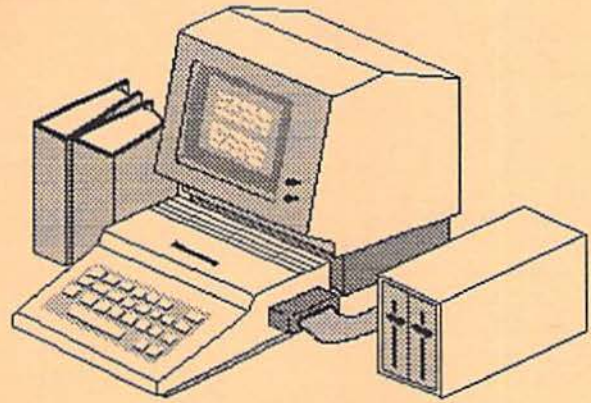


CoCo 123

August/September/October/November
1994
Volume XV, Number I



Glenside Color Computer Club

A Glenside Publication since 1985
Your Voice in the CoCo Community

The President's /term

by Brian Schubring

A little story before the story....Somehow this file didn't get to the editor but the last one did. Oops! Needless to say this issue is LOOOONNG overdue to print. Sorry about the delay. And one word to the current (now past) editor. (well, maybe a few): Thank You for doing such a Great job with the CoCo-123 newsletter. WE shall surely miss your professionalism and dedication, but with another mouth and member to the family (CONGRATS), you have more than enough to do. GO DAVID!!!!

PS.... I KNOW DAVE !!!! ;->

SOOO... On with the show...

Greetings to all after another successful FEST! It was indeed a success, for already we are starting the plans for The 4th Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! to be held at the same location on April 29 & 30, 1995. Oh, what's the location, those of you who weren't there ask? Well, at the Elgin Holiday Inn.

Well, since I've already said it was a success, I would like to extend both my and the clubs deepest thanks and appreciation for all the vendors that could make it out to the event. Unfortunately there were a few who were missing in the ranks for various reasons. Such as Tony Distafano, of Canada. He was missed greatly by several people including myself. Also missed were Ken-Ton and a few others. Wish you were there.

Other than the few people who couldn't make it, we all had a great time selling, buying, and finding out new and exciting things. I would like to personally thank the guys from Northern Exposure for the hints and tips for my CoCo and the others for making some copies of utilities for fixing Jim Peuleke's system that was PowerBoosted (ie...DeD for patching a few modules). Also, the patch for Ultimuse3 v4.10 for PowerBoosted and NitroS9 systems will be out and available soon on BBSs like Delphi, Glenside's Cup of CoCo, and wherever it can go from there.

The only unfortunate thing that happened was during one of the no-minimum bid auctions. Joel Hegberg's copy of Multivue with the C Compiler included was auctioned off and it should not have been.

IF whoever did receive it could contact Tony Podraza, me, or any one of the Club Officers to make plans for its return, the club would reimburse you for the cost of the bid. Joel does need the docs desperately to finish some code for our beloved CoCo.

Other News as of 8/11: (YES, I KNOW! Where has the newsletter been?) Well...I have not had time to complete my hardware project for the CoCo, I have not gotten my 2 Meg upgrade (YET), I have found it hard to write this article, or should I say add-on to and delete a bunch of garbage from this file, BUT I am here and trying hard to get this thing finished. Hmmm, the club is now working on really getting the database going to catalog the library of software and hardware in its resources...

For those of you have tried to (or have done) the NitroS9 patches, or want to get it, Northern Exposure has now taken it over and now has the updated, easier to install version available for release.

Oh, Yeah!! Oct. 1 & 2 in Atlanta, there is the CoCoFEST! coming up. I should be attending for the GLENSIDE Booth and have a NEW AND IMPROVED POS system running written by Joel H. (yeah, him. That's why he needs his books) to show off and use at the FEST!. I will have Ultimuse3 with to help others with it, (as the time allows), and will also have some new music from the new movie "The Lion King." And from David Crosby, "Hero" (I Hope to have it done) and some other stuff.

As to how the Club is doing, it is doing well. And things are starting to get done.

As the saying goes..."Better late than never." And let's see WHO can drum up an article or two.

Until next time (on Time this time), "April the wind be always at your back, and the hills ahead give you strength." Peace.

Aye, 'tis a lovely sayin', me lads and lasses, but I found a wee few words more to pour onto ye thirsty souls.

(Continued on page 3)

CoCo 123 Information

The Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois is a not-for-profit organization whose members share an interest in the Tandy Color Computer ®. The CoCo 123 is the official newsletter of the Glenside Color Computer Club. The Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois has no affiliation with Radio Shack ® and/or the Tandy Corporation ®. The opinions expressed by the authors of the articles contained within this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, the Executive Officers, or the actual club membership.

We are committed to publishing a minimum of four issues and a maximum of twelve issues per calendar year. For a fee of \$15.00, for January through December, you can become a GCCC member with full membership privileges. Send your dues to:

GEORGE SCHNEEWEISS
RR #2 Box 67
Forrest, IL 61741-9629

Here is a list of the 1994 Executive Officers and how to contact them. The club has four strong SIGs, Tandy Color Computer 1, 2, 3, and OS-9. If you have questions concerning these computers or OS-9 call one of these officers.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Brian Schubring	708-529-3539	The buck stops here
Vice-President	Carl Boll	312-735-6087	Meeting Planning, etc.
Vice-President	Gene Brooks	708-897-9023	*
Vice-President	Mike Knudsen	708-665-1394	*
Secretary	Howard Luckey	708-747-0117	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	George Schneeweiss	815-832-5571	Dues and Purchasing
Editor	Mike Warns	708-627-9561	Newsletter coordinator
VP Telecom	David Barnes	708-587-9820	Club BBS SysOp
Printer	Dennis Devitt	708-629-2016	Newsletter Exchange
Advertising	Bob Swoger	708-576-8068	Newsletter Ads

CoCo 123 Contributions

If you would like to contribute an article, upload a file to the Newsletter Submissions section of the Glenside's Cup of CoCo BBS. Ditto for ads and news about your group. Please include a name and an address or phone number. If you would rather submit your article on diskette, they can be accepted in ASCII form and unformatted in the following formats:

RS-DOS 5-1/4" SSDD, 35 tracks
OS-9 5-1/4" SSDD, 35 tracks
MS-DOS Any standard format

Mail your articles to:

Mike Warns
31 South Edgewood Avenue
Lombard, IL 60148

Submission deadline for the CoCo 123 is the 15th of each month. Articles submitted after the deadline will appear in the next issue.

CoCo 123 Newsletter Exchange

The Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois is pleased to exchange newsletters with other Color Computer or OS-9 user groups at no charge. Send your newsletter to:

Dennis Devitt
21 W 144 Canary Road

This month's chuckle:

Did you hear that Bill Gates is getting divorced? His wife won't do Windows!

(Thanks to John Chasteen)

Reprint Policy

If you desire to reprint any articles that appear here, please provide credit to the author and this newsletter.

We encourage your user group to copy this newsletter and distribute it at your regular meetings to your members free of charge as we believe that this will encourage better meeting attendance. If you are a user group that feels as we do, please let us know and send us your newsletter. We will then distribute it to our members and keep our attendance up.

Glenside Club Meetings

The Glenside Color Computer Club meets on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30 to 9:30 PM at the Glendale Heights Public Library. A social get-together always occurs afterward at the Springdale Restaurant.

Future meeting dates:

December 8, 1994
January 12, 1995

Contributors to this issue:

Brian Schubring
Tony Podraza
A Nonny Mouse (you know, people, you really have to SIGN these things!)

Editor: Mike Warns
Design, layout, graphics: Walrus House Enterprises

A special tip o' the hat to Dave Barnes and BARSoft Publishing, whose masthead page has been, uh, more than an inspiration for this issue's.

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These are your BBSs. Please support them.

Glenside CoCoRama BBS

708-587-9837
9600 Baud

SandV BBS

708-352-0948
9600 Baud

Glenside's Cup of CoCo

708-428-0436
2400 Baud

Chi-CoCo BBS

312-735-3355
14,400 Baud

*Your advertisement
could have been here.*

Editor's Corner

by Mike Warns

This is the first issue of my term as Editor of the CoCo 123 newsletter. It is an awkward time to take over, with a number of CoCo or OS-9 publications having gone the way of the Rainbow in just the past few months. As one of the remaining papers, I see this as an opportunity: CoCo 123 is one of the few places left where you can be published. With contributions from all of you this can become the premiere Color Computer and OS-9 newsletter in the world. (How's that for grandiose dreaming?!?)

I am not just soliciting contributions from Glenside's local members, because this is not just a local club or a local dilemma. We have members and are exchanging newsletters around the world. If your club does not have a newsletter, why not send your articles to us? Or start your own newsletter!

Either way, do SOMETHING. The Color Computer is too nice a machine to die because you are too shy to throw your ideas down on disk. Or onto one of our BBSs; upload an article or leave a message. Or paper--I will key them in if necessary. Can't spell or your grammar stinks? I will fix them.

Nobody can write about your experiences like you can. You have found solutions to problems that everybody has: share them!

The President's /term

(Continued from page 1)

Well the Atlanta fest has come and gone, and my car made the trip with no problems, other than it leaked some oil which has been fixed. Unfortunately, Tony Podraza (remember him?) didn't get to the fest until late Sat. afternoon/evening so he missed the first day of the fest and the laser light show that is the talk of the after-fest activities. Saturday found itself to be a good day for all, with sunshine and people coming and going. Got a few more new members on the roster, and more that renewed. For those who are interested, I do have a copy of a MIDI pak Schematic so anyone who runs Ultimuse3 or any other music program can build one for their system.

On the way back to from Atlanta, Tony, his family and I stopped at Knoxville and had dinner with Dave & Nancy Meyers. That was a treat in itself seeing old friends of the CoCo community. They are doing quite well in their new surroundings, and would like all of us to know that. This is not an official fest report but an outline through my experience.

Speaking of OFFICIAL.... The next 2 Meetings will be dealing with nominations and then voting upon them for the new officers for the club. PLEASE, all that are in the area that can make the meetings, and are current in their membership, please be present to make your voice and vote heard. The meeting dates are as follows... NOV. 10 & DEC. 8. Thank You.

All For One... & One For All...

Editor's Note:

It has not been the policy of this paper to publish unsigned articles in the past and I see no reason to recind that policy. However, the author says something that needs saying. In the future, I will publish an anonymous article only if it is at the request of the signed author. No flames, signed or unsigned. We are grownups (mostly) and we will act that way.

Lack of Interest

Well, another Club Newsletter has bitten the dust!! Why? We must ask ourselves this question. Sure it isn't our Newsletter, so why should we care? After all, we don't have that many left. Do you know why they quit their Newsletter? Lack of articles!!! Which actually in layman's terms probably means THE LACK OF INTEREST. Well, I enjoyed their newsletter. Their articles and explanations as well their info. Who was it?? The Australian OS9 User's Group NEWSLETTER.

Do you know that our NEWSLETTER, The "CoCo-123" has, at times, not been published BECAUSE of lack of articles <lack of interest>!!!!

Oh, most high ones, the ones with the knowledge, the ones with the insight. Pound on that keyboard, enlighten us to your knowledge that we may all benefit... Surely I say this ain't all there is, is it? "Say it ain't so, Joe; Say it ain't so."

PLEASE, if nothing else, start at the beginning. We children need your knowledge, the adults need the review. Truly, there must be new or maybe better ways to do things. (I wish I knew more.) That way, everybody wouldn't have to talk to me on the phone to respond to questions with answers that they take for granted.

And, oh, by the way, did you know that the reason the "Rocket had engine and system failure, (meaning "us" for lack of interest, and meaning Microwave for price restructuring and wanting to see interest move from the CoCo up to a 68000 machine); NASA (meaning Burke) scrubbed the launch. What the heck. Lack of interest. Lack of interest..

Maybe we should all blow taps for the CoCo and lay the antique in the can beside the garage that you set out once a week for transport to the landfill. What the heck. Lack of interest. Think of all that room you'd gain!!!!

Come on and just get rid of it. What the heck. Lack of interest.

Well, I hope I hope I got some of your attention. We've lost some of the great ones due to lack of interest. (We the Users)

And last but not least, I dare anyone, no, I double DARE everyone to POUND OUT a quarter page submission on insights, what they've learned, discovered, or a question. With over two hundred members there have to be people that have a few or a lot of the above. (And I don't mean lack of interest <though there are a few>)

BYE!

A lot of Interest.

PS. I've a few little things to submit in the near future myself that I've been told about.

Building the FEST!

by Tony Podraza

FEST Coordinator

Glenside Color Computer Club

It has been said that if you build it, they will come. I have been asked, "How do you build a CoCoFEST!?" I only wish I knew, then perhaps, I could get it right. 1994 has been the second year that Glenside has sponsored the Chicago-area CoCoFEST!, (yes, the exclamation mark IS part of the name) and each year has brought new items to the fore to be smoothed out for the next FEST! AH! you haven't heard, The FOURTH Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! will be held on April 29th & 30th, 1995; same place as the 2nd & 3rd. More about that in the future. Now, where was I?

The first item under consideration is whether or not to put an event together. There are quite a few items to consider. Is there enough interest for the event? Are there enough helping hands for the menial tasks to be done? Is there enough "front money" to invest in the necessities, let alone the bells and whistles? IS THERE ENOUGH TIME FOR PROMOTION? Do you have enough time to make all the contacts, arrangements, phone calls, mailings, etc. This last requirement is PERSONAL time, not calendar time. And who is going to pay the phone company?

Alright, so you're committed to plan, prepare, and perform a FEST! (and you will soon realize that you SHOULD be committed for wanting to do such a crazy thing). Step 1: find a place! It should be close to major highways, easy to get to without too many turns (remember, you have to tell people how to get there so directions must be simple...no "only 1/2 mile south of the old barn that is around the corner from Harold's General Store and Ice Cream Emporium 2 blocks west of the Citgo Station by the crossroads of..." you get the idea); locating your event near a Metropolitan area is helpful, as is a couple of nearby airports (we have 4 within shouting distance in the Chicago area, O'Hare, Midway, Rockford, and Mitchell Field in Milwaukee, though who would want to fly into Rockford?). [Now that I've alienated all the Rockfordites...] Finding your meeting place will be the hardest part of your quest. Most GOOD convention centers and hotels with meeting facilities will be booked almost a year in advance, so plan EARLY! Be prepared to shift your event date(s) to accommodate the availability of the meeting facility.

Once you have a location, PROMOTE! PROMOTE! PROMOTE! PROMOTE! Get the picture? Use every logical and ethical means at your disposal. Use periodicals, trade papers, newsletters, BBS's, online services, networks, posters, fliers, postcards, any and every FREE means you can find as well as the paid advertisements. Write articles for newsletters and periodicals and slip in a blurb here and there...but don't abuse the privilege. Talk to prospective Exhibitors, notice that I didn't say Vendors; not everyone who participates in the event will have something to vend, they may just want to show off their latest whatzit that shorts out the phone lines to the electrical bypass switch to give a glorious display

of sound and light...one time only!

How large a meeting facility do you expect to need?HMMMMMMMMMM, HARD ONE! Do you expect to have seminars? How much will this cost? I can't answer these for you, but they need to be asked. How can you get a reduced rate if you hold the event at a hotel with a banquet hall? Ask if a reduced rate would be possible if the event sells "X" amount of room-nights during the course of the event. If that fails, then go to room-nights per night. This could save you between \$100-\$300 on the rental of the banquet facilities. Be sure to settle on a "code" for the event. Then be sure that your promotions make prominent mention of that code. Oh, and try to lock in a special rate for the rooms, too. Go for a minimum of 20% off of regular room rates, but don't be greedy, even a 10-15% discount is a discount and will pay for the state and local taxes, usually. Remember the cardinal rule of the thrifty...It never hurts to ask.

Okay, you've got your facility. Now, find someone who is really good in laying out the tables. Do whatever you have to to win that person over to the position of laying out the room when you know how many exhibitor you will have.

Second, make arrangements with a food service so the exhibitors won't have to leave the show area to get something to eat and drink in the middle of the day. We pulled this one off this year and did it make a difference! Third, find a way to identify who's who in your layout. Unless you have spent BIG BUCKS and have gotten a decorator who has provided booth backdrops with poles and curtains, you probably won't have a handy area to place signs. Taping them to the table is one way, but when people stand in front of the table, the sign can't be seen. Standing the signs on the table works...sort of...but takes away from the useable space that the exhibitor would like to use. We had the good fortune to have a drop ceiling this year, and the manager of the facility said that we could suspend the signs with fishing line from the ceiling supports, just as long as we didn't put holes in anything.

TABLES!!! Make sure that the facility has enough tables for the event...and try to get them to include them in the price of the room without any extra charges. If they don't have enough, see if you can bring your own tables (which you will probably be able to acquire from a local rental center at the same price that the facility would be able to pay, AND you won't have to pay the add-on charges that the facility will tag onto the rental bill. Remember, they're out to make a profit on every penny that THEY spend on your behalf). PA system! Go FM cordless. The Host can be mobile, that way. Live interviews, announcements, surprise meetings can be soooooo much more interesting. And a cordless lavalier mic shouldn't cost more than 15-25 dollars a day.

EASELS and PODIUMS! A must for the seminars. And don't forget a table in the seminar room. The speaker may have some equipment to set up for the discussion. Do you ever get thirsty? Make arrangements to have the facility personnel maintain a water station, iced, if you please. And one last detail...refuse containers. Be sure that the exhibitors and attendees help you keep the show area looking neat, clean, and professional. Everybody will have a more enjoyable time, and the facility will welcome

you back.

The day of the event approaches; the people are at the registration booth, anxious for the start of the show; they purchase their admissions and you reach into the box to give them their bag of fliers and their show guide....SHOW GUIDE!!!!!!
AAAAAARRRRRRGGGGGGHHHHHH!!!!!! I forgot to tell you about the show guide!!!!!! This is perhaps one of the most important details...HA!..ITEM OF MAJOR IMPACT. A well thought-out presentation of the show floor area, presented with advertisements, exhibitor information, editorials, and an area for names, addresses, and notes could be the most important, long-lasting memory and information source of the event to those who attend. It is extremely important to mention the show guide to all prospective exhibitors and vendors. There may be some who will not be able to attend but would want to participate and maintain their presence in the event by advertising in the show guide. To this extent, try to keep the advertising prices manageable. This will guarantee a sizable number of participants, and give them a good return on their investment. Glenside has received information regarding vendors that still support the community by making sure that the vendors knew about the show guide for the FEST!

A few parting thoughts from my compadre, Carl Boll, without whose assistance and constant mortal support, I would have long ago become bald from pulling out what little hair I have left on the top of my head. In planning your timetable, be sensitive to dates that may have already been taken by other groups planning similar events as well as holidays. When you are looking for a date, have a calendar handy that has as many holidays, school vacations, religious observances, etc., as possible listed. Also, the exhibitor pool isn't exactly getting any larger, and the individuals resources necessary to attend these events aren't unlimited. So help spread out these FESTS! over the year and try not to schedule too close to another...it will only hurt attendance...both exhibitors AND the public.

If you have a large local group of prospective attendees, you may want to "hitch a ride" on the coattails of another local event to ensure coverage by both your target attendees as well as those not currently involved. A few new users have been gathered into the fold, that way. If you decide to attempt a national or regional crowd, give yourself three to five extra months of promotion so people can mark their schedules WELL in advance.

If you can, offer assistance to anybody putting on an event to get a feel for the legwork required before you have to put up the "front money" AND ALL the time necessary. Glenside was able to follow in the footsteps of Dave and Nancy Myers, who, as D&N Enterprises/CoCoPRO! sponsored the First Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! We thank Dave and Nancy for sharing a large portion of the ins and outs of the event-planning necessary to pull off a successful show. I believe that you have now read most of their list, given verbally to me, as well as a few stones that Carl and I stumbled over during the last two years...and there is always one more thing to pass on. But, I can't think of any more tonight.

So gather your pencils, spreadsheets,

notepaper.....ALL YES! Keep very detailed records of all the financial transactions, contracts with exhibitors, and verbal promises of any kind. Otherwise, you just might get embarrassed.

Now as I was saying...get your stuff together, make your lists of things to do, and may you have as much fun as we have had planning and pulling off the Annual "LAST" Chicago CoCoFESTS! (and don't set your date anywhere within four months of April 29 & 30, 1995 or I will sneak up behind you and get you when you're not looking!.....HA!) Best of luck. Shaloom.

PLEASE READ! IMPORTANT ELECTION NOTICE!

Dateline: November 12, 1994

Well.... The nominations for the new officers for '95 were opened and nominations were taken for the following offices:

For the position of...

President

Tony Podraza

Tom Schaeffges

Vice President (Three positions)

Carl Boll

Rob Gibons

Chris Hawks

Mike Knudsen

Jerry Sommer

Miles Westbrook

Secretary

Sheryl Edwards

Howard Luckey

Treasurer

Bob Bruhl

Sheryl Edwards

George Schneeweiss

These nominations were made by the members present at the Nov. 10th meeting, of both people present or not. With that in mind, I would like to see the next meeting crowded with members to be heard, making additional officerial nominations and casting their votes. Please make an effort to plan and be at this next meeting on Dec 8th. It is important to be there and lend your support to the club and its members.

Thank You,

Brian Schubring—Prez '94

Meeting Location:

Glenside Public Library
25 West Fullerton Avenue
Glendale Heights, Illinois 60172

Directions:

The Library is on Fullerton Avenue, about one-half mile West of Bloomindale Road. Fullerton is about one mile South of Army Trail Road and about one mile North of North Avenue (Route 64). Bloomingdale Road is about two miles West of Route 53/I-355/the North-South Tollway.

**Next Meeting Date
December 8, 1994**

Glenside Color Computer Club
31 South Edgewood Avenue
Lombard, IL 60148

