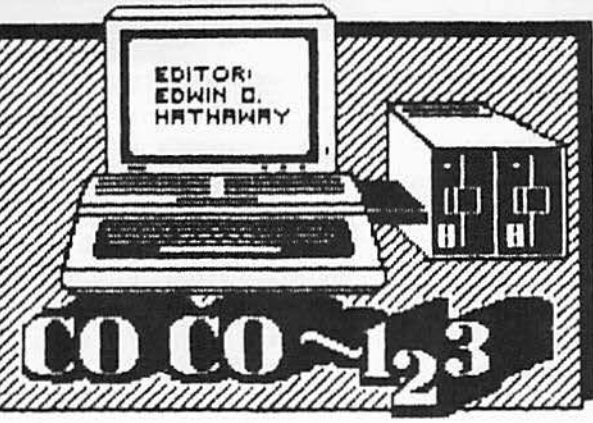# Glenside Color Computer Club

A SUBSIDIARY OF 'GLENSIDE U.'

CO CO ~1₂3

NEXT MEETING OF
THE GLENSIDE COLOR COMPUTER CLUB

Thursday, January 14, 1988 - 7:30pm
GLENSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY
25W. Fullerton Avenue
Glendale Heights, IL.

DIRECTIONS:
Glendale Heights is located between Glen
Ellyn & Wheaton, IL and Bloomingdale, IL.
Fullerton Ave. is West of Bloomingdale Road
in Glendale Heights. The Library is about a
half mile down West Fullerton on the Left
side from Bloomingdale Road. The meetings
are open to all TRS-80 Color Computer 1, 2 &
3 users and owners.

INSIDE CO CO-1₂3

○ G.I.F — Graphic Interchange
Format

○ G.A.S. — Glenside Adoption
Service

○ ONE TANDY CENTER

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*The holiday season is upon us and I would
like to say to all of you, "MERRY CHRISTMAS"
and to our Jewish friends, "HAPPY HANUKKAH".
When I think of Christmas, the little boy
in me always comes forth. I guess as an
adult this is the only true moment we can
call back the hands of time and relive days
gone by. Images of those special presents
and gifts we received always bring back fond
memories. Our memories will be forever alive
in the eyes of our own sons and daughters,
grandsons and granddaughters. Cherish these
times and garnish them with hugs, for the
holiday season is to be, 'the season of
love!'*

As we get ready to close out yet another
Glenside year, it is only fitting to think
back and reflect a little on what we
accomplished as a club this past year. 1987
was indeed a very busy and exciting year for
Glenside. I believe the highlight of 1987
has to be the hosting of the Chicago
RAINBOWfest. This one event was truly a
total club event. One of the more surprising
activities this past year was our new member
grouth. I call new member grouth an
activity, because everyone plays an active
roll in bringing in and assisting new
members. For 1987, Glenside really grew with
39 new members while maintaining a near 80%
retention of returning members. Yes, each
year we say goodby to a few members due to
out-of-state moving or a change in their
computer habits, but that is to be expected.
That is why new members are so important to
the future of Glenside. There were two new
club projects or club assisted projects
launched in '87. Both started in around the
same time as each other and both seem to
have the legs to carry us well into 1988 and
beyond. I'm speaking of G.A.S. (Glenside
Adoption Service) and H.C.P. (Howard Club
Plan). On the surface these two projects are
two completely different programs, yet both

DECEMBER MEETING REVIEW

December being the month for Santa and the family, we have scheduled only one presentation for this meeting. David Barnes, Bruce Gilmore and Tony Podraza will be showing us how to customize, configure and burn an ADOS EPROM. Since ADOS has become the overwhelming DOS of choice because of all of it's special features, it should prove to be a very interesting product demonstration. Along with the showing of ADOS, there will be a brief outline on how to configure your RS-DOS to handle double sided disk drives and adjust them for different stepping rates.

In addition to the above presentation and because it is Christmas, we will be holding a COLOR COMPUTER 3 raffle. The price of the tickets will be;

ONE FOR $1
SIX FOR $5
FOURTEEN FOR $10

The raffle tickets that you buy will also enable you to win selected software.

Also, there will be quality software for sale at savings up to 80% off retail price. Below is some of the fine software that will be available for sale;

* XDMS - Data Management System
* QUICKPRO+II - Automatic Program Generator
* OS-9 Level 1 Ver: 2.0 Operating System
* GRAPHICOM II - Graphic Picture Generator
* HARDCOPY - Print Graphic Pictures w/DMP200
* DISK COLORCOM/E - Telecommunications
* THE OS-9 SOLUTION - Disk Utility
* DATABANK MANAGER - Data Management System
* ADOS 3 - CoCo3 Disk Operating System
* ULTRA LABEL MAKER
* RS FLIGHT SIMULATOR I
* DISK UTILITY 2.0
* ELITE*WORD 80 - CoCo3 Word Processor
* ELITE*SPEL 80 - CoCo3 Dictionary

As you can see, December and the Glenside Color Computer Club really do go together! NOTE: All software offered for sale or raffled off is ORIGINAL and with ORIGINAL DOCUMENTATION.

Merry Christmas

are geared towards our one goal, COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE! Thanks to Club V.P. David Barnes and Dave Lucas, 1987 was a full year of BBSing. A few months past you elected new slate of Club Officers and this newsletter went international in 1987. Rounding out this past year, something very special happened. Two new members designed a software program called, BSE (Basic Screen Editor) that will be sold through Howard Medical Computers. Thanks to Gil and Doug, we can close the final Club Objective set some two years ago.

Was 1987 busy? Wait until you see our 1988 line-up in next months CoCo-1 2 3 and judge for your self! Until then, thanks and have a wonderful and safe holiday season.

ONE TANDY CENTER -
by: Ed Hathaway
12/01/87

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS CARMEN SANDIEGO? is one of the latest graphic adventure games from Tandy for the Color Computer 3. It is without a doubt, one of the finest graphic adventure games I've played on the CoCo since The Sands of Egypt first came out. This is indeed high praise coming from someone who really enjoys graphic adventure games in general. However, this story is not about my love for a good computer game or to bang on Tandy's software drum (even through both are true as it stands with Carmen). My comments are about a long standing problem that does not want to go away. I'm speaking about Tandy's lengthy delays in releasing much wanted CoCo III software and how can and does relate to software pirating.

Ever since the 1987 Tandy Software Catalog was available, I have been waiting for the months of September and October to arrive. This was to be the official release month(s) of such noted software as Flight Simulator II, Multi-Vue, Kings Quest III, Sub Battle Simulator, The Color Computer Artist, OS-9 Level II Development System, Thexder, Home Publisher and Springster. All this software go was to be released at once to play havoc with my precious metal credit card. Here I was, positioned and poised at my local Radio Shack store, hand fully extended willing to make an exchange. An offering if you will for the chance to take home some if not all of this new found software.

Since this is the December Newsletter, odds are quite good that it is the month of December! Santa Clause Month! The Month Before The New Year Month! DECEMBER, YA, THATS THE MOUTH! According to my DeskMate 2 (hey, I can't afford another $99 mistake!) calendar, I should be up, up and away crashing into the Sears Building with Flight Simulator II or putting out my magazine's first issue using Home Publisher... But, alas this is not to be. Neither Flight Simulator II, Home Publisher or any of the above mentioned software was available at the time this article was being written. It's tough to be positioned and poised for any great length of time! In Tandy's own User Group Newsletter the statement, IT SHOULD BE AVAILABLE BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, has cropped up more times when referring to anything related to the CoCo 3. Either I'm Evelyn Wood or there are some real production problems within Tandyland! When Tandy puts out information about the CoCo 3 they should state: CAUTION! READING MORE THEN ONE WORD A WEEK WILL CAUSE UNEXPECTED ANXIETY...

I guess all of the above might have been avoided had it not been for some very disturbing news that came across my desk last week. It has come to my attention that a lot of the above mentioned software is NOW READILY AVAILABLE through the software pirating network. SAY WHAT! Read it again, this time a little slower. Not one Radio Shack or Computer Center that I have visited has these programs available for sale. Yet, they can be obtained through the price of a long distance phone call. Most I'm told even have GETTING STARTED DOCUMENTATION. I'm here to tell you that 'YE OLD BLOOD PREASURE' is near a boil. Here I am positioned and poised with precious metal plastic waiving franticly saying, "Take Me, Take Me". While some are home safely behind their computer playing and using the software programs we have been waiting for since September. I am starting to see what our fellow IBM'ers were talking about a few years ago when they said, "The software pirating network can distribute new software faster then retail's best shipping efforts". Well my CoCo 3 friends, we have finally caught up with the IBM crowd. And you want to know something, it's not all that great!

I understand the world of production problems and shipping delays. Heck, most of us face this situation on a daily basis at our place of business. But when the bandit market is able to distribute software long before John Q Public is able to buy it at retail, the question of ethics and responsibility are strained to their limit. The one solution to this seemly growing madness is to provide retail with product the same time special and back orders are filled. This will not stop this bandit market from distributing illegal copies. However, it will at least provide a safe haven for most of us who have been positioned and poised at our local RS store trying to buy vaper-ware!

* EDITORS NOTE: At the time we went to press, Flight Simular II just became available at you local Radio Shack store. Well that is one down with many more 'Missing In Action'.

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

G.I.F.
GRAPHIC INTERCHANGE FORMAT

In the last edition of CoCo-1 2 3 we discussed a new program designed by Compu-Serve Information Service called Graphic Interchange Format or GIF (pronounced jif). This is a follow up to that article with some added information and helpful hints.

At the time we were putting that article together, the only way to except and show a GIF picture on the CoCo 3 was through the use of the OS-9 Operating System. Well, as soon as this information hit the streets, I could hear the ever popular cry of, "OH NO, NOT OS-9 AGAIN!" Well, I'm happy to report that with the release of COLOR MAX DELUXE loading, saving and viewing GIF pictures is possible without the use of the OS-9 Operating System. Thanks to the authors of Color Max Deluxe, they have included this feature as part of their enhanced up grade. With this program CoCo 3 owners can easily join in on the excitement of interchanging graphic pictures with other non-compatible computer systems.

Like most interchangable formats, there are a few draw backs you should be aware of. First, not all GIF picture files are compatible with the loading process of Color Max Deluxe. When you are scanning the GIF files on CompuServe save your self some time and look for files that support the '320 X 200 X 16' INTERLACE FORMAT. Since this is the screen and color limitation of Color Max Deluxe, downloading any other file would be a waist of you time and money. Because you will be using Color Max Deluxe as your picture file loading and saving vehicle, you can send and receive files using the standard Xmodem protocol in your telecommunication program. A word of advise when saving a picture to the GIF format with Color Max Deluxe, PLAN DINNER! The save process is sinular to the old PMODE4 scanning programs, 'one pixel at a time by each row'. Since you are saving a 320 X 200 screen, Color Max Delux must read and digest some 64,000 pixels. Better make it a four course meal to be on the safe side... The 'up' side to saving your pictures under the GIF format is disk space. A standard Color Max picture will take up about 14 grans of disk space. Under GIF, that same picture is consume about 7 grans of disk space. A good rule to go by is that a GIF picture file will be about half the gran count as a standard Color Max file. Every time I go onto CompuServe's GIF section, I always find something new to download. If you are into graphics, CompuServe's GIF section is the place to be.

G.A.S.
'Glenside Adoption Service'

Of all the programs and projects Glenside has been involved with, GAS has become the most talked about one! I can not begin to tell you just how many phone calls I have received from you and outside interested parties. Overall, the comments have been quite positive and supportive of GAS. Just about everyone that has called has given details on how they have or plan to adopt their local Radio Shack or Computer Center store. Oh sure, there have been a few nay sayers about GAS, but that is to be expected. In assessing your calls and comments, I really believe we have touched a positive nerve. Because of this we are making plans to put GAS into high gear...

By the time you read this article, we would have just completed our first IN-STORE CO-CO DEMONSTRATION! When I mentioned putting GAS into high gear, I said, "HIGH GEAR"! On December 5th the GAS TEAM was at the Radio Shack store in Forest Park, IL for a two hour CoCo showing of Tandy software, hardware and related CoCo products. This presentation was advertised as a, CO-CO OPEN HOUSE. We had three complete disk based systems up and running (one 64K CoCo II a 128K CoCo III and a 512K CoCo III) all the different software and software applications available through Radio Shack stores or their Express Order service. Even thorugh this evening did not produce hourds of people, it did lay the foundation for future such showings.

During our December meeting we will be talking about this IN STORE PRESENTATION and showing the video that was made. In agreement with the store manager (and newest member) Steve Shaner, the GAS TEAM will return to his store on December 19th for yet another CO-CO OPEN HOUSE! If all goes well, we just might be able to expand GAS to include other RS stores that are within the Forest Park division.

By taking a little time out of our busy schedule and adopting our local Radio Shack or Computer Center store, TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Remember, G.A.S. IS THE EXTRA FUEL THAT WILL KEEP THE CO-CO RUNNING...

SELLING A COMPUTER
by: Ed Hathaway

I do not know what company placed the first ad on television in an attempt to sell a computer, but it now seems that just about every other commercial is either selling one using one to create a statement. In the early stages of this Madison Avenue madness, computers were depicted as the second coming. The ads inferred that a family without one of these boxes of silicon magic was no better then a family without central plumbing in their home! Like all good professional ad campaigns the message overtones were designed to establish a since of ignorance on the consumers behalf while celebrities made the pitch. It's a common and effective practice that produces sale upon sale. The late P.T. Barnum would have been proud knowing that his selling technics had made the transition to High Tech! Even after years of computer evolution, one can still see companies using the same old tactics to sell their computers, "TALK DOWN TO THE CONSUMER, AND PLAY ON THEIR IGNORANCE. Let us look at a few of these commercials and you be the judge.

* An average family calls their son who is in the Army (Atomic Division). The family is seeking help from their seemly far superior offspring. There is an exchange of vital information such as 'how the computer talks to the printer' and 'what a modem is'. Indeed this average family is saved from total embarrassment with this wealth of new found knowledge. As the camera is fading to black, we see the son in full military uniform still on the phone surrounded by tables of Apple Computers. I'm positive they must be there waiting for the next SAT-COM ALERT! I know we all will sleep well tonight knowing that there is an Apple adding the defense department... BE ALL YOU CAN BE!
* A two voice conversation with only eyes and lips smearing the TV screen. One voice bellows out how he impressed his client by establishing a BS WORK STATION HANGING OFF HIS WANG WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF IBM (say what?). The conversation closes with the same voice saying, "My client was so amazed that he was on his hands and knees looking for the cables!" If it were we, I'd be looking for the 'JN ' hoping for a '#2' movement...
* A lily white, hair less encounter between customer and computer representative agree a computer system. We're not sure if the sale was successful because of the 'free monitor' or the 'free TablePal software'
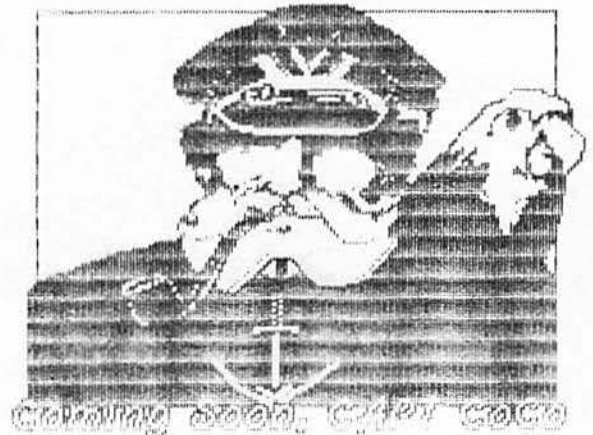
being offered. A sale and a handshake in just 30 seconds, CLEARLY SUPERIOR!
* How can you not want to buy a Big Blue Computer when such noted celebrities as; Lets make a deal Radar, Adulterer Ferret Face, humble pie Potter, you can't survive without me Trapper John and the sultry (any port in the storm will do) Hotlips is peddling their wares... Enough said!
* This brings us to the Club's computer. We witness an exchange between husband and wife. Hubby is reminiscing about how much fun he had with his wireless radio so many years ago. Christmas morning little Johnnie is playing a RomSlot shoot'em up game on his new Computer III while dear old Dad is salivating in the back ground waiting to use RomWrite II. We can live with the game part, but either Dad has a VERY LONG extension cord or a few screws loose. I have never see a printer or other data storage media near the computer. On well, why don't we play a few innings of PMODE3 stickball on a 64 color Computer III. Now that is TECHNOLOGY!

These bit bucket retorts could go on and on. The next time you see an add on TV for computers just remember, they are just trying to sell your wallet (not your mind) something. Closing out this article I am reminded of a TV ad that the Fruit Computer Company ran (only once) during a few super bowls ago. Maybe you remember seeing a parade of Blue Suited MBAs' marching up the mountain together. Each one following the other and one by one falling off the cliff. This was by far the most innovated and effective commercial that ANY computer company has EVER used. This one ad almost convinced me to enter the Garden of Eden and bite into forbidden fruit...

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

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome with me seven of the newest members to the growing family of Glenside.

* Douglas Pokorny of Glen Ellyn has a 128K CoCo III disk system with a Radio Shack DCM-3 modem. Doug, a high school student helped club member Gil Winograd design and program BSE (Basic Screen Editor) soon to be available through Howard Medical.

* Steve Shaner of Berwyn has a 64K CoCo II and a 512K CoCo III disk and hard drive system. Other equipment includes a full aray of color, dot matrix and daisy wheel printer and modems. Steve is the Radio Shack store manager of the Forest Park Mall store. This is where the GAS TEAM will be conducting the first CoCo Open House.

* Cliff Patterson of Bloomingdale has a 64K CoCo II disk system with a DMP-105 printer and several modems. Cliff joined Glenside at our November monthly meeting.
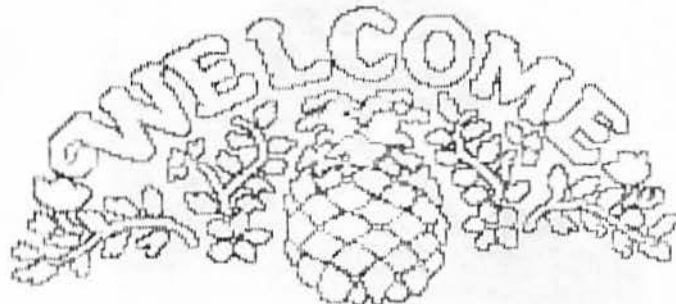
* Don Van of Cicero as a 64K CoCo II disk based system and a Radio Shack printer. Don joins Glenside as a Christmas gift from new club member James Hull.

* Ron Voigts of Glendale Heights has a 128K CoCo III disk based system. Other equipment includes a Gemini 10X printer and a modem. Ron is a published author within the CoCo community on the OS-9 Operating System.

* Michael Corbin of Glen Ellyn does not own a CoCo as of yet but feels that Glenside will help him to learn the system. Michael works at the Radio Shack store on North Ave. in Glendale Heights.

* Bill Tropp of Carol Stream has a 64K CoCo II cassette based system and a DMP-130 printer. Bill is just learning the CoCo and is the store manager of the Radio Shack on North Ave in Glendale Heights. Both Bill and Michael Corbin come to Glenside through club member, Ray Grundy.

Welcome one and all to the Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois. I know that Glenside will give you and your CoCo that much needed shot in the chips!

REMEMBER the Chicago RAINBOWfest is only 4 months away!

JANUARY MEETING REVIEW

For our January meeting, Club member Mike Kundsen will be displaying and showing-off some of his music generating programs. As some of you already know, Mike can really make the CoCo sing with his software and hardware attachments so this will be a MUST ATTEND MEETING for all you music buffs out there. The last time Mike gave us a music presentation, the walls of the library were jumping off it's foundation! Along with the playing of the music, Mike will give a brief outline as to how the CoCo can play the kind of music it can. We have had presentations of music programs at the club in the past, however, for my money no one has come close to the showmenship and talents of Maestoso Mike...