



COMMODORE USERS GROUP OF ATLANTA

Volume 9, Issue 8

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Next Meeting

Thursday, August 22, 1991
Tucker Christain Church
Subject: "Word Processors"
Bring your favorite!
Prepare to demonstrate!
ALSO - Bring equipment
for hands-on workfest!

Let's make this a help
time for all members.

A New Association - What's in a Name?

Officers of CUGA, MACK and SMUG had a combined meeting on July 20th to look at where we go from here. A next meeting is planned for October 19, 1991 at Micro Center, Powers Ferry Road, Marietta, in room 3 at 10 am.

Members of three clubs will be advised of whatever developments take place and vote their approval.

We are already planning activities in which all three of the clubs can participate and also serve the larger Metro area. Most of all we are looking for a name for this new association. If you have a suggestion submit it to your user group at their next meeting.

We know there must be hundreds of Commodore 64, 128, and Amiga users in the Metro Area who are not members of any of the clubs who need the support of a user group who are not now participating in any of the three clubs. We need your help and you need the clubs now in existence. This will be a very important meeting and we will give a report in our next newsletter. Meanwhile, if you are not participating in any of CUGA, MACKS, or SMUG activities think of JOINING. You are needed! WHERE ARE YOU?

C.U.G.A
P. O. Box 2031
Tucker, Ga. 30085-2031

M.A.C.K
P. O. Box 813481
Smyrna, Ga. 30081

S.M.U.G. 64/128
P. O. Box 1762
Lilburn, Ga. 30226

Yes, I am interested in becoming a member of your user group. I have much to learn and much to contribute. Please let me know how I may join and when you meet. Or if I am presently a member in one of the groups how may I become an associate in one of the other two and when they meet.

My name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

ZIP CODE _____

I PRESENTLY OWN _____

OTHER _____ Computer _____ Drive _____ Monitor _____

CUT -- AND MAIL TO ANY OF THE ABOVE USER GROUPS.

CLARK: A REMINISCENCE-- PART II

by Dallas Denny

My Favorite Things

*I like cars, trucks
and trains
I like bacon, ham
and sausage
I like strawberries, blackberries
and apple pie
I like country music, pop
bluegrass
And I like gospel
but I don't like rock n roll
It is too loud.*

*I like the Lawrence Welk Show
and the Boston Pop
My favorite color is
red white and blue
I like the flag
of the USA.*

-- Written by Clark, using a Commodore computer and a foot-operated switch.

Last month, I explained how I came to write a computer program called Six Bits for a physically handicapped man named Clark. Next month, I will tell how Clark came to appear before the national meetings of the Civitans Clubs of America and the Association for Retarded Citizens to give a invocation and a speech, using his computer-generated voice.

Clark had been using an electronic device called a Trace II, which used Morse input to scroll LED letters across a screen. The device was no longer being produced, and it broke regularly, and each time it quit, it was more difficult to track down the inventor. John Dolan, one of Clark's technicians, had managed to locate the man the last time only because they had a mutual interest in ham radio. It was time to retire the Trace II.

The VIC-20, with its large characters, was a good choice for Clark, for his eyesight was not good. Even so, he could not use the computer right away. He had to be trained, and we had to provide him with a switch he could use without tiring. Joyce Moore and Wendy McAmis, working together, experimented, finally deciding that foot-operation was best. They had the carpenter shop build a special switch which would remain stable on the floor when Clark used it.

Clark caught on fairly readily to the operation of Six Bits, but then another problem became apparent. Although he had heard sentences all of his life, he had no experience in making them. Joyce began teaching him sentence construction and grammar.

Clark was soon using his computer every day, and what he had to say was amazing. He was quick to praise, but he was also quick to point out problems. The Cottage Manger, the Team Leader, and even the Superintendent soon began to receive his short but to-the-point comminiques. And biographical information began to emerge.

Joyce and Wendy compiled this information into a biography; Clark had written his first book!

I was born normal (I was normal) until I was eight year old and then had a long sick spell. My dad and mom was worried sick. They had an old time doctor. Dad had to go catch a train to get the doctor.

Next Month-- Part III: Clark Makes the Big Time