

January February 1994

Volume 5 Number 3

# The <u>First</u> Apple II**cs**® Magazine + Disk Publication!



Tell Your Sweetheart How You Feel With IPC Use EGOed v2.0 To Write A Love Letter Let MIDI Surgeon Convert & Play "Your Song"

Can't Afford Roses?
Say "I Love You" With One Of These IIGS Products

Ancient Glory • AudioClips GNO/ME 2.0 • HyperLogo The HP DeskWriter 550C Printer The NCS Pro 240 Hard Drive Pedigree

# Writer's Block

Well, in case you didn't notice, we actually managed to publish the last issue of GS+ Magazine two weeks ahead of schedule! This time around it looks like we are going to gain another week on our schedule! However, as you may have already noticed, we are gaining this time at the cost of a few pages. On this accelerated schedule, we simply didn't have enough material (or advertisers) ready to fill our usual 52 page format. So, Michelle and I decided, for this issue only, to drop back to 44 pages. We should be back up to our regular size next issue.

Of course, seeing as how we filled these pages during the Christmas holidays (Joe was in Hawaii for a week, Noreen and I went to the Bahamas for a week, and everybody took a few days off around Christmas and New Years), I think that pulling out 44 pages is pretty good trick. Best of all, if everything goes according to schedule, we should be getting the next issue out even faster than the last two. But, then again, nothing ever goes according to schedule around here....

#### Good Year, Bad Year

Looking over the books for 1993, I'm happy to announce that this has been our best year yet. Unfortunately, that news is not quite as good as it sounds—expenses are up (Can you believe that everybody wanted a raise? Sheesh!), and a good chunk of our income this year was from the TypeSet project we did with WestCode. GS+ Magazine was still our major source of revenue, but it just wasn't as good as it was last year.

So, since I am actually in this to make a living, I've had to take a long, hard look at how things are done around here. Much to my surprise, I've found that I've done a pretty good job of holding costs down. However, I did find two places where we have actually been losing money:

1) First Class, Canada/Mexico and Foreign Surface mail subscription fees. Currently, these fees are \$1.50 an issue. The cost to mail a single issue of GS+ Magazine (with or without the disk) is just under \$1.50. This is just for the postage and does not include the cost of the envelope we mail it in. More importantly, this also excludes the hourly wage that I pay Bob to actually package and mail out these issues. (Just as an example, it takes us about the same amount of time to prepare and mail all of

the First Class and foreign subscriptions [about 500] as it does to prepare and mail several *thousand* regular subscriptions.) So, effective immediately, the cost of First Class, Canadian/Mexican, and Foreign Surface mail subscriptions are going up by 50¢ an issue to \$2.00 an issue. (If you are an air mail subscriber don't worry, our foreign air mail rates are not affected.)

2) Magazine-only subscriptions. When I was starting GS+ Magazine, there wasn't going to be anything such as a "Magazineonly" subscription. However, after much consideration, I decided to make this type of subscription available, at a much lower cost, for those who didn't need or want the disk. But, that was back when it was just Noreen and myself running the show, and I could afford to make a smaller profit on these types of subscriptions. Today however, that small profit has turned into a small loss, and I've got to stop it as quickly as possible. So, effective with this issue, the price of a GS+ Magazine only subscription is going up from \$15 a year to \$18 a year. (This increase will not affect the price of a Magazine and Disk subscription—it will remain \$36 a year.) After our back issue sale is over (see below), this price increase will also be applied to back issues.

Now, some of you may be wondering why I've gone to all this trouble just to tell you about some measly 50¢ price increases. Well, the main reason is that I wanted to be as up front with you as I possibly could about why I am doing this. To sum it up in one paragraph:

"Business is good, but we are losing money on a couple of our subscription options. They are small losses, but over the years, they have begun to add up. So, to ensure the continued survival of GS+Magazine, I am increasing prices to eliminate these losses."

Another reason I'm being so... detailed... about all this, is that I don't want anyone to panic and start reporting that we are going out of business! (You may think I'm being paranoid, but the number two question we get around here is "Are you guys still in business?" The number one question is, "When is the next magazine going to be mailed out?") We are not going out of business!

#### Back Issues Still For Sale

As I write this, our back issue sale is going quite well. But, we've still got

quite a few copies left, and the sale ends on February 28th, so be sure to get your order in as soon as you can. After the sale is over, prices are going up!

What Else Is Happening?

Hmmm, nothing really. It's been a pretty quiet month in the IIGS world. At this point, I don't think we've even received any press releases for the "What's New" department. (Thank goodness next issue will be our annual April Fools issue and I can just make up some news.) Hopefully, that will change before we go to press. Remember folks, if you've got a new IIGS product, send us a press release! We want to let our readers know about it!

#### EGOed v2.0

I don't usually use this space to talk about what's in the magazine, but in the case of EGOed v2.0, I think I should make an exception. If you do a lot of text editing on your IIGS, or if you need to move word processing files to and from your IIGS, you owe it to yourself to check out this new version of EGOed. It includes the ability to read and save files in Rich Text Format! ("RTF" for short.) This is a file format that is used on Macintosh, Windows and NeXT computers, just to name a few. By using the RTF format, EGOed allows your IIGS to exchange word processing files with these computers, complete with font, size and style information intact! If you think that this sounds great, wait till you use it!

#### That's All Folks

Gee. That is all. I suppose I could tell you about the recent experience I had with my waterbed springing a tiny leak. For a month, I thought I had developed a severe sweating problem. (You were expecting a different problem maybe?) I could tell you about our new cat, Sassie. She was a stray that adopted my in-laws—until Noreen saw her. She's in heat as I write this (uh, Sassie that is), and we've got her scheduled to be "fixed" early in 1994. (Trust me, if you could hear her screaming, you would agree that she's broken and needs to be fixed!)

Well, there you go. I've just editorialized about wet bed sheets and a cat in heat. I think I'm through now.

Diz

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# GS+

# Magazine

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#### On The Cover

Is it Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice? No, No, No. It's just the GS+ crew and their sweethearts wishing you a happy Valentine's Day.

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# **Letters**

GS+:

... Since upgrading to System 6.0.1, I am faced with an annoying Note alert every time I boot the machine that reads: "The selected AppleTalk connection could not be found. Be sure it is installed and the slot settings in the Control Panel are correct." Why is this happening and how do I get rid of it?...

I also just got Print Shop GS and was enjoying using it until I discovered that the graphics files are unique and that I couldn't import PaintWorks Gold or other graphics into PrintShop. My question then is, is there a utility available for converting alien graphics to Print Shop graphics? My closest solution to this has been to import PaintWorks graphics into the Quickie software and then saving them in PrintShop format. However, this results in conversion of all colors to shades of gray. Not very satisfactory!

Walter C. Schneider Silver Spring, MD

When you installed System 6.0.1, did you use the "Easy Update" option? That seems to be the most common cause of this problem. For some reason, the Easy Update seems to install AppleShare regardless of wether or not it was there before. The solution is to run the Installer again, pick the "Customize" option, and remove the AppleShare update. If that doesn't work, run the Installer again, and remove all of the AppleShare, AppleTalk, and Network related updates.

As for the Print Shop GS problem, unfortunately, I don't know of any utility that saves out Print Shop GS graphics other than the Quickie software. Does anyone out there know of a different utility that will give better results?

#### Dear GS+

It is my pleasure to renew GS+ Magazine for another year. As a charter member, I have seen a lot of changes since V1.N1. It has been an interesting journey, and I appreciate all you have done for those of us learning on the IIGS. Keep up the good work!

Reluctantly, my IIGS gets less use than it used to. I have recently become heavily involved in the OS/2 operating system which runs on my 486 (IBM) machine. I am looking forward to Taligent which will merge OS/2 and Apple software on

the new PowerPC platform. I only wish we could convince someone to work on IIGS emulation for the PowerPC (Bill Heineman, are you listening?), like they intend to do for the Mac.

OS/2 is a powerful multitasking system that has the same "cool feel" for me that the IIGS has. If I can run ancient MS-DOS 640K applications under OS/2, what a thrill it would be to be able to also run my IIGS favorites (like EGOed)! This is indeed a way to keep the IIGS alive forever.

Rick Kruer Mesa, AZ

Well Rick, a IIGS emulator for the PowerPC platform should be possible, but I don't know if it is going to happen. What we IIGS owners need to do is let Apple know that we want, and would pay for, just such a product. If enough of us (especially those of us that represent schools) tell Apple that we want this, it might just happen. In fact, given that the IIe emulator for the Mac LC series has been so successful, it might not be too hard to convince Apple that a IIGS emulator would be a big hit.

#### Hi:

I just saw your article on how to network [in GS+ V5.N1]. You explained everything very well. I think everyone should have a network.

... I have a network setup at home and [in my business]. In my computer room at home I have a IIGS, a Mac II and LaserWriter NT. My daughter has in her room (also in our home) a Mac SE30 and ImageWriter II. Our flower shop which is next to our house has an IBM with a Tops card for networking with the Macs and LaserWriter. I don't have to explain the many benefits of having all the computers and printers networked.

But I do have a question that maybe you can answer. I would like to use my old Apple IIe in the flower shop. My problem is I don't want to buy another SCSI card and hard drive to make it useful enough to handle a point of sale program. I only have the old DuoDisk (two 5.25-inch drives) hooked up to it. It would be great if all I needed to do was add an Appletalk card and be able to access files saved on the Mac drive. Now I know this is possible if you spend the mega bucks on the Mac Appleshare

software, but can you use the personal Appleshare that comes with Mac System 7? ... Of course our local computer store has no idea, or even wants to find out for me . . . .

Don Kramer via America Online

Well, Don, I checked with a couple of friends at Apple, and they tell me that this should work. However, they had never personally tried it, and they didn't have the equipment on hand to test the theory. But, if all you want to do is access files on the server, a Personal AppleShare setup should work fine. However, I don't think that you will be able to boot your He over the network without buying the full-blown Appleshare application for your Macintosh. However, since I don't have a Ile to test this with, it's just an educated guess. Hopefully, one of our other readers has actually had experience with this type of setup and will write in to let us know how well it works. Diz

#### Gentlemen:

... I would like to commend you and your staff on a very interesting and challenging magazine. I really enjoyed your recent [GS+ V5.N1] article on Object Oriented Programming. I feel like maybe I jumped into the deep end of the pool. Maybe you could recommend a starting place for me? (Possibly the baby pool or at least the shallow end of the pool.)....

Tommy C. Thurlkill Wichita Falls, TX

Thanks for the letter Tommy. As for a place to start working with Object Oriented programming, check out the next letter.

#### Dear GS+:

In a reply to a letter from Robert Hollingsworth of Huston TX (in GS+ V5.N2) Diz wrote:

"... you didn't say the names of those OOP books ..."

Here are two books available through Software Etc.:

Object Oriented Programming, by P. Coad, J. Nicola, from Prentice Hall/PTR. Learn how to "object think" and program with the two leading object oriented

program languages: SmallTalk and C++. Includes language summaries, examples, and extensive source code. \$41.95

Object-Oriented Design with Applications, by G. Booch, from Addison-Wesley. Practical guidance for the construction of complex object oriented systems. Complete descriptions of object oriented design methods and discussions of programming issues. \$49.95

... I also enjoyed the Object Oriented Programming article very much even though I don't program. To those people who tell you that GS+ is too technical, don't listen to them. If you're not reading a little above your head, you're not learning anything!!

Also, kudos to Michelle for the magazine layout. You guys are the greatest.

Todd Legg via the InterNet

#### Hello Diz:

I just read my floptical drive review [in GS+ V5.N2], and I noticed one big goof-up.

In the paragraph where I talk about the speed of the drive being 1/3 that of my hard drive, and three times that of my 3.5-inch floppy drive. Well, if you think about this, this is a contradiction. It should read "three times slower than my hard drive, and three times faster than my 3.5-inch floppy drive."

Also, about the pricing. After the article went to print, I found out that the price has dropped from the \$399 price shown in the review. The external unit (in a case) is available for \$319; if you buy it as an internal, its price is \$259.

In the letters column, you ran a letter about Peter Watson's shareware MS-DOS utilities for the IIGS. I tried them out, and they seem to do a better job of formatting (MS-DOS style) on the floptical than a format from within the PC Transporter. I would thereby recommend that all "IBM formatting" be done with these utilities. This would also mean that the special lines needed in the config.sys file are no longer necessary. I am hopeful that these utilities will allow me to utilize a floptical diskette as a 20MB hard drive volume from within the PC Transporter. I will let you know when I achieve success with this.

... In the article, I mentioned that you must have a ProDOS disk in the floptical the first time you enter ProDOS 8. Well,

this is kind of true. You must have a disk in the drive that is acceptable to GS/OS (or else it will ask you to either initialize it or eject it). With the advent of System 6.0.1, and specifically the MS-DOS FST, you may have a MS-DOS formatted disk in the drive and it will work fine. Apparently, ProDOS 8 just looks to see if there is media in the drive, and if there is, it will map that drive to a slot/drive location . . . .

Sorry about the goof-up, but please publish this letter as an update to the review.

Wayne Sheffield Virginia Beach, VA

Dear Sir

... I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your excellent magazine and programs supplied over the past two years. I must say I prefer Softdisk G-S over your programs due to the amount of conflicts I have with your programs with the numerous DAs I have installed in my IIGS. The last feature I attempted to install was Cool Cursor, an excellent and fun desk accessory. However, upon installation (as with the majority of your DAs and programs) I found a conflict with a Dr. Mario program I had copied to my hard drive. I am nevertheless, steadfast in my praise and thankfulness for your publication. Yours is one of the few left which we faithful Apple diehards can turn to for trustworthy information and advice. Just recently you helped me by informing me of the availability of Econ Technologies product SoundMeister (now the only stereo sound board available for the Apple IIGS). This is after another company (QC) had told me there was nothing available. Thanks to your review and your helpful staff, I'll have one for Christmas. . . .

#### Name Withheld

I'm glad to hear that you like GS+ Magazine, but I am a bit distressed to hear about the problems you have been having with our programs. Rather than just give up on them, why not take a few minutes to fill out a problem form (which is supplied on each and every GS+ Disk) and send it to us. After all, we do want you to be able to use the programs we write, but we cannot fix your problems unless you let us know about them!

Of course, at this point, I do know about your problem, but, if at all possible, I'd still like for you to fill out and send in the problem form. The reason I'm asking you to do this is that your letter simply doesn't give us enough information to

even begin to guess how to fix the problem. For example, which version of Cool Cursor are we talking about? Even more importantly, who publishes the game that it is conflicting with? Or is it freeware or shareware product? If it's a freeware or shareware game, and it's more than a couple of years old (older than System 6 to be exact), chances are that the problem is actually in the game itself and not in the Cool Cursor program.

Diz.

After the holiday rush, I finally got around to reading GS+ volume 5, issues 1 and 2. I thought that your readers might be interested in knowing that Cables To Go in Dayton, Ohio (1-800-826-7904) has excellent pricing on the SCSI cables and terminators that Joe discussed in his SCSI article in V5.N2, and the AppleTalk and PhoneNet connectors that he discussed in his networking article in V5.N1. They also have hundreds of various computer cables, adapters and switchboxes for PCs and Apples.

An AppleTalk Compatible Kit (AppleTalk connector box and a 6' AppleTalk cable) that Apple sells for \$75 is only \$16.95. Six foot SCSI cables are \$6.99, as are SCSI terminator blocks (compared to \$25-\$30 elsewhere). A standard six foot IIGS to ImageWriter II printer cable is \$3.99 (compared to \$12 - \$15 elsewhere). Their products seem to be of excellent quality and their telephone sales reps seem to be well informed and willing to help. They charge only actual cost for shipping charges. There is a \$6 service charge for orders under \$50, but if you buy more than one item you easily save more than that . . . .

Dale Barker via America Online

If you have a question, comment, or criticism about GS+ Magazine, we want to hear it! Due to space limitations, we cannot answer every letter here in GS+ Magazine.

If you want a personal reply, please include a daytime phone number, or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your letter.

Please address all letters to:

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GS+

# IPC (Igor's Playful Code)

We were browsing through the online services not too long ago and ran across a message requesting that we explain IPC (Inter-Process Communication). Instead of answering the letter in the letters column, we decided that it would make a fairly good programming article. So, if you think that IPC is intimidating or you just want to find out more, read on! Note that you should already have a copy of the Programmer's Reference for System 6.0 if you want to do any System 6 specific programming. It'd be rather silly for me to duplicate the IPC pages, so all I'll do is explain IPC in simpler terms and give some good examples-if you're going to write actual code, you'll need the actual book.

#### **IPC**

IPC stands for "Inter-Process Communication." Still sounds aloof, doesn't it? Let's break it down: "Inter" means "between," and "Process" means any piece of code that is running on your "Communication" means, well, communication. So IPC is a way in which processes can communicate with one another. When you write a program, you probably have already used a form of IPC—you called a function or procedure. IPC is really no different from calling a function: you pass the function some parameters and you can receive results back from the function. The way in which IPC differs from all this is that you can call functions in other people's programs! This provides for some really cool uses. A major program that uses IPC is the Finder. You can write special programs, called Finder extensions, which use IPC to talk to the Finder.

#### **How It Works**

IPC works by using two System 6 Tool Locator toolbox calls: AcceptRequests SendRequest. If you're writing a program that will provide subroutines to call the called, you AcceptRequests routine which makes your subroutines available to everybody else. If you want to call somebody's routine, you call the SendRequest routine. Note that you do not have to call AcceptRequests if all you want to do is call other peoples' routines. Also, you don't have to call SendRequest if all you want to do is provide routines for other people to call.

#### **AcceptRequests**

To make subroutines you've written available to other programs running in the

system, you first call the AcceptRequests routine. AcceptRequests requires the name of the set of routines you're "registering" with the system, the memory ID of the program making the AcceptRequests call, and a pointer to a dispatch routine (which I'll discuss a bit later). Note that you can call AcceptRequests as many times as you like to register different sets of routines—all you have to do is make sure that the name of the sets are different.

#### **Names**

There are two forms of names suitable for use with the AcceptRequests call. The first, and most common, form of name is "company~product~" where company is the name of your company and product is the name of your program. Each part of all name forms is delimited by the tilde (~) character. The second, less common, form of name is "productX~companyX~productY~" or similar, where productY is the name of your program and productX and companyX are the name of the program that will be calling your request procedure. The second form is used only for request procedures which are designed to be called by name from a specific product. In most cases you shouldn't have to worry about the second form of the request procedure name. In all forms of request procedure names, you can add additional delimiters and information to the name. For example, you could add the program version number or even dynamically add the program's memory ID to the name. An example would be: "EGOSystems~EGOed~2.0~5002~".

#### **Dispatch Routines**

When a program issues a SendRequest call, one of the parameters it gives is the number of the subroutine it wants to use. When you write your subroutines, you give each one a number, then you write a dispatch routine which looks at the number that the SendRequest caller wants and then dispatch control to the appropriate routine. Now, even though you may have different sets of routines registered with AcceptRequests, you can use a single dispatch routine, provided that the numbers you assign to your procedures do not overlap. The dispatch routine returns a true or false value which tells the Toolbox whether or not the request was handled (accepted) or not.

#### SendRequest

When a program wants to call a routine which somebody else has already

registered, it calls the SendRequest routine. When you call SendRequest, you give it the number of the subroutine you want to use, a generic parameter for the subroutine to use (which is usually used as a pointer to a data structure containing multiple arguments), a pointer to a result buffer where the subroutine can place any results it might generate, and you also tell SendRequest which subroutine set to use. When you call SendRequest, you need to tell the system exactly who to send the request to and how the request can be sent. One parameter SendRequest takes is a flag word, called the sendHow parameter. The sendHow parameter controls two aspects of the request: who to send it to and what to do if the request is received. There are three ways to specify who to send the request to: you can send the request to all currently registered subroutine sets (sendToAll), to a set beginning with a certain name (sendToName), or to a set with a certain memory ID (sendToUserID). name and memory ID matches are based on the name and memory ID parameters that were passed to AcceptRequests. You can also have your request sent to all matching request handlers or to the first request handler which accepts the request. You can set the stopAfterOne flag to only have the first accepting request procedure receive the request, or you can leave the flag clear to have all qualifying request procedures see the request.

#### Who Gets It First?

There are two additional points you need to know about request procedures: how name matches occur and the order in which matches are tried. Name matches are case insensitive and length insensitive. Case insensitive means that "ego" and "EgO" will both match. Length insensitive means that "EGO Systems" and "EGO" both match. With that bit of information, you can see why you can add extraneous information to the end of your request procedure name—the caller doesn't have to know it, but it's nice for informational purposes. In case you need to have two request procedures installed by two copies of the same program, the optional memory ID part of the request procedure name will keep the two names separate.

The order in which matches are tried depends on the order in which the request procedures installed themselves. The last request procedure installed is the first one to be called. This is handy information to

know in the case of requests that are sent to all installed request procedures, especially if the stopAfterOne attribute is set when the request is sent. You can actually intercept the request before a later routine would receive it, do some processing, and then halt the request by accepting it.

#### **Know Your Numbers**

Of course, in order to make any sense out of all this IPC junk, you'll need to know who you can send requests to, what requests those procedures accept, and even what requests will be sent to you. To find out all this information, you need to consult with some reference material. For Apple products (such as the Finder and the Sound control panel) you'll want to look at the *Programmer's Reference for* System 6.0. For everything else, you'll need the documentation for that particular program. Usually contacting the author of the program will get you a nice file describing the request codes and who to send them to.

Request codes for programs will generally be in the \$8000 to \$FFFF range. Each code in the upper range is defined only for a particular request procedure. example, the EGO Systems~Quick DA~ request procedure and the EGO Systems~Cool Cursor~ request procedure can each have request code \$8002 defined, and they will do different things. Request codes in the \$0001 to \$7FFF range are deemed system requests and no matter who the code is sent to, it will always have the same meaning. For example, if your request procedure receives code \$0003 (the srqGoAway request), the sender is asking if it is OK to call UserShutDown on your request procedure's memory ID.

#### **Putting Two And Two Together**

Now that you see how each part of the IPC mechanism works, let's put everything together and see some real IPC in action. I've made up a short Finder extension shown in Figure 1 that I'll go through, pretty much line by line, and explain what all is going on. The sample code is in C, but it's simple enough to follow along with even if you don't know C. Let's start from the top:

The first line tells the compiler to exit the program with a RTL instruction instead of using the GS/OS quit call, which is necessary for any Finder extension or init file. The second line tells the compiler to perform as many optimizations on the code as possible to reduce the size and increase the speed of the final load module. The next few lines read in some necessary header files which define

constants, data types, and Toolbox calls. The #lint -1 line tells the compiler to perform strict type checking, which is not necessary, but I like to use it. Next come a few constants that I define, like the name of the request procedure we'll install, the name of the Sound control panel's request procedure, and the names of a couple of sounds. Finally I define a global variable to hold our program's memory ID. That's all for the setup information—now let's skip to the bottom of the code.

When the Finder starts up, it loads in all the extensions and calls their main entry For C programs, the main function is what is called. Our program sets the global memory ID variable and installs a request handler so the Finder can talk to us further. From here on out, the Finder will talk to us with IPC, and we will talk back similarly. When we registered our request handler, we registered it under the name of EGO Systems~Igor~ and we registered the IPCRequest routine as our dispatch routine. Let us now take a look at the dispatch routine to see how we handle the Finder talking to us.

Take note that the IPCRequest routine is bracketed by #pragma databank and #pragma toolparms compiler directives. When our dispatch routine is called, we have to explicitly set up our data bank register in order to access our global variables, which is what the databank directive does. dispatch routine is called in the Toolbox style, not in the C style, so we now have to tell the compiler to compile the routine just slightly differently, which is what the toolparms directive does. Of course, after the routine has been compiled, we can once again turn those compiler attributes back off.

Our dispatch routine has one local variable, called Result, which is initially set to accept requests. Next we fall into a switch statement to handle the individual request codes we'll accept. (For you Pascal affectionados, the switch statement is similar to a case statement.) There are only three requests which we care about: srqGoAway, finderSaysBeforeOpen, finderSaysOpenFailed. All other requests will fall under the default category, which sets the result variable to false (to reject the request). When the dispatch routine exits, the Result variable is returned, which will either accept or reject the request. Now let's take a more in-depth look at what happens when a request we want to know about

When we see a srqGoAway request, we call the DoGoAway function to prepare our program for being removed from the system. Since this is a simple program, we don't have to do anything except fill in the result parameters that the request When we finderSaysBeforeOpen o r finderSaysOpenFailed request, we call the PlaySound function and set the result variable to false since we don't really open the file—this allows other extensions to have a crack at opening the file after we see it. Note that if our Finder extension is installed before an extension which accepts these requests then we'll never see the request and we won't be able to do our thing. So far so good. We've seen all the aspects of a dispatch routine now, so let's look at actually sending some requests.

The PlaySound function, if you haven't guessed by now, does the work of actually playing a sound when a file is being opened. To do this, it sends a few requests to the Sound control panel. The PlaySound function takes one parameter: the name of the sound to play. The first thing the PlaySound function does is define a local struct (equivalent to a record in Pascal) variable to hold the result of the srqGetrSoundSample request. The next thing that happens is the srgGetrSoundSample request is sent to the Sound control panel to see if the sound we want is available. If the sound is available then the SendRequest call will succeed—if not, the call will return with an error. We check for an error, and if one occurred, we simply exit. If no error occurred, we continue to play the sound. To do this we make the srqSynchronize request to wait for any sound that's already playing to finish, then we make the srqPlayrSoundSample to play our sound. Note that for all of the requests we have sent, we have sent them specifically to the Sound control panel by name with stopAfterOne set. Finally, before we exit, we have to check to see if we need to dispose of the sound we played.

#### How Did I Know That?

How did I know that I needed to check to see if the sound needed to be disposed of? How did I know what the finderSaysBeforeOpen request means? I read the *Programmer's Reference for System 6.0.* Yes, I can't stress this point enough. Before you go off and write your own code which uses IPC, you should read up on what you're getting into. Specifically, read the chapters about the Finder and the Sound control panel. They'll tell you everything

you need to know to send requests and accept requests from them.

Due to space limitations, the code in Figure 1 is not on your GS+ Disk. So, you will have to type it in yourself. (And, believe it or not, we've actually had some readers that have called us asking for programs to type in—so we thought we would start with this short example.) After you have typed in and saved the code, use the following commands to compile it, and then copy the result file to your \*:System:FinderExtras folder:

cmpl Igor.CC keep=Playful
filetype Playful \$BC \$0001

#### Debugging

If you get curious, and if you have the latest version of Nifty List by Dave Lyons

(don't forget to pay your shareware fee!), you can find out all the programs that have called AcceptRequests. To do this, enter Nifty List and type ~m to see the contents of the message center. Among the regular contents of the message center, you'll see named messages starting with the delete symbol (a checkered box) and a greater than symbol (>) followed by a receiving name. The id and proc fields will also be filled in for request procedures so you know who issued the AcceptRequests call and where the dispatch routine is in memory. It's usually pretty interesting to find out what request procedures are hanging around in your system. For more intense debugging, I recommend you check out a copy of the freeware program, IPC Spy by Richard Bennett. IPC Spy will show you exactly what requests are

being sent on your system and can be handy in tracking down bugs.

#### Where To Go Next

Now that you've read this, you should have a fairly good grasp of what IPC is and how it works. If you would like more examples of IPC, you should check out the EGOed source code on your GS+Disk. The next thing you should probably do is write a program that uses IPC. A good place to start is writing a Finder extension. Why not make one that plays a different sound when certain menu items are chosen? Why not add a menu item to the Finder's "Extras" menu to perform a clean up by name so you don't have to hold down the option key and pull down the "Special" menu? If you get stuck, feel free to contact us for help. Good luck!

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Chattanooga, TN 37415-0366"

# Figure 1 A Simple Finder Extension That Uses IPC

```
#pragma rtl
#pragma optimize -1
#include <finder.h>
#include <locator.h>
#include <memory.h>
#include <orca.h>
#pragma lint -1
#define IPCName "\pEGO Systems~Igor~"
#define SoundName "\pApple~SoundCP~"
#define OpenName "\pTrumpets"
#define FailName "\pQuack"
Word ProgramID;
void DoGoAway (srqGoAwayOutPtr dataOut) {
   dataOut->resultID = ProgramID;
   dataOut->resultFlags = 0x8000;
void PlaySound (char *soundName) {
   struct {
             Word recvCount;
             Handle soundHandle;
             Word flags;
   } SampleOut;
   SendRequest (srqGetrSoundSample, stopAfterOne + sendToName,
      (Long) & SoundName, (Long) soundName, (Ptr) & SampleOut);
   if (!toolerror ()) {
      SendRequest (srqSynchronize, stopAfterOne + sendToName, (Long) &SoundName, OL, NULL);
      SendRequest (srqPlayrSoundSample, stopAfterOne + sendToName,
          (Long) & SoundName, (Long) SampleOut.soundHandle, NULL);
      if (SampleOut.flags & 0x8000) DisposeHandle (SampleOut.soundHandle);
   }
}
#pragma databank 1
#pragma toolparms 1
pascal Word IPCRequest (Word request, Long dataIn, Long dataOut) {
   Word Result = 0x8000;
   switch (request) {
      case srqGoAway:
         DoGoAway ((srqGoAwayOutPtr) dataOut);
         break;
      case finderSaysBeforeOpen:
         PlaySound (&OpenName);
         Result = 0;
         break;
      case finderSaysOpenFailed:
         PlaySound (&FailName);
         Result = 0;
         break:
      default:
         Result = 0;
         break;
   }
   return Result;
#pragma toolparms 0
#pragma databank 0
int main (void) {
   ProgramID = MMStartUp ();
   AcceptRequests (&IPCName, ProgramID, &IPCRequest);
```

Wow! Can you believe it's been a year since we last published a new version of EGOed? (If you're a new subscriber, check out the "What Is EGOed?" sidebar for more info.) Well, it has been, but you can bet your lunch money that it's been worth the wait. Version 2.0 of EGOed is packed with features that *no other* IIGS text editor has; some are things that you asked for, and some are things that you didn't, but that you're going to love!

#### The Price of Power

EGOed v2.0 is a big program. Because of that, we've given up on trying to figure out how to fit it onto a floppy boot disk. So, to use EGOed v2.0, you *must* install it on a hard disk, or at least on a 1.44MB floppy disk! Also, since EGOed v2.0 requires System 6.0 or later, we *strongly* recommend that you have at least 2MB of RAM installed in your IIGS. If you've never installed EGOed before, turn to "How to Use Your GS+ Disk" for complete information on how to install and get started with EGOed.

#### What's New

When we were discussing what we wanted to include in this version of EGOed, three things kept coming up: kill all the known bugs, put in support for colored text, and make EGOed able to read and write the most useful file formats possible. So, that's just what we did. Along the way, we threw in a few new preferences that make EGOed even easier to use, and we sped up the Find and Replace functions as well as making EGOed open as quickly as possible.

#### **Bug Fixes**

Fortunately, EGOed has always been a very stable program, so most of the bugs that we had to fix were simply cosmetic ones. (A complete list of improvements is on your GS+ Disk in the file EGOed.2.Changes.)

However, one part of EGOed that needed a complete overhaul was the print function. We took what we learned while writing TypeSet for WestCode and used it to fix all the quirks in the EGOed printing function. As a result, EGOed now handles all printing much better than before, and it no longer hangs up if the printer isn't turned on when you try to print. (EGOed also handles things much better when you cancel printing by pressing Command-period.)

#### Color Menu

For a long time now, lots of people

(especially Joe) have been asking for us to put a color menu in EGOed. However, Diz has always held up the idea because he believes that colored text is only good for ransom notes, and because there wasn't enough room on the EGOed menu bar for two more menus (one for the foreground color and one for the background color). So, one day, Joe decided to put a color menu in EGOed all by himself.

Of course, Diz is probably wrong about colors only being useful for ransom notes, but he was exactly right about not having any more space in the EGOed menu bar! (After all, since EGOed is a New Desk Accessory, it has to work in both 640 and 320 modes—which means that what fits in 640 mode might not fit in 320 mode.) So, since Joe couldn't put in two color menus, he had to come up with a single menu for setting both the foreground and background colors. Other IIGS editors get around this problem by using a single color menu that lets you set the foreground color. To set the background color, you old down the option key while picking a color from the same menu. But, Diz didn't like this solution either.

#### The EGOed Color Menu

So, what he and Joe came up with was a single color menu that you can use to select either the foreground or background color without having to hold down any keys. The EGOed color menu is similar to the Color menus that you will find in other applications except that there are *two* sets of color squares to choose from. One set (which represents the foreground color) overlaps the other set (which represents the background color). To pick a

foreground color, you simply pull down the Color menu and pick one of the "front" color squares. To pick a background color, you simply pull down the Color menu and pick one of the color squares in the "back."

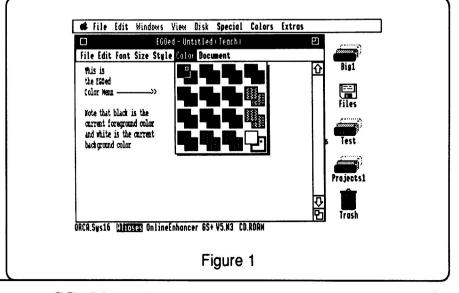
If you want to know exactly which colors are currently selected, just pull down the color menu, and look for the tiny boxes inside the color squares. These boxes show you exactly which foreground and background colors are active for the current selection. (See Figure 1.)

#### Find and Replace Colors

Of course, now that EGOed gives you a way to set the color of your text, it only makes sense that it should give you a way to find and replace those colors, just like it lets you find and replace fonts and styles. So, we've added a new button, Color, to the Find and Replace dialogs. When you click on this button, you get a dialog that lets you pick a new foreground and background color for the text that is selected in the Find or Replace dialog. After you set these colors, you use the Options button to bring up the Find and Replace options dialog. This dialog (see Figure 2) contains a bunch of check boxes that let you tell EGOed exactly what you want to find and replace. You can, for example, search for all of the occurrences of the foreground color red, and replace the them with a different color. (For a detailed example of how to use EGOed's powerful Find and Replace functions, be sure to read the EGOed.Docs file.)

#### **New File Formats**

For a long time, EGOed was the only



IIGS editor that could read AppleWorks GS word processing files (other than AppleWorks GS, of course). Then along came System 6 and the Teach application. Not only could Teach read AppleWorks GS files, it could also read MacWrite v5.0 files! While this capability sounded cool, IIGS owners quickly discovered that almost *nobody* in the Mac world actually saves files in MacWrite v5.0 format! You have to give Apple credit though, being able to open files created on the Mac is a very good idea—it's just that MacWrite was the wrong format to support!

#### **Enter RTF**

Several years ago, Microsoft created a file format called "Rich Text Format" (also called "Rich Text," or simply "RTF"). This format allows you to save just about any word processing or page layout file in a plain ASCII text file, with all font, size, style, graphic and layout information intact! Since the data is saved in a simple ASCII file, it can then be easily moved between all computer platforms that support the ASCII character set, which includes the IIGS. Of course, the actual data in this ASCII file is encoded, so to use these files, you must have the proper software that can decode the data and turn it into something that is meaningful to your computer. This is exactly what EGOed v2.0 does! Not only that, but EGOed will let you save files in RTF format too!

This means that you can go to work, use your Mac to start a document, save it to disk as an RTF file, bring it home, load it into EGOed and continue working on it without losing any font, size or style information! The next day, you can take the changes back to work with you, and load them back into your Mac word processor, with the font, size and style information intact!

#### What Is EGOed?

EGOed is a New Desk Accessory (NDA) text editor. When you install EGOed on your startup disk, you can use it to edit and print ASCII text, Teach, AppleWorks Classic and AppleWorks GS word processor files from inside any desktop program that properly supports NDAs. To use EGOed v2.0, you must install it on a IIGS System Software v6.0 (or later) startup disk with at least 120K of free space. For more information on installing and using EGOed, see "How to Use Your GS+ Disk."

And, if you have System 6.0.1, a SuperDrive and a SuperDrive controller card, you can read RTF files created by MS-DOS and Windows programs directly off of MS-DOS disks!

In fact, it doesn't matter which computer or program created the RTF file, as long as you can get it onto a disk that your IIGS can read, EGOed should be able to read it! But, that's not all!

Thanks to our good friends at Softdisk publishing, EGOed v2.0 also reads and writes Softdisk Issue Text. This means that you no longer have to run the Softdisk G-S shell to read the files that come on the Softdisk G-S disks! But wait! There's still more!

If you tell it to, EGOed v2.0 can open any file as a plain text file! This can be very, very useful in a lot of situations. For example, we keep our advertising page assignments in a HyperCard IIGS stack. One day, Diz tried to open the stack, only

to find it was corrupted—HyperCard wouldn't let him open it! So, using EGOed, he simply opened the stack as a text file, copied out all of the text that was related to the advertising page assignments, and pasted it into a new version of the stack! (See "The Open Dialog," below, for detailed information on this feature.)

With all of these new file formats, EGOed needed to have a new way to specify which types of files you want to open, as well as giving you an easy way to specify the type of a file that you are saving. To accomplish this, the Open and Save As dialogs now contain pop-up menus that list all of the possible file types you can open and save.

#### The Open Dialog

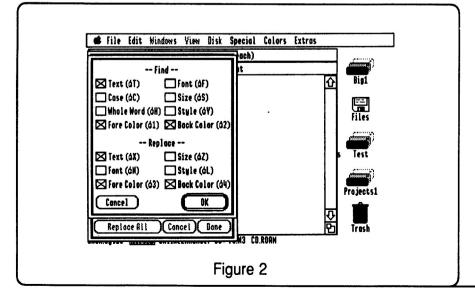
By selecting a file type from the pop-up menu in the Open dialogue, you can tell EGOed that you only want to look at that type of file. So, if you have a folder with thirty-five text files and ten Teach files, and the file you want to open is a Teach file, you would pick "Teach" from the pop-up menu, and EGOed would only show you the Teach files that were in the folder. The types of files that you can select are: AppleWorks Classic, AppleWorks GS, ASCII Text/RTF, Softdisk Issue Text, Source Code and Teach.

In addition, there are two other items in the Open dialog's pop-up menu: "All Known Types," and "Any File As Text."

When you select "All Known Types" (which is the default selection), EGOed lists all of the types of files that it knows how to open.

Selecting "Any File As Text," makes EGOed show you all files, regardless of wether or not EGOed knows how to open them! If you wanted to, you could use this feature to open a binary file, an application or any other file you have! Any file that you open using this option will be opened as if it were a plain ASCII text file. In other words, if you open a Teach file using this option, all you will get will be the text portion of the file, the style information will be ignored!

It should also be noted that saving files that you open this way can be dangerous! For example, if you open the Finder (or some other application) as a text file, and then save it back out with the same name, it will no longer be an application file! In general, you should only use this option to recover data from corrupted files, and not to monkey around with application files! In other words, be careful!



The Save As Dialog

Previous versions of EGOed could also open a lot of different file types, but they didn't make it easy to actually save your work in different formats. EGOed v2.0 does away with this difficulty by allowing you to pick the file type you want to use from a pop-up menu. Using this menu you can save your work as one of the following types: AppleWorks Classic, ASCII, Rich Text (standard or "default"—more on this below), Softdisk Issue Text, Source Code (APW C, Hyper/3D Logo, Installer script, ORCA/C, ORCA/M, ORCA/Modula-2, ORCA/Pascal, PostScript, REZ and Other [see below]), and Teach. While most of these formats are self-explanatory, a few of these choices need some explanation.

Saving RTF Files

Normally, when you load in an RTF file into an editor (any editor that can read RTF files, not just EGOed), it gets translated into the format normally used by that editor. In the case of EGOed, that means that it will be translated into a Teach file. Then, when you save the file back out, it will automatically be saved as a Teach file. However, if you save your RTF files using the "Rich Text (default)" selection, any editor that loads those files will know automatically that it should save that file back out as an RTF file and not in its normal format. Saving a file in this format makes it easy to move the file between different platforms and editors, because you don't have to keep selecting "Save As" to save the file as an RTF file.

Saving Source Files

As you can tell from the list of file types that EGOed can save, EGOed knows about lots of different kinds of source code languages. However, the pop-up menu in the Save As dialog only lists the most commonly used languages that we know of at this time. Since new source code language types are being defined every few months, EGOed has a way to let you save your source code with any language stamp (i.e. auxiliary file type) that you wish. All you do is select "Source: Other" from the pop-up menu in the Save As dialog. This will bring up another dialog that will let you type in the auxiliary file type that should be used for the source code file. So, for example, if The Byte Works should ever release ORCA/COBOL (God forbid!), and its source files have a language stamp of \$9999, you could save a file as an ORCA/COBOL source code file by selecting "Source: Other" from the Save As dialog, and then typing "9999" in the dialog box that appears. The file would then be saved with a file type of \$B0 (which is the file type that all source code

files have) and an auxiliary type of \$9999, which would mark it as an ORCA/COBOL file.

#### **New Preferences**

With all of these new features, we just had to throw in a few new preferences to help you use them more efficiently. There are four new preferences in all, two are new Load/Save preferences, and the other two are new preferences that work only in the Finder. (For complete information on how to use the EGOed preferences system, be sure to read the EGOed.Docs file.

#### **New Load/Save Prefs**

Always Translate RTF Files - RTF files are by definition, simply ASCII text files. However, they contain a special sequence of characters at the start of the file that identifies the contents of the file as being in Rich Text Format. So, whenever you use EGOed to open a text file (any text file) it automatically looks at the first few characters of the file to see if it is an RTF file. If the file is an RTF file, EGOed will put up a dialog informing you of this, and ask you if you wish to translate the file. This preference gives you the ability to skip that dialog so that EGOed will always translate RTF files automatically when you open them.

Present Open Dialog For New - If you use EGOed in the Finder, you probably don't see the Open file dialog; you probably just double-click on the files you want to edit. However, if you use EGOed in other programs, you probably have to go through the Open file dialog every time you create a new EGOed window. Which is where this new preference comes in really handy. If you have this preference turned on, EGOed will automatically present you with the Open file dialog every time you create a new EGOed window. If you have to edit a lot of files one after another, this can be a big time saver! (If you need to reverse the current setting of this preference, simply put down the caps lock key before you create a new EGOed window.)

#### New Finder Preferences

Ignore .BXY, .SHK, etc. Files - Ever since System 6 came out, EGOed users have had a problem with EGOed accidentally opening ShrinkIt archives. After all, when you download these files, they usually end up as text files on disk, and EGOed doesn't have a 100% reliable way to ensure that the file wasn't an actual text file. This preference is an attempt to fix that. When you turn this preference on, EGOed will look at the last few characters of the file name of any file that you double-click on. If those characters are ".SHK", ".BXY", ".BNY", or

".BQY", EGOed will not open the file so that it can be passed on to ShrinkIt-GS. (Note that this is not a case sensitive comparison. So, EGOed would also ignore files ending with ".shk".)

Treat .RTF Files As Text Files - As was mentioned earlier, one of the main purposes of the RTF file format is to allow data to be easily moved between computer platforms. However, this doesn't always work as well as everyone would like. For example, if you have an MS-DOS disk with an RTF file on it. chances are that the program that created the RTF file named it something like MYDOC.RTF. Unfortunately, the MS-DOS FST does not realize that a MS-DOS file name ending in ".RTF" usually means that the file is actually an ASCII text file. So, it reports that the file is of type "Unknown." Normally, you would have to copy the file to another disk and then change its file type to a plain text file before EGOed could read it. But, if you turn this preference on, EGOed will check any file that you double-click on to see if its name ends with ".RTF". If it does, EGOed will treat that file as if it were an ASCII text file, regardless of the file type that GS/OS says it is. If you do a lot of work with RTF files on MS-DOS disks, this preference will become one of your favorites!

#### What's Next?

So, there you have everything that's new in EGOed v2.0. Pretty cool huh? Well, heck, you haven't seen anything yet! We've got a bunch of other great stuff in the works that we had to leave out of this version because we just ran out of time.

But heck, just because we've got a list of stuff we want to do, doesn't mean that we don't want to hear your suggestions! We want EGOed to be the editor of choice for IIGS users, and with your ideas and feedback, we'll be able to do that.

And, please don't forget to take a few minutes to read the EGOed.Docs file on your GS+ Disk. It contains all the information you need to know to really get the most out of EGOed, and it's very important that you read it!

Finally, if you find a bug in EGOed, please fill out one of our problem forms and send it to us! We don't think you'll find any problems with EGOed v2.0, but if you do, we want to fix it as soon as possible!

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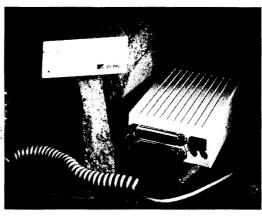
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# MIDI Surgeon v1.0

When Apple released the MIDI Synth tool set with System Software version 6.0, they gave Apple IIGS users a powerful capability to play music. The "MIDI" in the tool set name stands for "Musical Instrument Digital Interface," a series of standards covering physical connectors, electrical specifications, data formats, communication protocols, and conventions for assigning sounds to Many instruments. different manufacturers sell computers interfaces and musical keyboards that conform to these standards.

The description of the MIDI Synth tool set in *Programmer's Reference for System 6.0* reveals that its sequences contain the same information as standard MIDI data files, although in a completely different format. MIDI Synth's sequencer acts upon many of the standard MIDI messages, and will pass any MIDI message to musical instruments connected via the IIGS's MIDI interface.

Although MIDI Synth sequences are stored in a format unique to the Apple IIGS, MIDI Surgeon allows you to translate a standard MIDI file for use with MIDI Synth. Standard MIDI files are available from many on-line services, and also on various Internet FTP (File Transfer Protocol) sites.

#### **Basic Program Functionality**

Although MIDI Surgeon's primary purpose is to translate MIDI files to MIDI Synth format, it will also perform "surgery" on a MIDI Synth sequence, removing unwanted entries and changing track and channel assignments. Other

program functions will be familiar to users of synthLAB, Apple's MIDI Synth utility: playing MIDI Synth sequences, opening instrument files for use with a sequence, and assigning all notes on a track to play a particular channel (instrument). MIDI Surgeon tries to make the basic translation of MIDI files as simple as possible. Here are the steps you might use:

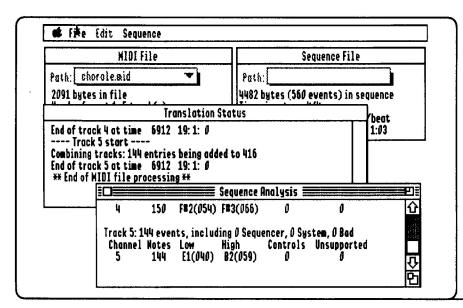
#### 1. Get a MIDI file.

MIDI files are available from a variety of sources. For example, if you move to page 430 on GEnie and choose option 3, you will find yourself in the MIDI Software Library. A directory listing will reveal thousands of MIDI files. Many files uploaded from non-Apple systems are packed in formats that are not usable on the Apple IIGS. You will want to choose a file that has a ".MID" suffix, indicating that it is an unpacked MIDI file, or one that ends in ".ARC", a compression format that can be interpreted by GS-ShrinkIt.

#### 2. Set the correct file type.

When you download the file, it will probably be assigned a generic "binary" or "text" file type. In order for MIDI Surgeon to recognize it as a MIDI file, it must be given the "MIDI standard data" file type, MDI (or hexadecimal \$D7). From a desktop program, you can use GS+ Magazine's NoDOS NDA (last seen in GS+ V4.N4) to change the file type. This can also be done for an entire group of MIDI files using a shell program.

# In ORCA/M: FILETYPE =.MIDI MDI 0



In GNO/ME: chtyp  $-t \propty -a 0 *.mid$ 

#### 3. Execute MIDI Surgeon.

Launch MIDI Surgeon just as you would any other desktop application. It requires System Software 6.0 or later. The amount of memory it uses depends upon the size of the MIDI file; I run with 4MB of RAM (including an 800K RAM disk and ten New Desk Accessories) and have only experienced memory shortages with one extremely large (more than 200K) MIDI file. If MIDI Surgeon runs low on memory, it will print a message in its Translation Status window.

#### 4. Open the MIDI file.

Choose "Open MIDI..." from the "File" menu and select your MIDI file. If the file doesn't appear in the Standard File selection dialog, you probably did not give it the correct file type in step 2.

After your file is read, a small window will appear in the upper left of your screen describing the size of the file and the number of MIDI tracks it contains.

#### 5. Translate.

The MIDI File window contains a "Translate" button; click on it to start the process of translating from MIDI to MIDI Synth.

MIDI Surgeon uses a text window to describe what it is doing, note unusual data, and report errors (such as low memory). MIDI files sometimes contain commands that are meaningful for a single manufacturer. MIDI Surgeon will report unrecognized bytes, but these messages can usually be ignored. If the resulting sequence sounds good to you, don't worry about any warnings. If the status window contains information you want to save in a text file, choose "Save Status..." from the "File" menu.

During the translation, a small window appears in the top middle of the screen. The thermometer in this window indicates the byte number being processed in the MIDI file. If you wish to terminate the translation prematurely, press the "Stop" button.

When the translation process is complete, MIDI Surgeon opens a "Sequence File" window showing characteristics of the translated MIDI Synth Sequence. MIDI Surgeon can only handle one sequence at a time. As long as this window is open, you cannot translate another MIDI file or

load a MIDI Synth sequence file. The Sequence window includes an estimate of how long the sequence takes to play, based upon the starting tempo and the number of measures. The estimate will not be correct if there are tempo changes, or if there are non-playing commands at the beginning or end.

#### 6. Choose Instruments.

Before you can play the sequence, you must choose a MIDI Synth instrument file. For most songs, the best choice is to first play all tracks on a piano. Once you hear what a sequence sounds like, you may wish to use a variety of instruments. Using the "Open Instrument..." item in the "File" menu, I usually open the "Piano.bnk" instrument file provided on the synthLAB disk from Apple. I then use the "Tracks..." item under the "Sequence" menu to force all of the tracks to use channel 1, the piano. You can also use the track menu to turn off the playing of specific tracks and to assign names to tracks. (synthLAB only allows access to the first 8 tracks, but MIDI Surgeon lets you change all 16.)

The MIDI Synth waveform file used by the instrument file must be in the same directory as the instrument file. If it isn't, MIDI Surgeon will report an error and request that you open a different instrument file.

#### 7. Play the Sequence.

You use the "Play" item in the "Sequence" menu to start playing the sequence. You can also use "Stop" to stop the playing of a sequence.

#### 8. Save the Sequence.

If everything sounds fine, use the "Save Sequence..." item (under "File") to save your MIDI Synth sequence. If things don't sound so fine, you may need to use a different set of instruments or perform some surgery on the sequence.

#### **Advanced Features**

The eight steps described above are all you need to translate most simple MIDI files. However, complicated files may present special challenges. The following menu items will help you deal with these situations.

#### Analysis.

This command prepares a summary report of the contents of a sequence. For each track, it reports the total number of events and classifies the events into several groups. (See Table 1 for a description of all message groups.) The first group consists of track messages that apply to all instruments: Sequencer, System, and Bad. The second group contains messages directed to a particular channel: MIDI Surgeon summarizes the number of "Note On" and "Note Off" events, the

tonal range those notes cover, and the number of non-note messages. The nonnote messages are divided into two categories: those that are used by MIDI Synth's sequencer and those that aren't.

The analysis will help you decide whether your sequence needs to have surgery. MIDI Synth can't use bad entries or "unused" messages, and few (if any) MIDI Synth players know what to do with a program change.

#### Tracks.

Use the Tracks screen to turn off the playing of any track, cause all notes on a track to play a single instrument, or assign a 15-character name to a track. The track and instrument windows are designed so that both can fit on the screen at the same time, making it easy to experiment with assigning instruments to tracks while a sequence is playing. Simply choose the number of the instrument in the track's pop-up menu, and make sure the track's "Play" check box is filled in.

#### Surgery.

Use this option to make changes to the sequence. Use the "Remove" options to get rid of the following:

Bad entry: malformed entries, as described above.

#### Table 1: MIDI Surgeon Message Groups

Group	Command (status byte)	Comments
Sequencer	SeqMarker (\$00) SetSeqBeat (\$02) SetRelTempo (\$04)	Invokes a callback routine Changes ticks per beat Changes tempo
System	System Common (\$F0-F7) Real-Time events (\$F8-\$FE)	Unused by MIDI Synth Unused by MIDI Synth
Bad	Any message with an unused stat \$80 and not \$00, \$02, or \$04) o value greater than 2.	

The remaining groups are channel specific; the low nibble in the status byte indicates the affected channel.

Notes	Note	Off	(\$8x)
	Note	On	(\$9x)

Controls

Polyphonic Pressure (\$Ax)

Program Change (\$Cx)

Channel Pressure (\$Dx)

Pitch Bend (\$Ex)

Parameter Change (\$Bx)

Unused by MIDI Synth

Unused by MIDI Synth

Used by MIDI Synth

Used by MIDI Synth

Used by MIDI Synth

Parameter Change (\$Bx)

128 parameters can be set

Only the following parameters are used by MIDI Synth:

Main Volume (7) Sustain Pedal (64) All Notes Off (123-127)

				Figur	e 1	
<b>MIDI Clock</b>	Measure:	Beat:	Tick	Track	Channel	MIDI Command
288	1:	4:	0	5	Ch 5	Note_on F#2 vel 0
288	1:	4:	0	5	Ch 5	Note_on E2 vel 64
384	2:	1:	0	2	Ch 2	Note on C#4 vel 0

Unused entry: a valid MIDI event that is not used by MIDI Synth. You may wish to retain these for transmission to other MIDI equipment.

Program change: not generally used.

Pitch bend: the MIDI event that causes a slurring effect on notes; you will usually want to keep these.

Sequencer msg: a non-standard MIDI Synth sequencer message; you will usually want to keep these.

Any control: any non-note message that doesn't fit an earlier category.

Surgery can also change channel numbers on tracks, and cut/paste messages from one track to another. The Surgery Options window lets you change or move three selections on each pass through the sequence. If you do not want to use a change or cut/paste option, leave its channel field set to "--".

These options are particularly useful for MIDI files that contain track numbers greater than MIDI Synth's limit of 16. For example, "Cut channel All frm track 24 & paste on trk 6" will take all of the messages on track 24 and reassign them to track 6.

When multiple channels appear on a single track, you can split them apart and put them on different tracks with something like "Cut channel 11 from trk 1 & paste on trk 14". Once a track contains a single channel you can use the

Tracks window to modify instrument assignments.

When you cannot split multiple channels from a single track, you can still change instrument assignments with the "Change channel" surgery command. For example, "Change channel 11 on track 1 to 7" and "Change channel 12 on track 1 to 8" would reassign two instruments without affecting their track position.

After you select options and press the "Start Surgery" button, MIDI Surgeon examines each entry in the sequence and applies the editing commands in the order specified on the screen. If you press the "stop" button during surgery, MIDI Surgeon discards any changes it has made and restores the pre-surgery version of the sequence.

#### Save Sequence as Text.

This item creates a detailed report on the contents of the MIDI Synth sequence, with one line for each entry, and writes the result to a text file. Some sample entries are shown in Figure 1.

The first column shows the absolute MIDI clock, with the next three columns expressing the clock as measure:beat:tick (just as in synthLAB). The next column shows the track number, followed by the channel number and MIDI command ("Note On" in this example).

The dump will only be of use to those who have a deep understanding of MIDI commands (for example, someone who wants to know exactly what "bad" entries

appear in a sequence). Most sequences contain thousands of MIDI messages.

#### **Beyond Translation**

After you have a translated sequence you will need to assign appropriate MIDI Synth instruments. Apple includes five different instrument files, each with 7 to 16 individual instruments defined. See Table 2 for a summary of what instruments are available in each file.

It is possible to use synthLAB to tweak the characteristics of these instruments, or create new instruments from the wave files provided by Apple. A freeware program, waveLAB, allows you to combine instruments from different files and define new waveforms. Be aware that creating well-tuned instruments that mix well with others across a large range of notes can be a challenging and time-consuming task.

Getting drums to play correctly can be tricky. The General MIDI (GM) specification defines 47 different percussion sounds, each assigned to a unique note on channel 10. If you want to use drums, you will probably have to experiment with the three drum kits available in two of the instrument files, assigning the appropriate drum channel to the track containing the drum notes. If the original sequence contains too many different drum styles, you might want to turn off the playing of tracks that do not match up well with what is available.

#### Other Hazards

Some of the MIDI Synth instruments have a fairly long "attack" segment in

#### Table 2: MIDI Synth Instrument Files provided by Apple

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	Combo.bnk DrumKit1 SlapBass SynthLead Marimba Xylophone Flute Trombones ChiffFlute Dx Marimba DrumKit2	Demo.bnk Pipes Voice Kybrd Dx Hpsd WoodFlute AnalogStr LeadGuitar Glass Clarinet Guitar Hammond FeedBack A Bass Guitar 5ths Accordian Trumpet	Orch.bnk PanFlute Clarinet Harp Hard Strings Bassoon MedStrings Trombones Soft Strings Orchestra	Piano.bnk Piano HonkyTonk Steel Piano Piano Pluck Hpsd Icnc Strange	Synth.bnk Drum Kit 3 SlapBass Pan Flute Flute 1 E. Piano swell Hammond Brass
---	--	---	--	---	--

their sound envelope. These instruments do not work well with passages of quick notes, because the instrument does not reach full volume before it must release and go to the next note. In some cases, you may not hear any sound at all.

Even when you assign appropriate instruments, the music may sound as if some notes are missing. This can be caused when too many notes are played at once. MIDI Synth is designed to play seven distinct notes, and can handle a few more by stealing time from other notes. If your song begins to sound "spotty," try turning off the playing of one or more non-melody tracks.

MIDI Synth specifies a limit of 128K for sequencer files. MIDI Surgeon can create and play much larger sequences, but some players (synthLAB, e.g.) can't handle it.

#### **Further Information**

I found a lot of MIDI information by using FTP to access various sites on the Internet. Of particular note are summaries of MIDI messages by Dave Oppenheim and Bob McQueer. Also useful is an overview of General MIDI (GM) Level 1, including a list of percussion sounds assigned to note numbers. One system that has these documentation files is ucsd.edu in the directory /midi/doc (archived in Unix "tar" format and compressed). The directory

/midi/scores/DMCS has a dozen or so uncompressed MIDI files. Another Internet system worth looking at is louie.udel.edu, particularly the "mid" files under the /pub/midi/BertsGreatestHits directory.

#### Inside the Program

MIDI Surgeon's code is written entirely in ORCA/C, and its resources are written in REZ. The C code is divided into the following files:

MIDIread.c: reads MIDI files. Most of this code comes from a public domain library of routines named midifiles, originally written by Tim Thompson. Both of the Internet systems mentioned have a compressed "tar" archive of the midifiles source code.

MIDIconv.c: makes calls to MIDIread routines to build a MIDI Synth sequence, and writes the MIDI Synth sequence file. MIDIconv and MIDIread are designed to be compatible with non-IIGS systems.

callback.c: contains the MIDI Synth callback routines and a routine to initialize them. I created this short file so that ORCA/C debugging modes could be turned on in the rest of the program without affecting the callback routines. (ORCA's stack checking debug code gets very confused when the sequencer invokes a callback routine.)

Actions.c: reads the user's menu and control selections, opens windows, loads instruments & waves, and places calls to MIDIconv to perform file I/O. This is the heart of the MIDI Surgeon program.

MIDISurgeon.c: starts the program and has a variety of routines to maintain the desktop.

Each of these five files has a corresponding header file declaring global data and the interfaces to the callable routines. Additional header files are: *Options.h:* defines compiler options so they can be turned on consistently throughout the program.

SynthFile.h: defines data structures and offsets used in MIDI Synth sequence, instrument, and waveform files.

Other than dealing with a zillion details (like allocating the correct size of memory, making sure the right menu items are turned on, coordinating the MIDI Synth information out of three different files, anticipating error situations, etc.) the Actions and MIDI Surgeon portions of the program are similar to many other Apple desktop programs. The MIDI Synth calls may be exotic to those who haven't used them, but are not too complicated. GS+

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- n=qurres system 6.

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   SuperDrive Controller Card, MODZap, soniqTracker,
   ORCA/Pascal v2.0.1, SoundMeister, TypeSet

- Nov-Dec 1993 (V5.N2)
  IIGS Maintenance-Part 1: The Mouse and Keyboard
  SCSI (\*Simple Connections, Says Igor.)
  Balloon v 1.0: A finder extension that lets you extract files from Shrinklt Archives
- · CD-ROaM: An application that lets you scavenge files off of CD- ROMs
- · KaBlooie! A version of the classic game Minesweeper for your
- · Reviews: 3D Logo, Focus Drive Hard Card, Prism, Tulin **Floptical Disk Drive**

Any issues that are not listed are sold out.

All prices include postage and handling (orders will be sent First-Class to the U.S., Air Mail to Canada and Mexico, and surface mail to all other countries. For Air Mail to all other countries, add an additional \$3.50 per issue). Tennessee residents must add 7.75% sales tax. Mail back issue requests to: GS+ Back Issues, c/o EGO Systems, PO Box 15366, Chattanooga, TN, 37415-0366; or call 1-800-662-3634, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, to order or verify availability. Please include your phone number on all orders placed by mail(in case we are sold out of an issue)! For MasterCard or VISA orders placed by mail, also include your card number, expiration date, and signature.

# Rumors, Wishes & Blatant Lies

Finally!

If you ordered a copy of the *Programmer's Reference for System 6.0.1* and you've been wondering where it is, you should have it now! If you've been waiting to order yours until you knew for sure that it was available, the wait is over! The Byte Works finally got the last draft of the System 6.0.1 documentation from Apple in December and they've been shipping out back orders just as fast as they can. If you ordered a copy, and it hasn't shown up yet, or if you want to order a copy now that it's available, give The Byte Works a call at (505) 898-8183.

Note however, that if you also ordered the Apple Tools 6.0.1 Update Disk, you'll have to wait a while longer for it. Apple still hasn't finalized that disk, so The Byte Works can't ship it yet.

#### The End of Forever?

Well, the boss man couldn't bear to run this press release in the "What's New" section, so he gave it to me to run. However, this item is 100% true, and I haven't changed it one bit.

"Apple IIe Position Statement

Since its introduction in 1977, the Apple He computer has been one of the most popular computers with K-12 customers in the United States, having sold more than 5.5 million systems. With the introduction of the Macintosh Classic and the Macintosh LC family, our education customers have found the increased performance, functionality and flexibility of the Macintosh platform to be a powerful and viable migration platform from the Apple II platform. This has been strongly evidenced by the fact that in 1993, more than 93 percent of all computers sold by Apple to K-12 customers were Macintoshes, with the LC line becoming the best selling line of educational computers.

As a result, since 1992, Apple has seen a dramatic reduction in sales of IIe systems to our customers. With such low demand for the IIe and the continuing strong market acceptance of newer, more powerful Macintosh computer systems, Apple can no longer justify the manufacturing expense given our current business model and has removed the Apple IIe computer system from our Education Price List."

#### And the Good News is?

Well, to balance that out, I should tell you that in the year since the IIGS was

discontinued, our business has held steady, and has actually been getting better in the last few months! Not only that, but most of the IIGS developers I've talked to say that their business has also been steadily improving over the last few months! So, hey, maybe we don't need Apple's support to survive after all!

#### StyleWriter II Driver?

Lots of folks have written and called to ask if there will ever be a IIGS driver for the StyleWriter II printer. Well, at this point, the answer is "no." Even worse, the StyleWriter II is so different from the original StyleWriter printer that the StyleWriter driver that comes with System 6.0 and System 6.0.1 will not work with the StyleWriter II. Of course, if anyone ever decides to produce a IIGS driver for the StyleWriter II, we'll let you know about it.

Give Apple Some Credit

Did you have an old Apple credit card? Were you a bit upset when Apple simply discontinued them with no warning or notification at all? Well, guess what . . . Apple is about to start up another credit card program, similar to the one that General Motors has been offering for the last year or so. You know, the GM card is the one that lets you put 5% of your credit card purchases towards the purchase of a new GM automobile. apparently Apple liked the concept so much that they are about to announce their own version. It will be a Citibank credit card that you can use to obtain rebates on the purchase of Apple products. Up to \$500 in a single year, or up to \$1,500 over three years. It sounds like a great idea to me! (Best of all, with Citibank involved, Apple probably won't be able to just bail out of this credit card program like they did the last one.)

#### **More Wishes**

Well Christmas is behind us (thank goodness), but around here it's always time for wishing! In particular, I wish:

- For a version of Pointless that uses PostScript Type 1 fonts. Adobe has released the documentation detailing how to use these fonts, so it *could* happen!
- For a C++ compiler for the IIGS.
- That this whole Michael Jackson thing would be over with.
- That some of my co-workers would begin using personal hygiene products developed in the 20th century.
- That the ash tray outside my office would go away.

- That Joe would see his dream of becoming a super-model, come true.
- That I had better IIGS wishes.

#### That's me in the Corner . . .

Losing my religion? No. Not really, but I have heard a couple of rumors that I'm at a loss to explain.

First of all, I've heard that one of the major reasons that the Apple II software for America Online hasn't been updated in several years is because they actually *lost* the source code for it.

Secondly, according to one of the programmers working on Quality Computers' update to AppleWorks GS, Claris actually lost the database containing the list of all of the bugs that were in AppleWorks GS! So, the programming team is having to compile their own list of bugs to fix, which, of course, adds to the time it will take to get the update completed. Speaking of which, here's my official list of the . . .

Top 10 AppleWorks GS Bugs

10. Typing "moof" in the About dialog brings up animation of John Sculley choking Steve Jobs.

9. Error dialogs all contain the phrase

"You screwed up again!"

8. Footers smell like Fritos brand corn chips.

7. Headers suffer from receding margins.

6. Manuals printed in Kanjii.

5. Typing in secret code allows you to decapitate opponents.

4. Calling the support number actually gets you a suicide prevention hotline.

3. Copy protection scheme requires

3. Copy protection scheme requires you to wear a bra while using software.

2. Telecommunications module won't dial 1-900 numbers.

1. Packwood diaries too long to fit in a single word processing document.

#### Hey Buddy . . .

Is that a rumor in your pocket, or are you just shaking hands with Mr. 8-Ball? Really? Well, hey, more power to you. As for the rest of you, send those rumors, wishes and blatant lies to me at:

GS+ Rumors
P. O. Box 15366
Chattanooga, TN 37415-0366
GS+

# How to Use Your GS+ Disk

The first thing you need to do is make a backup copy of your GS+ Disk with the Finder!!! Do not make your backup on your hard disk! Instead, copy the GS+ Disk to another 3.5-inch disk (this is very important). Next, put the original in a safe place. If you are having a problem making a backup copy, give us a call at (615) 843-3988. If your disk is damaged, let us know, and we'll get a new one to you as soon as possible.

Installing The Software

To install the software on this issue's GS+ Disk, start up your computer using System Software v6.0 or later. (Note that all of the programs on this issue's disk require System 6!) Next, place your backup copy of the GS+ Disk in a drive. (You did make a backup didn't you?) Now run the Installer program that is on your backup GS+ Disk. (From the Finder, just double-click on the Installer icon.) It is extremely important that you use the Installer that is on your backup GS+ Disk! Do not use any other copy of the Installer!

When the Installer window appears, select the item you want to install from the list on the left-hand side of the window, and the disk you want to install it on from the list on the right-hand side of the window. Then click on the Install button. For more information on using the Installer, refer to your IIGS owner's manual.

Before you attempt to use your backup GS+ Disk, please take a few minutes to read the a.Read.Me file for any last minute corrections or information. If you do not already have our EGOed (or EGOed lite) text editor installed in your system, you can use the Teach application supplied with System Software v6.0 to read this file.

#### Installing EGOed

The following is a detailed example of how to install EGOed. The other programs are installed in a similar manner.

- Start up your IIGS with System Software v6.0 or later—the version of EGOed that is on this GS+ Disk requires System 6! (Your GS+ Disk is not a startup disk, so don't try starting your computer with it.)
- Insert your backup copy of the GS+ Disk into a drive and run the Installer program that is on your backup GS+ Disk. It is very, very important that you run the Installer that is on your backup

GS+ Disk and not some other copy of the Installer.

• When the Installer finishes loading, click on the Disk button on the right-hand side of the Installer window until your startup disk appears. (If you only have one 3.5-inch disk drive, you will have to remove the backup GS+ Disk from the drive and replace it with your startup disk. You should also refer to the "Making Room" section below for hints on how to free up room on your boot disk.)

#### Please Remember . . .

The contents of the GS+ Disk are not public domain or shareware! We depend on your honesty to stay in business. Please do not give away copies of the GS+ Disk or any of the programs on it. If you do, we will not be able to stay in business. It really is that simple!

- On the left-hand side of the Installer window, you will see a list of the items on the backup GS+ Disk. One of the items in this list should be "EGOed." (If EGOed is not in this list, quit the Installer and begin again. Be sure that you are running the copy of the Installer that is on your backup GS+ Disk!) Once you see the EGOed item, click the mouse on it so that it becomes highlighted.
- Click the mouse on the Install button in the middle of the Installer window. The Installer will then install EGOed on your startup disk. If you only have one 3.5inch disk drive, you may have to switch disks several times. Just insert each disk as the Installer asks for it.
- When the Installer has finished, click on the Quit button in the middle of the Installer window. This should cause your IIGS to restart.
- When your IIGS finishes restarting, pull down the Apple menu and select EGOed (note that you have to be in a desktop

program like the Finder to have access to the Apple menu).

- When it finishes loading, notice that EGOed has its own menu bar. Select Open from the EGOed File menu and then put your GS+ Disk in a drive. You should see a list of the files and folders on the GS+ Disk.
- Open the Documentation folder on your backup GS+ Disk and then open the file EGOed.Docs. This file contains complete documentation on how to use EGOed. Please take a few minutes to read this documentation.

#### Making Room

If you do not have a hard drive, you will probably have to remove some files from your startup disk to make room for the New Desk Accessories, control panels, and other system files on your GS+ Disk.

Towards that end, we have prepared the following list of "expendable" files that you can "safely" remove from your System Software v6.0 startup disk to free up some space. (We've put quotes around "expendable" and "safely" because almost all of the files in the IIGS System Software have some sort of use! The files listed here are the ones that are the "least" useful for a specified hardware setup.)

Be sure that you *never* delete *any* files from your original System Software boot disk! Always work on a backup copy!

#### System Software v6.0

If you use the System 6: Install disk to create a minimal, 800K, System 6 boot disk, that disk will have 26K of free space on it when the installation is finished.

It must be noted that all of the files on this disk are very important and the files that you can safely remove depend, for the most part, on your hardware setup. So, please read these instructions carefully before removing any files.

The first two files you can delete depend on what you will be doing with your IIGS. If you will not be running AppleSoft BASIC programs, you can remove the file BASIC.System (11K) from the root directory of the disk. If you will not be running ProDOS 8 software, you can remove \*:System:P8 (18K).

If you do not care what time it is, you can delete the following file:

\*:System:CDevs:Time (11K)

After that, the files that you can safely remove depend on your hardware setup.

If you have a ROM 01 IIGS, you may delete the file:

\*:System:System.Setup:TS3 (41K)

If you have a ROM 03 IIGS, you may delete the following file:

\*:System:System.Setup:TS2 (37K)

If you do not have a 5.25-inch drive, you may delete the following 8K file:
\*:System:Drivers:AppleDisk5.25

If you do not have a printer, you may delete the following file:

\*:System:CDevs:Printer (5K)

Finally, if you have deleted all control panels, and you won't be installing any control panels from the GS+ Disk, you can also delete the 19K file:

\*:System:Desk.Accs:ControlPanel

Removing some or all of these files will give you ample room (up to 139K on a ROM 01 IIGS and up to 135K on a ROM 03 IIGS) on your startup disk to install EGOed or any of the other system utilities from your backup GS+ Disk.

# Having Problems?

If you are having a problem with one of the programs on your GS+ Disk, we want to help! But we can't help if we don't know about it!

If your GS+ Disk is defective, let us know and we will send you a replacement. You can call us at (615) 843-3988 (Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern Time), to request a replacement disk.

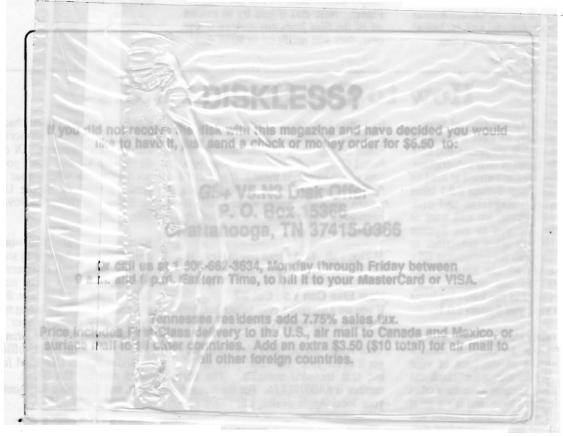
If you are having a problem using one of our programs, please fill out the problem form that is on your GS+ Disk and send it to "GS+ Problems" at the address shown below.

Note: You will *not* be able to print from EGOed or any other desktop program when using an 800K, System 6.0 boot disk. (There isn't enough room for all of the required drivers and control panels.)

If you want to save even *more* space, you might want to consider using Autopilot (from GS+ V4.N1) as a replacement program launcher. With Autopilot installed on the minimal System 6 boot disk, initial free space goes up from 26K to 163K! You can then use Autopilot to autolaunch the Finder from a second 3.5-inch disk drive and still have plenty of room on your boot disk for lots of system extensions. For more information on Autopilot, refer to the "Autopilot v2.0" article in GS+ V4.N1 or give us a call.

**Self-Extracting Archive** 

We use GS-ShrinkIt v1.1 to compress the source code and related files on the GS+Disk into a self-extracting archive. To extract the files from the archive, simply double-click on the GSP.V5.N3.SEA program on your backup GS+Disk. You do not need to have a copy GS-ShrinkIt in order to use any of the programs or other materials on this GS+Disk! However, you will gain better control over



IMPORTANT!
Use scissors or a knife to open disk bag!
Do not attempt to pull bag away from magazine!

the files you wish to extract if you have GS-ShrinkIt v1.1. If you do not have GS-ShrinkIt v1.1 and you would like a copy, check with your local user group or give us a call here at GS+ Magazine and we will try and help you locate a copy.

#### What's On The Disk

The programs on this disk require System Software v6.0 or later. There are six items in the root directory of this disk:

#### a.Read.Me

A lot can happen from the time we send this magazine to the printer and the time we get ready to mail them out. If anything does happen, we will put everything we can find in this file. Please read this file before using the GS+ Disk.

#### Documentation

This folder contains the new EGOed documentation file. This is a Teach file which can be read using Teach, EGOed, or any other TextEdit editor.

#### GSP.V5.N3.SEA

This is a self-extracting archive (SEA) containing the source code and related files for all the programs contained on this GS+ Disk. The archive also contains the Miscellaneous Library. Technical information, such as the Miscellaneous Library documentation, and technical notes are supplied in the archive also.

In fact, we tried to pack so much material on this disk that we also had to shrink the **Talk.To.GSPlus** folder and place it in this archive as well. This folder contains our feedback form, the complete GS+ Glossary, a troubleshooting guide, and the GS+ Problem Form.

The feedback form is a plain ASCII text file. Fill it out, and let us know what you thought of this issue.

The GS+ Glossary file is a plain text file containing all of the terms defined in the past installments of the "GS+ Glossary".

The troubleshooting guide contains tips on how to resolve some of the more common problems you may experience while trying to use the programs on your GS+ Disk. If you are having a problem, please read this file before you go to all the trouble of filling out a problem form! But, if the troubleshooting tips don't help, please fill out the problem form and send it to us! This is a Teach file, you may use EGOed or the Teach application to view it.

To extract the files from the archive, simply double-click on this file from the Finder. Note that if you try to extract all of the files from this archive at one time, they will not fit on an 800K disk!

#### Installer

This is the Apple IIGS Installer. The installer requires System Software v5.0.4 or later. Run it to install the other programs on this issue's disk. For more information on using the Installer, be sure to read the example on the previous pages, and refer to your IIGS owner's manual.

**Programs** 

This folder contains the EGOed and MIDI Surgeon programs, plus two sample MIDI sequence files for use with MIDI Surgeon. Use the Installer provided on your backup GS+ Disk to automate the installation of these files. All the programs in this issue require System 6 to operate.

Note that you must have the MIDI Synth tools installed on your startup disk to use MIDI Surgeon. The MIDI Synth tools can be installed from your System 6.0 or System 6.0.1 master disks. MIDI Surgeon can be installed in, and run from, any folder on any disk. If you wish, you can even run MIDI Surgeon directly from your backup GS+ Disk.

Scripts

This folder contains all of the scripts that are used by the Installer to install the files from this GS+ Disk.

GS+

# How to Get System 6.0.1

Everyone should have a copy of System 6.0.1. Fortunately, we have a license to distribute it to our magazine-and-disk subscribers as a part of their subscription. Unfortunately, we can't afford to mail all five of the disks that System 6.0.1 takes up to every magazine-and-disk subscriber. However, we still want to make it easy for you to get System 6.0.1. So, if you are a subscriber to GS+ Magazine with the companion GS+ Disk (sorry, but we can not distribute System 6.0.1 to our magazine-only subscribers), send us the following items and we will send you System 6.0.1:

1) Five (5) blank and formatted, 3.5-inch diskettes to our P. O. Box address (which is shown on the back of your magazine). We are asking for "blank and formatted" disks because formatting takes time that we don't have, and it's a great way to tell if a disk is good before you send it to us. If you send us a bad disk, we aren't going to replace it.

2) A self-addressed return disk mailer with enough postage on it to mail the

five disks back to you. (Foreign subscribers without access to United States postage may include International Postal Coupons instead. See your local post office to obtain these.) If you don't provide a postage-paid, self-addressed return mailer, your disks will be considered "gifts" and will be used for backups.

3) That's all. Don't send any money. We don't want any money for this.

#### How Else Can You Get It?

If you are a magazine-only subscriber, here are some other ways to get System 6.0.1.

Your Apple dealer. Bug them until they get it in for you. The retail price is \$39, but that includes manuals. The part number is #A0077LL/A. For the name of your local Apple dealer, call (800) 538-9696.

Your user group. Take your own disks and they should only charge you a small copying fee. Some user groups may have it already copied for you and available for a nominal charge. (Note that some user groups make these services available only to their members. Of course, you do plan on joining, don't you?) If you need to know where your local user group is, call the Apple User Group Connection at (800) 538-9696 extension 500.

Resource Central. You won't have to bug them, they have it in stock, and in no less than three different "flavors." For just the disks (item number DA-006), the price is \$24. For the complete end-user package, including manuals, the price is \$39 (item number DA-0013). Finally, if you want the *ultimate* System 6 bundle, you can get the official System 6 Golden Master CD-ROM for only \$99 (item number DA-0029). Take your pick, and then give Resource Central a call at (913) 469-6502.

And, of course, if you have a modem, you can download it from your favorite online service. The total download time is about 5 hours.

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# **Reviews**

**Ancient Glory** 

IIGS version by Mike Howard and John Wrenholt

Retail price: \$20

Requires 1.25MB and System Software 5.0.4 or later

Big Red Computer Club 423 Norfolk Ave Norfolk, NE 68701 (402) 379-4680

Reviewed by Robert A. Ribaric

#### I HAVE THE POWER!

I am Hercules, son of Zeus, and was born mortal. My strength and cunning have made me a hero here in mythological Greece. I have accomplished much in my life as the son of a god, but wish to join my father on Mount Olympus for all eternity. I want to become immortal!

One of my father's lesser goddesses, Athena, has promised to help me achieve my goal to become a legend. Assisted by Hermes, she has instructed me to accomplish five tasks in order to prepare for my ultimate challenge—the destruction of Medusa! With her snake-like hairdo, Medusa has stopped all other warriors cold . . . STONE COLD! So that I won't end up as a statue instead of a god, I must take the time to go about this properly.

#### The Challenge

During my travels throughout the Greek countryside, I suspect that many fierce beasts will be there to oppose me. Athena has warned that another goddess, Hera, (who is Zeus' wife, but not my mother) is fraught with jealousy and will send her evil servants to put a quick end to my quest. I do know that there are many weapons and devices hidden among the cities, ruins, and lairs I must visit. The only problem is finding them without falling prey to any of the numerous monsters which surely guard them.

I have heard rumors of these magnificent weapons strewn about the land. Swords, spears, bows, and sickles have all been mentioned to me. I don't think all of them are suited for the same applications. I know there is usually one best way to tackle each of my enemies, but sometimes I have to make do. I have always been bothered by your average scorpions, crabs, and snakes. These animals along with bulls and lions have often pestered me here around town. I've killed these types with cheap wood clubs and even by kicking them. They aren't too tough, but I am still a bit concerned. In a visit to three blind witches last night, I was foretold of several creatures sent to kill me. In my youth, elders tried to scare us with tales of half-men/half-horses, oneeyed giants, multi-headed dragons, and a guy who is shall we say—bull-headed! I grew up to know them as centaurs, cyclopses, hydras, and minotaurs. Someone forgot to tell me that they were real, however! I also anticipate running into the water god, that two-headed dog, and those pesky harpies. I only wish those three hags could have told me where Hera planned to deploy these demons . . .

As a good Greek citizen, I am well aware of my country's layout. And, I bet I'll need to be as I'm not exactly sure where I

need to end up. Something about a boat I think, or maybe that was just a dream. Anyway, I've already been to the normal places like Athens, Thebes, Thermopylae, and Eleusis. One of my first destinations will be to seek advice from the oracle at Delphi. It's really far away on foot, but I'll work on my dexterity, strength, and stamina as I go. Perhaps a shortcut through the fabled underground could help speed things up. In the end, I intend to check everywhere before I face Medusa.

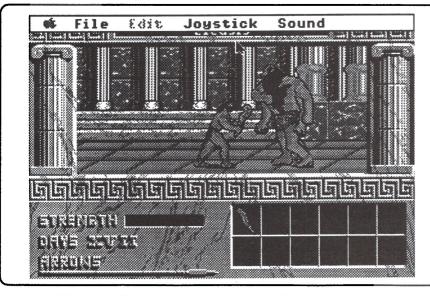
#### How To Survive The Five Trials

Athena swears that I shouldn't even think of seeking the head of Medusa without first surviving five tests. Successful completion of these tasks will reward me with useful magical items that could really help me out. Funny thing, she also referred to those childhood horror stories of mine. I'd better go back and think about how those fiends were supposed to be defeated, because Athena won't permit my ascension to godhood without getting that head! I hope those rewards include some really good armor and equipment!

Boy, I can really feel as if I'm being guided by the hand of a god as I head out on these five quests. I'm not sure whether they'd be using a keyboard or joystick, but I bet whoever's controlling me enjoys the ease of movement. I even feel as if time freezes every once and awhile! Weird. Well, that's okay because sometimes even the cool sounds of my surroundings get on my nerves. The one thing I hate is spending a lot of time on something just to be forced to start all over! I wish I could save my position every now and then. That'd be a great feature in my life! Oh, well.

#### I'm Off!

Enough of this musing. Time is of the essence, because I've only got seventeen days to trade Medusa's head for eternal life. Whoa, a lightning bolt just fried a scorpion up ahead! This could be a lot of fun if nature keeps helping out like that. Oops, I spoke to soon. A spearman seems to have dropped from the sky! I think he wants a word with me. Hey, you should still come along—it'll only cost you twenty drachmae. That's a bargain for all this glory. Come on, think about the rewards! An opportunity like this doesn't come to both ancient Greece and the IIGS world often. Wait a minute, that's right . . . I'm Greek not Roman. Shouldn't I call myself Heracles? Next thing you'll know, they'll be stealing our legends and renaming them! GS+



#### **Apple Extended Keyboard**

Retail price: \$185 Typical mail-order price: \$119 (refurbished)

Available from: Sun Remarketing P.O. Box 4059 Logan UT 84323-4059 (800) 821-3221

Reviewed by Bill Moore

Although limited in it's usefulness in some situations, an extended keyboard can be a very useful thing to have hooked up to your Apple IIGS. With a full set of keys, an extended keyboard can be a real timesaver with the correct software. And who better to get a keyboard from than Apple? Although pricey, Apple's products are durable, and you know it'll work. One good way to beat the price problem is to buy refurbished Apple equipment from a place such as Sun remarketing, or Shreve Systems.

Last spring, I took the plunge and purchased an OmniMac keyboard from Sun. Although a very nice keyboard, it had one extremely annoying problem. It refused to pass a control-reset sequence properly to the IIGS. Command and option were ignored if they were pressed. It became really annoying to keep two keyboards on my desk (my original IIGS keyboard, along with the OmniMac) to get any work done. Finally, I reached my limit of tolerance, and asked Sun for a trade-in on an original Apple extended (In development, this keyboard. keyboard's code name inside Apple was Saratoga, presumably because it seems like it's about the size of an aircraft carrier on your desk. Thus, I'll refer to this keyboard as Saratoga from here on out.) The deed was done, and I am now reviewing the very unit my fingers now dance on writing this review.

#### Extend Yourself. . .

Some folks might be asking "Why bother with an extended keyboard?" Well, there is the benefit of having a layout identical to most PC-style keyboards, which can definitely be a heavenly godsend for PC Transporter users. For those who have macro programs such as, TimeOut UltraMacros, MacroMate, or Shortcuts by Softdisk G-S, an extended keyboard gives you lots and lots of keys that you can assign macros to. Another really nice thing about the Saratoga is its dual set of Control, Option, and Command keys on either side of the spacebar. With these, your hands doesn't need do to calisthenics in order to issue commands like print or

open. Plus, almost any command can be done one-handed without having to stretch your fingers wide enough to palm a basketball.

I can hear the skeptics now: "So why get an Apple keyboard, when other compatibles can be had from places like MacWarehouse cheaper?" I thought along these same lines until the first time I had to reset my computer with the OmniMac hooked up to it. With an Apple keyboard, you know it'll work, period. The Saratoga is compatible with any Apple IIGS or Mac you'll ever stumble across, so long as they have an ADB port. Another reason I like this keyboard is appearance. This is personal preference. but I like this Apple unit sitting on my desk more than that huge gray steel leviathan called the OmniMac, and it's much better than the diminutive keyboard Apple provided me when I bought my IIGS. Although this keyboard winds up costing more than third-party ADB extended keyboards, it's still the most inexpensive keyboard with Apple's logo on it. Finally, whatever else you may say about Apple, they do build stuff to last. I can rest easy knowing that this unit probably won't give me any hardware trouble, unless I do something stupid like spill tea on it. To combat this possibility, there's a "keyboard condom" on its way. (See the article "IIGS Maintenance Part I: The Mouse and Keyboard" in GS+ V5.N2)

In my opinion, there's a lot to like about this unit. I've played with an ADB Extended Keyboard II (the current model from Apple), and this keyboard has the same quiet tactile keys and feel of that unit—at almost half the price. Actually, there's very little difference between this unit and the Extended Keyboard II.

Mylar templates are available for this keyboard to fit over the function key area, allowing you to write down your assignments for function keys. Buying a used keyboard like I did means you probably won't get a template with it. If you simply can't go on without one, many Apple dealers can order the template as a spare part. I did this at a dealer here in Chattanooga, and the template set me back six bucks and tax.

All is not beer and pretzels with me and the Saratoga, however. One gripe that I do have is the fact that this unit's height is not adjustable in any way unlike the Extended Keyboard II. The height is pretty close to what I'd set it to anyway if it were adjustable, so it's not a huge concern of mine. But everyone has his or her own preference, and I am well aware

that one size does not fit all. So try one out if possible before buying.

Another thing that got my goat—when the Saratoga showed up at my doorstep, all Sun had done was shrink-wrap the keyboard and cable, then they shipped it to me. No one had touched the thing with any kind of cleaning apparatus. In other words, it was filthy. Externally, it looked pretty bad. Once I opened it up, I discovered it was so dirty that I was amazed it worked. After four and a half hours of cleaning, it looked great. However, that's an experience I never want to have to repeat.

The final thing that aggravates me is Apple's fault, but the blame lies in the software rather than hardware division. Apple's support of extended keyboards in the IIGS System software is practically non-existent. Third-party extensions such as the NDA Shortcuts by Nathan Mates (published in Softdisk G-S #46) help this a bit, but there are rough spots on the road you'll have to travel to use the special keys on an extended keyboard. Support of an extended keyboard varies from program to program. Some, like our own EGOed, have very good support.

The single most annoying problem is the one I've had the most trouble reproducing. Sometimes when an extended key is pressed, it keeps repeating unitl a regular key is pressed. Diz also has an extended keyboard, and so we've done tests, and discovered that this problem is most likely a System 6 bug. Aside from this problem, there's also the fact that few programs will actually support special extended keyboard functions. I realize that IIGS owners with an extended keyboard are a small group within a small group, but it would still be awfully nice to see existing software updated, and new software written with extended keyboards in mind. A specific example would be AppleWorks GS 2.0.

#### Conclusion

If you're in the market for an extended keyboard, I would highly recommend the Apple "Saratoga" extended keyboard. It has a very nice feel, is easy to clean (four screws and a hinge keep it together), and at these prices, is quite a value. Some companies (Shreve Systems, for example) offer both the original Saratoga model and the newer Extended Keyboard II for the same price. If that's the case, get the Keyboard II. It fixes every gripe I have about my Saratoga keyboard, and is an even better bargain.

# A World of Information for your Apple IIGS...

Sequential Systems would like to introduce you to DiscQUEST™, your access to the exploding world of information now available on CD-ROM. Lately, you've probably been hearing a lot about the world of Multi-Media CD-ROM and perhaps you assumed that you and your Apple IIGS were just out of luck. NOT!

With DiscQUEST™ software by Sequential Systems, you now can access literally **THOUSANDS of MEGABYTES** of Text, Graphics and Audio data currently available on CD-ROM. And since **DiscQUEST™ uses Standard, Off-the-shelf CD-ROMS for MAC** & MS-DOS, and a standard SCSI CD-ROM drive, your investment in Multi-Media will be intact for virtually any computer you'll be using down the road!

With DiscQUEST™ you can quickly search by word, title, author, graphic, etc. from thousands of articles on many popular CD-ROM titles like Creative MultiMedia's "Family Doctor" & "Parenting" or Bureau Development's "Great Literature" series. (Call us for a complete list of supported titles.) Buy DiscQUEST software for your CD-ROM system or buy our DiscQUEST™ Bundle, which includes DiscQUEST software, an auto-eject CD-ROM Drive, 4 CD-ROM titles, and our RamFAST™ SCSI interface for Apple IIGS and you'll be searching through GigaBytes of data faster than a MAC LCII!







(Actual screen shots from DiscQuest™ and "The Family Doctor")

With RAMFAST"



A World of Information for Your Apple IIGS...



#### AudioClips Terminator™ 2 - Judgement Day Star Trek™ - The Logical Collection

IIGS conversions by Bill Moore

Retail price: \$24.95 each or \$39.95 for both

Requires System 6 or later and approximately 2.5MB of disk space for all sounds in each package.

Sound Source Unlimited 2985 E. Hillcrest Dr. Suite A Westlake Village, CA 91362 (800) 877-4778

Reviewed by Jon Remilard

I Suggest You Study This

If, like myself, you've been following the Scavenger series of articles here in GS+ Magazine, you've probably begun to hang out in the software stores, wondering which Mac and PC packages you can really get some use out of. While you were there, you've probably seen lots of packages containing sound samples for use with Windows and the Mac. And, if you've looked closely at these packages, you've probably seen the same publisher's name on lots of them: Sound Source Unlimited (SSU). Well, the good news is that, with a little work, you can use the sounds in these packages with your IIGS. (See "Catch the .WAV: A Guide to Scavenging Sound Files" in GS+ V4.N6 for complete details).

However, thanks to SSU and Bill Moore, you don't have to do any work to use the Terminator 2 - Judgement Day, and Star Trek "The Logical Collection" packages with your IIGS! That's right, SSU has actually converted these sound collections specifically for use with the IIGS!

#### Did It Work?

Each of these packages contains approximately 2.5MB of sound samples (which are called "AudioClips" by SSU) on three disks. The sounds are all packed with GS-ShrinkIt into self-extracting archives. This means that you don't need to have GS-ShrinkIt to unpack the files, you just double-click on the archives and they unpack themselves! Another nice touch is that each package comes with the freeware program Finder-Sounder (written by Mike Fleming). This is a Finder extension that allows you to hear any rSoundSample sound file (including AudioClips) just by double-clicking on them. This is a nice touch, because it means that you don't have to use the Sound control panel to listen to all of the sounds. (Using the Sound control panel

to listen to sounds is awkward, and it requires that the sounds you want to listen to be on your boot disk.)

Unlike many products that are converted from another computer for use on the IIGS, these AudioClips packages come with manuals written specifically for the IIGS. The manual covers installation of the sounds, how to play them back using the Sound control panel, and troubleshooting any problems that you may have. The manual also includes a list of all of the events that the Sound control panel can play sounds for.

In addition to the standard manual (which is the same for each package), each different AudioClips collection comes with a separate sheet listing all of the sounds in the package, along with their ProDOS file names on disk.

#### **Leave That Alone**

The only concern I have about these packages is that they each come with a pre-configured settings file for the Sound control panel. This settings file is intended for people that don't already have their systems set up to play custom sounds for certain events. But, if you do already have your Sound control panel customized, and you aren't overly careful during installation, this settings file can overwrite your normal settings. However, this situation is explained in the manual, and if you follow the manual's installation instructions, you should not have any problem. (Even if you do accidentally overwrite your old sound settings, you can use the Sound control panel to easily set them back to the way you want them.)

#### Excellent

By now, you are probably wondering,

"How do these sounds, sound?" They sound great! According to the AudioClips manual, these sounds were originally recorded straight from the original soundtrack tapes (in the case of the Star Trek sounds) or from laser disc. The result (as far as my ears are concerned) is that the sound that comes out of your IIGS is a flawless reproduction of the original. The only thing that might bother some folks is that these sounds aren't in stereo, but hey, I can live with that.

#### It Has To End Here

The bottom line is: if you are a IIGS sound junkie, and you are a fan of Start Trek and/or Arnie, you will absolutely love having these sounds on your IIGS. Just imagine ejecting a disk and having your IIGS say, "I'll be back." Or, hearing the classic Star Trek "Red Alert" sound whenever your IIGS presents you with an error message! It's great!

With new titles for the IIGS on the decline, we all owe Sound Source Unlimited a vote of thanks for taking the time and effort to convert these great sounds to the IIGS! I can only hope that they sell enough of these two products to convert move of their packages to the IIGS! So, what are you waiting for? Give SSU a call!

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#### GNO/ME™ 2.0

(GNO Multitasking Environment)
By Jawaid Bazyar (kernel), Tim Meekins
(shell), and Derek Taubert (kernel support
and utilities)

Retail price: \$89 (Resource Central) Upgrade: \$30 (Procyon) Not copy-protected Requires: 2MB RAM, 5MB of disk space. 4MB RAM and an Accelerator are recommended.

Procyon Enterprises, Inc. P.O. Box 620334 Littleton, CO 80162 Phone: (303) 781-3273

Reviewed by David M. Tribby

GNO/ME is Procyon's UNIX-like multitasking environment for the Apple IIGS. (UNIX is a registered trademark of UNIX Systems Laboratories Inc. in the U.S.A. and other countries.) With its kernel, command interpreter, libraries, and nearly 100 utilities, it is a formidable software package, primarily targeted at program developers. A novice user should expect to spend at least some time reading some of the 18 books in the introductory manual's "Reading List." Although most people will be entering fundamental commands fairly quickly, it does require study and experimentation in order to take complete advantage of all of the features in a product that is this complex.

#### Genesis of Nifty Offshoot

Operating Systems may have been the most stimulating computer class that I took while I was in college. The "secrets" of writing complex code were revealed: memory allocation, dispatching, timeslicing, I/O systems, etc. After taking an Operating Systems class, many students figure that, given enough time, they too can write a fairly decent system on their

In the 1980s, UNIX became the operating system that was most often studied in the universities. Written by software gurus for other hackers, it helped to evolve and bring about numerous software development utilities (most with very cryptic interfaces). A UNIX "philosophy" emerged: write programs that each perform a focused task, then string these programs together in order to accomplish a big job. For example the "more" program displays a page of text, waits for the user to press a key, then displays the next page. By using "more" as a back-end processor, other programs don't have to worry about the details of presenting text to users.

Making this philosophy work requires efficient flow of data from one program to the next. The UNIX pipe takes output from one process and makes it the input to another while both processes execute simultaneously. UNIX's multitasking environment also allows multiple users to access the system simultaneously, or allows a single user to complete multiple tasks at the same time.

Computer science students familiar with the Apple II fantasized about porting UNIX to the IIGS. After all, the original UNIX systems (developed by AT&T in the late 1960s) ran on much less powerful processors with limited memory. Since ORCA/C provides a C compiler and many standard library routines, shouldn't it be a simple matter of programming to get something close to UNIX up and running? Older and wiser experts knew the job would be nearly impossible: UNIX requires multitasking, something unavailable from GS/OS; and the modern UNIX kernel has grown to require many megabytes of memory.

A group of programmers led by Jawaid Bazyar somehow made this dream a reality. By mid-1991 they had formed Procyon and were shipping Alpha versions of the multitasking environment they named GNO, a takeoff on the Free Software Foundation's GNU operating system. (GNU stands for "GNU, Not UNIX" while GNO stands for "GNO, Not ORCA.") Targeted at the command-line interface rather than the desktop, GNO makes it possible to run several programs simultaneously. (One of these can be a desktop program.) Several popular UNIX libraries were provided with GNO, and a significant number of UNIX utilities were ported. GNO version 1.0 began shipping in early 1992, and version 2.0 followed in September 1993. (By November of 1993,

Procyon had fixed several minor problems and made version 2.0.3 available to customers.)

#### **Great New OS**

The major pieces of the GNO system are:

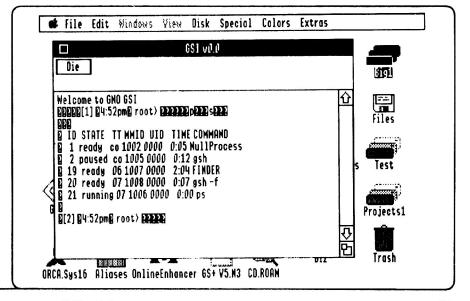
Kernel: this is the fundamental piece of GNO software. It manages such things as multitasking time-slicing (20 times per second), context switching, and pipes (plus other types of inter-process communication). It also intercepts some GS/OS file system and Toolbox calls, allowing programs to execute simultaneously without interfering with one another. The kernel runs as a GS/OS application.

Shell: gsh, the GNO shell, allows users to interact with the kernel through keyboard commands. Additionally, it provides command history and editing, expands command line arguments, moves processes to the background or foreground, and establishes pipes between processes.

Utilities: GNO ships with dozens of utility programs, including many popular UNIX programs such as cat, compress, grep, more, less, nroff, strings, tar, time, uniq, and vi. It provides a minimal, though workable, version of make. Many of these utilities take advantage of GNO features and will not run with other shells, such as ORCA's.

Man pages: GNO has UNIX's on-line help system, man, which provides formatted manual pages for programs and libraries. GNO's man system accepts the standard nroff-embedded commands and files formatted by AppleWorks GS.

Libraries & Headers: included with GNO are library and C header files



implementing calls from Berkeley UNIX, as well as some modifications to header files shipped with ORCA/C.

Drivers: GNO has its own drivers (used by the kernel) to access the console and modem. These implement some of the advanced library features. GNO uses GS/OS drivers and File System Translators to access disks.

Multi-user package: version 2.0 provides password logins and multiple accounts. Two different users can be logged on at the same time, one on the console and the other through the serial port. (Since this package is entirely optional and I am the only one using my IIGS, I have left it off of my own system and will not comment on it further.)

Desk Accessories: the GNO Snooper CDA aids debugging of programming problems. Two NDAs help support GNO in the desktop environment. The Graphical Shell Interface provides access to gsh from a text window. Suspend causes the desktop program to "freeze" into the background and brings the text shell to the foreground. (Use the "fg" command to resume execution of the desktop program.)

Printed documentation: in addition to a short introduction, the GNO documentation includes a 38 page Kernel manual, 57 pages on the GNO shell, and 97 "man" pages on utilities and subroutines.

#### **Getting Newly Operational**

Installation of GNO 2.0 is amazingly simple if you have a couple of megabytes available on your hard disk. The software comes on three 3.5-inch disks. The first disk includes a minimal version of GNO,

which you copy to your hard disk. GNO then uses an installation script to install the compressed software from the three disks. The entire process takes perhaps ten minutes.

If you boot into the Finder, double-click on the "kern" (for kernel) program icon to enter GNO. (You can also choose to set up your system to boot directly into GNO.) If you installed correctly, you will find yourself in gsh, the GNO shell command interpreter. As you become familiar with the available utilities, you will be able to do things such as

fgrep "alloc(" \*.c | more

to find all the memory allocation calls in the C source code found in the current directory; or

make &

to compile in the background while you do something else.

#### **GNO? Not ORCA**

GNO does not replace ORCA, the family of programming languages and utilities created for the Apple II by The Byte Works Inc. GNO includes no compilers of its own, but it has been engineered to be compatible with ORCA's languages and utilities. In fact, one of the major reasons for GNO v2.0 was support for the 2.0 versions of ORCA/M, ORCA/C, and ORCA/Pascal.

Users of the ORCA shell will find the transition to gsh relatively painless. By making ORCA's utilities directory an entry in the PATH variable, gsh will be able to find and execute those programs. About the only reason to use the ORCA shell is for some of its built-in commands

that have no counterpart in gsh (compress and switch are the only ones I use) or to execute an ORCA shell script.

Once you become familiar with gsh, you will probably not use the ORCA shell very often. Here are a few of the things GNO has that ORCA lacks:

The pipes and process controls mentioned earlier

Ability to terminate any process with the kill character (usually control-C, but changeable by users), the kill command, or using the GNO Snooper CDA

Command history is saved when exiting the shell

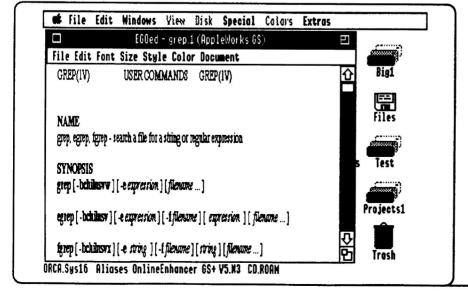
Command-line parameter expansion by the shell is automatic (makes writing programs that read arguments from the command line extremely easy)

GSH searches all directories in the PATH variable to find executable files (not just the current directory and utilities)

**Gauging Nimble Oratory** 

Procyon calls GNO "our amazing UNIX implementation for the Apple IIGS. Certainly, anyone who is familiar with the UNIX environment will feel at home using GNO. Although the list of UNIX utilities is impressive, it is not quite complete. Four major pieces of missing UNIX functionality are the awk, diff, find, and sort programs; in addition, GNO's make is extremely simple compared to its UNIX counterpart. There is C code publicly available for each of these programs, but the complexity of the source code structure (extremely large case statements, for example) and an assumption of 32-bit integers makes them incompatible with ORCA/C. (These incompatibilities haven't kept programmers from porting many UNIX utilities to GNO, and these five may some day be available.)

GNO's multitasking emulates UNIX's, but the limitations of an unaccelerated IIGS become quite apparent with only a few competing processes. Version 2.0 does contain performance improvements that makes pipes work much more efficiently, but you will still need an accelerator in order to take real advantage of multitasking. (My 8MHz/64K Zip board provides plenty of horsepower for three simultaneous processes.) Even when the IIGS can deliver enough computing bandwidth, multitasking may be limited by available stack space and main memory.



The shell's lack of control statements (if/then and loops) limits its usefulness for creating command files, but gsh's job control, use of regular expressions, and command history are similar to those in UNIX's csh shell.

GNO does not implement the UNIX file system, but relies upon GS/OS and its various File System Translators for access to disks. (I have used GNO utilities to list directories and read files from ProDOS, HFS, Pascal, and MS-DOS disks.) Procyon deals with GS/OS-specific issues by modifying some UNIX commands (for example, an ls -l directory listing includes flags for ProDOS characteristics rather than user/group/other permissions) or by providing new commands (chtyp changes a file's type and auxiliary type).

One of the amazing additions to v2.0 is the emulation of the directory structure that many UNIX programs assume is present (/usr, /bin, /etc, /tmp, /user, /dev, and /var). GNO uses the /etc/namespaces file to map these names to files in your system. I have /tmp set to my RAM disk; whenever I refer to a file on /tmp the file is actually accessed on /RAM5.

#### Good News On-line

Procyon provides excellent on-line support in both areas I use: the Internet and GEnie. On the Internet, Jawaid Bazyar and many other knowledgeable users provide quick answers to questions in the comp.sys.apple2.gno news group. Jawaid is also active in the A2Pro (Apple II Programmer) area of GEnie, particularly in Procyon's category 30. In addition to answering questions, Procyon uses the electronic media to distribute product updates, new utilities, and source code. GNO's documentation lists the following contacts:

America OnLine: GNOJawaid, GNOTim2

GEnie: Procyon.Inc

Internet: bazyar@cs.uiuc.edu Delphi: JAWAIDB

GNO has caught on with a number of programmers (particularly on the Internet), and they have produced numerous freeware packages. Many mimic UNIX utilities or make connecting to UNIX systems much easier. Philip Vandry's work with access via modem and Ian Schmidt's shell access NDA are two that are particularly noteworthy.

#### **Gripes & Negative Observations**

Although GNO has been well engineered, it does have some characteristics that might thwart inexperienced users.

Some programs that work well from the ORCA shell may seem to lose typed characters when run under GNO. This is usually because they read the keyboard hardware locations directly rather than going through the console driver or text tools. Discovering that a program doesn't work can be irritating, but the fix for such programs is to change the auxiliary file type to \$DC00 using the command:

chtyp -a \\$DC00 filename

ORCA's editor cannot determine the correct language type when run from gsh. When editing several files of different languages or creating a new file, the editor may not save the source file with the correct language type. I sometimes have to enter the commands:

chtyp -l C \*.c \*.h
chtyp -l Rez \*.rez

to change the language type so the compile command will choose the correct compiler.

GNO will not run ProDOS 8 programs and, it will also handle only one desktop program at a time. (Procyon's SwitchIt! program can be that program, however, and it can switch among other desktop applications.)

The many programs available for GNO provide a lot of functionality, but it is difficult to keep track of the various versions of each one, and Procyon does not provide a lot of help with this task.

Many of the rough edges can be worked out through the on-line services mentioned above. For example, I posted a problem with the edit command: even though the ORCA v2.0 editor allows multiple files, gsh would complain when more than one name was entered on the command line. Within a day, another user posted a replacement edit command that fixed the problem.

#### Go/No-go . . . Oh!

I have used GNO for over two years and find it excellent for program development. Non-programmers might find some of the utilities useful, but it does not seem to be targeted toward that market. Users with minimal systems (no hard disk and limited RAM) will probably be frustrated with GNO's performance.

Rank novices will have a steep learning curve before they master GNO's features, but the documentation will provide enough information so that most people will be doing the fundamentals fairly quickly.

Anyone who uses the ORCA v2.0 shell should consider getting GNO; the languages and utilities you are familiar with will continue to work, but you will be able to take advantage of a whole new group of productivity tools.

Those who are still using GNO v1.0 should contact Procyon and order the new version for \$30 plus shipping (\$3 in US, \$8 overseas). The bug fixes, enhancements, performance improvements, integration with ORCA v2.0, and additional utilities are well worth the price.

GNO would also be a useful product for Apple IIGS owners who want to learn about UNIX. For a relatively inexpensive investment you get an implementation that includes most features, and one that goes a long way toward allowing communication with other UNIX systems. Those already familiar with UNIX will find out that GNO is a familiar environment that increases the usefulness of your IIGS.

GS+

#### **HP DeskWriter 550C Printer**

Generally available for: \$589

Manufactured by: Hewlett-Packard Company 18110 SE 34th Street Camas, WA 98607 (800) 752-0900 Customer Information (208) 323-2551 Customer Support

This printer operates in conjunction with an Apple IIGS only when using: Harmonie H.P. - GS/OS Printer Driver Software for Hewlett-Packard printers

Generally available for: \$24.95

Published by: Vitesse, Inc. P.O. Box 929 La Puenta, CA 91749-0929 (818) 813-1270

Vitesse also sells packages of software and Hewlett-Packard printers together (including the 550C) at prices that appear attractive when considering the lack of sales tax (outside of California). There is also a full blown version of Harmonie that includes the HP drivers as well as many other printer drivers for use in conjunction with the Apple IIGS. The full version (not needed for the 550C) is generally available for \$39.95.

Reviewed (slowly) by Greg Zimmerman.

"Colors speak all languages!"

Joseph Addison, The Spectator (1711-1712)

Are you tired of the dot dot dot of your ImageWriter II color printer? But you've hesitated moving to a higher resolution laser printer because that would mean giving up the color? Looking to upgrade that old Epson, but don't know which way to go? Well, there is an answer for you... and you too. It's not exactly a cheap answer, but the best things in life are not always free!

# What Is An HP DeskWriter 550C Printer, What Is Harmonie, And Why Should I Care About All This Stuff Anyway?

The 550°C (for short) is a color ink jet printer made by one of America's true industrial giants. It wasn't brought to market with the IIGS in mind, but the good people at Vitesse have published printer drivers that will allow the IIGS to print to the 550°C. This is good news for IIGS owners, because the output quality of the 550°C far exceeds the quality of an ImageWriter II printer, as well as most of the other non-laser printers commonly

used by IIGS owners. When printing strictly black type, the 550C prints at a quality level which is comparable to many laser printers.

# This Sounds Too Good To Be True! Is Life Still As Simple As "Plug And Play" In This Ever More Complicated World?

Well, it is pretty simple, but there are some drawbacks and some requirements. Let's start with the requirements:

You'll have to have at least System Software v5.0 or later. That's easy enough. If you are reading this magazine, I'd say it's a safe bet you will be at least as up to date as v5.0. You'll also need at least one megabyte of RAM. Again, no problem as far as I can tell. Those are about the only absolute requirements for your system configuration, though as usual, things will move along a lot faster with minor items such as hard drives and accelerator cards.

#### What Is An Inkjet Anyway?

An inkjet printer uses cartridges of ink. The ink is forced out of small nozzles in the bottom of the cartridge onto the paper to form the letters or pictures that you want to print. The 550C is capable of resolutions as high as 300 d.p.i. (dots per inch) which is the same resolution as many lower priced laser printers on the market today. [This issue of GS+ Magazine was printed at 300 d.p.i. - Ed.] The difference is that when the inkjet "sprays" the ink on the paper, the ink tends to be absorbed by the paper and run slightly as it dries. The more absorbent the paper, the more this slight "run" negatively effects the final print quality. So a 300 d.p.i. inkjet printer may not give quite the same results as a 300 d.p.i. laser printer. Items that will effect the final output include the type of ink in the cartridge, the type of paper you are using in your printer (special papers are available which give much better results), as well as the kind of image you are printing. Solid images that cover areas larger than normal type can use so much ink that the page is somewhat soaked. This causes the paper to curl, or get waves in it. Most inkjet ink is water soluble, and will run if you get it wet later.

# Color? How Many Inks Are In The Printer?

The 550C uses two different ink cartridges. One contains all black ink. The other contains three color inks; cyan, yellow, and magenta. The black and color inks are mixed to form other colors. By varying the amount of the black and the three colors in the mix, and also by dithering the colors as it applies the ink to

the page, the 550C can produce just about any color you may want to see. In my case this is easy for the 550C to do; I'm seriously color blind.

Anyway, this is the print equivalent of what your RGB monitor does with red, green, and blue to display different colors on the screen of the monitor. Instead of RGB color values, the printer produces CYMK color values. One of the challenges in printing color is to get the CYMK color that your printer applies to the paper, to match as closely as possible the RGB value displayed on the screen.

# Wait A Minute, Why is "Resolution" important?

The more dots that your printer can squeeze into each square inch of a page, the finer the detail your printed output will be. The smaller the dots, the smoother the edges, and the smoother the separation of colors, shades, and patterns. So the higher the number of dots of ink in a given area, the better the quality generally is. The number of dots in each square inch is called the "resolution."

So 300 d.p.i. is generally better than 75 d.p.i. Of course, there are ancillary considerations, such as the ones I mentioned above when explaining how an inkjet works. That's why a 360 d.p.i. StyleWriter II may not produce as high quality output as some 300 d.p.i. laser printers.

#### What About The 550C?

The 550C is a very easy to use inkjet printer. You start with an installation of the Harmonie printer driver software on your IIGS. Using the Installer provided by Vitesse, the whole process takes less than one minute. You then select the special driver which you've installed, and you select the printer type in the DC Printer Control Panel. The special driver overrides the settings of your printer port, so if you are switching between the 550C and possibly your old ImageWriter II, you shouldn't have to readjust the port settings each time you change printers.

Why would you be switching between printers? The main reason is that the Harmonie driver software only works with GS/OS applications that print using the Print Manager. This means that ProDOS 8 programs such as AppleWorks and Publish It; and desktop applications that do not use the Print Manager (like Word Perfect GS and Print Shop GS) will not work with Harmonie. However, Vitesse is working on patches for these specific four programs to enable them to print to the 550C. Vitesse hopes these patches will be available by the end of March.

Set-up of the 550C takes 5 to 15 minutes, depending on how familiar you are with printers, and with "stuff" in general. Unpacking is the most time consuming aspect of the set-up. There is a power plug, the cable to connect to the IIGS, the two print cartridges to install, and you're off to the races. Did I say "races"?

Is The Thing Really Fast?

NO! Printing at high resolutions requires more time than printing at low resolutions. The driver software scales fonts up and down and around to do it's thing, and all of this takes time. Fortunately, the dialog box that the software produces allows you to choose from amongst different resolutions (quality) levels, so that you can decide if you want to speed things up or go for the highest (slowest) quality. You also get the chance to adjust the color settings, and some other good stuff (if you have time) to fine tune the final images that the printer will produce. Finally, if you plow your way through the Harmonie Manual, you'll learn about a bunch of other stuff that you never knew you didn't know, including resident fonts, external rendering, color factors, and some other serious stuff for people that are so inclined.

#### Other Stuff You Should Know

If you are used to printing with an ImageWriter II, you'll be amazed at how much more quiet the 550C is, so quiet, in fact, that it seems to have more "finesse."

Also, the 550C does not use perforated printer paper, it uses plain paper, including the same stuff that most people use in their photocopy machines. Envelopes are pretty easy to do with the 550C, and the printer will hold about 100 pages of paper.

The possibility of buying an HP printer from Vitesse should not be overlooked even if the cost is slightly higher than some other option. Try calling HP, or any HP dealer and start talking about the Apple IIGS. You may get as dumbfounded a look as you can get over the telephone. But if you buy the package from Vitesse, they know the software and the hardware, and they know what works, and how it works. That's a definite plus in the customer support area. By the way, did I mention "aspect ratios" as one of the things you'll get a chance to learn about?

#### One Little Headache (Or Two)

There is a problem with the current version of the printer driver, which Vitesse says is the result of a bug in QuickDraw (a System Software component). When in 640 mode, and attempting to print at resolutions at or over 150 d.p.i., problems can occur in that the final printed output may be off a couple of pixels from what you'd expect. There are a couple of work arounds, especially for users that have software which allows switching resolutions, such as Platinum Paint. However, users of AppleWorks GS have limited options.

Also, the driver software does not support networking. This is an inconvenience especially in view of the limitations of the driver software wherein only GS/OS applications are supported. A typical user might be using some ProDOS 8 and ProDOS 16 applications and want to switch back and forth between an ImageWriter II (or some other printer) and the 550C. The 550C has built in AppleTalk support, so addressing this problem should be easy (for me to say) for Vitesse to address in future releases of the software. Until that hoped for time, the AB switch is the only practical option.

# Would You Buy This Printer (And The Driver Software)?

That's not a fair question for me because I already own the printer. But, there are serious questions to be answered as you start looking at spending \$600 or so to buy a printer and driver software that is going to be used with a IIGS that cannot fully utilize the quality of the printer with all popular IIGS software.

I would be jumping up and down screaming BUY if the driver software worked with the Big 4 ProDOS applications listed above, and if the driver software supported networking. On the other hand, Vitesse has continued to improve many of it's products for the IIGS, and the company has said it hopes to release patches (or an updated driver) soon which will allow printing to the 550C with those applications. Networking? That's the wave of the future and of the present. This is a serious drawback.

On the other hand, if you want the best quality in color printing with your IIGS, as far as I know, this is the only option. The quality can be stunning, especially compared to the ImageWriter II. I think I'm a little bit spoiled with the IIGS, the ease of use of all it's components, and the compatibility of all the stuff that makes up my IIGS system. I just expect everything to work, and to work in a way that a normal user would use the stuff. This combination doesn't qualify in this regard, solely because the driver software doesn't fully utilize the features of the printer.

So, is the glass half full or half empty? If you want the best no matter what, it's half full. If you want it all, it's half empty.

GS+

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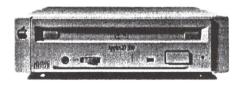
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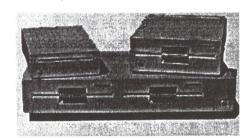
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#### HyperLogo By Mike Westerfield

Retail price: \$95

Requires System 6 or later and HyperStudio v3.01 or later. Current version is 1.0.1. If you have version 1.0, contact The Byte Works for a free upgrade.

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Reviewed by Steven W. Disbrow

I've worked with a lot of computer languages in my time but I must say that I've never seen anything quite like HyperLogo—unless you count 3D Logo, which I just reviewed in the last issue of GS+ Magazine. Just like 3D Logo, HyperLogo is an implementation of the Logo language that has extensions which allow it to display 3D images and "movies" on your IIGS screen. Unlike 3D Logo, HyperLogo is not a stand alone product, it is a "plug-in" language for HyperStudio.

#### Fraternal Twins

HyperLogo and 3D Logo have a lot in common: they were written by the same person, they are both very good implementations the Logo of programming language, and they are both published by The Byte Works. But the similarities don't end there! The manuals for each product are virtually identical, and the programs that you write with one will run with the other package with little or no modification. In fact, the only place these products really differ is in their intended audience. So, since these products are so incredibly alike, I'm going to forego the discussion of the Logo programming language that I did in my review of 3D Logo, and get right into what makes this product different: the HyperStudio environment. (If you are completely in the dark about Logo, see the 3D Logo review in the last issue for an explanation. Everything that I said about Logo in that review applies equally to HyperLogo.)

Separated At Birth

The main difference between 3D Logo and HyperLogo is that 3D Logo is a stand alone application and HyperLogo runs from inside HyperStudio. This is a big difference, but if you get to use both products, you probably won't even notice it. About the only things that 3D Logo has that you might miss in HyperLogo are

that HyperLogo can not switch to 320 mode, and that HyperLogo can not create stand alone applications.

However, these "limitations" probably won't be a problem for most users. Very few HyperStudio stacks use 320 mode for anything other than displaying graphics, and since you are actually *inside* HyperStudio, you have access to all its stack building features, which are actually more powerful and flexible than the applications that 3D Logo can create.

So, while these are differences that you need to be aware of, they really aren't that big of a deal.

The HyperStudio Interface

Now that we've gotten all of the "twin" jokes out of the way, lets talk about how HyperLogo actually works with HyperStudio. In a word, it's seamless.

In fact, you use HyperLogo just as you would use SimpleScript. (If you don't know what SimpleScript is, put this magazine down and go read your HyperStudio manuals. None of what I'm about to say will have any meaning for you if you don't have some familiarity with SimpleScript.) All you do is create a new button, and in the Button Actions dialog, click on the Scripting Language check box. Then, choose HyperLogo from the list that comes up. When you do this, you will be taken into the HyperLogo environment, which is where you develop your Logo programs.

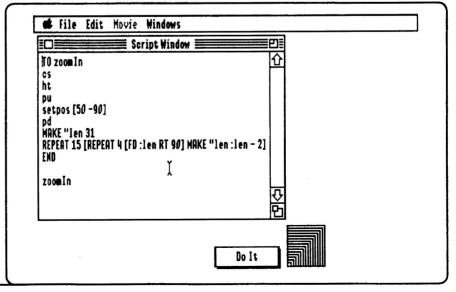
The HyperLogo environment is almost exactly the same as the 3D Logo environment, except that if you move all of the HyperLogo windows out of the way, you'll actually get to see your HyperStudio stack on the screen. This environment has the same types of

windows as 3D Logo: Text and Edit windows for creating Logo commands, turtle windows for viewing the output created by your Logo code and Movie windows that you can create animations in. And, best of all, these windows work just like their 3D Logo counterparts, which means that you can write your Logo code and execute it directly from inside the HyperLogo environment. This means that you can create and debug your button scripts without having to actually go back to HyperStudio! This is an extremely cool feature that SimpleScript just can't touch.

HyperLogo also has another type of window, the Script window, that shows exactly what your button script will contain when you return to HyperStudio. This allows you to develop and test your script in the Text and Edit windows, and, as you get bits of it working properly, you can then copy it into the Script window.

Of course, a HyperStudio button script isn't very useful if you can't make that script exercise some control over HyperStudio itself. HyperLogo lets you do this by providing an extensive set of HyperStudio "CallBacks" that let you use HyperLogo scripts to move around inside a stack, hide and show items, get text from a field, call NBA's and much more! These CallBacks are very well explained in the manual, very easy to use, and they give HyperLogo the same ability to control HyperStudio as SimpleScript has. While we are on the subject of CallBacks, this is a good time to mention that this is the one place where HyperLogo and 3D Logo actually differ. If you use a lot of CallBacks in your HyperLogo programs, you won't be able to automatically take those programs and use them with 3D Logo.

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#### 3D2

Even though it doesn't have "3D" in its name, HyperLogo also shares 3D Logo's ability to create 3D displays on the IIGS screen. As in 3D Logo, these displays are simple red and blue line drawings that appear three dimensional when viewed through a set of classic 3D glasses. (3D glasses are provided with every copy of 3D Logo and HyperLogo, and extra sets are available from The Byte Works. But, in a pinch, you can use any old pair you may have laying around the house.) As in my 3D Logo review, I'm not going to go into a detailed explanation of the 3D process—the HyperLogo manual does a fine job of explaining things. However, I will point out once again that the whole process of creating 3D graphics is almost completely painless (HyperLogo takes care of all the tricky math), and the results are pretty dam impressive. The HyperLogo package includes several demonstration programs that show off this capability in some very cool ways, so you don't have to start from scratch

#### Makin Movies

Once again, HyperLogo and 3D Logo share something in common: the ability to easily create "movies" and play them back. As in 3D Logo, HyperLogo movies are created one frame at a time in a special Movie window, and are then saved to a disk as standard PaintWorks animation files. So, not only can you use them in HyperLogo, you can use them with any other program that can play PaintWorks animations. Movies are also a good example of how HyperLogo helps to make HyperStudio a "one-stop creativity shop." Instead of having to use some other program to make your animations, you can create them while you are still inside HyperStudio. Of course, movies created

with HyperLogo are going to consist only of what you can actually draw with HyperLogo. This means that without some hard work, your movies will be limited to a few simple shapes moving around the screen. However, if you are willing to put in some time and effort, you can get more complex shapes (like molecules) for use in your movies. Again, movies can be in either two or three dimensions, and the results can be very impressive.

#### Distribution

One of the nice things about HyperStudio is that, thanks to the run-time module that comes with it, you've always been able to share your stacks with the world. Fortunately, HyperLogo also includes a run-time module that you can distribute just like you distribute the HyperStudio run-time module. The only additional step you need to take is to place The Byte Works copyright notice somewhere inside your stack so that users can see it when they run the stack.

#### **Problems**

For the most part, the only problems I have with HyperLogo are the same ones that I had with 3D Logo. However, since HyperLogo is not a stand alone product, two of the three problems I had with it (printing from 3D Logo applications and switching from 640 to 320 mode) no longer apply. And, since I wrote that review, The Byte Works has fixed the problem with blank lines inside Logo procedures making the Logo interpreter go crazy. So, that effectively eliminates all of the real bugs that there were in 3D Logo, but it leaves me with the fact that there is no good way to manage all of the windows that you can have open in the HyperLogo environment. As in the 3D

Logo environment, opening up more than two or three windows can quickly lead to a cluttered screen and more than a little confusion.

And, lest I forget, there is one real bug in HyperLogo: if you open a New Desk Accessory (NDA) while you are in HyperLogo, clicking the mouse anywhere on the screen results in the system beeping at you. You can still use the keyboard to control the NDA, but the mouse just won't work until you close the NDA window.

#### Conclusion

If you are a HyperStudio fanatic or just a HyperStudio user that has become frustrated with SimpleScript, you should definitely pick up a copy of HyperLogo. It is a solid and easy to use addition to the already powerful and flexible HyperStudio environment. And, it's a much more powerful programming language than SimpleScript. HyperLogo is also a good investment if you are going to be developing stacks for both the IIGS and Mac versions of HyperStudio.

Now if only we could get Hyper/C++. GS+

# **Errata**

In last issue's review of the Tulin Floptical Disk Drive, the sidebar "Using the Floptical Disk Drive With a PC Transporter" said that a program called SlotList.BAS was on the GS+ Disk. The actual name of the program was List.Volumes. For more additions and corrections to the Tulin Floptical Disk Drive review, see this issue's "Letters" column.

In last issue's reviews of 3D Logo and Prism, we neglected to include the minimum system requirements for each program. 3D Logo requires System 6.0 or later, at least 1.5MB of RAM, and takes up approximately 300K on disk. Prism requires System 6.0 or later, 1.25MB of RAM, and takes up 600K on disk. Neither product is copy protected.

In last issue's "GS+ Classifieds" section, in the ad for "MusicWriter Fonts," we inadvertantly messed up the contact address. For corrected contact information, see the "GS+ Classifieds" section in this issue.

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Reviewed by Bill Moore

**Bigger** is Better

Last January, I finally became a member of the hard drive club. And let me tell you, it was almost as much fun as joining the mile-high club would be! For a brief time, my 40MB Q-Drive was a little slice of heaven. Forty whole megabytes! How would I ever fill that up? Well, I found out . . . much more quickly than I ever expected. A mere two weeks later, I had to do what would become standard operating procedure for the next few months. I had to copy files back off the drive, Shrink them, and archive onto floppies— all to gain a precious couple of megs for whatever had to be on the hard drive at that particular moment. Slowly, what little sanity I ever had began slipping away. "Enough!" I declared, "it's time to go shopping!" So, armed with Mom's credit card number, I gave LRO a call.

When I began considering a successor to my Q-Drive, my first choice was going to

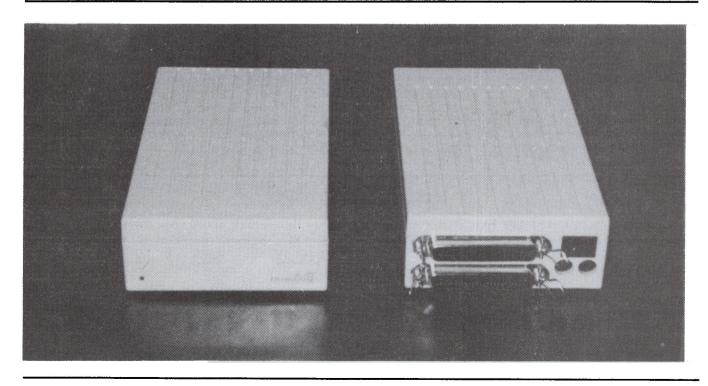
be an X-Drive. Oh, well . . . so much for that idea. [Editor's Note: In case you didn't know. Econ's gotten out of the hard drive business, and is no longer selling the X-Drive.] Then, I turned my eye toward an Envisio SmartStack. (Go peek at a Mac rag if you aren't familiar with this one. Ads for it are all over the place.) The idea is smart, but the prices will only make your wallet smart (as in hurt). A final idea I considered for an expandable external was to get an external SCSI case with two bays, then buy a hard drive and later get a removable drive intended for internal installation in a Macintosh. This idea would've ended up costing me more than to buy two external drives of these types.

With the rug pulled out from under me on an expandable drive, I decided on a small unit, which could be considered portable (at least, transportable). So basically, I had two choices—the NCS drives by LRO, or the Shadow by TMS. (See review of the Shadow in GS+ V3.N4.) I don't like how the Shadow has only one SCSI port, so that kind of ruled it out. Thus, I gave LRO a ring.

It was rather interesting. When I called LRO on Monday, October 25 to order a 240MB drive, I was informed that Quantum mechanisms were not available in the 170MB and 240MB sizes. It seems Apple's purchase of Quantum drives in these sizes was about 50% bigger than expected, which has created a shortage. (LRO thinks the crunch will end about mid-January, so it should be

over by the time you read this.) The interesting part is, the shortage is apparently due to the fact that Apple's getting back in the hard drive business with 160MB and 230MB external hard drives for the Mac. (Are you listening, Professor Gumby?) Anyway, I digress. The short version is, this created a paucity of drives in these sizes by any manufacturer. Compounding this problem was the fact that Quantum is in the process of revamping their drive lineup. I wanted a Quantum, but decided on a Maxtor 245MB drive mechanism to go in my NCS Pro. The week before, Diz had ordered exactly the same drive for use as our file server drive. I liked that drive, so I got the same thing.

I asked LRO for some custom partitioning (if you don't specify how you want a drive carved up, you get as many 32MB partitions as possible, then a smaller partition of whatever's left over). Here, I screwed up. I want to be able to bring this drive into the office from time to time if I have massive amounts of data to transfer either to or from the file server. Thus, it will primarily work on my Apple IIGS, but on rare occasion I may want to hook it up to a Mac. LRO partitioned and formatted my drive with a IIGS, just the way I wanted it (four 30MB ProDOS partitions, and two 60MB HFS ones). The problem is, a hard disk or partition formatted by the IIGS as HFS will not be recognized by a Macintosh. The reason for this is that the Mac stores the driver for the hard drive in an invisible partition on the disk itself. If that driver isn't



present, the Mac can't mount any partitions from the drive on the desktop. I knew about this problem, but I wasn't thinking about it when I ordered. It would've been no problem for LRO to do this, if I'd asked. So remember kids: If you have special partition or formatting needs, be sure to mention it! Because I forgot, I had to erase the drive, then reformat and repartition it on a Mac.

But . . . How's The Thing Work?

After a couple of weeks of near-insanity (Due to the above problem, then the software conflicts from hell plagued me . . . and then I had another weird problem. See below.) things seem to have settled down and life with this drive is better perhaps than I expected! The NCS Pro 240 drive (I'll call it "Pro" from here on out for brevity,) is, like the TMS Shadow, actually smaller and lighter than an Apple 3.5-inch drive. According to the postal scale in the office, the Pro weighs in for the bout at 33.7 ounces. That's a few ounces heavier than the Shadow's 25.5 ounces, but it isn't a noticeable difference. To convert to pounds, the Shadow is approximately 1.6 pounds vs. the Pro's 2.1 pounds. Of course, there's a tradeoff here for that small size and weight—the power supply's bigger than Rush Limbaugh's ego, and weighs more than he does, too. (Well, it's not that big or heavy, [What could be? - Ed.] but it certainly seems that way!) To avoid lugging "the brick" with you when you take the drive to roam, LRO includes a cable to allow you to plug into a Mac or IIGS floppy port for power. Actually, this is the only cable you get for power if the drive's size is smaller than 240 MB. If you decide you want a brick, LRO sells the power supply as a separate item for \$39. This is a better deal than the \$65 TMS charges for another Shadow power supply.

Externally, there's not that much that's exciting about the Pro. A green light showing drive access shares real estate on the front with an iDS Livingstone logo.

(It seems that NCS/LRO bought out iDS, one of the pioneers of really small Mac hard drives. So now, they use iDS cases.) On the back of the unit are the power supply plugs. (Yes, Virginia, there are two plugs. No, I don't know why.) Also on the back is the main reason I bought the Pro-two SCSI ports. With two SCSI ports, the Pro can be anywhere in your SCSI chain that you want it. If you want it at the end, the Pro has a nifty way of doing internal termination. A small removable panel on the bottom of the drive allows access to the internal terminators. The terminators have white tabs attached, which is a really nice touch LRO has added. Put away your needlenose pliers, because with these tabs attached, you can pull the terminators out by yanking on the tabs. This makes removing the termination a snap, and since the ends of the tabs can hang outside the case, you can tell at a glance if the drive is terminated or not. Also on the bottom of the unit is the SCSI ID selector. It's a wheel that requires a screwdriver (or very small fingernail,) to set. In summary, the Pro won't fit into an Applied Engineering Conserver, but it's a nice, small unit.

#### What's Your Problem?

An extremely weird one. The weekend after getting the drive up and running, the computer crashed while booting from the Pro . . . again and again. When I finally could boot up, I started checking out my four ProDOS partitions with the Finder, Deliverance, and Prosel. The weird part is, all three told me files were corrupted, but none of them would agree on the same files! After zeroing and reformatting several times without eliminating the problem, I obtained a RamFAST/SCSI card from LRO. While installing it, I noticed in the instructions that if you have a TransWarp GS (which I do), the setting "AppleTalk/IRQ" must be set to "on" (which it wasn't). I'm wondering if that, and not my Apple High-Speed SCSI card, wasn't the cause of my woes all along. Attaching an external terminator, between

the drive and the SCSI card, allowed the drive to work with the Apple card. This makes me suspect that the terminators soldered to the Apple card are wearing out.

The other strange thing about the whole affair was that I have two HFS partitions on this drive that performed like champs the whole time. Never even a hint of trouble from them, or from either partition on my old 40MB Q-Drive. The RamFAST seems to have corrected the problem. While dealing with these problems, I kept expecting to hear the Twilight Zone guitar chords and Rod Serling's voice. "Picture a man..."

On another note, I learned some hard lessons about undeleting files. My mouse went haywire one night, and suddenly one of my HFS partitions on the Pro was erased. After weeping and gnashing of teeth, I found out another unpleasant fact . . . all current IIGS file recover utilities won't touch an HFS disk. I had to use MacTools 3.0 to recover my files, and it screwed up. Apparently, the last block of a file was recovered as the first block of another file. This review was on that partition, so for all I know, the conclusion I'll have to rewrite was stuck onto an rSoundsample file! As I've said before, experience is a stern teacher, and so Watchdog (see GS+ V2.N6) now resides in my CDevs folder to prevent this incident from reoccurring. At least I can take cold comfort in the fact that I did recover most of my irreplaceable data.

#### Conclusion

If you're in the market for a new hard drive, I strongly recommend the NCS Pro line. With good prices, dependability, and a knowledgeable tech support staff, the combination of these factors made this drive a deal too good to pass up. My drive is doing just fine now, and our file server has seen three months of constant use without a whimper. Wow...two hundred and forty megabytes. How will I ever fill that up?

#### DiskTimer GS v2.0 results

All drives except the Zip Drive and the Focus Drive were attached to an Apple High-Speed SCSI card (these drives are not SCSI drives, and are attached to their controller card). All readings were taken on an unaccelerated HGS. (Lower numbers are better.)

	<u>Read</u>	Multi-block Read	Seek	Adapter
Focus Drive 80	13	61	61	07
NCS Pro 240	37	24	52	21
Q-Drive 40	45	66	76	28
Zip Drive 40MB	15	62	65	09
Pegasus 100i	31	23	19	21
Shadow 105MB	36	26	22	21
TMS 105 Pro	33	24	21	20
Tulin Half Shell	36	24	68	22

#### **Pedigree**

By Volker Hermann

Retail price: \$40

Requires at least 1.25MB and System Software 6.0 or later. More memory and a hard disk are strongly recommended.

Bright Software P.O. Box 120 Exeter, ME 04435-0120

Reviewed by Robert A. Ribaric

Finally, a captive audience! You see, no one here wants to listen to me talk about my family tree. I've been researching my family history for about two years now, and it's become a big hobby of mine. I think of it as a great mystery that needs solving. And believe me, this is hard work. I'm of Slavic descent which makes it particularly difficult to get information because of language barriers. I have to send requests to archives in eastern Europe which come back in Slovak, Slovenian, or German. Sometimes I still can't translate the documents that I paid for! I even have trouble squeezing data out of my own relatives here in the states. You really have to be dedicated to commit the necessary time and money. And let me tell you—it can get frustrating! I've spent all this time and money finding my roots, but until now I haven't had a good way to document everything Using a computer seemed like a good way to make things easier so I started using my word processor to create a tree representation to record names and dates. That was time consuming and hard to update, but I had no choice—until I heard about Pedigree.

#### Roots

I started out with Pedigree by entering information on myself and immediate family like the manual suggests. I then progressed back in time all the way to the 1700s. The manual contains its fair share of genealogical jargon, but since I am up to date on all the latest accepted genealogical procedures, it wasn't that confusing to me. The Mormon Church based in Utah has set most of these precedents. They have standards on the proper layout for family tree documents, and are a very good source of advice and information. I guess they're really big on keeping track of their fold and its religious history. Anyway, this is where I realized my first concern about Pedigree. The manual refers to the Mormons' GEDCOM standards, and Pedigree can store data in and get data from GEDCOM files. But, this seems to be the only Mormon Church standard that Pedigree follows. The program uses a very

unorthodox approach to organizing its data and printing it out.

#### Huh?

The first example of this is the way family trees are arranged. Pedigree puts the most current generation (you) at the top and places previous generations below that. Now, there are two main ways I've seen this done. Unfortunately, one is just the opposite of this and the other goes sideways. Most other genealogy programs I've checked out use the sideways method. This is similar to the way sports playoff tournaments are shown in the newspaper. You start off with all the teams shown on lines at the left of the page. As teams are knocked off, the lines converge toward the right where only the final winner remains. On a tree chart, this champion would be your generation and going left would take you back in time on the tree branches. This way is great for getting the most data to a page. However, I prefer the other method which puts your information in a box at the bottom of a page and other boxes branch upward. Each square above contains one of your ancestors. As I said earlier, Pedigree does not use either of these techniques.

The author of this program is European, so I dismissed this first criticism by assuming that European genealogists do things differently. (After all, they like to express dates in the day-month-year format, don't they? Incidentally, Pedigree uses the American way [month-day-year] for expressing dates.) Well, I later realized that this really doesn't matter for hard copies because Pedigree won't even print text on the tree graphic it does make. This problem bothered me a lot more than how the tree was set up.

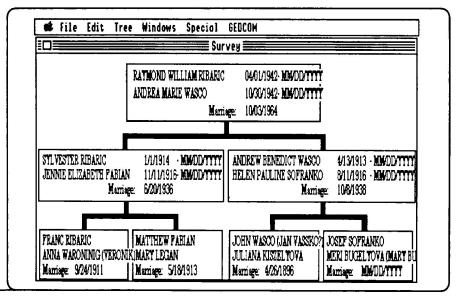
#### Pedigree's Priorities

My main reason for even using a

computer program was to get a nice, printed graphical representation of my family tree. Unfortunately, Pedigree seems to be more concerned with just organizing data on disk for viewing on the screen. In this, Pedigree actually does pretty good job, but as I said, one of the main things I'm interested in is getting my family tree off of the screen and onto a piece of paper. Pedigree does have a nice screen display of a family tree (which is called the "survey" mode), which shows names and dates of family members in the tree. However, you simply can't print the information out in that same format. Another disappointment is that, while you can scan in photos of loved ones to be included with their information, you can't print those pictures out.

I had hoped that Pedigree would permit printing of complete family tree diagrams with some data included. Without this information, it would be pretty senseless to show it to anyone. (See Figure 1 for an example of what I mean.) When you're writing to a distant relative overseas for information, you should be able to send them a hard copy showing who you are and how you are related to them (people are much more likely to cooperate with a relative [even a distant one] than they are a complete stranger). Unfortunately, the printouts Pedigree generates aren't much help with this.

Feeling a bit disappointed with the lack of printout options, I decided to go back through the documentation just in case I overlooked some features. The book has many typos and phrasing that doesn't make much sense. I guess that it was just poorly translated from the original German. It isn't very well organized, either (although it does have an index). The manual basically just lists Pedigree's features and goes over the menu items.



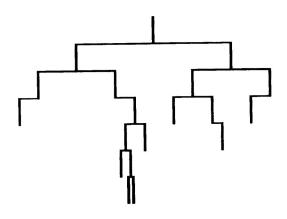


Figure 1
Rob's family tree, beginning with Rob's parents, as printed out by Pedigree

Nowhere in the documentation does it show a good tree example or even go over sample records. I really think it should walk you through an example—step by step. The program does contain a file of Ronald Reagan's ancestry which you can peruse and print out, but that doesn't help much.

#### What It Does Do

Okay, I don't mean to just sit here and bash this program. Maybe I'm a little overly critical because I'm so interested in genealogy. Therefore, I'll now tell you exactly what Pedigree can do for you. This program will accept your family's names, birth, death, location, nationality, religion, and marriage information. It will then organize this data and display it in text, survey (family tree), list, or tree

graphic modes. It will save digitized images in the file and let you search for records using various criteria. The list feature allows you to click on a name and have Pedigree display that branch of your family in the text window. You can also set defaults for the different data categories, to help speed up data entry. A little side feature allows you to see what day of the week a particular date was. Finally, Pedigree offers printouts in a somewhat limited manner.

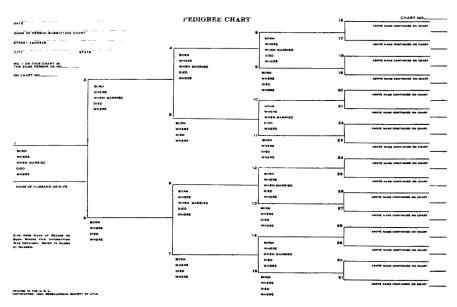
Pedigree does require System 6, and it not only supports, but encourages, use of The Manager. This helps speed up work during Pedigree's GEDCOM feature. By the way, Pedigree's ability to read and write data in GEDCOM format is very nice. Even though your IIGS is not

exactly compatible with every other computer, your data will be.

#### is it Worth it?

I can almost give you a straight negative answer to this, but let me take a step back. This was originally a shareware program written by someone with a IIGS who wanted to record his genealogical findings. However, Pedigree is no longer a shareware program, and it still has problems that should not be in a piece of retail software. For instance, Pedigree will not run very well over AppleShare—trying to open a data file generates an error message.

So here's the conclusion I came to: If I was writing this as a shareware review, Pedigree would get much higher marks. Maybe if you want a IIGS-specific family tree program and only want to store your data, this is for you. I don't know of any other IIGS-specific genealogy programs. If you are, instead, very serious about your research and want to show people your findings (without having to drag them in front of your computer), look elsewhere. I can't even really suggest this program for beginners because I feel amateur genealogists (like I was a mere two years ago) would be led astray by the odd formats Pedigree uses. I've used the older, shareware version of this program and hoped the retail Pedigree would be better. In fact, you may be better off digging up the old shareware version. If you actually do like it, you can send in your money. I'd hate to plunk down cash for this version and then discover it's shortcomings. This version of Pedigree should have remained shareware! GS+

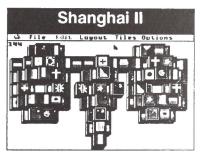


Typical sideways family tree chart

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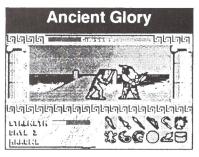


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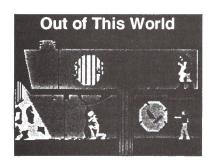
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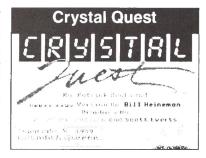


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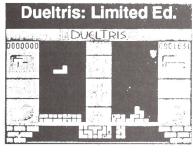


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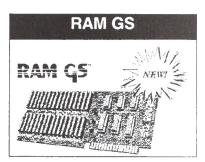
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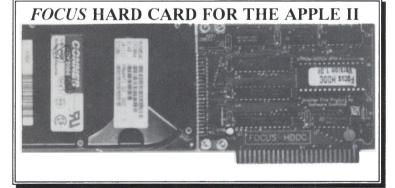
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