

## From the President's Platen

by Tony Podraza

**T**ime surely flies when you're having fun! Seems that I just completed this column for the January newsletter only two weeks ago. Actually, that's probably the truth. The necessity of moving the February meeting to the FIRST Thursday night of February has pushed the newsletter deadline ahead by a week. So, here we go!

As you will read later on, there have been some saddening events in the CoCo community. And at the same time, a little good news. It is with fond memories that Glenside says "Good-Bye" to Howard Medical Computers. HMC, as of the press release dated Jan. 3, 1992, has been sold to CoCoPRO!. It was from HMC that I bought my first floppy drive controller in '83 or '84. It was a J&M and was the neatest thing since sliced bread. I only blew it up once (by removing it from the computer with the power turned on), socketed all the chips, replaced the bad ones, and it is still in use today. A tribute to the quality of the products that HMC handled. I have had the privilege of working with HMC in three 'fests. All three experiences have been enjoyable. I guess I also have the distinction of being the last CoCo user to officially purchase from HMC. I don't think that that's something to be proud of, being the last, that is, but I'm glad that they were there to fill the need when it arose.

Because of Ross and Bernie Litton, Chicagoland CoCo users have had an invaluable local source of peripherals and modification supplies, and the rest of the CoCo Community has had that same benefit through the avenue of phone and mail-order. The Community will surely miss them in the future.

Ross; Bernie; Glenside would like to extend our collective appreciation to you for your past service to the CoCo Community. We wish you well in all your future endeavors. Thank You.

If you haven't heard by now, you will by the time you've read the next section. **There are no plans for a Falsoft-sponsored Rainbowfest '92 in Chicago.** There! I've reported what I've heard. That's from a microphone hidden within the walls at Falsoft. That microphone also has this to repeat.

...The Rainbow is supposed to be undergoing a face-changing. Starting with

the March 1992 issue, The Rainbow is reportedly going to be a tabloid-sized publication. There will be 32 pages, printed on non-glossy heavy grade paper, slightly larger than the 'Enquirer' or 'Star' size. This will enable them to print approximately 64 current-size pages of editorial and advertising material and enable Falsoft to continue publication for quite awhile.

The cost of publishing our long-time, beloved magazine over the past year in it's current form has not been a profitable venture for Falsoft, rumor has it, and this change will at least keep it coming to us, as opposed to going the way of many other CoCo-dedicated publications. (Personal Note To Falsoft ...Thanks for your past support; Thanks for your present support; And thanks for your decision to continue your support by taking this step to enable you to remain in publication.)

Okay, now I have a question for every reader of this newsletter, and I would appreciate your personal response. Yes, I know, it means that you'd have to take a stamp, an envelope, a sheet of paper, and a writing instrument in order to do this, but I'd like to know what kind of interest there is in having a gathering of CoCo users and vendors in the Chicagoland area in late spring/early summer in '92. Ask around. Take it to your club members. How many would like to attend? More important; how many would definitely attend?

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Glenside Color Computer Club

### CoCo-1,2,3 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-1,2,3 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 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 an annual fee of \$12.00 you can become a GCCC member with full membership privileges. Persons wishing to receive the CoCo-1,2,3 newsletter without full membership privileges may receive this newsletter for an annual fee of \$14.00. Send your dues to:

**GEORGE SCHNEEWEISS**  
2801 S KILBOURN AVE  
CHICAGO IL 60623-4213

Here is the list of 1992 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 the officers. Area code C=312, S=708.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Tony Podraza	S428-3576	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Carl Boll	C735-6087	Meeting Planning, etc.
Vice-President	Gene Brooks	S897-9023	"
Secretary	Howard Luckey	S747-0117	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Geo Schneeweiss	C376-0126	Dues and Purchasing
Editor	David Barnes	S587-9820	Newsletter coordinator
VP Telecom	David Barnes	S587-9820	Club BBS SysOp
Printer	Dennis Devitt	S629-2016	Newsletter Exchange

### CoCo-1,2,3 CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute an article to the newsletter, upload a file to the Glenside CoCoRama BBS with an extension of '.NEWS'. If you have an AD for the newsletter UPLOAD a file with the extension of '.ADS'. If you have NEWS to POST about your group, please use the message base. These files are gathered by the BBS computer and downloaded to the Editor. If you need help contact the SYSOP by E-MAIL, mail, in person, or by phone:

**DAVE BARNES**  
37218 N. FAIRVIEW LANE  
LAKE VILLA, IL. 60046

It is preferred that you call: VOICE 708/587-9820 or BBS 708/587-9837  
On DELPHI - DAVIDBARNES On CIS - 73357,1324

Articles for the CoCo-1,2,3 will also be accepted on diskette in ASCII form and UNFORMATTED only in the following formats:

RS-DOS 5 1/4"-35 SSDD/DSDD 5 1/4"-40 SSDD/DSDD  
OS-9 5 1/4"-35 SSDD/DSDD 5 1/4"-40 SSDD/DSDD 3.5"-SSDD/DSDD  
MS-DOS 5 1/4"-40 SSDD/DSDD 3.5"-SSDD/DSDD 5 1/4"-1.2 Meg

Submission deadlines for the CoCo-1,2,3 are two weeks prior to each monthly meeting. Articles submitted after the deadline will appear in the next issue.

### CoCo-1,2,3 NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

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

**DENNIS DEVITT**  
21 W 144 CANARY ROAD  
LOMBARD, IL. 60148

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 any 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 in your newsletter so that we might do this for 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 - 9:30 PM, at the Glendale Heights Public Library. Further info can be obtained from Tony Podraza at home 708-428-3576.

### FUTURE MEETING DATES:

February 6  
March 12

A social get-together always occurs afterward at the Springdale Restaurant.

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

· Tony Podraza · Carl Boll · Nancy Ward  
· Howard Luckey · Ed Stroh · Br. Jeremy  
· David Barnes · Mark Farrell  
· The Delphi Downloader

### EDITOR:

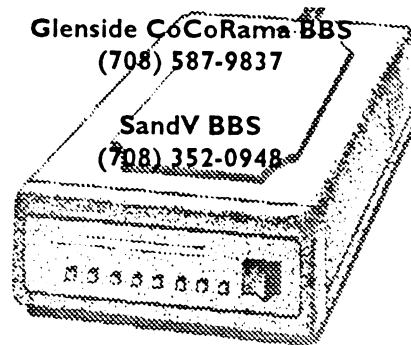
**David Barnes**

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**BARSoft Publishing**

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and  
BARSoft Publishing



These are YOUR club BBS's... Please support them !!!

# From the President's Platen

Continued From Page 1

Please let us know as soon as possible. Depending on the interest... well, let me know, and keep watching to see what happens. But, let me know, okay?

Oh, I did say "some good news", didn't I? Well, first let me tell you that you've seen part of it, already. CoCoPRO! will be handling the items formerly handled by Howard Medical. So, while we've lost a local Chicagoland location of support, we still have that support. The goods and services haven't vanished from sight, as has happened in the past, elsewhere. And secondly, I'm not going to get on a soapbox, this month. Just sit back, enjoy the rest of the newsletter and have a quiet and restful day. Peace.

## January Meeting Review

By Howard Luckey

Ah, another fine meeting with a very fine turnout, and we even started close to 7:30 PM!

Tony, our pres, asked if anyone was a first time visitor and no one was. Later in the meeting we did a round of introductions because one of our old time members, Jim Pelecke, was present. Bob Swoger wanted us to meet him and wanted Jim to tell about some fine programming that he had done. Back in 1986 Jim wrote a program under RS-DOS which he used to keep track of 1300 members of a club he belonged to. He used a process called streaming and the program could be used to generate treasurer's reports, mailing labels, etc. (Maybe Jim could do a demo sometime.) I don't know what streaming is and I think that would be a real nice topic for someone to write for the newsletter. Streaming sounds like it might be a very useful technique to learn and use. How about it Jim (or someone else)?

Now, back to the beginning of the meeting. Tony passed out an updated roster. As of December 31, 1991 the club has 108 paid members. Let's keep this up.

Next Tony reported about progress being made on the Glenside Plan. This is a plan where we print ads from vendors in our newsletter and in return, the vendors will offer a discount on products they offer. For example, there is a tentative offer from COCOPRO! for a 10% discount on any two products. Speaking of discounts Tony talked about progress being made with Tony Hamilton the Inmac (a computer supply company) representative who is working on providing a 15% discount on most products, the exceptions would be ten line items. What those items would be is still being worked on.

Then Tony mentioned that Howard Medical announced in a press release that it has sold its CoCo business to COCOPRO!.

Both Ed Stroh and Greg Cramsey earned a set of disks for articles printed in the last newsletter. Nice going guys. I invite and encourage others to make a contribution to the newsletter. Send contributions to Dave Barnes, the Editor, in ASCII format via the Glenside CoCoRama BBS (708) 587-9837.

Tony mentioned the OS-9 Community Network (the group working to build a OS-9 support community) is building a data base of interested people. He had some sign-up forms which were passed around, and he even had a copy of the bylaws which were quite a few pages longer than our own club's set of bylaws. One

reason for the Network is to replace the extinct OS-9 Users Group.

According to Tony there will not be a Chicago RainbowFest in 1992, and starting in March The Rainbow Magazine will have a different format. It will be in a 32 page tabloid form. The magazine has been losing money for about a year and this new format is a cost cutting one. Considering the present size of the magazine, the new format will allow for more content. I hope it can begin to grow and prosper soon.

The Rainbow is also making a change in its advertising procedures. A business or person can buy a one page spread and sell parts of it to other businesses. I hope this will help!

We then held a discussion about the possibility of Glenside hosting some kind of fest. Some of us wondered if COCOPRO! would hold a fest such as the one that has been held in Atlanta for the last two years. There have been rumors to that effect from time to time. According to Tony the 'Meyers' are about fifty-fifty as to sponsoring one, although they are willing to attend a fest if it is sponsored by someone else. Sponsoring a fest means that COCOPRO! would do most of the work such as advertising, ticket processing, and so forth and right now they are not sure they want to do that, especially after losing money on the last Atlanta fest (but not on their booth). If COCOPRO! were to sponsor a fest they would want the help of a CoCo club, and I don't know what clubs exist around Ypsilanti, Michigan. Of course if they did decide to hold a fest in the Chicago area our club and other clubs such as the Cook County CoCo Club and the Chicago OS-9 Users Group would have to pitch in and do a lot of work.

Suppose, however, COCOPRO! decides not to sponsor a fest. What should our club do? This was the next topic of discussion. For us to sponsor a fest even with the help of the other clubs would require a heck of a lot of work. Do we want to do it? There was some discussion about what the club would have to do such as finding a place where the fest could be held that was reasonable for vendors and for attendees and close to where they are staying, preferably in the same building, etc. Then Bob Swoger made a motion that the club, through the newsletter, survey the members about our desire to make the effort to hold a fest. The motion stressed that this is only a survey and in no way does the club commit to holding a fest. The motion passed.

Tony announced the club has a complete modem to loan out. 'Complete' means a 300 baud modem, the cables, the software, etc. This is a way for the club to help any member who wants to get started communicating with their CoCo but can't, at the moment, afford to buy what is needed.

The club passed out a set of door prizes. Each person was given a piece of paper with a number on it. Earlier in the meeting Joel Hegberg had written a program which listed the numbers one through the number of people present, one at a time until a key was hit. When a key was hit the person who had the number shown on the screen won a prize. There were some very nice prizes.

By now it was time for demos. The first demo was by Carl Boll and Joel Hegberg who demoed the Point Of Sale (POS) set using the CoCo3 hooked up to a cash drawer which the club had used in its booth at the Atlanta CoCoFest. Joel had written the software and Carl provided the hardware. Joel worked on the program almost all night before going to the fest and at the fest Carl asked him if it had certain features and Joel said that he didn't know, but when things were set up the features were there. The software kept track

# January Meeting Review

Continued From Page 3

of prices which could be changed, sales, numbers of items sold, new membership addresses, dues paid, etc. After items were entered all one had to do was hit a key and the cash drawer would open. Joel showed all of this including some of the names of new members who had signed up at the fest. At the fest the set up proved to be very stable because several times there was a power failure at our end of the showroom and we never lost any of the data.

This demo was much better than the one last month where Carl had the same set up but it was just a part of a lot of other stuff going on. This time Joel and Carl had center stage and all the members present could see and hear the demo. Thank you Carl and Joel.

The last demo was a software package put out by Tandy called "Tandy Cookbook". Apparently this was put out many years ago but never really pushed by Tandy or never became a hot selling item. Tony put it through its paces and one of its nice features is that you can very easily multiply the amounts of the ingredients when you have to make more than the recipe is set up for. Thank you Tony.

That was the end of the formal meeting. During the close down period some people got into small group discussions and later we went to the restaurant for the meeting after the meeting.

# The Glenside Plan

By Carl Boll

As many of our members know, joining the club has many benefits; one of which is the Glenside Plan. This is a plan by which vendors offer a discount on some or all of their merchandise to club members. At the present time we have verbal commitments from the following vendors: IMS, Frank Hogg Labs, Delmar, Eversoft, Sub Etha, Burke & Burke, N Johnson, CoCoPro!, Hawk Soft, The Rainbow Magazine and Nelson Software. I may have missed a few vendors but I don't think so.

As I said, these are the ones who we have agreements by word of mouth with as of the printing of this newsletter. I am making a 100+ piece mailing this week to vendors of CoCo software and hardware. I am certain we will be making the list much longer in the near future. There are many changes in store for the community and I hope that the Glenside Color Computer Club will be able to play a key role in shaping the direction of change. We are committed to keeping our computer a viable platform for many years to come.

# Hardware Hacking

By Mark Farrell

## Tandy RS-232 PAK

### Parts required:

6551 ACIA 2.0 MHz version recommended for both	2
MC1488 RS232 level converter	1
MC1489 RS232 level converter	1
Crystal 1.8432MHz	1
9-pin or 25 pin "D" type female (your choice)	1

If I had to do it again, I'd use two 9-pin connectors and adopt the IBM AT interconnect as a standard...but that's just me.

Prepare the chips for mounting piggyback by bending these pins STRAIGHT out from the body of the chips:

6551 (Just ONE not both):

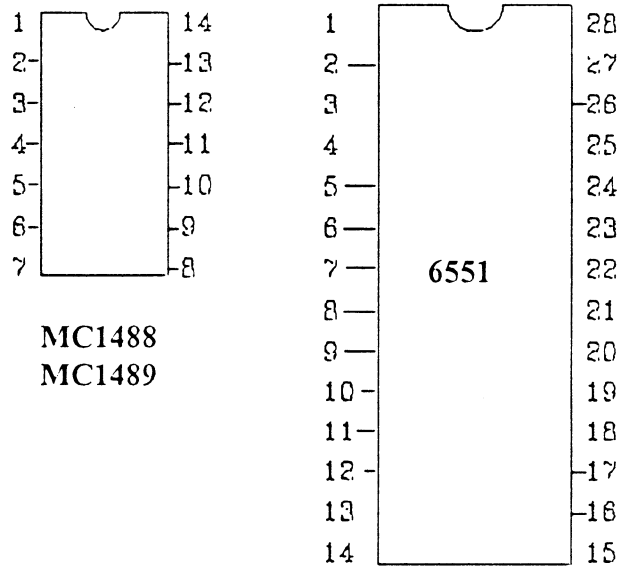
Pins: 2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,16,17,26

1488 and 1499:

Pins: 2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,12,13

Now you are ready to mount the chips. Please be sure to note the position of pin #1. There is usually a small dot next to pin #1 and there should ALWAYS be a "U" shaped notch or "dimple" at the end of the chip with pin #1.

Looking at the top it would be like this:



Now, piggyback the 1488 to the original on the board and do the same with the 1489. Solder only the pins you left pointing down at this time.

Do the same for the 6551 chip.

And I quote the following:

"Remove the plastic covering from the card edge side of the xtal. Place a piece of electrical tape on the board adjacent to the xtal and slightly larger. Now tack solder the new xtal to the original so they are side by side. (sounds like a song) Cut the leads so they do not interfere with the 6551(s).

Decide on the type, position, mounting and pinout of your new

## New OS-9 Community Network

Your OS-9 Connection to the Future

LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN WILD!

Imagine a database filled with freeware, shareware and public domain files, utilities and programs for OS-9/6809, OS-9/68000 and OS-9000. Imagine being able to download this software via modem or order it via mail.

Imagine a database filled with BBS systems, clubs and users groups from Canada, the United States and points across the sea.

Imagine a database filled with OS-9 retailers, manufacturers and distributors of both hardware and software for the OS-9 Operating System, offering support when you need it.

Imagine being able to search a database for hardware and software experts to help with your problems. Imagine this same database holding names of companies needing programming and hardware experts.

Imagine receiving a catalog of all the above for the price of a stamped self addressed envelope (SASE). Or, if you have a modem, being able to go to your regional library and download to your heart's content.

Along with all this, imagine receiving the OS-9 Community NetNews monthly, packed with articles and information on the OS-9 Operating Systems for the 6809, 680xx and OS-9000.

Imagine no more! As a member of the OS-9 Community Network, all this and more will soon be reality for you.

The dynamic new OS-9 Community Network is now forming and would like to offer you a charter membership. To become a member, leave your name, address, phone number and which OS-9 Operating System you use. If you prefer, send your information via mail to:

Nancy Ward  
OS-9 Community Network  
2600 Wichita #9  
Pasadena TX 77502

## A Review of Newspaper-09

By Br. Jeremy,CSJW

Over the years, I have owned almost every Word Processor released for the COCO 2 and 3. I began with Scripsit. Then I moved on to TSEDIT/TSWORD. I produced the first draft of a 500 page Breviary (Prayer Book) with it. Next I tried TextPro IV. I have also used Simply Better and fooled around with VIP Writer. Finally I purchased MAX-10. It is in my opinion, the best RS-DOS program ever written. I had often hoped that one day some one would write an OS-9 version of it.

Earlier this year, I saw advertisements for Newspaper09. The add spoke of it as "Desktop publishing for OS-9...a Newspaper design system..." and other glowing descriptions. A friend, lent me his copy for a few days, so that I could see if it was what I was looking for, before I bought my own copy.

Newspaper09 comes as a multi disk set. There is the main program disk, a font disk, and several graphics disks. (There were also several disks which attempted to correct a printer driver problem.)

Booting up is not too difficult. After booting up OS-9, you issue the commands:

```
CHD /D0/NEWSPAPER/DATA; CHX /D0/NEWSPAPER/
CMDS[ENTER].
```

Before you can use Newspaper09, you must configure it to your system /hardware. The Configuration program asks questions such as, monitor type, Hi-Res adapter in use, Directory locations, Printer info, etc. After the Configuration program is completed, you are ready to use Newspaper09.

Enter the command:

```
CHD /D0/NEWSPAPER/DATA; CHX /D0/NEWSPAPER/
CMDS[ENTER]. and then type:
```

Startnw.

After a glimpse of eternity, it is loaded and up and running. A mainmenu panel will be displayed. It includes, "Type-Up", "Layout", "Print", and "Utility".

### TYPE-UP



Type-Up is described in the users manual as a Graphic Editor. It is NOT a text editor in any serious sense of the word. It simply allows you to type in text. There are no provisions for cutting and pasting of text. There are no provisions for inserting a letter, let alone a word. If you are familiar with the KissDraw series from Rainbow, it

is similar to the "text inserter" [my description for it.] I would consider it more of a picture "captioner". I do not see, how, for example, one would wish to use it to enter a document such as this one.

Type-up also includes a picture stamp command. This allows you to "stamp" a picture already in memory, anywhere on the work screen. It also includes a graphics editor of sorts. It allows you to draw lines, boxes, circles, triangles, etc. It is no CoCoMax 3, but I suppose it is adequate. There is no zoom control. In other words, you can not enlarge a picture for finer editing.

There is no way to load in text that has been prepared by another editor. At least none that I could find. The documentation does not mention it. I tried various things to try to load text, but to no avail. A MAJOR drawback, to say the least.

### LAYOUT

Newspaper09 has allows for a two column layout format. You can have a "banner" which spans the page. You are limited to a maximum of eight blocks.