



## Life Goes On

software game update.

Work on the conversion to up-to-date software is moving along quite smoothly. The conversion, begun last August, ran into some technical problems using JavaScript. In May, I resumed the effort, but this time using the JAVA programming language, which would make the simulation available on all JAVA supported devices like Windows, Kindle, Blackberry Playbook, and other handhelds except Apple products. Another 3 – 4 months should do it.

You can take a peek at initial draft versions by going to [Http://starman.com](http://starman.com). Sample screenshots and a ZIP file download is available for Windows – requires **free** JAVA SE 6 software (most computers already have JAVA loaded). Read the install instructions first.

### **Short description**

This program simulates, in a non-professional manner, life experiences here in the USA. Six dimensions, or aspects, of life are presented:

1. EDUCATION -- graduating high school through postgraduate school. Awards can be won. You can also be dropped from school for poor performance.
2. FAMILY -- becoming engaged, marriage, divorce, children, abortion & adoption. Spouses may or may not work.
3. CAREERS -- Part-time work for school as well as a number of industries are allowed. Promotions, bonuses, terminations, closed businesses and quitting are some of the events/decisions.
4. FINANCIAL -- Each year a budget is presented showing income and expenses as well as a financial status of what is owned and owed. You will be forced to become financially sound. Cars, houses, investment and a college fund are some categories for decision-making. Other categories are pre-calculated.
5. CRISES -- Although we don't like it, at some point in time in our life a crisis occurs. For the moment, the time and cause of death are pre-calculated. Other crises will be added in later versions: aids, drugs, stealing money to support a negative cash flow.
6. SOCIAL -- This dimension deals with social relationships; such as, club membership, sports teams, children and marriage expenses, retirement home costs, etc. (To be added).

### **SOME RULES OF THE GAME.**

#### **A. EDUCATION**

You will graduate high school. What happens from then depends on several factors. College is possible with a scholarship or by working after school. Graduate school is also possible. You choose the major from a list. If initially denied college (or you may so choose), a trade school degree followed by college is possible. If you must work and don't continue with your education, returning to college/grad

school is possible at some point in time, but you will need \$40,000 in the bank (among other factors).

#### B. CAREERS.

A number of job industries are provided, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT WHERE YOU CAN BECOME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. As time goes by you will get raises and promotions, terminations, layoffs and business closing, etc. Your salary is adjusted accordingly. You can also change job industries.

Promotions and new positions are character/personality determined with a random factor applied (you may not get it even though you want it so badly).

Salary changes reflect inflationary adjustments, up or down, so an actual increase may not result. Changing jobs -- or getting a new job if terminated -- at the same position, or higher, may not result in an increase in salary. What a bummer!!

#### C. FAMILY.

You can become pregnant, or father a child, while not married. Each child adds to your living expenses above a certain minimum.

Upon marriage your spouse's salary may be added to your income, if he/she works (pre-determined factor). Check your financial status. Obviously, if your spouse works then not only will assets be divided upon divorce, but your salary will also be adjusted. You can remarry if divorced.

Some people will not marry, or not have children, or not get divorced. Luck (?) of the draw!

#### D. FINANCIAL

Why are finances so important? Because our society makes them so important. Income will be adjusted based on a calculated inflation percentage, which can be plus or minus. Assets are treated at purchase value with no appraisal or blue book value adjustments (too much work).

The expense categories are calculated based on some percentage of income. Some percentages vary as income varies. Divorce and retirement have the biggest effect on finances.

You can buy a house above \$75,000 (about a \$22,000 salary is required). You can sell it and buy another and equity adjustments will be made. Or you can just sell it because you need cash. However, there must be sufficient income and at least \$5,000 in the bank for first time buyers. Cars will always require a \$1,000 cash payment for first time purchase (otherwise there are equity adjustments).

You can cash in your college fund and/or investments, too. Returning to school or a divorce will create a debt category (loan or alimony), which will be adjusted by annual payments until paid off in full. Watch you finances here!

Making changes to the budget or financial statement can be annoying. Well, what can I say? Ever fill out a tax form???

## GREETINGS!

**The Elders of the Council for Development have met and reviewed your application for another EARTH sojourn and experience. We, of the Sixth Universal Sphere, welcome all who wish to continue their progression.**

**Having been to EARTH before, you understand that you will have no conscious awareness of your eternal being or your individual personality. You will be given some abilities as well as obstacles to be overcome. These are meant to be learning experiences.**

**We, the ELDERS entrusted with this important task, have approved your application.**

## CONGRATULATIONS!

**The environment and conditions on EARTH will be provided to you at age 17. Your task is to overcome the negative beliefs and concepts of your society and environment by unlearning bad habits.**

**Remember, you have a purpose to your sojourn –it's the development of your universal personality. Events and other EARTHLY conditions have their purpose, too.**

**Your success is to use your strengths and abilities, to overcome your weaknesses and earthly circumstances, and to keep control of your life.**

**Think of an idea to change our world, and the sad state that we find our country in. Act on this idea, because change can only come from change.**

**Before you depart, what name shall we know you by?**

Enter your Player Name

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH for GEO age 17

You may choose 2 new goals -- be honest!

To help and serve others

Be successful at what I do

Decided

CONGR

Becau  
you wil

COLLEGE

Trade

BORN:	6/10/1994	INTELLIGENCE:	GENIUS
AGE:	17	PERSONALITY:	PUSHY
RACE:	WHITE	ACTIVITES	MUSIC-DANCE
RELIGION:	PROTESTANT	EDUC-GRADES:	GOOD
SEX:	FEMALE	GOOD AT:	ARTS/MUSIC

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL CONDITION for geo age 18

Income

Assets & Liabilities

INCOME--		Rent		ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Earnings	35000	Insurance	100	Total Cash	4050		
less Taxes	5250	Living exp.	15000	1st house value	75000	1st mortgage...	
<b>NET INCOME:</b>	<b>29750</b>	Credit pmts	1000	2nd house val...	\$0	2nd mortgag...	
		<b>TOTAL EXP.</b>	<b>\$25,700</b>	1st car value	22000	1st car balance	
<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$4,050</b>	2nd car value	\$0	2nd car balance	
Alimony	\$0			College fund	\$0	credit cwards	
1st mortgage	9000	less set asides-		Investments	\$0	alimony	
2nd mortgage	\$0	College fund	\$0	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$101,150</b>	<b>TOTAL DEBT</b>	

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