THE RETRO UNIVERSE ZINE#

#ISSUE 1#

FOREWARD#

After the success and subsequent quitting of my other zine, the BBS Zine, I've decided to do another zine. The focus however, isn't going to be solely BBSes. BBSes are going to be a side thing in this zine, but they will still be covered. The focus of this zine is going to be anything and everything retro-tech related, from youtube, to SID music, to emulation or whatever I can think of. I hope you enjoy it!

#INDEX:#

#DOS Gaming Corner#

##Monuments of Mars##

I have really fond memories of this game, so that's why I decided to do it first. You may be asking, "what is Monuments of Mars"? Well, it's basically a action puzzle survival game. The action part is that it takes place in real time, and you can jump and move and avoid enemies, who are basically martians(of course). The puzzle aspect comes in the fact that you have to hit certain switches in order to progress. Finally, the survival part is conserving your ray gun. Without your ray gun, you can't kill certain enemies who block your way to switches.

I remember getting this game on a shareware floppy disk, and sadly I've lost that disk to time. However, thanks to the magic of time, it has been made freeware according to the original owners. At the end of this article I will link it. In any case, I spent many an hour playing this and getting to the various levels. I never beat it, but I always had so much fun playing it. It's an early
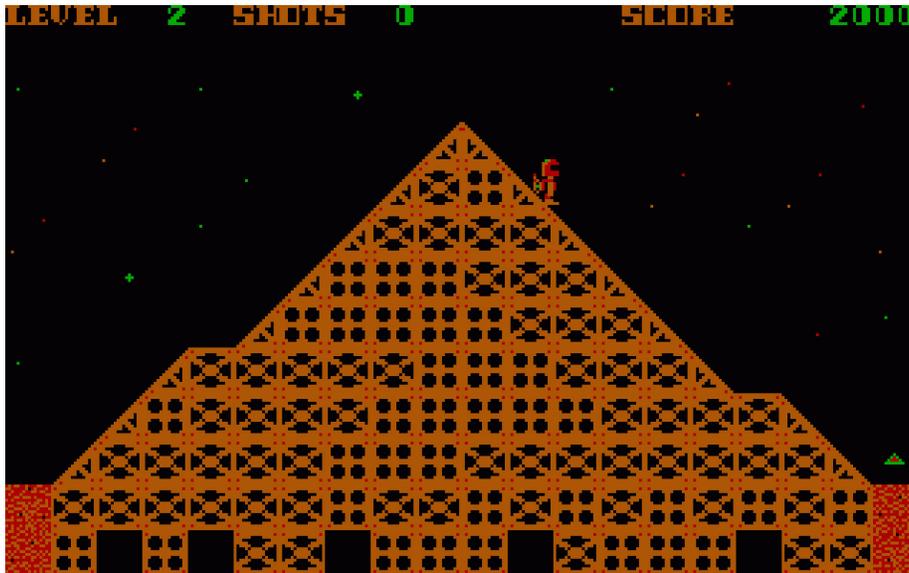
Figure 1: Screenshot

platformer remiscient of Crystal Caves and the original Duke Nukem. It's slower paced however, so it's more about figuring out how to best a level.

I recommend playing it on a rainy day as it's akin to a relaxing outing with a book. There's no music, but the sounds make up for it. Anyways I hope you enjoy playing it as much as I did as a kid!

Link: Monuments of Mars freeware

#SID Hustle#

##C64 SID Music Compilation##

I'll be honest, I wasn't around at the time of the C64, but I have discovered a love for the music it makes, so I decided to make this corner to any nice music from it I discover. If you know of any good retro music sites and scenes, email me!

Here's this week's link: C64 Music Compilation

#Emulation Station#

##MAME and Dungeons and Dragons games##

In case you didn't know, I'm a huge D&D fan. So this week I invited a friend over

and we played a Dungeons and Dragons game in MAME. I hear that it's also available on Steam. The game is Dungeons and Dragons: Shadow over Mystara. There's also the Tower of Doom. They were both developed by Capcom, who as most people know, also developed games like Mega Man, Street Fighter and so forth.

Figure 2: SoMScreenshot

We played it with 2 arcade sticks I own in order to replicate the arcade experience. We had tons of fun just experimenting with all the different spells you could use and thrashing the bosses. The game itself seemed pretty short, but longer than say, something like Final Fight. Also it felt less repetitive because it was just the right amount of time for an arcade experience. Next time I want us to play the Tower of Doom.

I would definitely recommend this masterpiece of a game if you are a D&D fan!

Link: Steam store link

#Youtube Spotlight#

##Retro Man Cave##

RMC, what can you say? He covers so many different things on his channel that it's amazing he has any free time at all! If you don't know him, I recommend searching for your favorite system and his name, and he will probably have a trash to treasure video about it where he takes it apart and repairs into being just like new.

He also has a community on Discord, which is a propietary chat program popular with gamers, and a Twitch stream as well. He's very cordial and always seems up for a good chat.

Link: Retro Man Cave

#Community Colosseum#

##Tildeverse##

The Tildeverse is actually a collection of various communities that have decided to come together to make everything cool and like the 80's-90's all over again. They run various services, from gopher to IRC and everything in-between. If you're a fan of free/open source software, community and tech, these places are for you!

I got started on Yourtilde, which was run by deepend. Now deepend runs tilde.club along with ben. You should get to know them if you join the tildeverse, they're almost always there and are great people.

Link: Tildeverse

#Gopher gaps#

##gopher.black##

If you're a gopher reader, then hopefully you've heard of gopher.black, tomasino's venture into the gopherverse that connects so many different communities into one sphere. If you're ever lost in the gopherverse, just go to gopher.black and get to browsing!

He has various links to updated news sources via RSS to gopher, full text links to various books and links to updated phlogs from across the gopherverse, such as colorfield.space, SDF and many more!

Use a browser such as lynx to go to the following site: gopher://gopher.black

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#Gemini Groove#

##Solderpunk's site##

Solderpunk is the originator of the gemini protocol, and as such, his site is the reference site in order to find more gemini sites. Now you may be wondering what is the gemini protocol? I believe solderpunk described it as the "Web 0.5", as in something that's between gopher and the modern web, such as a site like DragonFlyBSD Digest, which I will describe next.

In any case, if you want to experience everything gemini has to offer, just hitch a ride onto his site from a gemini client such as Asuka or any number of clients

described on his site. For convience sake I will post a gopher proxy link so you can more easily browse it before committing yourself to getting a gemini client.

Link: Gopher proxy

#Web Weavings#

##DragonFlyBSD Digest##

You may be thinking, what is DragonFlyBSD, and what does it have to do with retro stuff? Well, DragonFlyBSD's main programmer in charge , Matt Dillon, used to program on a Amiga, so some of his decisions regarding DragonFlyBSD have been influenced by how the Amiga functions!

This isn't about that though, as this blog just tracks changes to that operating system, but usually posts stuff related to retro, such as reddit posts, games and more. I highly recommend checking it out.

Link: Dragonfly Digest

I hope you enjoyed this issue, this is a new start for me and I want things to resume well and get out the word to the community! If you enjoyed this issue, please contact me at mhj@sdf.org!