CoCo~123

CoCo⁻ 123 Memory Map

Upcoming Events:
The Annual Glenside Picnic Sunday, September 10, 2006
Regular meetings every 2nd Thursday @ Schaumburg Library

G.S.B.A.A. OFFICERS

Here is the list of 2006 club officers and how to contact them.
If you have questions about the association call one of the
officers for the answers.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Howard Luckey	708-747-1735	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Chris Hawks	815-943-4690	Meeting planning, etc.
Vice-President	Tony Podraza	847-428-3576	CoCoFEST! Organizer
Vice-President	Brian Goers	708-754-4921	Special Events
Secretary	Bob Swoger	630-837-7957	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	George Schneeweiss	815-832-6995	Dues and Purchasing

Howard Luckey   Justin Wagner   Brian Goers   Tony Podraza   Robert Swoger   George Schneeweiss

CoCo~123 INFORMATION

The CoCo~123 is the newsletter of the Glenside Color Computer Club. Your annual contribution of $15.00 keeps our club going. Send your check to Glenside Treasurer:

George L Schneeweiss
13450 N 2700 E Road
Forrest IL 61741-9629

If you are unsure of when you last paid dues, look at the address label. The numbers to the right of your name indicate the last year you paid your dues.

Our treasury provides newsletters, local meeting room and good times with fellow CoCo users at our annual Chicago CoCoFEST!.

CoCo~123 CONTRIBUTIONS

If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or would like to submit an article, please contact the CoCo~123 Newsletter editor:

Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, IL 60107-1647

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Willard Goosey
Roy Justus (Fest Photos)
Howard Luckey
Tony Podraza
George Schneeweiss
Bob Swoger

G. C. C. MEETINGS

The Glenside Color Computer Club meets the second Thursday of each month at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 7:00 PM. If you need a map, see our Glenside Homepage at:
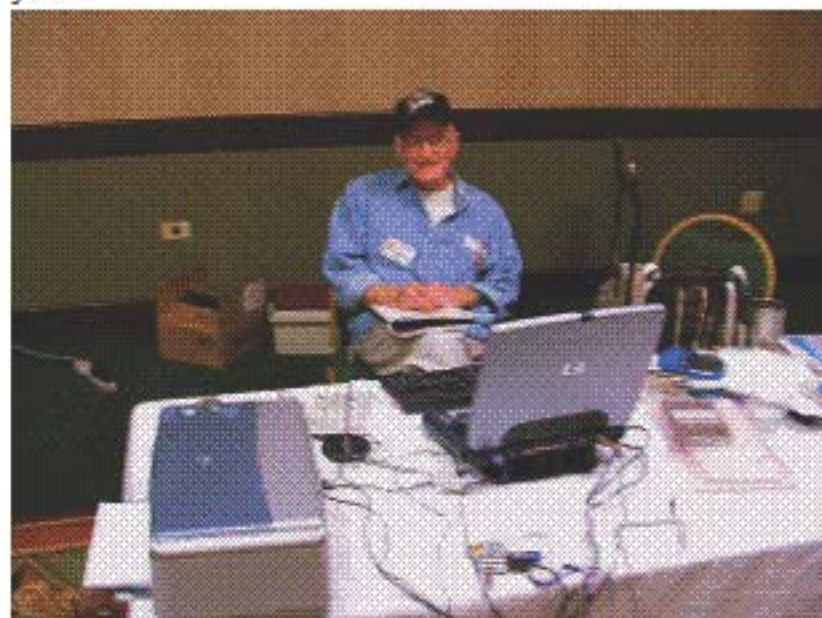
http://members.aol.com/clubbbs/glenside/

A social get-together always follows at a nearby restaurant.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DISK

I'd like to thank all those who participated in our 2006 CoCoFEST! It is a great turnout that makes our CoCoFEST! successful and assures us that the next CoCoFEST! will come next year.

This year we had 17 paid attendees.

Malcolm Cleveland and Barbara Morris sold "Blast from the Past" CoCo items along with Malcolm's Mom, Kathryn. 17 venders rented 20 tables at this year's FEST!.
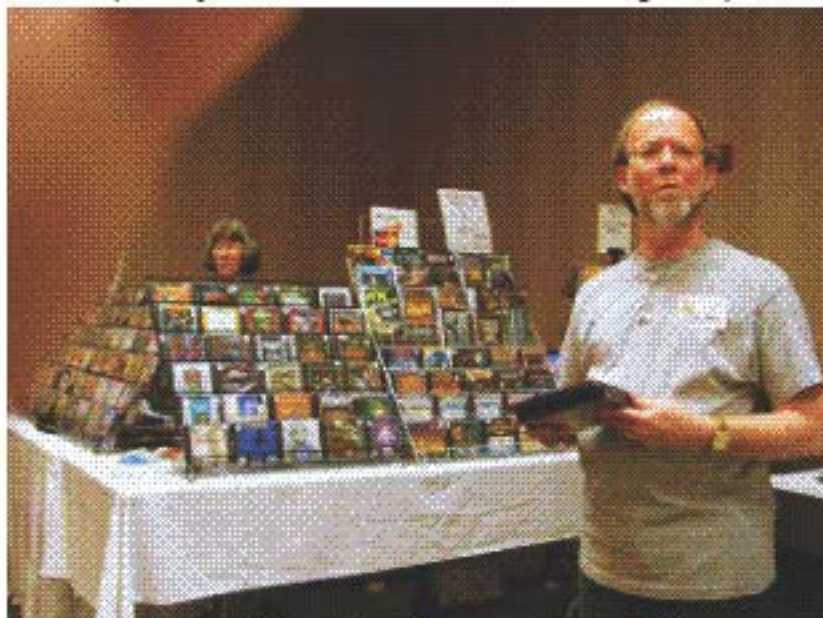

Our auctions yielded $538.50 from more than 100 items donated now in the hands of new owners who wished to keep these items out of land fills. We also had $312.50 in cash donations for the express purpose of paying the bills for our fest. 21 tickets were sold at the door for the 2-day event. Most important, we did not go into red ink for the event.

Cloud-9's Mark Marlette brought many new products that make the CoCo3 a computer that never loses data, no more failing hard drives.
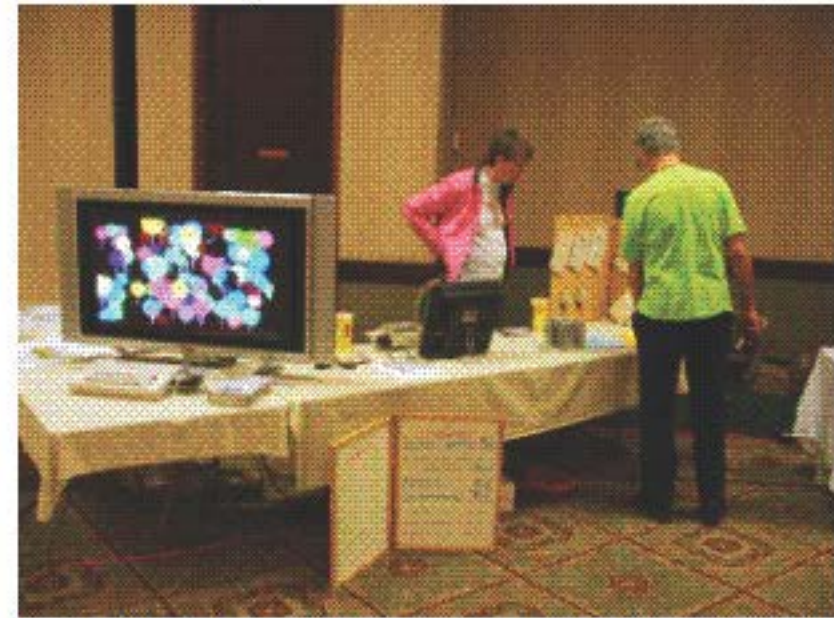
(Sandy Weimer won the $50 door prize.)

Frank & Carol Davis sells us shirts and coasters designed by Jim Johnson commemorating CoCo3s twentieth anniversary. Frank owns a company that restores old sound and video recordings and sells them at his on line store at http://fwdcomputing.bizland.com/fwdcomputingsoftware/ He has a movie from 1916, "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" and the source was the Library of Congress. During his seminar these restored recordings looked and sounded great! Frank had "fan movies" made by groupies interested in keeping Star Trek and Star Wars alive with new stories and actors from all over the world. Notably, Frank showed us a portion of a Star Trek episode that was to be aired had not the Shatner series ended. The actors were new but the sets looked like the first Star Trek series. As for Star Wars fan movies, George Lucus was hot to sue at first -- until his lawyer suggested that these people were ardent fans keeping Star Wars alive. So, Lucus began to judge these movies and gives the winners an internship at the ranch and a $10,000.00 prize.

(Frank won the $10 door prize and donated a shirt for the auction.)

Chris & Nancy Hawks sold out Chris' CoCo3 to S-Video interfaces. What a PICTURE! I hope he plans to build more. By the way, that's Dick Albers of California checking out the other HawkSoft offerings.

For the second year Dave Keil brought CoCo3 Simulator boxes. Seen here giving us a seminar, Dave still had boxes left over to sell. He can ship them to those unable to make the FEST!

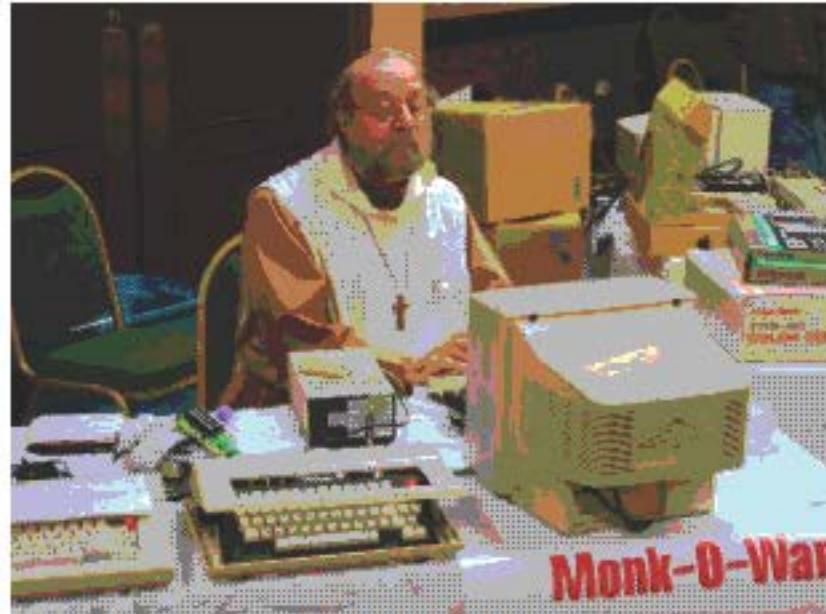CJB still had/has IDE Interfaces to sell.

Billie Jones, Linda Griffin (not pictured) and others had items to sell other than CoCo items for the ladies at the show.

Dave (the Borg...check out the cyber-earpiece) & Susan Poitras of New Hampshire are among the many that support our FEST!

John Linville -- Tux Driver of North Carolina displaying his Fujitsu dual-6809 OS9 machine (which he later donated to the auction) .

Brother Jeremy had OS-9 Level 3 upgrades. Justin Wagner (no picture available) gave a talk about his use of Vonage phone system.

On Saturday evening we gathered in the Joseph's Room of Bennigan's for Hors D'oeuvres, dinner of our choice and socializing.

Howard Luckey, President
Glenside Color Computer Club

TREASURY NOTES

As of August 1, 2006, we have $5940.96 in the bank.

George Schneeweiss, Treasurer
Glenside Color Computer Club

THE SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

April 13, 2006

President Howard Luckey called the meeting to order at 7:25 pm. Also present were Chris Hawks, Tony Podraza, Frank Pittel and Bob Swoger.

During the meeting, Howard listened for members on the Internet using Gizmo. He heard no activity. However, he called Boisy Pitre with no reply.

Old Business:
We decided that dues would be $10 at the fest only. Regular yearly dues are $15.

New business:
David Keil will give a seminar on his CoCo3 emulator system. Chris Hawks is to give a seminar on his S-Video interface early Saturday.

Chris's sister in law and son in Nashville TN got thrown 100 feet in their trailer home during a tornado. Also, Nancy's beloved horse Thunder died.

After the meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm, Chris Hawks gave us the "Show Of The Evening", his new CoCo RGB to S-Video Converter with screen centering. The second unit had a feature that allows continuous control of horizontal centering. He plans to sell 6 units at the fest. After the show we all went to Portillo's for the meeting after.

May 11, 2006

President Howard Luckey called the meeting to order at 8:25 pm. Also present were Chris Hawks, Tony Podraza, Frank Pittel and Bob Swoger.

Tony contacted Treasurer George Schneeweiss by phone and got the treasures report. $1480.23 was given to the Holiday Inn for the balance on the 2006 use of the fest ballroom.

During the meeting, Howard listened for members on the Internet using Gizmo. We did hear member Dave Kelly but could not get a reliable connection.

Old Business:
Election of new officers was put off until our June meeting.

New Business:
Saturday auction brought in $335.50 and the Sunday auction $203.00. Frank Davis won the $10 door prize and donated a fest shirt to the auction. The shirt brought in $15 from Eddie Kuns. Sandy Weimer won the $50 door prize.

Tony reported that the Holiday Inn will raise the price of the Ballroom another $500 for 2007. It was $500 more for 2006 than it was for 2005. To overcome this new increase, the consensus is to increase the tables by $5, raise door tickets from $10 to $15, spouse/significant other stays at $10, for both days. Sunday only attendance would increase from $7 to $10, spouse/significant other to be $5. We will not incur the $40 expense for the flipchart used to announce seminars. Howard Luckey said he would personally donate the coffee and Danishes saving us $94. We discussed how we might get the venders to advertise. **We are doing the next fest!**

June 8, 2006

President Howard Luckey called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm. Also present were Chris Hawks, Tony Podraza, Brian Goers and Bob Swoger.

Old Business:
We are considering a new Fest Ballroom. Our old room in Elgin was 3,600 sq. feet. The room now costs twice as much it did 2005. Tinley Park has a 1,000 sq. foot ballroom at $350 per day. Tony said the prices would go up again next year.

New business:
Bob felt we should not exceed $1,500 for the two day event. Tony says the prices are comparably priced and we could afford $2,000 if we can get more people involved. Friends are out beating the bushes for a greater turnout for 2007.

Chris suggested we put room and tickets for sale on ebay. He noted that Chris Spry is selling his system on ebay.

Election of officers followed. Howard Luckey was voted in as President, Chris Hawks our Vice President, Bob Swoger our Secretary. George will remain our Treasurer.

July 13, 2006

Re-elected President Howard Luckey presiding, our meeting was called to order at 7.53 pm at the home of Bob Swoger. Present were Howard Luckey, Chris Hawks, Tony Podraza, Brian Goers and Bob Swoger. We had a screened in Gazebo with surge protected outlets for all those that brought computers. Refreshments were also available.

Old Business:
Bob Swoger figured the price increases for the 2007 fest. Our present room increase is $500 for 2007. If we have exactly the same turn out as 2006 and we assume the auction brings in the

same amount as 2006, we are between $42 to $94 short of being at a break-even point for 2007. Much depends on the auction.

New business:

Bob Swoger explained what he found out about the availability of meeting room space in hotels Before 9/11 corporations would train their employees at hotels. Since 9/11 corporations removed training from their budgets. The hotel business took a big hit and found they no longer needed their large meeting rooms. Many remodeled, providing only 900 square feet or less for meeting space. This is why we found hotels on the web advertising 1,500 square foot or larger rooms that really no longer exist. Those that kept their large meeting rooms found they could compete with wedding ballroom providers allowing them to make $10,000 in one evening for a room the size of ours. Those with the space occur closer to air ports and cost much more than ours.

We voted to keep Holiday Inn for March 31 & April 1, 2007

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm. We had the meeting after Portillos in Streamwood, same great food and less expensive (lower taxes).

Robert Swoger, Secretary
Glenside Color Computer Club

ARTICLE

NitrOS-9 Level 2 Booting and (trouble)Shooting

by Chris Hawks.

One of our local Coco-nuts was having a problem with NitrOS-9 on his Coco3. It had recently stopped booting NitrOS-9 from HDB-DOS in his SuperIDE. We got together at the monthly Glenside Color Computer Club meeting to see if we could resolve the problem. He brought his system and I brought a sub-set of my system to the meeting. We were the 'presentation' for that meeting. I booted my system from HDB-DOS and my SuperIDE adapter with his compactflash card in a compactflash to IDE adapter as the slave drive. After my systems booted, I looked at the root

directory of his compactflash card. It looked OK to me, but, he did have some odd files there. I shut down my system and swapped the compactflash cards. (His as master and mine as slave.) The boot process started and loaded track 34 and the OS9boot and then just stopped. From the debugging clues posted to the screen during the boot process, I was able to determine the boot process was unable to find the 'sysgo' module. I re-booted with my compactflash as master and his as slave, and copied 'sysgo' from my root directory to his. We swapped the compactflash cards once again and his compact flash was able to boot!

I was asked to write-up our adventure as a article for the GCCC newsletter (Coco 1 2 3). I had not been able to find and information on debugging the boot process in NitrOS-9 (except from the source code) so here it is.

STEP 1:
The modules 'rel', 'boot', and 'krn' are loaded into memory from track 34 by the 'dos' command. 'Rel' ensures that it is located in the correct part of memory, sets up some of the hardware, clears the screen, and installs the debugging 'print' routine. It prints 'NITROS9 BOOT' in the center of the screen and jumps to the execution address of the module 'krn'.

STEP 2:
The module 'krn' uses the debug 'print' routine to put a 'K' on the startup screen. It validates the modules in memory ('rel', boot, and 'krn') which prints their names on the startup screen and makes a system call (F$Boot) which puts a 't' on the startup screen and links the module 'boot'. It puts a 'b' on the startup screen and calls 'boot'. 'Boot' reads LSN0 to find OS9boot and puts a '0' on the startup screen. 'Boot' then loads OS9boot and puts a '.' on the startup screen for each sector read. 'FBoot' validates all modules in OS9boot which prints their names to the screen, and puts a second 'b' on the startup screen. Next 'krn' links to the 'init' module and puts 'i' on the startup screen. Following this it links to and executes 'krnp2' the second part of the kernel.

STEP 3:

'Krnp2' puts a '2' on the startup screen, and puts an 'x' on the startup screen. Then 'krnp2' tries to 'chd' to the system device named in 'init' (usually '/dd'). Next 'krnp2' puts a 'o' on the startup screen and tries to open the output console named in 'init' (usually '/term'). 'Krnp2' checks for 'krnp3' and runs it if available. Then 'krnp2' puts a 'C' on the startup screen and tries to run the startup module named in init usually 'sysgo'.

STEP 4:

'Sysgo' opens the output console, prints the NitrOS-9 startup banner and sets the data and exec directories. 'Sysgo' will execute 'startup' and 'autoexec' if available (unless you hold the 'shift' key) and finally starts a 'shell' on the console.

If something goes wrong during the boot, the module will call the 'crash' routine which will put a '*' and single character on the startup screen.

The '*' indicates that an error occurred and the character's ASCII value plus 128 is the error number. For instance '*X' would indicate a 'Path Name Not Found' error. 'X' is ASCII 88, and 88 + 128 = 216, the error code for 'Path Name Not Found'. This is the error we saw when sysgo was missing from the root directory of the disk.

So, the start up messages look something like this:
Krel boot krn tb0...
.... bkrnp2 dd d0 rbf rb1773 term w w1 w2 w3 w4 scf cowin clock clock2 init i2xoC
Of course, YMMV (Your Modules May Vary)

This should give you some insight into what goes on during a NitrOS-9 boot, and perhaps some debugging assistance when something goes wrong.

COMMUNICATIONS

[If our readers do not respond to these ads, there are two more ways to keep your CoCo equipment out of some land fill. One way that has worked for others is to get a table at the CoCoFEST! and sell the whole package. This way you can enjoy seeing the face of the new owner and have a great time at the fest. The other way would be to ship the equipment to Fest Organizer Tony Podraza, 119 Adobe Circle, Carpentersville, IL, 60110-1101 and your items will help support our fests through our auctions during the fest. ED.]

Willard Goosey writes: Ever since Boyle's old web site went down, I've kept a copy of his 2.0 Beta drivers for the Glenside IDE board on my website for download.

I'm not complaining -- It's something that needed to be done and I had everything to do it at hand when I set it up.

However, I'm a fan of redundancy, especially where the ever-changing web is concerned.

I would like your permission to upload Boyle's 2.0 drivers, a virtual disk of the 1.0 drivers disk, and a separate archive of the utility programs (detect_ide, lformat, recluster) to RTSI, maltedmedia, or both.

Willard Goosey **goosey@sdc.org**
Socorro, New Mexico, USA

Tony Podraza writes: The 15th Annual "LAST" Chicago CoCoFEST! has past, and a good time was had by all. This year's FEST! had had attendees from both coasts, and border countries and from many, many points in between. Details for attendance can be found elsewhere in the newsletter. Here, we'll fill you in on some of the details for next year. First, the dates…(now it is very important that you pay attention and mark these into your calendar….without your involvement and attendance, this next CoCoFEST! could, very well, be the "LAST") March 31 and April, this is no joke, 1st, 2007. These are some of the earliest dates that we have ever had and will, doubtless, create a challenge for you when you arrange your schedules. There are a couple of reasons for this, the main one being the events of 9-11-2001. Far fetched, you say? Initially,

perhaps, but ask around and find out how many corporate meetings are taking place in the large meeting rooms of the hotels today as opposed to 6 years ago. A lot of them have been sub-divided into smaller meeting rooms with no way to join them by opening moveable partitions. The remaining locations are being booked for weddings AT ENORMOUS RATES, which Glenside could not possibly afford. As it is, after 14 years of sponsoring the FEST!, and keeping the cost to exhibitors at a minimum, (actually, the rates have never increased over those that we started with, back in 1993, Glenside is forced to initiate a minor increase in table and attendance cost in order for the event's spreadsheet to stay balanced.

Most of you were not at the CoCoFEST! 2007 planning session, so let me explain. The 2006 FEST! showroom cost GLENSIDE $1500, for the two days, up about 500 dollars from 2005, which the two day's auctions and some very generous donations helped to cover. This does not mention the "extras" such as the coffee and Danishes, the Hors D'oeuvres at the Saturday evening meal, and a few other necessities and niceties that the club sprung for. This year, the rental of the room will, again, climb 500 dollars, extra, because that is the going rate.

(Since we're in the room overnight, that is still one whale of a bargain…there was one weekend, later on in the year, where we could have the days, but we'd have to tear down overnight and return in the morning) In order to continue to offer this event, your support, in any way, or form…principally, your attendance… is greatly desired. We had a MONSTER of a good time, last year, and YOU! were missed. See the following for details and mark you calendars, NOW!

Be sure to visit GLENSIDE'S Website
http://members.aol.com/clubbbs/glenside/

Also, be sure to visit GLENSIDE'S Picnic
   Sunday, September 10, 2006

Here are the 5 "W's"
WHO?   1) Glenside Color Computer Club, Inc.
                 PRESENTS
WHAT?   2) The "Sweet" 16th Annual "Last"
                 Chicago CoCoFEST!
WHEN?   3) March 31 & April 1st, 2007
(Sat. 10am-5pm; Sun. 10am-3:00pm or whenever)
WHERE? 4) HOLIDAY INN & SUITES ELGIN
                 495 Airport Rd
                 Elgin Illinois 60123
                 (A city block North of I-90 & IL-31)
                 (Same great location as last year!)
Overnight single occupancy room rate:
             $79.00 plus 10% tax   (possibly less)
             Call 1-847-488-9000 for reservations.
Please ask for the Glenside "CoCoFEST!" rate.
>>>YOU MUST REGISTER UNDER "COCOFEST!"<<<
       >>>>>TO GET THIS RATE <<<<<

THERE IS A LIMITED SUPPLY OF ROOMS BLOCKED OUT FOR THE FEST. RESERVE YOUR ROOM EARLY -- THESE ROOMS WILL BE RELEASED FOR REGULAR RESERVATIONS ON MARCH 15, 2007 AND WILL NOT, ! NOT ! BE AVAILABLE TO THE FEST ATTENDEES.

WHY? 5) A. To provide vendor support to the
             CoCo Community
         B. To provide Community support to
             the CoCo Vendors
         C. To provide educational support to
             new users.
         D. TO HAVE AN OUTRAGEOUSLY
             GOOD TIME!!!

And now, the "H" word.
HOW MUCH? 1) All Attendees - General Admission
Saturday & both days: $15.00 1st - $10 2nd & more
Sunday Only: $10.00 1st - $5 2nd & more
    ******* Children 10 and under - FREE *******

Advance ticket sales available between 1/15/2007 and 3/15/2007 from:

George Schneeweiss
13450 N 2700 E Road
Forrest, IL 61741

 Include a Self-Addressed-STAMPED-Envelope (SASE)

For further information, general or exhibitor, contact:
Tony Podraza, GCCCI   Brian Goers, GCCCI
847-428-3576, VOICE   708-754-4921, VOICE
tonypodraza@juno.com   bgoers@ais.net