

RETURN YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE TODAY

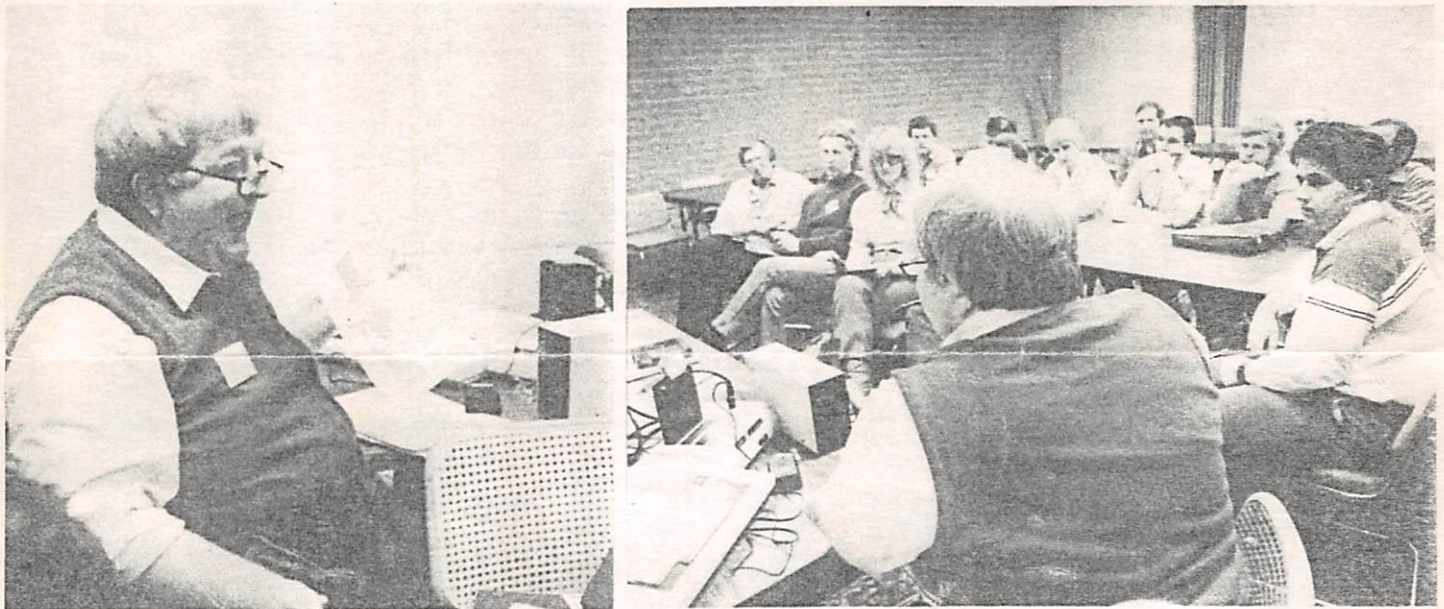


EXPRESS

The Official Publication of the
PENN - JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 1988



Pete Unks discusses the use of CoCo Max at last month's PJ-CCC meeting.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR SURVEY SHEETS

IT'S YOUR CLUB - TELL US WHAT YOU WANT FROM THE CLUB.

A couple of months ago, a survey sheet was included in the monthly newsletter for all members to fill out and return to Tom Castronuova. The survey EVEN HAD A STAMP on it to facilitate your mailing it back. Less than ten have been returned from 55 that were mailed out.

Please - it's YOUR club, you tell the executive committee what you like to get out of the club - FILL OUT that questionnaire TODAY and fold it, tape it and put it in a mail box so that Tom can get them before the next executive board meeting the first week in March.

IT IS IMPORTANT - because the survey sheet will show the executive board the information it needs to prepare programs which YOU ask for.

If you can't find your survey sheet, pick up a blank at this Friday's meeting and turn it over to Tom during the meeting so that the executive board has SOME information it needs for its meeting.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR SURVEY SHEET.

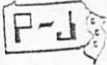
If you don't remember what it looks like a reproduction is printed inside.

**LAST CHANCE THIS MEETING ----
TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN PJ-CCC**

PLEASE RETURN
YOUR SURVEY SHEETS

MINUTES OF JANUARY 29th MEETING

President Eckhart opened the meeting by inviting all to Perkins after the meeting. The minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter. The Treasurer's report was also accepted.



**PENN - JERSEY
COLOR COMPUTER CLUB**

P.O. BOX 2742
LEHIGH VALLEY, PA 18001

THE PENN-JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB
SURVEY SHEET
YEAR 1988

The executive committee of the PJCCD would like you to take the time to answer the below questions. This survey will help the officers to guide the club thru the next year.
Simply answer the questions, fold the form and drop it in the mailbox TODAY. It already has a stamp on it!

Thank you.

Tommaso J. Castronuova
Tommaso J. Castronuova
PJCCD Treasurer

1. WHAT TYPE OF SOFTWARE ARE YOU USING NOW?
(Name of software, printer or modified by yourself, name).
2. WHAT WOULD BE A TOPIC YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE - PRESENTATION OR?
3. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ANOTHER COMPUTER DEMONSTRATED AT THE REGULAR MEETINGS? YES OR NO.
CIRCLE ONE
4. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE A "SOCIAL MEMBER ONLY" CLAUSE ADDED TO THE CLUB CONSTITUTION?
(YES OR NO)
5. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE A CLUB FIGHT IN JULY OR AUGUST? (YES OR NO)
6. HOW WOULD YOU CHANGE THE CLUB TO MAKE IT MORE INTERESTING?

OLD BUSINESS:

The questionnaire report will be placed on hold until more returns are received. At present only 7 out of 53 have been returned. Some items we need input on are: associate membership, where we are going as a club, how is movement to "other" machines going to affect us.

The library inventory will appear in next month's newsletter.

Disks are still for sale; fifty cents each.

This is renewal time for membership. Dues are \$12.00 per year. Send your checks to Tom.

NEW BUSINESS:

There will be an Executive Board meeting on Friday, March 4th at Roni's.

Members are reminded to sign up for equipment. We are still looking for the club tape player.

The meeting was adjourned and an interesting and informative talk and demonstration on Coco Max was given by Peter Unks.

Submitted by:
Mary Brown

RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
THIS MEETING



"This is what you'll get when you combine the graphics."

DISK SALE CONTINUES

The Penn-Jersey Color Computer Club's disk sale continues for 50 cents a disk, 25 disks for \$12.50. The disk are all double sided - double density with a disk jacket.

Profits from the disk sale benefit the club in the purchase of equipment, etc. So don't forget, bring some money along this Friday, February 26, for the February meeting.

6809 EXPRESS

PENN - JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB

The "6809 EXPRESS" is the official monthly publication of the PENN-JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB. The club is based in the greater Lehigh Valley area of Northeastern Pennsylvania including sections of Northwest New Jersey. Any club or non-profit organization may reprint any part of the newsletter as long as credit is given. PJCCD will gladly exchange newsletters with any other computer club. For any written correspondence send your request to EDITOR, 6809 EXPRESS, Penn-Jersey Color Computer Club, P.O. Box 2742, Lehigh Valley, Pa. 18001.

- | | |
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OBSERVATIONS

by Clyde Gano

Recently the Club Executive Committee put together a questionnaire which was distributed with the 6809 EXPRESS. To encourage replies, the committee even made the return postage available. Yet, at the last meeting, President Paul Eckhart announced that very few replies had been received. Hopefully, by our forthcoming meeting, the number of returns will have substantially increased.

The questionnaire asked a number of important questions and not the least of which was the matter of how to handle the membership of those who purchased other computers to replace the CoCo. It is this question that I am addressing.

Simply put, it appears that some of our members have made the decision to change to MSDOS computers. Obviously the decision is a personal one. The problem is that our club constitution states that, "The membership... shall be composed of such persons who have access to the use of a TRS-80 Color Computer or similar machine." The wording implies that the club is for CoCo users only and I believe that was the original intent. Several of those affected are charter members of our group and, as near as I can tell, each one has contributed greatly to our success by active attendance and participation.

There is little doubt but that the remaining members will be the big losers if these valued friends are no longer considered members in good standing.

One suggestion, which I believe was in the questionnaire, was to amend the constitution to allow the

inclusion of associate members. I have no great problem with that except that the term "associate member" seems to imply a sort of second class membership without the right of full participation. Members like Jerry Behler, Bill Jones and Frank Tupper have demonstrated their concern in so many ways that they deserve better than that.

Last week I read an article in the Morning Call about classic car clubs and I noted that a Nova club makes membership available to anyone who "has an interest in Chevrolet Novas".

Therefore, I propose that our membership give prompt consideration to amending Article III, Section 1 to read- "The membership of this organization shall be composed of such persons who have access to the use of a TRS80 Color Computer or similar machine or demonstrates an interest in the TRS80 Color Computer."

In order to move this idea to a rapid conclusion and to satisfy the requirements of Article IX-AMENDMENTS, I further propose that the above be the written notice called for in Section 1 and further that the following be considered the notice required under Section 2:

NOTICE

AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 25, THERE WILL BE A VOTE TO AMEND ARTICLE III, SECTION 1 OF THE CLUB CONSTITUTION.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR COCO'S DISK DRIVE

Most of the problems with floppy disk drives stem from improper handling. Although disk drives have become quite dependable, they are precision electromechanical devices, requiring special care. The following list offers some simple but helpful tips to insure a longer life for your disk drive.

DO'S AND DON'TS -

!Store your disks in sleeves when not using them. Dust, fingerprints, and even particles of cigarette smoke can obstruct the disk drive head. Some disks come with a sleeve made of Tvek, and antistatic material that prevents accidental data loss.

!Don't bend the disk. Bent 5 1/4 inch floppy disks often turn irregularly or not at all, making data storage and retrieval unreliable. The 3 1/2 inch disk on the other hand come in hard plastic cases and cannot easily be bent.

!When placing the disk in the drive, don't insert it quickly or forcibly. If it catches or something, investigate before applying more force and possibly bending the disk.

!Close the drive door carefully - DON'T slam it shut. Doing so causes excessive pressure on the disk and drive heads and could result in premature wear or failure.

!Don't touch the exposed areas of the disk, particularly that area that shows through the drive-head access slot. Fingerprints can affect the reading and writing to the disk. Because they are sticky, fingerprints are especially difficult to remove. Touching the exposed area of the disk can cause scratching which can permanently destroy information and disable the disk.

!Don't store or use the disk in areas with high

Continued on page 4

LAST CHANCE THIS MEETING ----
TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN FJ-CCC

concentration of airborne dust and debris, and don't allow anyone to smoke near disks or computers. Smoke particles can interfere with reading and writing disk information.

Don't leave disk near sources of strong magnetic fields, including CRT's, motors, high-voltage AC wires, and X-rays like that found at airport security gates. Magnetic fields can wipe out or reduce the strength of the magnetic information on a disk. Research has shown that storing disks on top of your TV, monitor or to the left side of either where the transformer is, reduces the strength of the data slightly - not enough to affect performance most of the time, but why risk it?

Most manufacturers recommend storing disks at 50 -125 degrees Fahrenheit. For best performance, you should let your disk reach room temperature -nominally 75 degrees - before using them in your system. Never expose disks to sources of direct heat or sunlight - especially never leave them in a car during the summer - this can cause the disk to warp or melt.

Don't flip your floppy. Many users of single-sided drives cut a second write-protect notch in the opposite side of the disk and flip it over to use the other side. This is bad practice because the jacket liner collects oxide particles, dust, and other debris. When you flip your disk, you reverse the direction of rotation, causing debris that

the liner has collected to be swept back onto the disk surface.

When moving a disk drive, place a protective insert in the drive (or an old unuseable disk) and close the door. This protects the drive from excessive vibration and keeps the heads on dual-drives from bumping each other.

NEW 512K UPGRADE FOR COCO 3

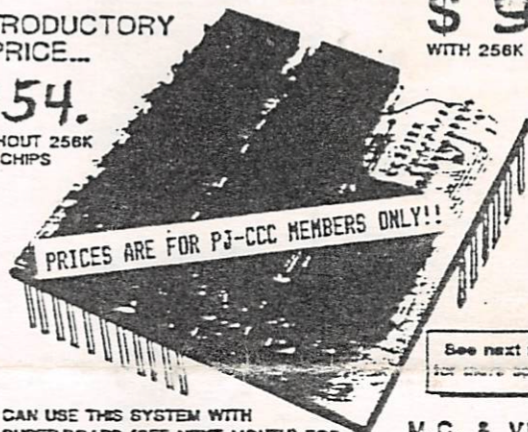
Now available the LR Tech 512K upgrade with all gold contacts and 120 nanosecond 256K chips. Useable as a RAM disk from basic or as large system memory for OS 9 level 2!!!

INTRODUCTORY PRICE...

\$54.

WITHOUT 256K CHIPS

\$ 95.
WITH 256K CHIPS



See next page

YOU CAN USE THIS SYSTEM WITH OUR SUPER BOARD (SEE NEXT MONTH) FOR A THREE USER SYSTEM UNDER OS9. WORKS WITH OUR HARD DRIVE.

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6809 EXPRESS

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LEHIGH VALLEY, PA 18001

Reinhold Radke, Editor

