

From the President's Platen

by Tony Podraza

The people have gone, the booths torn down, the lights turned out, but the memories remain. And what fond memories they are, too. Throughout the months of planning, the anticipation of greeting close friends whom I haven't seen in a year or more has nearly driven me to distraction. And when the reunions began...well, my heart was warmed by the event. You see, a gathering of CoCo-ists isn't like any other "fest", be it a "hamfest" or a "swapfest" or any of the many "computerfests" that are held about the country. It is not 'like a family reunion', it IS a family reunion (right, Trish?). Those who were not able to attend were sorely missed. I am grateful to all who were in attendance and took an active part in the planning and the execution of the First Annual Last Chicago CoCoFEST! YOU made it the success that it was. Most of all, I am extremely grateful to Dave and Nancy for sticking their necks out and providing the wherewithal and many, many hours of personal sacrifice in order for all of us to get together. Thank you for letting me be a part of it.

There was a great deal of excitement surrounding a number of items available from vendors. I believe that the largest flurry of excitement was about Chris Burke's 63B09E patches for the CoCo. You can read about them in another section of this issue, so I won't take up any more space about them here, other than to tell you that the results of the upgrade are PHENOMENAL! Also appearing, for the first time in public was Sundog's "Photon". A truly remarkable arcade game with some fantastic verbal audio & original music. I caught my 15 year-old son whistling one of the music themes from the game on the way to 'FEST. It IS pretty catchy. Either that, or he has been playing the game entirely too often. Now that I've started, how can I stop? Not very easily...so here are the names of the other exhibitors: ACBBS; Adventure Survivors (also representing Eversoft Games); BARSoft (also representing SpectroSystems); CoCoPRO! (thank you so very much!); Cook County CoCo Club; Hawksoft; Interactive Media Systems (sporting the presence of Kala Soft); MV Systems; the all-new OS-9 Users Group; SBUG of Los Angeles; Strongware/Team OS-9;

Sub-Etha (also representing N*Johnson Software and Ani-Majik); and Supersoft. Also in attendance was Frank Hogg, Steve Bjork, Ken Scales, a cast of hundreds AND (what would it be without) the very interesting and gracious Marty Goodman. Again, my thanks to you all for making this CoCoFEST! a very, very special event.

I would like to present three people to you at this time. James Truesdale, Jim Morey, and Donald Adams were the winners of Glenside's Giveaways. James received CoCoMax3 and a Hi-Res Joystick Interface, Jim received a copy of V-Term and a Modem-Pak, and Donald was the recipient of a copy of Marty's Nightmare and a Speech/Sound Pak. In addition, all three received a complimentary membership to Glenside. Congratulations, gentlemen.

There were over thirty people who decided to join Glenside for the first time or renew their membership at the 'FEST. I would like to recognize them at this time. They are: Bill Tobin, LeRoy Rafalski, Jr., James Sternett, Rick Dennis, James Cross, John Hoit, Gary McCarty, John Grotfend, Wesley Czajkowski, Barbara Williams, Jason Bucata, Terry Laraway, The GLCCUG c/o Dale Knepper, Nancy Squire, Donald Beck, Ken Scales, Tom Werner, James Truesdale, Bob Sturnfield, Sr., Bob Sturnfield, Jr., Jim Beltramo, Dean Goodmanson, George Hopper, Karen Mikula, Dave

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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
Advertising	Bob Swoger	S576-8068	Newsletter Ads

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
P.O. Box 281
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:

August 13
September 10

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

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

• Tony Podraza • Howard Luckey
• Mark W. Farrell • Nan Hostetter
• Marty Goodman
• David Barnes

EDITOR:

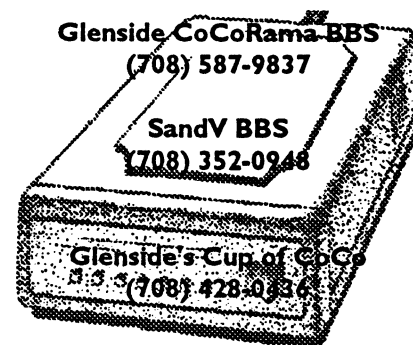
David Barnes

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

From the President's Platen

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Yozviak, Ron Dombrowski, Allen Huffman, Crystal Boll, Margy Boll, Rick Cooper, Bob Van der Poel, Harlen Linke, Michael Wooley, Bill Heaton, Richard Spreen, Richard Remer, Larry Rothe, James Jones, Joe Walker, and Mr. Jim Morey. I welcome all of you to Glenside and thank you for your decision and support.

Support? What do I mean by that? Hopefully your future support. Glenside is not just a newsletter nor a local group who is interested only in what the locals are doing. We want to let the membership know what the membership and the community is doing. But I cannot, nor will not, try to do it all by myself. That cannot be done without becoming subject to "newsletter burn-out". It is for that precise reason that the newsletter editor requests that the membership (that being yourselves as well as he, the club secretary, and myself) submit the articles for publication instead of he or I trying to type them all in. I have, over the past few months, been rather tied up with the arrangements surrounding Glenside's involvement with the CoCoFEST!, not to mention my feeble attempts to run and maintain a BBS and haven't had time to pass on some information that was relayed to me, via voice, from a member. To take the time to be everything to all people all the time takes the time from family, work and personal responsibilities. SO! Help us out and be not too critical if it takes a while to get something published...especially if YOU haven't taken the time to write it up yourself. Guidelines for submitting articles telling us what you've done or have discovered are on page two of the newsletter and they are REAL easy to follow. You may have to get a magnifying glass to read them... but they are there. Keep the CoCo~123 full of your achievements, and help the rest of us to follow you. Till next time, I bid you peace.

Meeting Review

By Howard Luckey

Tony, the Pres, opened the meeting at 7:37. The first order of business was to express thanks and appreciation to the club and to all the members that helped to make the Fest successful. Tony thought that without the club's help there probably wouldn't have been a Fest in Chicago.

What followed was a discussion of the Fest and the possibilities of a future Fest. Chris Hawk quipped that this one was better than the last two referring to the Fests in Atlanta. Apparently the vendors fared well. Carl Boll said that only one vendor came out no more than even but said that he was glad to see his friends. Chris Burke and his wife apparently enjoyed themselves because they sold out of their power boost kits. This is the kit that you can use to replace the 6809 CPU with the 6309 CPU and gain some power and speed. The kits came with instructions and software. I think Chris Burke is a very capable fellow.

As for any future Fest Tony said that if there was going to be a Fest it needed the support of the CoCo users. Dave Myers at this time is not ready to commit to a future fest, he wants to take a break and evaluate this one. He would be willing to attend a fest sponsored by the club or any other organization. There was a discussion about how the fest could be different. One of the concerns of the vendors was the price of a booth. Someone suggested holding the fest like a ham fest and with the suitable

location perhaps the booths could be as low as \$25.00. Someone else suggested that our fest could be part of a ham fest or that we could have a fest with other computing systems such as the classic computers, i.e. other computers that have gone out of production. Another member wondered about holding the fest in a public meeting place or school gym, and Carl mentioned that most of the meeting places don't come cheap and at schools it can be hard to get two days on a weekend. The consensus is that there will be some kind of fest in the future and that this is something that we can work on over the year. If you have some thought about this be sure make you contribution.

Carl Boll announced that there would be no disk of the month this month but that there would be a surprise next month. He also said that we had seven copies of a program called Color Compact which looked to be a very old communication program from Radio Shack, and the only benefit was that you could get one hour free on Compuserve. Carl reported that we signed up at least thirty-five new members that were recorded on the Point Of Sale system.

Bob Swoger mentioned that there is a shortage of newsletters in our exchange program, and Tony, I think it was, said that a lot of the clubs no longer were producing a newsletter because usually one person gets stuck doing it and often they get tired of it and give up. Bob also said that while he was at the booth someone asked if there was some kind of checkbook program available and it wasn't until later that Bob learned there was such a program (Checkbook+) in the Sub-Etha Software booth next the club booth.

Someone asked about the progress of the club getting a non-profit corporation status. Tony said that he had the forms but needed to study the articles of incorporation to make sure of what we are doing. This could be a project for the executive board to work on and report back to the membership.

Four new members, Bob, Karen, Andrew and Jim, were present for their first meeting. They introduced themselves to us and we returned the favor. Welcome to the club.

A final topic of discussion was the annual club picnic. Tony asked for volunteers to work on this and Tom Schaeffges offered to lead the group and Miles Westbrook, Bob Swoger and Carl Boll offered to help him. Their job will be arrange a location, plan activities, and set up a time (probably in late August), etc.

THE DEMOS

The first demo was my own. At the Fest I bought scanning type printer buffer, the kind that can have at least three computers hooked up to it and it scans for which computer is sending data and takes care of it while the others wait. However, I needed a cable with a male IDC-Type connectors on each end. Since I had never made a cable before I thought that if I made it at the meeting I would have some ready help. I was nervous while making the cable and I wasn't very vocal in explaining what I was doing. Fortunately Tony made a running commentary as I proceeded. Thanks Tony. (I tried it on my MM/1 and the printing hung except one time. Something for me to work on.)

Next was a demo by Tom Kowalski of "Coco Friends Disk Magazine" from Rick's Computer Enterprise. Tom stated that Rick is very concerned about the CoCo and has started this magazine that is concerned only with RS-DOS. If you send in \$6.00 you will get a startup kit which you can use to get an idea of what the magazine is and how it works. This is what Tom had done

Meeting Review

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and he proceeded to put the startup kit through its paces. The program started with a very nice graphics screen and the disk includes a program called "Entry Writer" and you are encouraged to write something, comments, an article, or a program, and send a copy back to Rick's and get the next issue free. A subscription is \$30.00 for six issues and Tom thought that he might do that. Thank, you, Tom for a very fine demo.

The third demo was done by Bob Bruhl and he demoed a program called "The CoCo Family Recorder." This is a genealogy data system written by Frank Swygert of FARNA Systems. Again this was a sample of the complete program. Bob started the program and showed that you can start by setting drive step rates and printer baud rates. Once that is done you are presented with a menu of thirteen items which allow you to create formats, to update information, prepare indexes, print details about persons or marriages and various lists, data, etc. Since this was only a sample of the program only item twelve, display of genealogical information, was available. Bob ran this and explained the various screen as they came up. Bob thought the program might be just what he and his wife were looking for. Thank you, Bob, for a fine contribution to the meeting.

There was the usual clean up and retirement to the restaurant for the meeting after the meeting.

Keeping The Dream Alive

By Mark W. Farrell

What is a dream?

Some say it is the result of stress or other events that were a part of your days activities.

Some say it is the result of what you had for dinner! These things may or may not be true. However, this is not the type of dream I have in mind.

Consider these things:

Thag, the caveman, dreamed of having the secret of fire so his tribe might survive more easily.

Michelangelo dreamed the Sistine Chapel that has been the inspiration of many great men.

Columbus dreamed of the shortcut to the Indies, something that would benefit the economy of the known world! (Good thing he was wrong, eh?)

Madam Curie dreamed that there was a new element that had unique properties that could change the world. Later, she discovered Radium, the first isolated radioactive element. This was also the first time a woman had discovered a new element!

The Wright brothers dreamed of flight. This most certainly changed the face of the world and was one of the causes of the global economy evolving.

Martin Luther King had a dream. The same dream that can be found in Holy Books and in the founding precepts of these United States. That all men are equal and no man shall be the property of another.

John F. Kennedy dreamed that the USA would be the first

country to have men on the moon. This created many new industries and technologies that might not have otherwise evolved.

Picasso and Dali had dreams too, mostly of women with too many eyes and dead landscapes littered with surrealistic time-pieces and disoriented furniture! (?) <sigh>

IBM had a corporate dream of taking all our money and enslaving us to their (IBM's) way of thinking. Thank goodness for the competition, or we all might be using an IBM PC with 64K bytes of memory, monochrome monitor, single sided floppy drive(s) and an IDS Paper Tiger printer. We probably would have had to spend around (are you ready for this?) \$6000.00 American Dollars!!!

Without getting too far down this path, let's look at what I am really getting at.

First, allow me to introduce myself...my name is Mark Farrell. I can almost hear some of you snickering as you read this! Oh, well, when you have written your first article and YOU can't figure out how to start it with some measure of grace, I shall be the wiser, kinder critic of your endeavors!

The point, is that we all start or begin - somewhere.

This article is about beginnings, well...of sorts. We start with the rumor that the Radio Shack I was working for, was going to receive its' first TRS-80 Model I computer (remember, this was 1976!). I'll skip the details and get to the good part. There it was, on the counter for all to admire and touch. A keyboard, monitor and a cassette player!

Our management always said, "Know thine product well, for thy paycheck doth depend upon this". Many an hour (that should have been spent cleaning or checking stock) was spent (honest) 'learning' how to load and operate the only program we had. This was a cassette game called 'Klingons'. This game was also to become my first tutor in the BASIC language. Do any of you remember the first time you looked at a large BASIC program? (What in the world is all this junk for???)

Oh sure, we eventually figured out what most of it did, we could even follow the examples from the manual.

But, what did those PEEK's & POKE's do?

(Sounded rather indecent];->)

Why did we have to DIM variables?

Was the computer twice as precise using double precision?

What (and why) were vectors, strings and arrays?

Who was Kilroy?

Why is a mouse when it spins?

(oops, sorry)

As BASIC became more familiar to me, the computer seemed less difficult to understand. Many sessions at the keyboard were spent trying to interpret the cryptic messages produced by the BASIC Interpreter, whilst trying to interpret the program you just created. After the third or fourth time you look through the lines of code, you begin to suspect that the computer is either broker or haunted (ghost in the machine)!

You ever do one of these: (???)

100 FOR O=1 TO 100

Now, you've received the 'SYNTAX?' error message and you try to spot the error before someone else does. You catch the exclamation point but you miss the zero in FOR. After the tenth time you threatened to pull the plug, you look and see the problem and you