
THE ATLANTA COMPUTER SOCIETY

Presents

COCO-NUTS

ISSUE 16

JULY 1996



First off, the bad news!
The July 13 picnic was cancelled! All of you who are local were notified by phone, I didn't expect out-of-town members to attend.

Now for the GOOD news! At the EXEC meeting last night it was decided that the picnic will be held on October 5, 1996, the same date we WOULD have had the next CoCoFest! The next news is that we will open the picnic to everyone who has ever been to or wanted to go to a CoCoFest!

We are going to notify as many people as we can by word of mouth and by electronic means. Vendors are invited as well as just plain old coco nuts!

I also want to welcome another new member, Luis Tañón, from Puerto Rico.

We don't know much about Luis

because communications have been only by regular mail. Luis did send us an E-Mail address but so far it does not work!

Luis, please send your correct E-Mail address to me at ALAN.DAGES@SID.NET. It will facilitate communications greatly. If you have lost your server and cannot send E-Mail, let us know via regular mail. Of course you could leave a message on our BBS!

I have been remiss in not welcoming SrA Concepcion from Tyndall AFB, FL. SrA Concepcion has indicated that he is called "Cep". I will start using that name because I hope we are friends. Cep has been going it alone for some time and recently has been contacting other clubs as well as ours. Cep has been in contact with Terry Dodson, our Librarian, in search of information and help. I understand that his CoCo III keeps dying on him for some unknown reason.

Cep, if you want to send your CoCo

Ill to me I'll be only too glad to fix it for you. Besides that, the club owns a 2400 baud modem and an RS-232 pak that we could loan you, so that you can contact us through our BBS or by some other BBS. Let us know and we can set you up with some more help!

--- To our newest members, feel free to log onto the ACS BBS, but please remember to use your full name as your user ID. This is the name both the Board and other users know you by, so communication is greatly increased. If, by chance, you've logged under something different simply call the BBS and log in using your full (first and last) name.--ED



This was probably the shortest meeting we've had for me to report on. Al Dages called the meeting to order at 7:06. The first order of business was to call on our nominating committee (consisting of L.E. Padgett) to receive the nominees for next year's officers. The nominees consist of: Al Dages for President, Terry Dodson for Librarian, Russ Keller for Treasurer, Dan Maguire for Newsletter Editor. I was also nominated for either Vice President or Secretary and sadly (at least to me) declined ALL nominations. I have too many responsibilities with running a Photography business.

The next order of business was to discuss the planned picnic. Due to the fact that many members will be out of town, and the fact that a pavillion would be unavailable for July 13, the picnic is now planned for OCTOBER 5, 1996. This is the first weekend of Oct. and the date we would have had the fest. Now with this much advance notice we hope to see a larger turnout. And as we said before, this is ENTIRELY supported by the club. NO-ONE will have to bring any food, drinks or anything but themselves! The club will also be paying everyone's way in to the park (as re-imbersement). The park is up to \$6.00 entry per car and we



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will re-imberse everyone after they get to the pavillion. Al Dages will be making the arrangements of getting a pavillion reserved for the day.

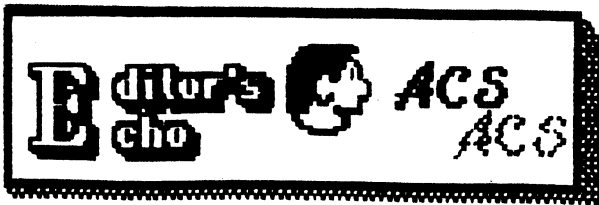
There was a little discussion following, but as Al had to leave, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18. That's all for now!

'Til Later

I thought I'd add a little to this report. When the nominations were made at the meeting, I said that I would report if I changed my mind about running for office. As most of you know, I was elected to the V.P. position after being in the club for only a couple of months. I was honored and did the best I could at the job. Following that I was elected to the office of President the next year and held the post for 2 years. Then came another term as V.P. for a year. And now I'm finishing a year of being Secretary. Folks, I'm a little burned out! I was only a member for 4-5 months before becoming an officer and maintaining an officer's position ever since! I've watched as the interest in the club has dwindled despite all the effort I and other officers have put into the club. I'm experiencing my first year as a member without a GA CoCoFest to go to, because I didn't have time to devote to running the fest and no-one else came forward to offer to organize it. I'll be honest, I have felt at times like quitting the ACS entirely because it seems like the demands on my time just kept going while others have sat back and done

nothing. This is supposed to be a club. A group of people who endeavor to help each other. Now I find myself in the position of wanting to relax a little and return to being just a member, only to find that there aren't enough nominations to fill all the offices. I'm begging some of you to help take up the banner. Please, if you would be willing to assume an office, let me or Al Dages know. This club is for all of us after all! As for my decision, I'm afraid it will stand. I can't handle an office this year. If the club is still around next year, I'll GLADLY run for office then. But it won't be here next year...unless all the offices are taken and EVERYONE takes an interest in the club again.

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Greetings from Hurricane threatened Florida!

Actually, it looks like we'll be spared again. I truly hope the rest of our coast is spared too.

How's about some football talk (if you're not into the gridiron that's o.k., the story still relates).

Not too long ago some football buddies and I were talking over the upcoming season. Stats were bandied about and the usual macho chiding/back slapping/arm punching were celebrated.

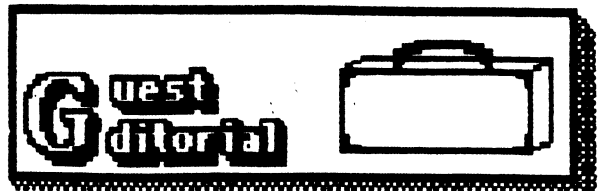
Then the question was put to me; "When ya gonna dump the 'Skins and root for the Jags?". A rough translation would be " You should drop the [losing] Washington Redskins and go for the [local, new team] Jacksonville Jaguars." Excuse me, is anyone using this soapbox? I got two words for you buddy, DIEHARD FAN. Look 'em up.

Actually, I know a few 'Skins fans that have made that transition. But, ya know, no matter how small our rooting section gets, you'll still see a core (or is it corpe) that'll follow them through the darkest of times, as well as their winningest seasons.

See, I view Color Computer users the same way. I hear people say how interest is down, attendance is down, yuddah, yuddah, yuddah. Well, I talk to just as many fans

that say "Check this out" or "Lookie what I did with..."

Guess what I'm saying is we have a great piece of technology, and it'll always have its fans. Let's stick together. As any Redskin fan knows, next season will be our season!



Removable Hard Drives for the Coco!

Deluxe hard drive systems for the Color Computer are hard to find these days. Most of the interfaces available typically are out of date and will not support the current models of hard drives such as IDE, Enhanced IDE, SCSI-2, and whatever else the Intel Generation makes standard next week. However, there is a relatively new hard drive unit on the market that looks as if it were made for the CoCo: The SyQuest EZ135.

SyQuest has been making hard drives for ages. They are famous for their removable drives where the actual "drive platter" comes out, similar to a large capacity floppy. The EZ135 is a 135 megabyte removeable SCSI hard drive. Unlike the similar Iomega ZIP drive, the EZ doesn't require hardware parity and has normal SCSI connectors which makes it work perfectly on a CoCo. SCSI interface such as Disto's or

Ken-Ton. And it works very well.

The unit currently has a retail price of \$120. This is a great reduction over the original \$200+ price it was at just a month ago. The EZ135 unit is very small and has it's own external power supply. Unlike most hard drive cases, this one is very quiet and doesn't even need a fan. On the rear of the unit are two full size 50 pin SCSI connectors and a switch to toggle the ID of the drive (0-7). Included is one 135 megabyte EZ disk (additional ones are about \$20 each), a DB25 to SCSI cable (not useful for the CoCo), and a SCSI terminator (no jumpers to set if this is the last or only SCSI drive hooked to your interface!).

Upon plugging up to the CoCo, I ran a few speed tests to compare it against my 250 meg Quantum hard drive. The non-removeable Quantum (a slimline, 3.5" model) does a 1 megabyte read in about 26 seconds. The EZ135 clocks in at about 31 - a bit slower, but still quite speedy and, most likely, faster than older full-height SCSI and MFM drives many CoCoists are using. The EZ also plugs up to an MM/1 with no problems and reads 1.5 megabytes per second on a non-accelerated unit (versus 90k a second for a ZIP drive on the same machine). Not bad at all.

Since the EZ is a 512-byte sector drive, Matt Thompson's SCSISYS drivers are required to get the most storage out of it. RGB-DOS also likes the EZ just fine. I have one disk setup with 256 RS-DOS "drives" and

52 megabytes for OS-9. A second disk is setup entirely for OS-9: a full 135 megs. If that's not enough, I just buy more EZ disks. It's a great deal.

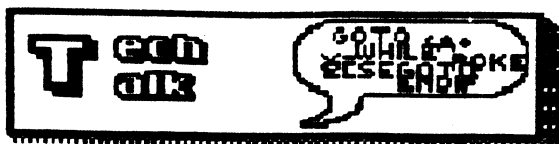
I cannot stress how great this drive is. Virtually any large computer store (Best Buy, CompUSA) should also have it in stock. A two year warranty is included, and the fact that it's standard SCSI means this unit can be used on the CoCo, MM/1, a PC with SCSI, Macintosh, Atari ST, Amiga, etc. I am currently sharing my EZ between my CoCo and MM/1 (a different disk for each, of course), though I plan to buy a second unit real soon so I will have one for each, or can hook them both to the same machine and do 135 megabyte backups.

If you have a CoCo SCSI hard drive controller, this is your best bet at upgrading. The EZ135 is small, quiet, affordable, and pretty neat looking as well. And, unlike many other items hooked to your computer, this one is current, new, and state of the art.

I hope to have some RGB-DOS utilities available soon to simplify customizing the OS-9 offset for the ROM, as well as other things of interest. Keep the torch lit, and let the CoCo shine on!

Allen C. Huffman, formerly of
Sub-Etha Software

coco-sysop@genie.geis.com



```

00001      *
00002      * cr.asm - OS9 Level 1 device descriptor for cass.asm - provides
00003      * read only access to Dragon / CoCo II tapes
00004      *
00005      * This listing originally appeared in an article by
00006      * Martin Vermeer in the UK Dragon User magazine March 1988,
00007      * p.12
00007      * (copyright now probably belongs to the National Dragon Users
00008      * Gro
00008      *
00009      * See the file cass.asm for the associated device driver Cass
00010      *
00011      * Graham Kinns    <Graham@grempc.demon.co.uk>    30 Apr 95
00012      *
00013      * 1May96 TK - added descriptions
00014      * 8Jul96 TK - modified from Level 1 to Level 2
00015      *
00016
  
```

```

00017      *
00018      * LISTING 3: /CR Dragon cassette reader device descriptor
00019      *
00020      *
00020      *          ifpl
00022      *          endc
00023      *
00024      * 0000 87CD0039          mod    crend,crnam,$f1,$81,crmgr,crdrv
00025      *
00026      * 000D 03          FCB    $03          access mode
00027      * 000E 7F          FCB    $7F          ext. addr.
00028      * 000F FF20        FDB    $FF20        address
00029      * 0011 1A          FCB    opt=-1      option byte count
00030      * 0012 00          FCB    DT.SCF      SCF DEV
  
```

```

00031      *
00032  0013 00      FCB  $00      case
00033  0014 01      FCB  $01      bs - sp - bs
00034  0015 00      FCB  $00      delete
00035  0016 00      FCB  $00      auto echo
00036  0017 00      FCB  $00      auto linefeed
00037  0018 00      FCB  $00      no nulls on CR
00038  0019 00      FCB  $00      no page pause
00039  001A 18      FCB  $18      lines per page
00040  001B 08      FCB  $08      bs char
00041  001C 18      FCB  $18      delete line char
00042  001D 0D      FCB  $0D      end of record char
00043  001E 1B      FCB  $1B      end of file char
00044  001F 04      FCB  $04      reprint line char
00045  0020 01      FCB  $01      dup last line char
00046  0021 17      FCB  $17      pause char
00047  0022 03      FCB  $03      abort char
00048  0023 05      FCB  $05      interrupt char
00049  0024 08      FCB  $08      bs echo char
00050  0025 07      FCB  $07      bell char
00051  0026 00      FCB  0      printer type
00052  0027 01      FCB  1      baud rate
00053  0028 002C      FDB  crnam      echo device
00054  002A 00      fcb  0      XON
00055  002B 00      fcb  0      XOFF
00056  002C      opt  equ  *
00057      *
00058  002C 43D2      crnam  fcs  "CR"      descriptor name
00059  002E 7363E6      crmgr  fcs  "scf"      associated file manager
00060  0031 43617373      crdrv  fcs  "Cass2"      associated driver name
00061  0036 8A71D0      emod

```

```

Microware OS-9 Assembler RS Version 01.00.00      07/09/96 00:59:18      Page 002
- OS-9 System Symbol Definitions

```

```

00062  0039      crend  EQU  *

```

```

00000 error(s)

```

00000 warning(s)
\$0039 00057 program bytes generated
\$0000 00000 data bytes allocated
\$100A 07642 bytes used for symbols

CLUB PICNIC

OCTOBER 5
1996

Stone Mountain
Park

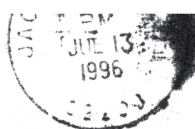
Bring Yourself !!!

ACS MEMBERSHIP LIST AS OF 12-JUL-96 PAGE 1

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ACS, CLUB LIST		P.O. BOX 90694	ATLANTA	GA	30366	636-2991	ACS-888	COCO	9999	C
ADAMS, EUGENE D.		135 LLOYD DR.	MARIETTA	GA	30066	422-3097		COCO	9607	H
BAKER, J. DAVID		260 JOCKEY CLUB DR.	ATHENS	GA	30605	549-9976	ZIPX4008	COCO	9612	H
BERGERSON, CHRIS		2195 PARLIAMENT DR	LAWRENCEVILLE	GA	30243	363-1316	963-1433	COCO	9607	H
BETHEA JR., GEORGE H.		1 SO. LAWRENCE AVE.	ELMSFORD	NY	10523	592-7160	ZIPX2213	COCO	9612	H
BROWN, JOHN G.		7337 LONGVIEW DR.	BRYAN	TX	77808	589-2278	846-2229	COCO	9612	H
CATO, VAUGHN		1244 E. PIEDMONT RD.	MARIETTA	GA	30062	971-0193		COCO	9607	H
CHAPPINA, ERNEST F.		9 FRANKO AVE.	PISCATAWAY	NJ	08854	968-7907	ZIPX3827	COCO	9612	H
COCO CLUB, PORT OF		6305 CERFU BLVD. N.E.	BREMERTON	WA	98311	692-7649		COCO	9607	H
CONCEPCION, SRA		730 SUWANNEE RD. BOX 1826	TYNDALL AFB	FL	32403			COCO	9607	H
CORDERO, RENE		107 VANCOURTLAND PKWY 1-E	YONKERS	NY	10701	963-2642	969-6363	COCO	9512	H
DAGES, ALAN R.		4894 CANDLEWOOD LN.	STONE MOUNTAIN	GA	30088	469-5111	498-2496	COCO	9607	H
DANIEL, E. FRANK		3540 NO. COOPERLAKE RD.	SMYRNA	GA	30082	436-8967		COCO	9607	H
DAUGHTERS, WYNNE		300 WOODCHUCK COURT	ROSWELL	GA	30076	993-1651		COCO03	9607	H
DODSON, TERRY B.		8 TINGLE LANE	PALMETTO	GA	30268	463-1803	892-1998	COCO	9607	H
ENGLAND, CARL		112 MITCHELL ST. NE	CALHOUN	GA	30701	602-9536		COCO	9607	H
FAIR, EDWIN R.		P O BOX 484	TUCKER	GA	30085	938-9844	938-3998	6809	9607	H
FISH, KENNETH O		4589 KATHY CIR	POWER SPRINGS	GA	30073	439-5117		COCO	9607	H
FURREST, ALEX		1500 NO HENDRIX #1-C	DIBOLL	TX	75941	829-4005		COCO	9512	H
HOBBS III, JOHN E.		3485 DeMONEY RD	COLLEGE PARK	GA	30349	964-4413		COCO	9607	H
HUFFMAN, ALLEN		P.O. BOX 22031	DESMOINES	IA	50325	242-0213	987-7909	COCO	9612	H
JONES, JAMES E.		3557 UNIVERSITY #14	OLIVE	IA	50325	224-1444		MM1	9612	H
KATZ, PAUL		8 WHITTIER PLACE #2F	BOSTON	MA	02114	723-6289		COCO	9612	H
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KOCUREK, THOMAS		336 LAUREL TRACE	CARROLLTON	GA	30117	214-2201		COCO	9607	H
LARAWAY, TERRY K.		41 N.W. DUNCAN DR.	BREMERTON	WA	98311	692-5374		COCO	9607	H
LITTLE JR., TRUMAN H		4897 LOU IVY RD.	DULUTH	GA	30136	448-7157		COCO	9607	H
MAGUIRE, DAN		115 URSA ST.	ORANGE PARK	FL	32073	272-3653		COCO	9607	H
MARTHUR, THOMAS		310 IDAHO ST.	LINDENHURST	NY	11757	954-4731	ZIPX5214	COCO	9612	H
McGEE, BOB		2113 GREENHILL DR	MARIETTA	GA	30060	422-6286		COCO	9607	H
MCKEON, PHILLIP W.		500 BRENTWOOD CT.	ROSWELL	GA	30075	998-6324		COCO	9707	H
PADGETT, L.E.		24 PERTSHIRE DR.	PEACHTREE CITY	GA	30269	487-8461		COCO	9607	H
PASSIG, BOB		5830 ALLEN COURT	ATLANTA	GA	30328	743-3200		COCO	9512	H
PHLYPO, TIM		729 S CENTER ST	GENESE0	IL	61254	944-2649		COCO	9607	H
PODRAZA, TONY		119 ADOBE CIRCLE	CARPENTERSVILLE	IL	60110	428-3576	ZIPX1101	COCO	9612	H
SCOTT, STANLEY		BOX 146	STEELVILLE	MO	65555	775-2589		MM1	9512	H
SEFOIK, KARL		11306 BRADY	REDFORD	MI	48239	532-0116	292-4713	COCO	9512	H
SHELL, MICHAEL		2225 MURA DR.	AUGUSTA	GA	30906	320-0933	793-3606	COCO	9607	H
SMITH, LOYD L.		9225 BLUEJACK LANE	ROSWELL	GA	30076	993-7760		COCO	9607	H
SMITH, R.C.		542 MARTIN RD.	STONE MOUNTAIN	GA	30088	469-6601		COCO	9607	H
TANON, LUIS	CALLE #2, M-12	008 RIOS	LEVITTOWN	PR	00956			COCO	9707	H
TODD, TERRY		117 COTTON SQUARE	LUFKIN	TX	75904	875-3455	639-1187	COCO	9512	H
WHITE, NEWTON		849 WILLIVEE DR.	DECATUR	GA	30033	325-5348	676-7384	COCO	9607	H
WILLI, TED		P.O. BOX 447	ATHENS	GA	30603	354-8422		COCO	9512	H
WILLIS, BETTY		3143 KENSINGTON RD.	AVONDALE ESTATES	GA	30002	296-5461		COCO	9607	H

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TOTAL EXPIRED RECORDS = 0
FILE LAST UPDATED 12-JUL-96

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NEXT MEETING

- July 23, 1996 Shoney's Jimmy Carter Blvd., Norcross
- August 13, 1996 Executive meeting Shoney's Jimmy Carter Blvd., Norcross
- August 20, 1996 Shoney's So Cobb Dr., Smyrna