Glenside Color Computer Club

EDITOR: EDWIN D. HATHAWAY

CoCo-1 2 3

WELCOME TO THE 1987
- Chicago RAINBOWfest -

To start off with, all of us with the Glenside Color Computer Club welcome you to the 1987 Chicago RAINBOWfest. If there is anything we can do to help make your weekend stay more enjoyable, please do not hesitate to ask us for assistance. Please take this copy of our Newsletter back home with you or back to your own CoCo Club and share it with friends. We are very proud of this publication and we hope you find the different articles informative and helpful. On behalf of the Glenside Color Computer Club, we welcome you to the 1987 Chicago RAINBOWfest.

If you brought your computer and modem with you, please give the Glenside ColoRoma BBS a call at 307-1519. This is a local call from the Hyatt. The SysOp, David Barnes, has released a special RAINBOWfest user log-on I.D. number and we welcome you to use the BBS while you are here. The RAINBOWfest user log-on number is, 200GLN. ENJOY!

On the back page of this Newsletter, you will find money saving coupons that are good during the 1987 Chicago RAINBOWfest weekend. Please use them with the complements of Glenside and the RAINBOWfest Exhibitor.

APRIL NEWSLETTER

To start of with, I would like to say how sorry I was for not having a formal product demo ready for the March Meeting. All I can say is I HOPE THAT THE FLU I HAD DOES NOT INVADE YOUR HOUSEHOLD. It truly was a killer! There was a plus that was gained by not having a presentation. We were able to discuss the up coming RAINBOWfest in detail and give enough time for announcements. In addition, we were able to hold yet another soon th become famous RAFFLE'. A very special thanks to Jeff of the Radio Shack Store on Army Trail Road in Glendale Heights for donating all the good stuff. All of this extra activity was a small consolation, but, it was a B.T.F. (Big Time Flu)!

As of our March meeting, four (count'm 4) new members have joined the growing family of Glenside. It never ceases to amaze me just how much Glenside has grown over the years. Each month we take the time to welcome in our newest members because they are or will be the future of Glenside. On the other hand, I am also amazed of the growing number of members who have been with Glenside for three or more years. This number of veteran members represents about 19% of our total membership. Inside this issue of CoCo-1 2 3, we are going to list their names and the year they joined. As we say WELCOME to our new members, we also salute Glenside's CoCoVets.

As a special treat (well maybe a treat to some of you), inside this issue is Part II of the Faces of Glenside. During our March meeting, David Branes was busy zapping the life out of all. As I said the last time we did this, "the camera does not lie!" This poster represents about half of our membership. In the months to come we will do this again in order to get ALL the members zapped and accounted for.

With April upon us, I have some very special news to pass along to you. Spectrogram Magazine will be featuring Glenside in their new CLUB CORNER section. We were given permission by Spectrogram to reprint this article in this issue of CoCo-1 2 3. While you are at RAINBOWfest, stop on by their Booth and say HELLO. Starting with our next issue we will be doing an article reviewing the latest issue of Spectrogram. This will be done much the same way we review the Rainbow Magazine in our 'Over the Rainbow' column.

That about wraps it up for yet another month. I hope that you find this years RAINBOWfest one the best if not the best... See you all in April.

RAINBOWfest

The Future of Z80 Computing.....or.....
What Can You Expect for Free??

by: Joe Register

Well, Shareware software may not be free but it certainly is reasonable. Today especially, we're lucky to have these programmers on our side. It's no secret that the commercial market is heavily biased to the 16-Bit persuasion. As a result, more and more of us will turn to the Shareware programmer for support. If you're not familiar with the Shareware concept, read on!

First let me emphasize the fact that the vast majority of these programmers and their works are very professional. Some are employed as P.C. Gurus or Mainframe Wizards by day, producing great hacks at night. Others are hobbyists who have perfected their art over the years and are very serious about their programs.

What can you expect from a Shareware program? Well, a few Shareware programs are "Beta" or test versions of some final commercial product. In this case the programmer has given you the opportunity to use an early version of what may become an expensive software package. Often there is no charge, asking only for your comments and constructive criticism in return for the use of his program. Later, he may embellish the hack with additional bells and whistles and charge a fair sum for the improved and debugged version.

But in most cases, a shareware program was originally written for personal use. It may have been a low cost alternative to a commercial product or an innovation for a limited market. Chances are it was written by a competent programmer that just doesn't want to fight the commercial system. It was enough of a job creating the code, debugging and writing the documentation. Just the thought of dealing with a software publishing house might put him over the edge. That's why he's content receiving a donation, usually between $10.00 to $40.00, from appreciative users. This donation usually intitles you to direct support, which may represent the best of all user worlds. Anyone who has attempted to contact a major software house for even minor support will appreciate this luxury. On the other hand, if you find you don't use the program, you're under no moral or legal obligation to donate anything. In either case, you are encouraged to give away copies to your hearts content, as this is the way the author distributes his program.

Where do you find these programs? Any place you find computer users, there are usually good shareware programs available. User groups like Glenside, local bulletin boards and information services such as Delphi, Compuserve or The Source are all good sources. There are even some "PD/SW Clearing Houses" that provide these programs for a set amount per disk, plus shipping and handling. The fee you pay these companies is for their collection and distribution efforts only. You would still be libel for any donation that the author requests.

Although there are thousands, if not millions, of potential customers in the Z80 world, we just aren't as lucrative as the MSDOS business market. When you figure the expenses of writing, publishing and promoting a software package, we probably don't make good business sense. So, let's work at keeping the shareware concept alive. If you're using a shareware package, send the author the requested donation. Let's make an effort to support a group that continues to support us!

Here is a short list representing some of the excellent TRSDOS & LDOS Shareware available in the Z80 Sig.

ERACS Bulletin Board System	TRSDOS 6.2
XT4 Communication Program	TRSDOS 6.2
ARCHIVE4 Library and Utility	TRSDOS
The CREATOR Data Base System	TRSDOS 6.2
SHELL1.8 DOS Shell Program	TRSDOS 6.2
OVERVUE Machine Language Monitor	TRSDOS 6.2
OUTLINER W.P. Outlining Tool	TRSDOS 6.2
ARCHIVE3 Library and Utility	LDOS 5.1.x
XTERM Communication Program	LDOS 5.1.x
DIFKIT Visicalc File Utilities	TRSDOS 1.3

Joe Register is a tire replenishment buyer for a large Chicago based merchandiser. Joe owns a TRS-80 Model 3 & 4 and a Color Computer 2 & 3. He also uses a MS-DOS based mainframe at his place of business. Joe is President of Glenside's Z-80 S.I.G. and a Board of Director for G.C.C.C.

THE GLENSIDE COCORAMA BBS
by David Barnes - SYSOP

Now that most of you have either read my previous articles or have become a user on the BBS, you will have a working knowledge the system. This month will feature a database review of the system.

THE COCO III SECTION

This section now holds all CoCoIII files, even tho they may be sound, graphic or music related. The only exception is Greg-E-Term, which is in the general download section. I felt that this terminal program was just too good for only one CoCo! The database currently has a new talking terminal program, you will need a Speech Sound Cartridge and a Multi-Pak to take advantage of this great program. User beware tho, 300 Baud only! There are several good utility programs available for downloading as well as some graphics conversion programs, and program 'FIXES' for the programs which do not run well on the III.

THE GALLERY SECTION

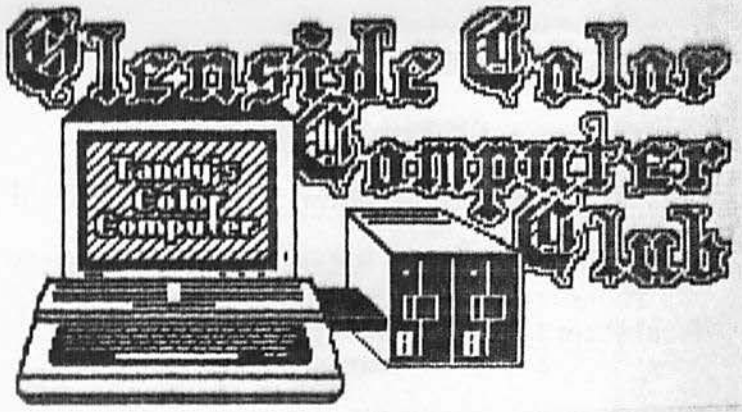
This section holds all of the BBS' graphics and graphics related programs. Most of these rks of art come our way from the BBS' ers. Many of the files are worthy of anyone's disks. You will need to use XMODEM to download these files and save them as a ML program. They may be viewed by a basic one liner, i.e. 10 PMODE4:SCREEN1,1:GOTO 10 after the file has been loaded into memory with the LOADM command. Of course these files are compatible with both CoCoMax (R) and Graphicom (R), and may be viewed or altered in that manner.

THE DOWNLOAD SECTION

This database holds all of the files for the CoCo I AND II, a few of these files may work well on the CoCo III, but have not been tested. Most of the files here are utility programs, but you may find a few games here and there. Remember to use XMODEM on the files with the 'BIN' extension.

THE SOUND SECTION

Here is a database with something for eryone! Music, speech synthesis, and voice cognition files are placed here. There are many MUSICA files available that should make a few CoCo-nuts turn off their stereo and turn up the TV's volume. There is even a



game which uses EARS and Super Voice for its playing. Some files feature Tandy's Speech Sound Cartridge for special effects.

Now that I have kept this article short, I would like to take some time to discuss the calling of an out of state BBS. Most people have found that there aren't too many CoCo BBS' around any longer. So most carriers start to drift around in different areas of the country. I sometimes find myself calling Texas or Pennsylvania to check out what different BBS' have to offer. Now I know what you're gonna say, TOO MUCH MONEY! Well it all depends on how you look at it. For example, an hour on Compuserve or Delphi will cost you about $6-7 at 300 Baud, Compuserve will charge you additional for 1200 Baud. A half an hour call to a BBS 500 miles away will cost you around $2.50 after 9:00 PM. At 1200 Baud you can get much more for your money by calling a BBS. Granted, not all BBS' have a database anywhere near the size of the commercial boards, but most BBS' are fairly easy to get around on and you won't waste your time looking for the newer files to download. Also I feel that the E-Mail sections are by far easier to use than on the pay per use informational services. So if you have an out of state BBS number, and think it costs too much. Go ahead give it a try, I know with the time and money you have invested in your system, $5 here or there isn't gonna break you.

I would like to thank everyone who has uploaded programs to the BBS.

I would also like to thank Co-SysOp's Paul F.Covello and Tony Belehradek for their time and help.

David Barnes is a self-employed contractor for major department stores. He is Vice President in charge of telecommunications for Glenside. His hobbies are bass fishing, handgunning, photography, and Color Computing.

CLUB CORNER
by: Ted Paul (c)

CENTRAL - U.S.A.

Club Name : Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois
Glendale Heights, Illinois 60139
BBS Phone : (312) 307-1519
Newsletter: Yes, $12.00 year
Dues : $10.00 year

I'm not sure where to start telling you about the Glenside Color Computer Club. These people are very active not only in promoting the use of the Color Computer 1-2-3, but also in community affairs. Their working relationship with their local Radio Shack stores is also excellent and should be copied by any club wanting to grow, grow and grow.

Of course being located just outside of Chicago gives a club a lot of users just from the sheer numbers of people living in the greater Chicago-land area. But unless you have a quality product and are willing to help people, no club could survive on numbers alone. Ed Hathaway is the Glenside Club President and has been kind enough to keep this writer on his mailing list since our first contact. Ed tells me that Glenside has developed a sure fire way to help his club and the local Radio Shack stores in promoting the use of the CoCo. Ed calls it the "Tri Fold." And it's nothing more than a single 8.5 x 11 piece of colored paper folded like a letter but printed in 3 columns like a broshure. The Tri Fold goes out with every CoCo sold in their area and is availbale over the counter at the same time. The "Tri Fold" highlights upcoming club meeting dates, advantages of club membership, has lot's of dot matrix graphics and club officers names and phone numbers. No mention of club dues is made, which could turn off a lot of potential members.

Glenside also does mall presentations in cooperation with the mall Radio Shack store. While this takes everyones time and effort to set up, staff, and tear down it's a real draw for the local store and attracts a lot of curious on lookers. Of course it doesn't hurt Glensides membership rolls either! The Gelnside group has also helped out the local food pantry by selling digitized pictures at a local community day event. The pictures went for .50 and the money went to help feed the disadvantaged. I was most impressed by this act of good will. Not only are truely needy people helped out but it shows the community that not all computer users are greasy haired weirdos trying to launch World War III.

The club supports a very well run BBS. It is a Colorama BBS which has message base, uploads, graphics programs, telecommunications and more. XMODEM is supported as well as CFT protocols. The board runs quickly, smoothly and without any trouble I could encounter and I've been on line several times. Registration and validation is needed before fulll access is allowed. The board will run at 300 or 1200 baud.

The Received and Verified stamp goes to the Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois. Their newletter, BBS and community service to the Chicago area are first rate!

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Glenside ColoRoma BBS 307-1519 Special RAINBOWfest log-on # 200GLN

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Editor: Ed Hathaway
Contributing Writers: Keith Gerue, Floyd, Joe Register, Ron Steinberg, David Barnes, Ken Johnson
Graphics & Designs: Second City Software

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- SOFTWARE REVIEW -

By: Floyd the Night Editor

The other day I was visiting the RS Computer Center in Lombard and bought the CoCoIII program called, KORONIS RIFT (Cat #26-3298). After careful study of the manual I knew that I was in for a real treat and challenge. Koronis Rift is under the new OS-9 Level 2 Operating System and getting it to run was as easy as typing in command, DOS, from Disk Basic (I did encounter a few problems at first getting this program to load correctly and will explain them at the end of this article.). The basis of Koronis Rift is a simple one; You are a space scavenger of sorts and your objective is to Loot the Ancient treasures on the planet Koronis and uncover their secret technological achievements. You are added by a Droid Analyzer called Psytek who orbits Koronis while you and the Repo-Tech Robot search and loot the planet in your Surface Rover. There is a total of 20 levels you need to search while fending off the attacking Guardian Saucers. Your goal is to destroy the saucer base in level 20 by gradually increasing your capabilities on the earlier levels. Sound simple? BEST OF LUCK!

I found the game play and graphics to be outstanding. While moving around on Koronis in the Surface Rover you could almost feel the bumps while navigating through the rifts. DETAIL in every sense of the word can best describe KORONIS RIFT. The only two draw backs of this program is, 1) Sound: If you forgot to turn up the volume, you would never miss it! 2) The Manual: The manual is designed to create a mood of adventure, not instruct you on how to best use your resources. Case in point; If you want to loot a hulk you must first have it in sight, get the go-a-head prompt to do so and lastly, allow your Repo-Tech Robot to exit the Surface Rover and return. At first I was trying to blast the Robot thinking it was an attacking Guardian Saucer. The manual was very vague on explaining how to loot hulks correctly. Despite these short comings, KORONIS RIFT is well worth $29.95!

LOADING PROBLEMS: If you are using a Multi-Pak Interface that has not had the new PAL chip installed, make sure that the Disk Controller is in slot 4 and that there is nothing else in slots 3 thru 1. You will not be able to get beyond the title screen if you do not follow these steps. Also, if you are using Disk Basic 1.0, you will have to type in and save to another disk the OS-9 Boot program found on the yellow card.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome with me the newest members of the growing family of Glenside U'.

* Tim Toman of Westmont, IL has a 64K CoCo I&II and a 128K CoCo III disk system. Other equipment includes a Okidata printer and a Hayes Smart Modem 1200. Tim comes to Glenside via our club listing in the Rainbow Magazine.

* Fred Wahlberg and his two sons, Jeff & Drew of Crown Point, IN have a 64K CoCo II and a 128K CoCo III disk system. Their other equipment includes printers, CGP 115 & 220, DWP 220 and the Line Printer VII and a RS Modem I & II. Fred and his family come to Glenside via our club listing in the Rainbow Magazine.

* Ralph Smejkal of Hoffman Estates, IL has a 64K CoCo I&II and a 128K CoCo III disk system. Other equipment includes a Smith Corona printer and a 1200 baud modem. Ralph is the current president of the Illinois Color Computer Club of Elgin and comes to Glenside as an exchange member.

* Chuck Buche of Warrenville, IL has a 64K CoCo I&II and a 128K CoCo III disk system. Other equipment includes a Gemini 10 printer and a Penril 1200 modem. Chuck comes to Glenside via our Club listing in the Rainbow Magazine.

Welcome gentlemen! I hope you find Glenside to be your CoCo connection for years to come.

Second City Software

GLENSIDE CoCoVets

Following is a list of Club Members who have been with Glenside for three or more years. From this day on, these group of peoples will be proudly called, Glenside CoCoVet. Along side their name will be the year they joined Glenside. As we welcome in our new members each month, lets not forget those who have served Glenside so well and made it all possible for new members TO JOIN!

Keith Gerue '83	Roger Halvorsen '84
Ed Hathaway '83	Ken Johnson '84
John Keller '84	Mike Kundsen '84
Ron Landwehr '84	Tony Podraza '85
John Schroder '84	Jim Stegen '84
Ron Steinberg '84	Dave LaSota '85
Tod Last '84	Bob Lorenz '85
Tim McLain '85	Dave Muluihill '84
Burt Orszula '84	Bill Perrin '83
Orville Prehn '83	Chuck Roberg '83

A PEEK AT OS-9 - PART II

By: Ed Hathaway

In last months column, we addressed the issue of what an Operating System is and how it interfaces with the computer. To refresh your memory "...an Operating System in it's simplest form is a vehicle to operate the computer and connected hardware..." The OS-9 Operating System is a lot more complex then the above statement would lead you to believe, but for now, let's just KEEP IT SIMPLE!

When it comes to Operating Systems, in particular OS-9, there seems to be three groups of people; The ones who want to keep it complicated and to themselves. Another group wanting to belong to the first group and lastly, there is you and I. Actually this is really not a true nor fair analysis, but at times it feels as if the shoe fits, well!

On the market today there is a growing availability of 'stand alone' and 'ready to run' OS-9 software. Probably one of the best examples of this is Tandy's own DeskMate. This intergraded package includes seven different programs on one disk with each separate application interacting with each another. To get at each of the different applications all you have to do is call them up from the programs host graphic menu. The program and disk drive do the rest of the work. Getting this program to load and working is even simpler. If you have Disk Basic 1.1 all you do is type in the command DOS from your power-up screen. For the folks with the older, 1.0 Disk Basic, there is a short Basic BOOT program provided that you type in to get the program running. At no time in running DeskMate do you need the OS-9 Operating System Disk. Quite frankly, if no one told you that DeskMate was under the OS-9 format, It would not make a difference! Why? Because the program works as the manual describes and it will perform your computer tasks at hand. Just as programs designed around ML (machine language) or Basic do. With one major difference, MEMORY! A program using the OS-9 format allows access to more working memory. Be that your internal computer memory or external disk storage memory. Getting at more working memory or finding ways to do so, is a quest we all at times find ourselves taking. To illustrate my point lets look at the two means of storing and using memory. First lets look at a 35 track single sided disk drive. A formatted disk under OS-9 yields about 2K more available memory then that under Disk Basic. No big deal, but that comes to 2,000 additional characters available per floppy disk. The place where you gain the most working memory is in the computer itself. When you power up under 64K Disk Extended Basic, you only have 23K of memory to work with (there are ways to get at more memory, but as I stated in the beginning, KEEP IT SIMPLE!). On the other hand, using the OS-9 Operating System you have about 40K of memory to work with on power up. Thats a noticeable difference! Taking this one step further, with the CoCoIII and OS-9 Level II, you now have about 63K of memory to play with (and it does not stop there). So you can easily see why OS-9 is the smart way to go to achieve quality programs with enough user memory left over to make it worth noting.

Anytime something out-of-the-norm comes down the pike there will always be resistance. This holds true in every walk of life and OS-9 is no exception. I am not suggesting that you and I should find refuge with an ostrich and avoid learning about OS-9. That would be a big mistake! Just be open minded and remember that OS-9 is designed to be an Operating System that enhances the Color Computer, not scare you away. To unleash the FULL POWER of our 8 bit machines and take our CoCo into computer years to come, we need the OS-9 Operating System as our Storm Trooper!

Next month we will look into the old crystal ball and try to see what the future holds for us and our new friend. Who knows, a device specifier or two may make a guest appearance!

Ed Hathaway, a Marketing Account Executive for a national publishing company is the President and Newsletter Editor for the Glenside Color Computer Club.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

As a reminder, our next club meeting will be on April 9th. For visitors, we meet at the Glenside Public Library in Glendale Heights. The Library is located on 25 W. Fullerton Ave. and we start our meetings at 7:30pm. Our meetings are open to all TRS-80 computer owners and users. For further information call either Ron Steinberg at 307-0466 or Ed Hathaway at 462-0694. See you in April.

Members of
Glenside Color
Computer Club

CHICAGO RAINBOWfest

The following is a complete list of the different exhibitors that will be in attendance at the 1987 Chicago RAINBOWfest. Next to the name of the company will be an indicator as to what that company will have to offer. (H) will stand for Hardware, (S) will stand for software, (C) will stand for computer service and (?) will mean that we are unsure what they will have.

CLEARBROOK SOFTWARE GROUP (?)	COMPUSERVE (C)
COMPUTER ISLAND (S)	COMPUTER CENTER (H)
COMPUTIZE, INC (?)	COMPUTER PLUS (H)
DERRINGER (S)	DELPHI (C)
D.P. JOHNSON/ HEMPHILL ELEC. (H)	DIECOM (S)
GIMMESOFT (S)	FAZER ELECTRONICS (?)
HOWARD MEDICAL (H,S)	FRANK HOGG (H,S)
OS-9 USER GROUP (C)	GLENSIDE COCO CLUB (C)
RADIO SHACK (H,S)	MICROCOM SOFTWARE (S)
SARDIS TECK. (?)	PUBLIC DOMAIN (S)
SPECTROSYSTEMS (S)	RAINBOW MAGAZINE (C)
SPEECH SYSTEMS (S,H)	SPECTROGRAM (C)
T&D SOFTWARE (S)	SPECTRUM PROJ. (S,H)
	SUGAR SOFTWARE (S)
	TOM MIX (S)

There you have it. The complete exhibitor list provided by The Rainbow Magazine for the 1987 Chicago RAINBOWfest.

NOTE: I have been informed by Rainbow Magazine that there will be more exhibitors attending RAINBOWfest then what this list states. Due to our publication dead line, we were unable to get their names by press time.

APRIL MEETING REVIEW

The April meeting is called, GAMES AWAY! We will have our special Club Gamesters displaying their best game or music program. This presentation was set for last months meeting, but as was mentioned in my opening remarks, my flu got the best of us all. There should be about 5 to 7 demos' in total so get to the meeting early to get a good seat. In past GAMES AWAY presentations, we have enjoyed a FULL HOUSE! In addition to the GAMES AWAY, Club V.P. David Barnes will be collecting any un-payed RAINBOWfest ticket bills and past membership dues. Club V.P., Ron Steinberg will be heading up the meeting and passing out a RAINBOWfest poster placement log sheet. If you placed RAINBOWfest posters, PLEASE, fill in the requested information on these sheets. Rainbow has asked us to provide them with this information and I can not stress enough how important your input will be. Club V.P., Joe Register and I will be visiting with Lonnie Falk and Ira Barsky of Rainbow Magazine and other invited guests this evening and will not be able to attend the club meeting (OK, who's the one out there that just got up and cheered?). We tryed to get either Lonnie Falk or Ira Barsky to come to our meeting, but their busy schedule would not allow it. How does that saying go, "If the mountain won't come to Mohammedan...". Anyways, both Lonnie and Ira asked that I convey their apologizes and hope that you all understand their time restrictions going into RAINBOWfest weekend. See you all in April.

Pbj WORD PACK RS

$40 OFF

PRESENT THIS COUPON AT THE HOWARD MEDICAL BOOTH AT RAINBOWFEST AND RECEIVE $40 OFF THE PBJ WORD PACK RS. QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND.

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BY THE GLENSIDE COLOR COMPUTER CLUB

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John (Tony) Podraza
119 Adobe Circle
Carpentersville IL 60110

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Glenside Public Library
25 West Fullerton Ave.
Glendale Heights, IL

NEWSLETTER:

As a member, receive a Nationally recognized monthly publication

Discounts:

Throughout the year, receive Club discounts on Hardware, Software & computer accessories

TELECOMMUNICATION:

Receive full access to the Club BBS for Public Domain Software & late breaking CoCo news

NETWORK:

As a member, you tie into one of the largest public Color Computer User Groups