GEOS NEWS

The deskTop

Welcome to **GEOS NEWS**. First off I'd like to thank you for buying **GEOS**. Simply put, if you did not buy our products we would not be here. In particular, I'd like to thank all of you who told your friends and relatives about **GEOS**. In the software industry, word of mouth advertising is still the best. Thanks.

Continuing on that note, I'd like to ask you to become a C64/128 evangelist. I believe, as I'm sure you do, that there's a lot of life and usefulness to be found in the C64/128. If you have friends who are thinking of buying a video game system or are holding off on buying a computer because they want some high priced model they can't afford, show them your C64. If they are convinced to buy one, you'll have a friend to compare notes with and the whole **GEOS** community gets a little larger. The larger the community, the greater the number of programmers and publishers that will support **GEOS**. In a sense, we are all in this together, so please, go out and spread the word.

We decided to publish **GEOS NEWS** because we have quite a few new developments at Berkeley Softworks (BSW) we thought you might like to know about. In fact, we have more things to tell you than we can fit in this edition. But don't worry, this is only the first issue and we plan to be bringing you more.

If you are an avid reader of Commodore magazines, or if you are a member of QuantumLink (which you should try if you haven't already) you might be aware of some of the developments in the **GEOS** world. Since launching **GEOS** a little over a year ago, we have been pretty busy improving the system and bringing out new products. This newsletter, for example, was created using **geoWrite 2.1** and **geoPublish** (our new desktop publishing program). There are simply too many new products and developments for me to address here, but there are two in particular I'd like to single out as major breakthroughs for C64/C128 owners.

As I mentioned above, this issue was created using **geoPublish**. This is an amazing product. We've put all the features of the $600 and $700 desktop publishing products into this package and we've added a few features even the expensive guys don't support -- like wrapping text around multiple overlayed graphic regions and completely adjustable column control.

Another major breakthough on the hardware side is the 1764 RAM Expansion Unit (REU). If you have not seen a C64 running with a 1764 REU used as a **GEOS** RAM disk, you have only seen 1/100th of the potential of this machine. When you purchase the RAM Expansion Unit, you receive a disk with the upgrade to **GEOS 1.3** (this disk can also be obtained through the mail from BSW for $5). The upgrade disk includes a configure program which allows you to configure the RAM Expansion as a second disk drive. When you copy a work disk to the RAM disk (using **copy** under the **disk** menu) the results are nothing short of staggering. Applications and desk accessories load instantly. All **GEOS** programs automatically double or triple in performance. To understand how this performance increase occurs, you need to know a little more about how **GEOS** programs work.

As you have probably noticed, **GEOS** applications are fairly disk intensive. This is because we are bringing a level of software technology to the C64 that requires more than 64K of memory. In order to overcome the memory limitation, we break the program up into smaller pieces, keeping only the pieces necessary to execute the task at hand in memory. Unfortunately this causes a short delay whenever it is necessary to get a piece of the program that is not in memory from disk. However, when you are using a RAM disk, there is virtually no delay. The transfer in from the RAM disk is almost instantaneous, therefore all of your **GEOS** applications run much faster.

Well, that's about all for now. I look forward to talking to you again in future issues. I hope you enjoy **GEOS** and a whole new world for your Commoodore 64/128.

Brian P. Dougherty

Brian P. Dougherty
CEO Berkeley Softworks

WHAT'S HOT!!

Announcing GeoPublish!!

GeoPublish turns your GEOS-based Commodore 64 into a desktop publishing system. Now you can easily design and print documents such as multi-page, multi-column newsletters, brochures, catalogs, flyers, and advertisements. This exciting new product offers most of the functionality of expensive publishing programs which run on IBM PC's or Apple Macintoshes, at one-tenth the price.

GeoPublish lets you design up to 16 pages per document. On each page, you can freely mix multiple text columns, bitmapped graphic images, and line graphics. Text can come from up to 16 different **geoWrite** documents, letting you design newsletters containing multiple articles.

Start by creating a customized master page which contains graphics and text to appear on each page of a document. Master page definitions can also be loaded from a library or saved for later use.

Page layout becomes a simple task with **geoPublish**. To begin, design the layout by defining rectangular regions on each page of the document. Text flows into columns, automatically continuing onto later pages as necessary. The text retains all information from the original **geoWrite** document, including text font and style, justification, centering, embedded bitmapped graphic images, and tables of data from **geoCalc** or **geoFile**. Create titles and headlines using new **GEOS MegaFonts**, with point sizes up to 192 points, the size of a standard newspaper masthead.

You can edit text without leaving **geoPublish**, and it will automatically reflow to fill columns again. Bitmapped graphic images can be pasted onto each page and cropped, centered or scaled to fit. If a graphic image overlaps text columns, the text automatically reflows around the graphics.

The entire layout of any page can easily be modified by moving and resizing regions using the onscreen ruler and guidelines for precise placement. Page layouts may be loaded from a library or saved for later use. An onscreen tool box allows you to choose the graphic tools you need to draw lines, rectangles and circles in different widths and patterns. Overlapping graphics can be placed behind or in front of text columns.

Before printing, "preview" all pages on the screen or zoom in on any particular area of the page for viewing actual-sized graphics and text. Print your document on any GEOS-compatible printer, or use our PostScript driver to print on the Apple LaserWriter for near-typeset quality documents. **GeoPublish** is currently available.
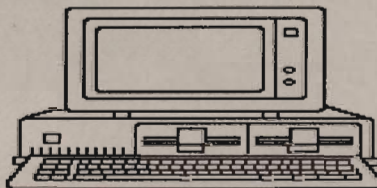
GeoProgrammer: The Complete GEOS Application Development Package.

For **GEOS** enthusiasts who know 6502 assembly language, **geoProgrammer** is all you need to create and debug your own full-sized GEOS application programs. This package includes a powerful macro assembler, linker, and symbolic debugger. Also included are sample source files that can be used as a base to create unique GEOS applications and desk accessories. The comprehensive user's manual guides you into the realm of event-driven programming and provides tips on how to take advantage of **geoProgrammer's** powerful features.

Create and edit your source files using **geoWrite**, emphasizing important sections or comments with boldface type to improve readability. Instead of entering long lines of numbers to define graphic images, simply paste them into the document.

GeoAssembler reads these source files, and supports: macros for frequently-used blocks of code, global and local labels, expressions involving arithmetic and logical operators, and a ".include" command to read in other **geoWrite** files. **GeoLinker** accepts link structure commands from a **geoWrite** document and reads relocatable object code files produced by **geoAssembler**. In addition, it supports construction of **GEOS** sequential and VLIR (module swapping) applications. You can even define a header block so the **deskTop** will display a customized icon for your application.

GeoDebugger is an advanced symbolic debugger, which lets you interactively step through your program, examining register and memory contents as you go. If used with a Ram Expansion Unit, the debugger lets you debug full-sized **GEOS** applications and supports creation of command macros to simplify repetitive tasks in the debugging effort. **GeoDebugger** displays results to a special overlay text window, so your application's screen is unaffected. **GeoProgrammer** will be available in December.

The Official GEOS Programmer's Reference Guide II

This is the definitive reference for programmers writing **GEOS** applications. In addition to a tutorial on writing **GEOS** event-driven programs, it contains comprehensive information on all of the commands, memory maps, and file formats you need to understand to develop **GEOS** applications. Recently revised to include information about **GEOS** 1.3, 1.4 and **GEOS** for the Commodore 128.

Q. How do you create a photo scrap in **geoPaint**?

A. Make an edit box from the tool box icons. Draw the box around the image and select **cut** or **copy** from the **edit** menu. This picture is then placed into a photo scrap and can be pasted in any **geoPaint** or **geoWrite** document.

Q. Why is a pasted image always centered in a **geoWrite** document ?

A. The pasted image will actually center between the margins that are set on the page. By changing the size of the margins you can change the position of the pasted image on the page. Since **geoWrite 2.1** (on the **geoWrite Workshop** package) has the capability of multiple rulers per page, it is possible to set margins specifically for pasting, then space down and expand the margins for text that may follow.

Q. Why can't files be deleted from a backup now that I have upgraded **GEOS V1.2 to V1.3**?

A. After upgrading to V1.3, the **GEOS** System disk and **backup** utility change to protect the user from deleting necessary boot files. Hence, a backup disk can only be used to restore the boot disk, and not to make a work disk. To make a work disk format a blank disk and copy desired files individually to this disk. With the **Disk Copy** utility it is possible to copy these work disks directly and tailor them for your own needs.

Q. When I try and use the fonts on **Fontpack 1**, the font type always reverts to the BSW font in my printout, even though it has been changed from the font menu. Why?

A. Unless the existing text is highlighted and changed after the document has been completed, or unless the desired font is selected before the document is entered, the font and style remains at BSW. It is necessary to highlight the text in order to change a font or style. To highlight the desired text, drag the pointer across the text while holding down the fire button on your joystick or mouse.

Q. Can information from **geoFile** be transferred to **geoWrite** or **geoPaint** and other GEOS applications?

A. Yes, **geoFile** allows you to make text scraps of data which can then be pasted into a **geoWrite** or **geoPaint** document.

Keyboard Shortcuts and Cursor Control :

The recently released 1.3 **deskTop** and 1.3 **geoWrite** will give you access to keyboard commands and cursor controls. These commands allow you to work faster with hands free of the input device while you are working in **geoWrite**. Keyboard shortcuts definitely prove to be a helpful and convenient feature in **GEOS**.

The commands can be selected by depressing the Commodore Key and any one of the letters listed below. The Commodore key is located next to the left "SHIFT" key. Keyboard commands in **geoWrite** are as follows :

Edit menu :

cut	C= and X
copy	C= and C
paste (text)	C= and T
paste (picture)	C= and W

Options menu :

previous page	C= and Left Arrow
next page	C= and +
go to page	C= and G
page break	C= and L

Style menu :

plain text	C= and P
bold	C= and B
italic	C= and I
outline	C= and O
underline	C= and U

You can also move your cursor by using the cursor keys located to the right of the "SHIFT" key. To move your cursor to the right, use the left/right cursor key. To move your cursor to the left, use the "SHIFT" and the left/right cursor key. To move down, use the up/down cursor key and for moving your cursor up, use the "SHIFT" key and the up/down cursor key.

Setting Your Default Printer

To avoid doing a "printer select" before printing each document, you should set your printer to the default position. The proper set-up is to make your desired printer driver first on the boot disk, and the only one on the work disk. This will allow the program to automatically choose your printer when it comes time to print. What follows is a step by step guide explaining how to change your default printer:

1. Load the **GEOS** boot disk.
2. Turn the pages of the deskTop notepad to locate your desired printer driver. Create a ghost icon of the driver and drag it to the left-hand corner of the boarder (the shaded area below the deskTop notepad).
3. "Ghost" the first printer driver icon located on the deskTop and drag it to the lower left-hand corner of the boarder next to your desired printer driver. "Drop it" there by clicking on the fire button of your input device.
4. Re-ghost the desired printer driver and place it in the previous postition of the other printer driver.
5. Re-ghost the other printer driver and drop it back on the deskTop in the empty spot.

NOTE: All you have done is exchanged the positions of the two printer driver icons.

6. Turn the computer off, then power up again and re-boot the system.
7. Delete all printer drivers from the work disk except the desired driver. This not only gives more memory to work with, but also avoids the task of doing a "printer select" upon printing.

FINISHING TOUCHES

New Products

New From Berkeley Softworks:

GEOS 128: A new 80 column version of GEOS for the C128. ($69.95)

geoCalc: A spreadsheet for GEOS. Interacts with both **geoWrite** and **geoFile**. ($49.95)

geoFile: A data base for GEOS. Interacts with **geoWrite**, **geoCalc**, **geoPaint**, and **geoMerge**. ($49.95)

geoSpell: A spell-checker for **geoWrite**. Includes **geoFont Editor**--a program for changing existing fonts or designing new ones. ($29.95)

geoWrite Workshop 64: An enhanced version of geoWrite (2.1). Includes the **Text Grabber** (to bring non-geoWrite WP files into GEOS), **geoMerge**, and **geoLaser**. *(Formerly titled Writer's Workshop)* ($49.95)

geoWrite Workshop 128: The 80 column version of the above program. ($69.95)

geoPublish: See page 2 ($69.95)

geoProgrammer: See page 2 ($69.95)

See the Commodore retailer in your area for these products, or contact BSW directly.

Updates

The following upgrades are available from Berkeley Softworks if you own the old version:

GEOS 128: If you own **GEOS 64**, the cost is $22.00 + $2.50 shipping and handling. (Send back **GEOS** package sleeve).

geoWrite 2.1: If you own **geoWrite 2.0**, send $15.50 + $4.50 shipping and handling. Include **Writer's Workshop** disk. The 2.1 version has the ability to expand the margins to a full 8.0 across your page.

geoWrite Workshop 128: If you own **Writer's Workshop**, send $20.50 + $4.50 shipping and handling. Include **Writer's Workshop** disk. This is the 80 column, 2.1 version of the above program.

geoFile: No cost for version 1.0 owners. Send original 1.0 disk.

geoFile 128: If you own **geoFile**, send $20.50 + $4.50 shipping and handling. Include **geoFile** disk. This is the 80 column version of **geoFile**.

(Available in December)

geoCalc 128: If you own **geoCalc**, send $20.50 + $4.50 shipping and handling. Include **geoCalc** disk. This is the 80 column version of **geoCalc**. (Available in December)

Send money and disk to:
Berkeley Softworks Update Offer
2150 Shattuck Ave
Berkeley, CA 94704

QuantumLink

QuantumLink is the best way to get help with your GEOS programs. 15 message boards, Berkeley Softworks employees and thousands of GEOS users await you. Obtain software updates, tips and help, as well as access to **Laser Direct's** Laser Printing service. Contact Q-Link at (800) 392-8200 for more details!

GeoWorld

GeoWorld is an independent publication geared totally toward GEOS and how to get the most out of the GEOS product line. If you are interested, contact:

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