless you experience RAM expansion, you can't imagine the transformation... Some operations run a few seconds quicker, others (such as deskTop utilities) seem to appear before you select them... My RAM expander is the most cost-effective purchase I've ever made. Try one, and you'll never go back to magnetic media".

— *Computer Shopper*

The GEORAM Expansion Card. It may have been a long time coming, but it's definitely been worth the wait."

At present GEORAM is only available direct from Berkeley Softworks. I understand the price in the U.S. is \$125.00

## THE DAY OF THE POWER C-64 IS WITH US NOW !!

Written by Jeff Carey

Prepared for the newsletter in GeoWrite V2.1 by Ross Edwards

## Mister G's First Disk

**Thank you** for ordering our first disk. As you can see, it's full of various files to help you get more out of GEOS. The staff and I really hope you like it.

**\*\*\* STOP \*\*\*** If you have not already made a copy of both sides of this disk then do so now!!! Place the original disk in a safe place and use your backup copy to continue.

### INDEX

#### PAGE

1	Thank You and INDEX
1	About the disk
2	File descriptions
3	How to use CONVERT
3	How to use font ICON files
3	How to use geoCalc templets
4	About the EZ Keyboard Shortcut files.
4	About the Quick Reference file.
4	How to use geoPaint templets
4	How to use geolabel scrap.
5	The last Page

**Why a Mister G disk?** Frankly, our GEOS Users Newsletter expenses (printing, advertising, and buying new applications to review) still exceed the income from subscribers. We thought that putting a disk together was one way to help cover our Newsletter costs.

**Why do both side of the disk contain the same files?** *Side one* of this disk has been formatted using GEOS and *side two* was formatted using Commodore DOS. On *side one*, the files are in their GEOS format. On *side two*, the files are in the Commodore Sequential format and must be changed into the GEOS format before they can be used. The reason for having the files in both formats is simple. We've noted that some disk drives will not read a GEOS disk that was formatted on another disk drive because of alignment problems. However, those problem disk drives will read disks that were formatted using Commodore DOS.

If you have any problems loading any of the files on *side one* of the disk, then use the CONVERT program to change the SEQ file version on *side two* to the GEOS format using your own disk drive. Then replace the problem file with the file you just 'converted'.

**The desktop.** The files on the desktop have been organized by page to help you identify the file's type.

**Page 1** contains geoWrite files. Each of these files (except for Quick Ref 2.0) can be read by any geoWrite version. Convert is also on this page.

**Page 2** contains Fancy Font Icon files for the five fonts which come with every version of GEOS. An Icon file is also included for the Commodore font which comes with some GEOS applications. You can transfer these font icons to your own font files by using the icon buffer available in ICON EDITOR. ICON EDITOR is on Berkeley Softworks DESK PACK 1.

**NOTE:** These are not the actual font files. The file is actually a one line basic program which we've used as a means of retaining the font icon we created.

**Pages 3 - 5** contain Fancy Font Icon files for the fonts on Berkeley Softworks FONT PACK 1. And we've included a few EXTRA icons you might be able to use on this and other pages of the disk.

**Page 6** contains actual Mister G and Public Domain font files. And our geoCalc templets.

**Page 7** contains keyboard shortcut files. These EZ files are all geoWrite files you can use with any version of geoWrite.

**Page 8** contains geoPaint files. Various templets and label ideas. The Label file is a Photo Scrap Album.

**Page 9** contains some our favorite Public Domain files downloaded from Q-Link. Many of our subscribers are not members of Q-Link and don't have access to the fine Public Domain GEOS software that is available.