



AUSOM NEWS

May 1996
Volume 17, No 4
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Look to the Future...



...while making
optimum use of
the present...

**AUSOM
Special Features**

Annual General
Meeting

Special
Demonstration of
New Mac Clone
and Scanner
Technology

Special lift-out section
by and for people
using Macs for
Business

Apple Users' Society of Melbourne Inc.

AUSOM News - Vol. 17 No. 4 - May 1996

AUSOM Leaders between 7 pm and 9 pm only, please.

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	One Vacancy		

Services and Special Interest Groups

The following Service and SIG Leaders provide their phone numbers so you may offer help or ideas for the running of the SIG or for queries relating to receipt of Newsletters or disks you have ordered. For any other assistance please try a volunteer listed centre pages or any of the six Members of the Management Committee at the top of this column.

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AUSOM News & Booklets Pam Doughty 9857 7939
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CD-ROM Exchange: Neville Owen 9555 1492 after 6:30
Apple II Software: Adrian Gallagher 9315 9324
Apple IIgs Software: Brian Fiddes (059) 44 37 24
..... Maurie Eason 9388 0405
Mac/Newton Software: Pam Doughty 9857 7939
..... Gary Jamieson 9458 4951
Modem Library At Saturday meetings ONLY
Training Tapes/CDs C/- Ross House

Bulletin Boards

AUSOM Premium Access: (28.8kbps, 6 lines) 9545 5212
AUSOM First Class: (14.4kbps, 4 lines) 9545 5215
Sysops: Daryl Knight & Christie Wragg
For BBS difficulties? phone Bronwyn Halls or Nick Pyers
AUSOM News Editor: (24 hours, up to 14.4kbps) 9857 8293

Special Interest Group (SIG) Co-ordinators

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Apple IIgs SIG: Stephen Davidson 9408 7206
Apple IIgs Beginners SIG: Dale Staines 9583 3902
Ballarat SIG: Christine Walker (053) 44 8357
ClarisWorks SIG: Steve Cooper (052) 43 0299
Education SIG: Geoff Bergen (053) 98 1362
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Mac Beginners SIG: Des O'Brien n/a
Mac Forum: David Turk 9525 5439
Mac Programming SIG: ... Leigh Snell 9772 1810
Music/MultiMedia SIG: ... Alessandro Servadei 9568 2152
Newton SIG: Leigh Snell 9772 1810
Retirees and Others SIG: ... Steve Buttery 9836 8836
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STOP PRESS

Press Release - training course:

Learn about the internet and how to make HTML documents for publishing on the world wide web. Warehouse.net, internet providers are running classes every Wednesday from 6pm-9pm at Melbourne University. Everyone gets their own terminal and classes hold a maximum of 12 people. The cost is \$50 per session or \$180 for the 4 part course. Booking essential. Contact Keren Flavell on 93 267 267

The year of SIGs and Training

See pages 28 and 29 for details of AUSOM's Training Courses and Training Videos for Hire and Macs™Work - centre pages.

llab - distributes 'Custom Computer Covers'

These protect computers and related equipment from dust, static, moisture and accidents.

llab's ad is on p32 this month or speak to them at the May meeting. Why not recommend our advertisers to your child's school.

AGM

Yes, the Annual General Meeting will be held next Saturday Resumés to hand have been published on p 6 and one for Nicholas Pyers on p 24. Phone Ross House before you send in a proxy vote to check on final nominations.

Advertisers' Index

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Meeting Date: Saturday 4th May, 1996
Copy Deadline June 1996 AUSOM News
Saturday May 4th, 1996

Education SIG

Geoff Bergen

This month we will be looking at Number Maze, a motivating and challenging program suitable for children from Prep to Grade 6 and possibly beyond. Number Maze combines the fun of solving mazes with the challenge of solving maths problems. Included are maths levels from simple counting and picture addition for young children to multiplication, division and word problems for older children.

Number Maze - Mac \$89.95, Windows \$79.95

Lab Packs(5) - Mac \$229.95, Windows \$239.95

Continuing professional development commitments are going to restrict me to only another one, or possibly two, AUSOM meetings this year. This is obviously an unsatisfactory situation, so I intend this to be my last meeting as SIG Coordinator. If the SIG is to continue, we need someone to take over as coordinator for the rest of the year.

Many thanks to Bruce Lavender and Randall Berger for looking after the last two meetings.

Ballarat SIG

Chris Walker

A very short note this month just to let you know we are still about and inviting you to our next meeting. We hope you can attend for chat, an exchange of ideas and mutual help. Next meeting 7:00pm, May 8th. The second Wednesday of the month at 624 Sturt Street (upstairs), Ballarat. 6:15 pm for the Pizza lovers. Enquiries to Chris Walker 053 448357

Retirees & Others SIG

Steve Buttery

What is Your Mac Current Cash Position ?

The MacWorld book "Mac Secrets" was on display at the December 1996 AUSOM meeting. I was not the one to get it. However, the British version of MacWorld had "The Best of MacWorld Secrets" as a free-bee, plus a CD ROM of (mainly) locked fonts that came with it.

In the book there was a calculation of the cost of having a Mac IICI running - in terms of the price of electricity used.

Facts :- The IICI with, monitor, uses, roughly, 800 Watts. The cost of electricity, to me, per kiloWatt-hour is, roughly, 14 cents.

I have seen many big businesses with a room full of computers running 24 hours a day. I will assume that the electricity usage of the Mac IICI is reasonably average. Then, the cost of running a more mature Mac is about 14{cents} times 24{kiloWatt-hours} times 0.800{kiloWatts} = \$2.70(near enough) per day for continuous running. For continuous running for a year :- cost is \$982(near enough). But read on ! Are the figures correct ?

If you use a Mac IICI for about 4 hours every day the cost is, roughly, at 14 cents per kiloWatt-hour, 45 c/day, or \$164 per year.

Please Note ! a Mac IICI CPU - that is the box that just about everything plugs into, uses, about 160 Watts - so its monitor, as rated by Mac Secrets, must use over 600 Watts. How much electricity would a new energy conservation monitor (which powers down when the Mac is not being used) use - in a day ? I can not work that out, but it should be less than the sort of monitor a Mac IICI usually has. I examined the back of two colour monitors, a 12 inch APPLE monitor rated at 90 Watts and an AV APPLE monitor which, after some calculation, appeared to have a maximum power usage of 130 Watts !. On this basis, an allowance of 600 Watts for the monitor of the Mac IICI is a ballpark figure for a very large ballpark ! The CPUs, mentioned before, for different

Macs, can vary from 60 watts to 520 Watts (sorry, another qualification, all notebooks and other portables are outside the range of this discussion.). This means with an energy hungry CPU and an older monitor, the Mac could be up round 1,150 Watts in energy usage.

If you want more information on CPU energy usage, the AUSOM PD disk "INF.O 4" has some. It is a lot easier to use if you have FileMaker Pro version 2 or later. It can be used without your own Filemaker as there is a version, on INFO 4 which runs the data - but not as readily as if you have your own Filemaker.

Finally, for this topic, I know of a BBS in a household, which runs 3 Macs, 24 hours a day, all 3 as the BBS ! At a rough {ballpark} guess that household is paying, AT LEAST \$1000 per year WOW!! and that does not include the cost of any computers used in the house for purposes other than the BBS; Double WOW!!

"If calculators be the food of love - multiply on !

Give me excess of it, that surfeiting, the appetite

May sicken and so die !"

A pause while Shakespeare ceases whirling in his grave. In spite of giving up serious Maths, calculations are still necessary for ordinary day-to-day living (e.g. cost of electricity use). To prepare the preceding item on Mac Power needs, I used (System 7) CALCULATOR, which comes with System 7 and does not run under System 6. I also used (System 7 only) CALCULATOR II {must be at least version 1.05}. The nice feature of these two calculators is that the Numeric Keypad can be used to do ordinary calculations, and, if your keyboard has function keys (usually labelled "F1" through to "F10") there is information about how to use these keys with CALCULATOR II to use scientific functions. Me, I am now happy with the basic "4 functions" :- multiply [*], divide[/], add[+], and subtract[-]. CALCULATOR II (version 1.05 or later) should be available from AUSOM, it is FREEWARE - but you still pay the usual copy charge to AUSOM, if you get it on disk. I do not know how it goes on SYSTEM 7.5x.

The Retirees & Others SIG meets at Balwyn Library Meeting Room on Whitehorse Road (Melway map 46, position E8.) The meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month, (e.g. Wednesday, 8th. May 1996) except, perhaps, January. The meeting is open to members from 10.30 am to 12 noon. The convener and those needing to set up demonstrations can enter between 9.30 and 9.40 am or after 10.30 am.

Apple IIGS SIG

Stephen C. Davidson
(davoesq@ausom.net.au or
davoesq@melb.alexia.net.au)

March and April reviews

I was unable to get the IIGS SIG News in about the March meet in time for the March 30 (April) meeting. Nick Heywood demonstrated a program called "CrossWorks" that is a dual Apple II and MSDOS programs that could be used to convert AppleWorks 2.1 (I don't think it was 3.0), or earlier, Word processor, Spreadsheet and Database files into a variety of (old) common MSDOS file format types. It comes with a cable that can be used to connect an Apple II computer to a IBM compatible computer. The cables ends have a variety of different connectors on them to facilitate the different types of plugs on the backs of the respective computers. Most of the work and conversions are done by the IBM side of things and the program is quite clunky (and appeared typically MSDOSish, ie a bit unfriendly to me anyhow). Once you did know what you were doing though, Nick said it worked quite well. Its uncertain if CrossWorks would work with AppleWorks 3.0 or later. I don't think Nick said that he'd tried it.

Many, many thanks to Nick for demonstrating the program and bringing in his laptop. It was interesting seeing how it could be done.

At the March 30 (aka April) meeting, we had a look at quite a long list of recent releases and news in the IIGS world which I list following. Some fantastic offers ended unfortunately on 31/3/96 but it may be worth while contacting the respective companies to see if they might be able to extend the time period (plead ignorance, late news or insanity) of their offers.

Special Offers and April News

The following is the info that we had a look at at the March 30 meeting, including some fantastic specials -

Seven Hills Software Specials

Seven Hills offered major discounts while supplies last as follows (again contact them to see if the offers might still hold for us Aussies) - Through 31/3/96 you can order at these prices:

- GraphicWriter III v2.0 for US\$65.00 (shipping now)

- Spectrum v2.0 for US\$65.00

- All other iigs products for just US\$19.95 each! (These are SUPER cheap!!)

Available IIGS Products:

- DriveCleanerGS disk drive cleaning pack

- Express - print spooler get control of your GS quicker while printing in the background

- Independence - GSOS printer drivers for HP & other printers

- Spectrum - GSOS desktop communications program; will multitask Under The Manager

- Font Factory GS - convert Mac bitmap fonts/create/modify/IIG bitmap fonts (not TrueType) for your IIGS

- Kangaroo - allows you navigate SF Save/Open dialog boxes more easily

- Super Menu Pack - 3 useful functions: show fonts in their actual style; "Control Panels" menu item immediately presents a sub-menu from which to directly choose a CDEV; hold down the mouse in a corner, and a window appears that lists all the characters available in the font that you're currently using

- Formulate - lets you easily produce formulas for science and math worksheets, tests, and papers.

- The Manager - will save you tons of time because it keeps multiple applications open, and simply clicking in an inactive window instantly reactivates the program!

- SuperConvert - Convert a huge variety of picture formats into images you can use on your IIGs! Includes a powerful "remap" command that lets you set the image type, palette type, rendering method, and size for the final picture.

- GATE GS - A game. You are held captive in a castle's prison and must find a way to escape while you battle enemies and solve puzzles along the way.

- ShoeBox - features preformatted records to organize information about your income and expenses, valuables, insurance policies, family records, and more. There is a message board, to-do list, appointment book, phone book, and other special features. Includes HyperCard v1.1.

- TransProg III - Create a custom menu that appears in the menu bar of IIGs specific applications—just choose an item to launch, the current application quits, then the new application is launched directly.

- GraphicWriter III - THE best choice for desktop publishing on the Apple IIGs. Create professional newsletters, imaginative instructional materials, etc.

- Space Fox - A very challenging arcade game where you, the ace pilot, must guide your spaceship through nine levels of assorted bad guys before battling THE BRAIN.

Contact Earl or Dave at Seven Hills for the actual air mail cost for shipping and handling. Also, if you wish to receive future email notices just let them know.

Seven hills software, 2310 oxford road tallahassee, fl 32304-3930
ph0011-1-904-575-0566, m-f, 9-5 et
fax 0015-1-904-575-2015 anytime
internet: Sevenhills@aol.com
SevenHills@genie.com

Graphicwriter III version 2.0

Now shipping!! This upgrade has many improvements and several new features.

The highlights:

- "Real" 1/16th inch rulers
- support of the System Clipboard
- IIGS PICTURE support
- "Possible Choices" seems to be fixed (finally!)
 - a standard IIGS Font menu, and
 - an "Object Specs" dialog box for sizing/positioning an object by numbers!

If you already own GraphicWriter III version 1.0 or 1.1, you can order the update to version 2.0 for just US\$25.00 (contact Seven Hills for actual air mail costs).

=> Rumors of a SuperConvert update are **true!** However, Seven Hills have **not** yet started beta testing, so it will be **at least** two months before they're ready to ship.

=> When you start hearing rumors of a Spectrum update, they'll be true too! They have NOT yet started beta testing so it'll also be a while, but another major update is coming! :)

Brutal deluxe's convert 3200

Convert 3200 is a simple to use program that contains sophisticated machine language algorithms that makes it the fastest graphics conversion program ever released for the Apple IIGS.

Convert 3200 is such a speed demon that it takes just 15 seconds or less to convert any of the supported graphic file formats to a IIGS Super Hi Res graphic format containing 16,256 or 3200 colors. Convert 3200 can convert graphics from one format to another, with no regard to whether the original graphic was created on an Apple IIGS, a Mac or an IBM PC.

It works with such common Apple IIGS graphic formats such as: Apple Preferred Format, PaintWorks Gold format, less common DYA 3200, PackBytes, French Formats (such as APP and NRL) and Unpacked Screen Format.

The true beauty of Convert 3200 is that it also works with foreign format graphics, such as: Windows-OS/2 BMP, Compuserve GIF, Amiga .IFF/ PC .LBM, Paintbrush PCX, Binary PC and several varieties of TIFF files.

Convert 3200 even has the unique ability to save graphic files in the following formats: Apple Preferred, Windows BMP, Paintbrush PCX, TIFF, Binary PC, Print Shop GS. Convert 3200 is very flexible and easy to use. There is only one convert button and no complicated options; however, Convert 3200 allows you to select your 320 * 200 area as you want, and it provides power users with the ability to modify RGB tones, remove some colors and it even comes with an automated script conversion mode. Best

of all, its "convert all" option allows you to convert dozens of graphics at once, in an unattended mode.

Convert 3200 is currently available from Shareware Solutions II for the low price of US\$15, which includes postage to anywhere in the world. The complete Merlin 16+ source code will also be available (at a later date) to owners of Convert 3200 for an additional US\$5. It is not copy protected, and it is hard drive installable. In an effort to keep the pricing as low as possible, a complete and extensive documentation manual is supplied as a file on the disk.

Convert 3200 requires a IIGS with at least 2 megabytes of RAM memory; 4 megabytes of memory is recommended to convert large 1280 * 800 graphics. Convert 3200 has been tested on Apple IIGS ROM 01 and ROM 03 versions, and it requires System 6.0.1. Not required, but a hard disk drive and an accelerator card is recommended. To purchase Convert 3200, send checks or money orders, in US Funds only, in the amount of US\$15, to:

Joe Kohn, Shareware Solutions II

166 Alpine St

San Rafael, CA 94901-1008, USA

No credit cards. Make all cheques payable to Joe Kohn.

PMPFax Released

Forget totally about Vitesse's Faxination Fax software, this is **the** one for your IIGS!!

Parkhurst Micro Products is proud to announce PMPFax Facsimile Software for the Apple IIGS! PMPFax turns your Apple IIGS into an integrated fax machine, capable of sending and receiving faxes in any desktop application! PMPFax gives you the power and flexibility in fax software that you've been waiting for!

Features include:

- Send faxes in any desktop application that supports printing.
- Create faxes using the Page Setup environment for your printer, instead of having to reformat your document for a special "fax printer."
- Choose between printing and faxing your documents by simply holding down the Option key when selecting "Print."
- Schedule fax sends for any time and date, or for immediate faxing.
- Save faxes for later transmission.
- Add "printed" fax documents to existing faxes, or create a new fax.
- User-definable fax page titles for identifying fax pages, includes system variables in titles.
- Fax to multiple locations in a single session.
- Change quality and speed of fax sends.
- Receive faxes in any desktop application.
- Automatically print received faxes when they are received.
- View faxes in any desktop application with four scaling factors and page-flip.
- User-definable cover sheets with full page-layout capability, allowing text, shapes, and imported pictures and over 15 available system variables (including a memo).
- Multiple View and Cover Sheet windows can be open at the same time.
- Forward received faxes * send them again.
- Supports TrueType fonts in both fax pages and cover sheets.
- Quick Fax support for faxing a quick message.
- Multiple phone book support, including individual entries and groups.
- All faxes can be individually named.
- Fax pages can be renamed, copied, and deleted.
- Plug-in fax page translators allow open-ended support for importing and exporting fax pages, future support for scanners and input devices, and expandability through third-party vendors.

- Detailed logs of all fax activity, including printed or text-file fax activity reports.

- Access the FaxCenter through a convenient NDA, or through a separate application.

- Support for the Apple IIGS modem port, printer port, and Super Serial Card.

- Support for Class 1, 2, and 2.0 fax modems.

- Auto-selection of fax Class, or choose the Class yourself.

And much more!

System requirements:

PMPFax requires an Apple IIGS with about 1.5 megabytes of free RAM available (4 megabytes of RAM or more recommended), a hard drive, and a fax-compatible modem. Accelerator such as a ZipGS or TransWarpGS highly recommended.

Pricing:

PMPFax is only US\$89 direct from Parkhurst Micro Products. Please add US\$3 for shipping within the United States, US\$8 outside the United States.

If you have purchased another Apple IIGS fax software package, you can purchase PMPFax for 50% off! Send a COPY of the invoice you received with your other fax program, or a COPY of your diskette and the first page of your manual to Parkhurst Micro Products to receive PMPFax for only US\$45 plus shipping! This offer expires March 1, 1996. (Contact them to see if they might still honour this).

Ordering Information: With credit card (Visa or MasterCard), call: 0011-1-510-837-9098. Or send check or money order for total amount to: Parkhurst Micro Products

2491 San Ramon Valley Blvd

Suite 1-317, San Ramon, CA, 94583.

If you wish to contact Parkhurst Micro Products electronically, you may use any of the following email addresses: Internet: pmp@genie.com or pmp@delphi.com

New EGO systems catalog and new Programs

EGO Systems new catalog finally shipped on Monday, February 5th, 1996. If you were a GS+ Magazine subscriber at any time during the last year, your copy of the catalog is on it's way to you. If you weren't a GS+ Magazine subscriber, but you'd like a copy of the catalog (which has thirteen pages of IIGS stuff, two pages of Apple II->Mac bridge products and one 'editorial' page), send me your complete snail mail address (via e-mail [see later on for email address]) and I'll get a copy of the catalog out to you.

[I'll contact EGO Systems and try to get some copies of the catalog for the next GS meeting].

Teach Translator

If you own both a Macintosh and an Apple IIGS, you know that for all the similarities between the two machines, it's still very difficult to translate most files from the IIGS to the Mac without some loss of information. Perhaps the most difficult translation has been translating formatted text files from the IIGS to the Mac.

The most common type of formatted text file on the IIGS is called a "Teach" file. Until now, the only way to move a Teach file over to the Mac was to save it as an ASCII text file and then load that raw text into your favorite Mac editor. This would get you all the text, but you would completely lose the fonts and styles that you had specified in the Teach file. If you wanted your fonts and styles back, you had to go in and recreate them by hand after the file was on the Macintosh.

Fortunately, the new Teach Translator from EGO Systems does away with all those problems. By working with Macintosh Easy Open, Teach Translator allows you to simply double-click on your IIGS Teach files, and they will be opened on your Macintosh with all of the fonts, sizes, styles and foreground colors intact!

The Teach Translator makes the process of moving from the IIGS to the Mac much easier, and can save you hours of time that you would otherwise spend reformatting your old Teach documents! It is amazingly simple to install & use, and, best of all, it's very inexpensive.

The Teach Translator sells for US\$25 and requires a Macintosh running System Software v7.0 or later AND Macintosh Easy Open. The Teach Translator is a "Fat" application that will run in native mode on your Power Macintosh.

To order with your Visa or MasterCard, you can call them at 0011-1-423-843-1775. Or, you can FAX your order to them at 1115-1-423-843-0661.

If you prefer to order by mail, make your check or money order out to "EGO Systems" and send it to them at: EGO Systems, Teach Translator Offer, 7918 Cove Ridge Rd, Hixson, TN 37343 USA.

EGO Systems' Buyout Specials!

EGO Systems is pleased to announce the availability of three additional products for the Apple II and Apple IIGS. They got these products from a former Apple II vendor that wanted to free up some warehouse space, so these products are available in VERY limited quantities! They figure they should go pretty fast, so, if you want one of these products, contact them as soon as possible!

PaceMark IIGS SuperRAM IV, 4MB GS RAM Card - US\$109. This memory board comes with 4MB of RAM already installed and is compatible with all IIGS hardware and software. It comes with a one-year warranty from PaceMark.

System requirements: ROM 01 or ROM 03 Apple IIGS. Price includes surface mail to the rest of the world. Air Mail shipping is an additional \$5.

Publish-It! v4 - US\$39.95

This was the first page-layout program ever written for the Apple II and it's still one of the best! It allows you to easily mix text and graphics on your pages and it supports dozens of different printers. Publish-It! v4 imports text files directly from AppleWorks v3.0 and Bank Street Writer, or any ASCII text file. It also imports PrintShop graphics and even super-high resolution graphics created on the IIGS!

Printers supported: ImageWriter, Scribe, Epson LQ/MX/FX/RX/LX/JX/LQ, Gemini 10X/15X, Okidata 182/192/193/292/293, Panasonic KX-P, HP LaserJet/DeskJet and any 100% compatible PostScript printer! (If your printer isn't in this list, call us at 0011-1-423-843-1775 to check on it!)

For Your Notes

<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

System requirements: Apple IIe (enhanced), IIc, IIc+, IIGS with at least 128K RAM. One 3.5-inch or 5.25-inch drive and/or hard disk. Mouse or joystick is required. Price includes Surface mail to the rest of the world is an additional US\$5. Air Mail shipping is an additional US\$10. (Note: The manufacturer of this product is no longer in business and it is sold "as is.")

ZipGS 9MHz 32K Cache - US\$235

Only two left! If you're tired of waiting on your IIGS, plug in a ZipGS accelerator card and get ready to blow the doors off your favorite programs! All of your software (8- and 16-bit) will run almost three and a half times faster! Just remove your original CPU chip (a special tool is provided), plug the ZipGS into the CPU socket, plug the ZipGS circuit board into either slot 3 or 4 and get ready for computing at ludicrous speed!

System requirements: A ROM 01 or ROM 03 IIGS and a desire to go FASTER! Price includes surface mail to the rest of the world. Air Mail an additional US\$10. Send a check/money order for the appropriate amount to EGO Systems (see above)

Since supplies of these products are limited, call 0011-1-423-843-1775 to confirm availability before sending a check or money order. When you do, they will hold any product for you for one week. When sending your check or money order, please do not forget to included shipping costs (if any)!

If you prefer to order by credit card, use your VISA or MasterCard and call 0011-1-423-843-1775. You can also FAX your order to them at 0015-1-423-843-0661 or e-mail credit card orders to them at either: Diz@genie.com or GSPlusDiz@aol.com.

Balloon 2.0 update?

Balloon 2.0's update may contain bug fixes or added features. Either way, they'll have to charge for it. If it's just the bug fix, less than \$10 but if they put in the new features, it'll be at least \$10 for the update.

Specifically, the new features they want to put in are:

- 1) Encode/Decode BinSCII
- 2) Support for Disk Archives
- 3) Support for other Apple II archive formats

Brutal Deluxes — CD-ROM

Brutal Deluxe has just released a brand new Apple IIGS CD-ROM, which is currently for sale only in France, as all the information on it is in French. More information as it comes to hand.

MSDOS Utilities as an NDA

Speaking of International Apple II news, I received some outstanding news today. MS-DOS Utilities will be available in a few months as a New Desk Accessory. (Looks like Peter Watson has been busy!!)

New version of talking tools

Talking Tools adds speech to any Apple IIGS, without adding any additional hardware! The package is laid out for programmers, but is useful for non-programmers.

GS-12 Talking Tools 1.0.2 US\$35

Update from any earlier version US\$10

Programmers get the First Byte talking tools, the Byte Works patches to the First Byte tools, complete interfaces for ORCA/M, ORCA/C and ORCA/Pascal, and two sample programs, along with documentation that covers how they work. The documentation describes the Pascal version of the programs, but source is included for all three languages.

Non-programmers can use Talking Tools with other applications, like Spectrum from Seven Hills Software, that support speech as an option. You can also use the SpeakIt talking editor that comes with Talking Tools. It can load and read any plain text file!

The new update brings all of the source code up to date with the latest tool interfaces and fixes all known bugs in the original SpeakIt talking editor. The update is just US\$10.

And you can even get the update free! If you ordered Talking Tools after November 1st, 1995, all you have to do to get the update is ask for it. If you order any other product (except another update disk) at the same time, they'll give any registered owner of Talking Tools a free update!

To order, or to ask for more information or the latest catalog, get in touch with ByteWorks at:

Byte Works, Inc.
8000 Wagon Mound Dr. NW
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Shareware Solutions II

Support for the Apple II's and IIGS is getting pretty hard to find, but there's one source of information that is well worth mentioning. That's a newsletter called "Shareware Solutions II" (SSII) that Dale and I have been pushing pretty heavily at the IIGS SIG meetings. Its a bimonthly newsletter that covers a range of issues and latest information for the Apple IIGS, as well as having an extensive software library to purchase IIGS shareware and public domain software, the only source of StudioCity (a HyperStudio stack disk based magazine), ScriptCentral (HyperCard stack disk based magazine), National Appleworks Users Groups Appleworks disks and the Apple II software that the Big Red Computer Club (BRCC) has given over the SSII to sell.

SSII has several different subscription options available (please note that all issues are mailed by First Class Air Mail) :

1) A One Year, 6 Issue Subscription: This subscription starts with the current issue of Shareware Solutions II. The cost is US\$40 for delivery anywhere else in the world.

2) The First 12 Issues (2+ years worth of newsletters): Previously named "The Complete Shareware Solutions II Collection," this subscription begins with the Premiere July, 1993 issue and runs through Volume 2, Issue 6 (early 1996?). Included in this collection are all of the back issues published to date. This 12 issue subscription is available for only US\$50 for International subscribers.

3) The First 18 Issues (3+ years worth of newsletters): This subscription includes the first 18 issues of Shareware Solutions II (the first 3+ years!), includes all the back issues published to date, and will run through Volume 3, Issue 6 (due to appear in early-1997). This 18 issue subscription is available at the discounted rate of only US\$75 for International subscribers.

Make all cheques or money orders out to Joe Kohn. US Funds Only [although having spoken to Joe via email, he will accept a personal cheque drawn on an Australian bank. Just remember to add a few extra dollars to allow for fluctuating currency rates]. Sorry, but no charge cards, purchase orders or COD orders will be accepted. Send your subscription to:

Joe Kohn (as above)

SoftDisk G-S disk based magazine.

With the death of GS+ magazine and other sources of Apple IIGS software having dried up, Softdisk continues to publish top-notch software for the Apple IIGS on Softdisk G-S. Softdisk G-S is packed with more great programs than ever, at new, lower prices.

Get new and unique games, puzzles, productivity and education programs, and utilities, every month when you subscribe to Softdisk G-S! Plus articles, graphics, and more! Each monthly issue comes on a 3.5" disk and will be delivered to your address by mail.

A 3-month trial subscription is available. See below for more info. Plus, you'll get a free bonus disk: Wordworks Pro, a retail-quality word processor, with your first issue. It's their way of saying "thanks for giving Softdisk a try."

Remember, your satisfaction is guaranteed! So there's no risk whatsoever. If your subscription isn't everything they promise, let them know and they'll refund the unused portion of your subscription. The issues you've already received, including the FREE bonus disk, will be yours to keep.

Your first issue will arrive in 2-4 weeks.

Softdisk system requirements: an Apple IIGS and 1.25 MB RAM (2 MB recommended).

Softdisk publishing subscription rates—These are special sale prices, good for a limited time only!

International Rates—These rates apply for all destinations outside the U.S., including Canada. All prices are in U.S. funds. Use the "US" prices if paying in U.S. funds. If you pay by credit card, you will be charged the U.S. funds rate.

Monthly Subscriptions—3 months: \$22.95 US (\$7.65/mo.; save \$12 from regular rate of \$34.95). 6 months: \$43.95 US (\$7.33/mo.; save \$16 from regular rate of \$49.95). 12 months: \$82.00 US (\$6.83/mo.; save \$27.95 from regular rate of \$109.95). Pay-by-the-month: \$7.95 US (charged to credit card when issue ships)

To order, call 0011-1-318-221-8718, and ask for offer #WWS045. web URL = <http://www.softdisk.com>

Mays GS SIG offering

Hopefully by the time May's AUSOM meeting comes around I'll have Convert3200, possibly the new GraphicWriter III Ver 2.0, as well as the latest news for the IIGS. Depending on the complexity of these programs I may only be able to demonstrate only one of the programs at the meeting.

Catch you at the next IIGS SIG meeting.

