Room 3B
Cincinnati Public Library Main Branch
4PM at
From 2PM to
Sunday, November 19th
Next Meeting

Milford, OH 45150
31 Potowatomie Trail
c/o Roger Hoyer
Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club

Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club

Current Officers

President	David Witmer	513-868-1344
Vice President	Steve Winkle	937-783-5559
Secretary	Mark Gladson	
Treasurer/Publicity	Roger Hoyer	513-248-0025
Membership	Don Parrish	513-281-3079
Liibrarian	Edward Gase	513-829-0942
Newsletter Editor	Oliver VieBrooks	859-485-6465

commodore 64

Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club

November, 2006 President's Page

This past month, I was introduced to a disk magazine I hadn't heard of before. The name is Recollections. You can find it on the internet at:

http://www.atlantis-prophecy.org/recollection/

There is a need for newbie info. Scene-newbies appear to be lost about the past, confused, or even being totally ignorant about it. As in, how things worked back then, how it all came to be, the 'unwritten rules', etc...

The organizers thought that some kind of retro magazine could be in order, highlighting the past glory, not to forget praising it. So, in a sense, it would be quite self-centered, yet illuminating for newbies.

It is worth getting those stories out - also, it would be an interesting read to get behind the scenes of incidents, fights, groups etc. During the years when most of the controversy, politics, debates, groups were bubbling behind a surface. It would be an interesting angle to take the reader behind the mask, behind the surface of the supergroups and how it really worked. Many people have these weird perceptions of how things went on and the groups were organized. Where did they really get their originals? Who had to skip school to crack a first release? What were their plans - and how well-planned were they? How did they meet and get together in the first place? What triggered all the fighting? What split groups up? Who made money and who didn't? What was the lamest thing the coolest persons ever did? There is room for so many unmasking, entertaining stories that can now be told that the old era is over.

It is entertaining reading for us old-timers in the Commodore community, as well as an informative look for those newcomers who come into our fold, using either emulators or newly acquired equipment. So far two issues (totaling 4 1541 sides) have been created. Give it a look.

This month I'd like to remind everyone that our next meeting is November 19th at the Cincinnati Public Library Main Branch - Room 3B (located near the History and Geneology departments) Make a note on your calendar. Keep on Commodoring!

David Witmer Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club President
Webpage http://www.geocities.com/c64-128-amiga
AKA Snogpitch snogpitch@prodigy.net cbmusers@yahoo.com
ICQ 4989342

Amiga 1200 IDE to Compact Flash Conversion by Chuck Kern

The Commodore Amiga A1200 ships stock with a 2.5", 44-pin IDE HD, the same type commonly found in modern laptop computers.

One thing that many people are not aware of is that the Compact Flash (CF) connector is pinout compatible with the IDE connector. This makes it a trivial matter to adapt any IDE system to use CF in place of conventional hard drives.

For those of you unfamiliar with the terminology, CF cards are common in digital cameras, and can be purchased in sizes up to 4GB with a price that is similar to HD pricing.

Users of the IDE64 may note that it has been common for several years among IDE64 users to use CF to IDE adapters on their IDE64 cards. If you were at the 2004 SWRAP expo, you may have noticed Greg Nacu using such a setup.

In the past, CF to IDE adapters were not very common, somewhat of an obscure item, and as such were expensive.

I'd seen Compact Flash to IDE adapters on eBay.com for some time, but recently the price has plummeted, and I finally found one for the low price of $1.00! (buy it now option),with $6.99 shipping.

Since the total cost was roughly $8,and I happened to have a 128MB Compact Flash card just laying around, I had to try this hack.

It took a week for the IDE to CF adapter to arrive, as it was shipped from a vendor in the UK.

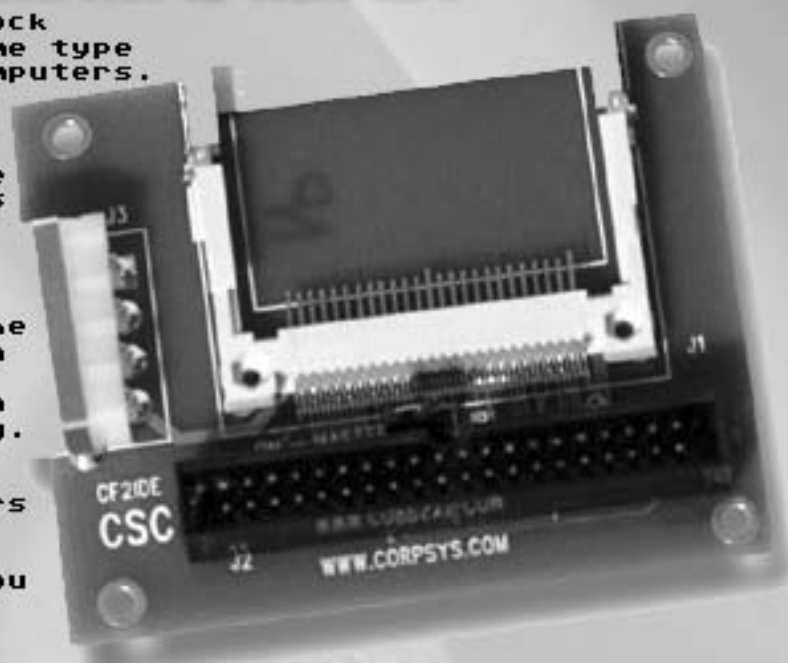Installing the CF to IDE adapter is a simple matter:

1. Open the Amiga (Warning, this voids your warranty.)
2. Remove the existing 2.5" IDE HD.
3. Install a CF card in the IDE to CF adapter.
4. Install the IDE to CF adapter in it's place.
5. Wrap the IDE to CF adapter assembly in some sort of plastic to avoid shorts. (I used clear packing tape.)
6. Close the Amiga
7. Use HD Toolbox to format the CF card.
8. Install an OS (I use Scalos)

There are many benefits to this hack, a few of which are:

1. Cheaper media. 2.5" IDE HDs are expensive.
2. Reduced heat. The CF card puts out almost no heat, especially in comparison to an HD. Users of accellerator cards should especially appreciate this benefit.
3. Reduced power consumption. If you have a few add-ons, this should help alleviate any power load issues you have.
4. Smaller "footprint". - The entire IDE to CF assembly, card included, takes up less space than the original 2.5" IDE HD.

Once the installation was complete, the CF card came right up in HDTools, just as if it was a convetional HD. I used a 128MB CF card, making two 56 MB partitions. The system now boots from poweron to the workbench screen in less than 5 seconds.

Beat That os load up time Bill Gates...

Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club

4C Club BBS News, By Chuck Kern

The 4C Club BBS has been in the testing stages for roughly a month. One of the issues that has slowed down deployment has been the unfortunate fact that C-Net Amiga is no longer available for purchase. It appears that the person who bought the rights to the software is not going to honor the original support agreements, support or sell the Amiga version and is instead going to focus on the PC version.

Fortunately for us, C-Net Amiga 3.05 is still available online. Initially, the board was going to be 3-nodes, using Six's (Oliver VieBrooks) Amiga 2000 and a multi-serial adapter. After some investigation, however, we discovered that it would be possible to use telnetd.device and the A1200 with an ethernet card to run as many nodes as we wanted.

The BBS will be available via telnet at this URL:
telnet://cincy.ath.cx

The possiblity of adding a dialup line for our modem-only users will be discussed at the November meeting.

If anyone in the club needs help getting onto the BBS, Six has volunteered his time and expertise.

Currently there are 4 nodes running, more will be added if traffic becomes an issue. There are some internodal features, such as chat rooms, and internodal messaging.

The ever-popular BBS game "Empire" is up and running. There are literally thousands of PFiles available for C-Net, but many of them are of limited appeal. If anyone would like to request a game, I will try to get it online.

Some of the message bases that have already been proposed are:

        General Discussions
        Commodore 64/128 Discussions
        Amiga Discussions
        Commodore/Amiga Programming
        CCCC Club Members Only Area
        BBS Ads

Please suggest more if there is something you want that you don't see.

There is a text file (GFiles) area available, and there has been some discussion of mirroring the club's sales lists there.

Up/Download bases will be limited to demos, magazine disks, and useful utilities that can be difficult to find online in other places. We are not running a warez BBS, so if it's ADFs of games you're looking for, talk to Six.

We will be needing subops for each of the areas. Please contact me in feedback on the BBS if you are interested in helping out.

Also, we are looking for ANSI and Commodore C/G artists to draw welcome screens, sub-op entry screens, exit screens and other graphics as needed.

The BBS will be open to the general public, and will have special access for all of the club members. Hopefully this will serve as a gathering place for many of our members who don't have the ability to get on IRC or attend the meetings, but do have a modem and terminal for their Commodore system.

Chuck Kern (club BBS Sysop)

Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club

Upcoming World of Commodore Expo Information

World of Commodore 2006
December 2, 2006 - 10AM to 10PM
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Preregister today by sending an email to woc@tpug.ca!

If you have any questions about the World of Commodore please send email to: woc@tpug.ca.

About The World of Commodore:
The Toronto PET User's Group (TPUG) is pleased to announce The World of Commodore! The 2006 Expo will feature...

* Information about all makes of Commodore computers will be available. Events will focus on the Commodore 64/128.
* Guest speakers, Commodore personalities past and present such as guru Jim Butterfield.
* Demonstrations of novel hardware and software projects using Commodore equipment.
* Hardware/software vendors showcasing the latest hardware and software available for Commodore computers, as well as classic accessories, applications and games!
* Screenings of Commodore related videos.
* A weekend of discussions and fun with the Commodore user community.
* Raffle prizes:
  - Set of Amiga CDs, donated by FWD Computing.
  - Four-player joystick interface for the C64, donated by C64 Reloaded.
  - Four DVDs of Commodore commercials and product demos, donated by Craig Ernster.
  - 64DTV 30-in-1 Joystick, donated by TPUG.
  - And more to be announced.

  Raffle tickets will be 1 for $1 or 5 for $3. You can also enter the raffle by email - contact TPUG with the raffle items you are interested in.
* The very popular freebie table! Please feel free to drop off any items you no longer want and help yourself to some goodies. You never know what you'll find!

Schedule:
Everyone should plan to attend for all of Saturday. There will be a welcoming event on Friday evening and discussions and socializing on Sunday so please, feel free to make a weekend of it.

Friday:
* 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Welcoming event and vendor load-in/setup.

Saturday:
* 10:00 AM - Opening remarks from TPUG.
* 10:05 AM - Vendor tables open for shopping.
* 12:00 PM - Lunch will be available at the event.
* 1:00 PM - Demonstrations begin (list). Vendor tables remain open.
* 6:00 PM - Demonstrations break for dinner.
* 7:00 PM - Dinner at The Grille - (click for map)
* 8:00 PM (Approximately) - Additional demonstrations.
* 10:00 PM - Official event wrap-up, with socializing continuing until late.

Coffee, pop, juice, and water will be available at the event all day.

Sunday:
* 10:00 AM - Round-table discussion, future plans, and further socializing at The Grille.

Admission:
Admission to the World of Commodore is $10 per person or $15 per family. Admission is free for anyone joining or renewing their membership in TPUG, or anyone that joined or renewed their membership since Oct 2006.

Vendor tables (8' x 3') are $15 for the first table and $10 for each additional table. Smaller individual tables (3' x 3') are $5.

All amounts are stated in Canadian dollars.

Upcoming World of Commodore Expo Information, Continued

Vendors:
* JP PBM Products by Mail - Super Snapshot cartridges, New Epyx
  Joysticks, 1581 Drive Kits, Commodore 64 and Amiga Software, more.
* The PC Museum - Brand new Commodore S-Video cables and information
  about the museum.
* Modernity Group - Palm Ethernet Cradles (used to get your C64 online!)
* Derek Dresser - Commodore 64, VIC-20 and Amiga Software, 128D
  replacement motherboards
* Nishtek - A wide variety of Commodore 8 bit, Amiga and PC products.
  See the website for more information.
* Centsible Software - Commodore 64/128 and Amiga Software and Hardware
  and is offering presale specials via their website.
* Toronto PET User's Group - Hardware, Software and Accessories for the
  Commodore 64 and Amiga, Library Disks, TPUG Memberships.
* And more to be announced.(Contact TPUG to pre-register a Vendor table)

Demonstrations:
TPUG is pleased to welcome the following special guest demonstrators:
* Francois Leveille - The Ultimate 32K RAM Expander for the VIC-20.
* James Long - C64 Integrated Development Environment for PC with
  cross-transfer to C64 for verification / execution. Doubles as a MIDI
  Driver for C64 w/ sound engine.
* Rob Adlers - Making music with the all-new version of Prophet64.
* Oliver VieBrooks - Netlib64, a network toolkit for the Commodore 64.
* Greg Nacu
    - Newcomer, the fantastic new adventure/roleplaying game for the
      Commodore 64.
    - How to interface an SX64 to a Macintosh.
    - Latest features of the WINGS Operating System.
* Leif Bloomquist
    - Development of the first Internet multiplayer game for the
      Commodore 64.
    - Installing a Real-Time-Clock chip in a Commodore PET.
*and more to be announced. (Contact TPUG to arrange a demo slot.)

Location:
The World of Commodore Expo will be held at the Alderwood United Church,
located at 44 Delma Drive (click for map) which is south of Sherway
Gardens and west of Browns Line. Exit the QEW or southbound 427 to Evans
Avenue, turn south at the lights onto Gair Drive and follow Gair to Delma
Drive. The church is a twenty minute drive (approximately) from Pearson
International Airport or downtown Toronto.
The World of Commodore is also easily accessible by public transit. The
TTC (Toronto Transit Commission) offers rapid and reliable service. Take
the 123 Shorncliffe South bus which departs the Kipling subway station
every twenty minutes(check the TTC's schedule for up-to-date information)
and can drop you off on Evans at Gair. The trip takes between ten and
fifteen minutes and the driver will announce the stop upon request. From
there it is a five to ten minute walk to the Alderwood United Church.

Accomodations:
TPUG has made arrangements with the Motel 27 / Best Value Inn Toronto
for our out of town guests. They offer a variety of amenities such as
free high-speed Internet access, free local calls and complimentary tea
& coffee. The Motel 27 is a two minute drive/five to ten minute walk
from the Alderwood United Church.

Motel 27 can provide taxi service to and from Pearson International
Airport, contact the motel for details and arrange pickup.

Motel 27 / Best Value Inn Toronto   Phone: 416-255-5500
650 Evans Avenue   Fax: 416-255-3481
Toronto, Ontario, Canada   Email: info@motel27.ca
M8W 2W6

Room Details:
1 Queen bed (for single or double occupancy) $69.00/night
2 Queen bed (for up to 4* occupancy) $79.00/night
*if 4 occupancy add $10.00
Sunday night will be $5.00 less than above. Total tax is 11%
Rooms have large TV, microwave oven and free high speed Internet.
Attendees should ask for the 'TPUG' rate and should book early.