

A GLENSIDE PUBLICATION SINCE 1985

FEBRUARY 1993 ISSUE

Glenside Color Computer Club

From the President's Platen

by Tony Podraza

Have you ever heard of the term "Modulus"? I must admit that I surely never heard the term before January 3rd, 1993, but then, there's a lot that I haven't heard about. That's why User's groups were founded, to spread the news...to clarify terms and definitions...to instruct others in the whys and wherefores of a particular subject. Think of any gathering of people that you can...why do/did they gather? Same reason, plus the added attraction of having fun. I'm referring, of course, to non-combative gatherings. Wars don't count. Anyway, there are two non-combative gatherings in the immediate future for the users of the CoCo and the "NEXT" generation computers. Be sure to see the ads for times and dates...and do what you can to ensure the future support of the little computer that could...and did...AND DOES...wow the shorts off the user's of other comparable hardware and operating systems for a pittance of the amount of what they had to pay to accomplish the same thing. January, typically, is a month given over to reflection of what and how to change things for the better in the new year.

The best thing that I can come up with in that relation to Glenside's existence is to try to get these newsletters introductions done a bit closer to deadline. More than once, Dave has had to wait on me to wrap up an issue. By the

same token, there have been rumors of "membership benefits" that haven't yet been fulfilled. I truly hope to get those taken care of within the next three months. Please be patient. This month, if Dave can find room, I'm hoping that we will be able to publish the entire membership as of Dec 31, 1992, so you will know who and where your fellow members are. Hopefully, this will enable some of you, who don't have a "local" user's group to fall back on, to contact a relatively close CoCo'ist to get an answer to your questions and problems.

As of today's date, Jan. 24, the following vendors have given verbal assent to involvement in the Second Annual 'Last' Chicago CoCoFEST!: *Farna Systems; Kala Software; Strongware; Fat Cat Productions* (by representation); *Colorsystems; Mid-Iowa and Countryside CoCo Club* (tentative); *CoCoPRO!; Hawksoft; BARSoft*, and of course *Glenside*. If this is only the tip of the iceberg in relation to vendors, then we can hope to have a really decent show. Of course, a lot depends on the user turnout. So, talk it up! Spread the word via whatever means you have at your disposal; we are. You'll be seeing information appearing in *Rainbow, OS-9 Underground, and UPTIME*. If you can think of anywhere else the info can be spread, do two things, please: do what YOU can, and let me know of the others. But we have to move

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the President's Platen	1	History Of The CoCo	4
CoCo~123 Information	2	Atlanta CoCoFest Review	5
CoCo~123 Contributions	2	Atlanta CoCoFest Review	6
Future Meeting Dates	2	Computer Speak	8
Contributors To This Issue	2	From the Editor's Desk	10
January Meeting Review	3	Directions	11

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
RR #2 Box 67
Forrest, IL 61741-9629

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, F=815.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Tony Podraza	5428-3576	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 Schneewiess	F832-5571	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:

February 11
March 11

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

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

- Tony Podraza • Howard Luckey
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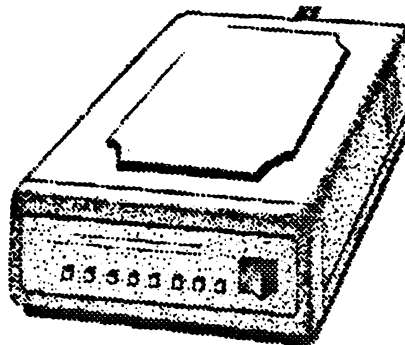
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These are YOUR club BBS's... Please support them !!!

From The President's Platen

Continued From Page 1

fast...time is short, and the water is rising.

Oh yeah, for those of you who have heard of overseas OS-9 groups, there is a report that a contingent of the EUROS9 group is investigating the possibility of attending the 'FEST! in May.

And there is the vaguest chance that we may have visitors from Australia and Japan. But these are nothing more than ideas that are being kicked around, at this time. Just thought that you might want to hear the latest rumors.

Now, as for "Modulus", it is a function/command used in BASIC that performs an arithmetic operation on two operands and returns a result. For example, a modulus operation divides the first operand by the second operand and finds the remainder. The remainder is then returned as the result of the modulus operation (100/44=who cares with a remainder of 12; the result of 100 MOD 44 is 12). Now isn't that just what you always wanted to know?

January Meeting Review

By Howard Luckey

The meeting started at 7:35 PM and the first order of business was to introduce ourselves.

The club is still receiving letters and memberships related to the article about the club that appeared in a recent issue of

The Rainbow. Three letters were read and one of them from Charles Andrews in Alaska had a question about using Data Windows. I hope his letter appears in our newsletter so members can respond to his question.

Speaking of the newsletter some of us wondered where it was. The president announce that it was in the mail and we should be getting it soon. A new feature in it is a calendar of events.

Thanks to Mark Farrell the club now has a program to print the post office bar code on the address labels. This meant, for example, that the newsletter could be and in this case was sent using the commercial bulk rate which was a considerable savings. Especially since we are mailing over two-hundred newsletters.

We spent a lot of time discussing our upcoming Second Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! which was announced at this meeting. The dates are May 1 and 2, 1993 at the HOLIDAY INN ELGIN, 345 W. River Road (near I-90 and IL-31S), Elgin, Illinois. The room rate per night is \$52.00 plus 10% tax. Admission at the door is \$10.00 for a two day pass (no one day passes) or \$8.00 if purchased in advance.

To purchase tickets by mail send \$8.00 and a SASE or \$8.00 plus \$.50 for postage and handling to George Schneeweiss, Treasurer, RR#2 Box 67, Forrest, IL 61741-9629.

Items discussed related to the Fest

A suggestion to court local computer supply (paper, ribbons, disks, etc.) people to vend at the Fest. To be checked out.

Will there be seminars? Most likely yes. Speakers and topics to be developed.

Advertising? Contacting Uptime, The Rainbow, and OS-9 Underground, posting on Delphi, Compuserve, and other BBS's, and any where else we can think of.

Are we going to have T-shirts? Something to be checked out.

What is the budget? It seems to be working out very well. For example, if we were to have around only 200 people at \$8.00 per, we would have enough money to cover expenses. The price of the room is also very attractive with a lower price after a certain number of room nights are purchased. Scott Montgomery made an important point about the budget. He suggested that the club and the officers be careful not to go overboard with the idea that we might have a lot of money coming in and begin to overspend with money we don't have or won't have. Later Bob Swoger supported this suggestion.

Carl Boll said he had talked to Peter Tutelaers of The Netherlands and told us that Peter wants incentives to support the attendance of people from Europe, Japan, and Australia. Carl has a proposal to help attendees from Japan or Australia and asked if others would be willing to offer money contributions. Perhaps we can form some kind of super-users group.

Another topic was the announcement of the up coming Middle America CoCo Fest '93 to be presented by the Mid Iowa & Country CoCo on March 27 and 28. Someone asked if the club will have a booth, and Carl said that he was going and would man a booth. He wondered if anyone else was going and would be willing to help.

Bob Swoger took the podium and told the story of how member Chris Hawks was able to repair Jean Edwards' computer after Radio Shack had failed. Chris found a defective chip and replaced it. In the process Jean has been able to use the club's CoCo. Bob also made a comment about what to do with old computers especially in our case when some of us are giving up the CoCo and moving on to other systems. He said that when people give old computers to nonprofit organization they are often junked. He suggested that individuals deciding to change systems make a list of what they have to offer and that the rest of us staying with the CoCo consider buying backup systems or components. He has a number of backup computers for the system he uses.

Scott Montgomery announced that he will no longer be passing out the Disk of the Month. Carl Boll will do that for now.

The club needs a new librarian because Mr. Polk will no longer

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

January Meeting Review

Continued From Page 3

be taking care of the that. Paul Jerkatis volunteered to do this.

THE DEMO

This month Tony Podraza did a demo of OS-9 Profile the Tandy database program put out in 1984. Tony loaded the it and put it through it's paces. Profile was originally made for the CoCo1 and 2 so to use it with a CoCo3 you have to do some patching. The database has a goodly number of capabilities: as many as nine screen formats, nine formats for printing or displaying reports, up nine sorting methods, three sorting levels, reports can be sent to the printer, the screen, to disk or to another device, fields can be calculated in relation to other fields, dynamic menus that show only the options currently available, interfacing with the OS-9 operating system, and the ability to read Dynacalc files or save database info in Dynacalc format. You can have as many records as you have space for on you disks, etc. Thank you Tony for the demo.

Then we closed up shop and went to the restaurant for the meeting after the meeting.

History Of The CoCo

By Alfredo Santos

This is the fifth in the series of articles presented by Alfredo Santos. These files were originally downloaded from Delphi and are reprinted with the author's permission.

THE FIFTH YEAR (July '84 - June '85)

The CoCo turns 4 years old in July, at the same time Radio Shack's TRS-80 MICROCOMPUTING NEWS published its last issue.

The RAINBOW celebrates its third anniversary with yet another innovative feature, a scratch 'n sniff adventure game. The issue also contains a complete index of articles and reviews which have appeared in the magazine since its beginning. Rumors appear about a new Radio Shack keyboard, and the folding of Chroma-sette!

A new product called TELE-FORM is marketed by CIGNA. The software enables mail-merge with Telewriter.

In August, TCCM is the subject of "going out of business" rumors, Bob Rosen puts BBS #5 "on the air" in San Jose, and rumors circulate in England that TANDY is interested in the floundering Dragon Data Ltd. company.

At the September RAINBOWFEST, held in Princeton, NJ (28-30), Dennis Lewandowski debuts his 128K upgrade. Other first timers include NOMAD the robot from Frank Hogg, GRAPHICOM II from WHITESMITH, and a graphics program and digitizer from GRAFX.

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VIP Software moves out to California.

The rumored takeover by a Spanish company, gives British Dragon users something to roar about.

TCCM's rumored demise proves correct. This is the third CoCo magazine to fold within the past year. The October issue is its last but, take heart because Dennis Kitsz announces the start of UNDERCOLOR (UCL for short) which will hit the stands in a month. Good luck Dennis!

Computerware begins marketing DON'T FORGET, and EUROHARD of Spain begins production of the Dragon computer in that country.

An auto-answer modem too expensive? Check out the November issue of RAINBOW and find out how to teach your Modem I to auto-answer. Bill & Sara Nolan sell Prickly-Pear Software to Mike & Joanne Chinitis. Good luck to all!

Rumors, rumors everywhere: Radio Shack has CoCo's with TRUE LOWERCASE (using the new Motorola 6847-TI VDG chip) which won't be released until after the holidays.

The better late than never, 26 page UNDERCOLOR magazine premiered in December with information about two "new" KOREAN CoCo II's featuring a 1.3 BASIC ROM.

Other new December arrivals included THE WIZARD from NEXUS which will modify Telewriter's character set, Dennis Lewandowski's 128K upgrade, the CALINDEX appointment scheduler from GRANTHAM SOFTWARE, a video digitizer

History Of The CoCo

Continued From Page 4

from The Micro Works, and NOVASOFT (a Tom Mix company) starts marketing its CoCo goodies.

7000 people attend Britain's first 6809 COLOUR SHOW for DRAGON and TANDY users.

1985 started with a bang and whimper! The bang came from the debut of another CoCo milestone, COCOMAX from COLORWARE. The whimper is provided by rumors that Color Micro Journal is about to go "belly up".

The February RAINBOWFEST in Irvine, California (15-17) attracts 8,000 for a first-hand look at COCOMAX (250 sold). Product debuts include the P-51 MUSTANG ATTACK FLIGHT SIMULATOR from Tom Mix, the 68008 expansion card from RGS Micro Electronics, and a 15 key numeric keypad from MORETON BAY. Tandy sells 16K CoCo's for a mere \$50, a drop in the proverbial bit bucket.

Back to where it all started, CoCo information will start reappearing in 68 MICRO JOURNAL as rumors of COLOR MICRO JOURNAL's demise prove true. With this month's issue, CMJ joined Color Computer News, Chromasette, and The Color Computer Magazine as the fourth major CoCo publication to fold within the past 17 months.

March brought word that the "new" CoCo would be an exclusive OS-9 machine (no BASIC ROM) and would be in Radio Shack stores sometime between September '85 and March '86. - Callers to any of Bob Rosen's 4 bulletin boards in Woodhaven, New York are greeted, not by the usual high pitched carrier tone but, by a "disconnected" message. Bob has signed off the east coast boards. From one "guru" to another Bob, thanks for the memories.

On March 30-31, London is the scene of the second 6809 COLOUR SHOW for DRAGON and TANDY users. Looks like the DRAGON lives on.

April sees the release of two library offerings, the long awaited COMPLETE RAINBOW GUIDE TO OS-9, authored by DALE PUCKETT and PETER DIBBLE, plus, from our Canadian friends at DRAGONFLY WRITING, a cassette magazine called DIGInews For COCO.

Who says "you can never go home again"? Eleven months in San Jose was obviously long enough to make Bob Rosen realize how much he missed the hustle 'n bustle of the "big apple". Nice to have you back home Bob.

Found out from a friend of mine that R.G.S. Micro of Montreal is no longer on the planet. Seems they folded last month, leaving a lot of folks, who wanted to be the first on the block with the 68000 CPU board and other goodies, holding their joystick! What a

shame!! Early reports are that some of the RGS crew will attempt to hook up with DSS Peripherals of Farmingdale, NY. to complete (start?) some of the RGS projects. Good luck!

Good luck also to Spectral Associates. After 4 years, they withdraw from the CoCo support field. Their absence will be keenly felt.

In May, voice recognition for the CoCo becomes a reality when Speech Systems starts marketing its Electronic Audio Recognition System (EARS for short).

Rainbowfest celebrates its third anniversary with 3 fun-filled days & nights (17-19) in Chicago. Causing quite a stir is Steve Odneals fully portable CoCo, complete with disk drive and monitor. Although only a prototype, Steve uses the show to judge user interest.

In June, as the curtain descends on the CoCo's fourth year, so too does it fall on yet another Color Computer publication. This time it's Dennis Kitsz's "Under Color" which bites the dust! RIP.

Atlanta CoCoFest Review

By Brian Schubring

It's 7:15 am. 10 minutes till my alarm goes off. Too excited to wait, I get up and get ready to go to the Atlanta CoCoFest.

7:45, ready to go. Now I just have to wait for Tony and Dave. Do I have enough time for breakfast? Well if not I'll let my wife have it.

8:30. Breakfast's packed away, and the phone rings. It's Tony. Says he and Dave are almost ready to shove off from his house, and should be here soon. Time to wait!

10:15. Hooray!! They're here! Got on the road right away so we could meet up with Carl and Paul at the Lincoln Plaza Burger King.

11:10. Well, they're not here; must have moved on since they had to pick up someone in Indiana. "We're here so let's have a food break", remarks Tony.

11:45, On the road again, (Tony with a spare WHOPPER!). Ran into some heavy traffic, then got settled in for the long ride down. There was talk of computers, men and Hills of beans. How did that get in here? Well, ask Tony he'll fill you in. Dave just remembered Atlanta is an hour ahead. OK only an hour or two behind. About this time Tony starts counting how many bugs have given their guts to the cause of messing up Dave's windshields.

1:00, Gas and pit stop before the long haul through Indiana. Got going a few minutes later and started to fold and stuff the Colorful 'CoCo 123' covers with the August/September issue made especially for the CoCoFEST to hand out.

2:00. While trying to contact someone on the radio...our Great and Illuminated President - Tony Podraza - SMOKES the CB. So much for trying to get a hold of Paul, or Carl. Then Tony decides to eat