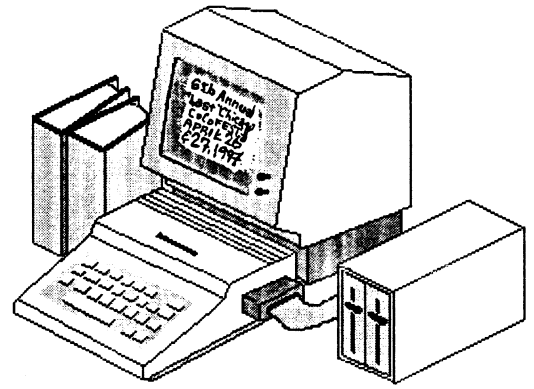


# CoCo ~ 123

November, 1996 Volume XVI, Number 4



## Picnic and Swap Fest Enjoyed by All!

by Bob Swoger

This event marks the end of summer and the beginning of the winter hibernation that causes computer hobbyists to get back to their machines. Among those present for the September 8th Glenside Annual End of Summer Picnic and Swap Fest were Rob Gibons, Richard Bair, Eddie Kuns, Tony, Linda and Chris Podraza, Mark and James Farrell, Mike Warns and his two Daughters, Lisa and Michelle, Tom Schaeffges, all of the Glenside Color Computer Club. Also present were Bob Kirkpatrick of the Motorola Microcomputer Club, President Nazir Pashtoon, Treasurer Phillip Kwitkowski as well as Bob, Annette and Michelle Swoger representing the Chicago Area Timex/Sinclair Users group.

Small amounts of rain appearing during the afternoon made us run inside the house a few times but all the good tasting food made up for the trouble. Noted also was the fact that Tom Schaeffges who along with Sheryl Edwards did all the work preparing for past picnics, got to enjoy this picnic with no effort on his part. Those two had regimented us into just doing the picnic with no loss of those needed details.

The picnic started out with breast of chicken from the grill followed by brats and burgers. Fresh picked tomatoes from the garden on the picnic grounds, pass around dishes and great deserts rounded out the food contributions. Hey!, only one

yellow jacket showed up this year!

The picnic bench was cleared off and boxes of swap goodies soon filled up the table. It was like Christmas day package opening! Closed boxes containing all kinds of CoCo Goodies were opened with only one plea - Please give all these items a good home! It happened. Everyone got in the spirit with everyone going home with either some new toy or a needed backup item to insure the security of always having CoCo computing on hand in case of some unforeseen disaster. Our hostess, Streamwood Park District Commissioner Annette Swoger, had a strange look on her face when she heard CoCo 123 Editor Mike Warns say the magic words "DeskJet for \$75" as he was about to leave for another appointment. Phillip Kwitkowski hooked it up for her before he left for home. That evening she printed out a resume for a friend, and sure enough, another happy swapper shopper.

This picnic was one of the more useful to CoCo users this reporter had observed in many years. It is believed the swap fest portion will be a regular part of the picnic in the future. Save the rain, the weather was mild with perfect temperatures even near sun down. We wish to thank Jim Peulecke of Romeoville, Fest Security Officer Tom Kowalski and Fest Shirt Designer Jim Johnson for making this day a success even though they were not present.

**Glenside Color Computer Club**

A Glenside Publication since 1985  
Your Voice in the CoCo Community

## CoCo 123 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 123 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 the 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 a fee of \$15.00, for January through December, you can become a GCCC member with full membership privileges. Send your dues to:

**GEORGE SCHNEEWEISS**  
RR #2 Box 67  
Forrest, IL 61741-9629

Here is a list of the 1996 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 these officers.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Rob Gibons	847-776-9842	The buck stops here
Vice-President	Eddie Kuns	630-820-3943	Meeting Planning, etc.
Vice-President	Tony Podraza	847-428-3576	" "
Vice-President	Sheryl Edwards	630-344-5632	" "
Secretary	Paul Knudsen	630-755-3210	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	George Schneeweiss	815-832-5571	Dues and Purchasing
Editor	Mike Warns	630-627-9561	Newsletter coordinator
Telecom	David Barnes	847-587-9820	Club BBS SysOp
Printer	Dennis Devitt	630-629-2016	Newsletter Exchange
Advertising	Bob Swoger	847-576-8068	Newsletter Ads

## CoCo 123 Contributions

If you would like to contribute an article, upload a file to the Newsletter Submissions section of the Glenside's Cup of CoCo BBS. Ditto for ads and news about your group. **Please include a name and an address or phone number.** If you would rather submit your article on diskette, they can be accepted in ASCII form and unformatted in the following formats:

RS-DOS 5-1/4" SSDD, 35 tracks  
OS-9 5-1/4" SSDD, 35 tracks  
MS-DOS Any standard format

Mail your articles to:

**Mike Warns**  
31 South Edgewood Avenue  
Lombard, IL 60148

Submission deadline for the CoCo 123 is the 15th of each month. Articles submitted after the deadline will appear in the next issue.

## CoCo 123 Newsletter Exchange

The Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois is pleased to exchange newsletters with other Color Computer or OS-9 user groups at no charge. Send your newsletter to:

**Dennis Devitt**  
21 W 144 Canary Road  
Lombard, IL 60148

## Reprint Policy

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 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 and send us your newsletter. We will then distribute it to 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 to 9:30 PM at the Glendale Heights Public Library. A social get-together always occurs afterward at the Springdale Restaurant.

Future meeting dates:

**December 12, 1996**  
**January 9, 1997**

Editor: Mike Warns  
Design, layout, graphics: Walrus House Enterprises

A special tip o' the hat to Dave Barnes and BARSoft Publishing, whose masthead page has been, uh, more than an inspiration for this issue's.

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These are your BBSs. Please support them.

## Glenside CoCoRama BBS

**847-587-9837**

**At Least 9600 Baud**

## SandV BBS

**630-352-0948**

**It used to be fast, but I'll bet it's faster now!**

## Glenside's Cup of CoCo

**847-428-0436**

**9600 Baud**

## Chi-CoCo BBS

**312-735-3355**

**14,400 Baud**

## Glenside East

**847-632-5558**

**2400 Baud, although I can't seem to get on any faster than 1200 baud**

**Hey, officers! Check your area codes (above)  
In some cases I guessed!**

# Club Questions

by Lee Stover

August 22, 1996

Dear Tony:

I have just been looking over your club's publication CoCo-123 that I received from a friend and was wondering if your club was still active and taking memberships from people from out of state. If so I would like to know what the membership fee is. I have belonged to Mid Iowa & Country CoCo but that seems to be on its way out.

I have a 512K CoCo 3,2 40 track DDDS Drives, CM-8 Monitor, DMP-130 printer, MultiPak interface, plus other CoCo goodies and am looking for any support there might be out there for the CoCo. I have had a CoCo since 1984 and have no intention of giving it up. It is a great little machine. I will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Also, do you know where I can get the software for the Plug & Power controller. I have the controller but need the software to operate it. Any help you can give me on this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lee Stover  
252 South Water Avenue  
New Hampton, Iowa 50659

## Editor's Reply

Dear Lee,

I suppose that Tony has gotten back to you about the membership business. If he hasn't, membership info is on page two of this issue. Our membership is international--by comparison, Iowa is practically local!

As for your Plug & Power controller, if you have one that plugs into the back of your CoCo you will have to pick up both the cartridge and a CoCo2--the cartridge won't work with a CoCo3. That's okay because it frees up your main computer. (That's not really a problem because you need the computer attached to the controller only when you want to program it. I think you can program it without even a computer, but it's not as easy.)

Once you have a setup you will need more X-10 control modules, which you can get at Radio Shack or lots of other places. Get lots of them and you can go to town programming everything in your house. Potential burglars will think you and a bunch of other people are at home from all of the apparent activity. Actually, since the modules cost at least ten bucks each, if you buy too many of them some of that activity will be yours as you will not be able to afford to "go to town" anymore.

# CoCoMAX - Help!

by Dennis Smith

Can someone help me? I need one of the files (cocoshow-.bas) from the "CocoMax III" demo disk. My drive ate mine, and one of the kids used the backup for something else. Fun, huh?

Thanks, Dennis  
D. G. Smith  
415 Stone St.  
Johnstown PA 15906  
814-535-6998

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## FOR SALE

Hewlett-Packard Desk Jet 500 printer: \$100 Includes 3 Ink cartridges, each worth \$20, so net price for printer is only \$40. Printer is in operating condition, but the envelope printing function does not work.

Len Zielinski  
847-967-8791  
e-mail to lazylen@sprynet.com

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## Editor's Corner

by Mike Warns

This issue is kind of skimpy for a couple of reasons.

Excuse One: the file of last issue crashed and a couple of wisenheimers sent me my copy with half of the pages blank, so I don't know what I had in it, and don't know what was left over from it for this issue.

Excuse Two: Not a lot has been submitted lately.

You people do not have much control over Excuse One, but you have complete control over Excuse Two. Submit any article you think your peers will find interesting! It is getting so bad my wife is threatening to submit recipes! It will be your fault if next issue has a recipe for "Computer Chip Cookies!"

Hey! That's not a bad idea! A recipe contest! We get filler submissions for the newsletter, our spousal units get to feel they are a part of the club, and we get something special to eat! Okay, send your recipes by the usual channels. No prizes, unless you want a copy of "Color File" or some other something the club has lots of extras of.

One thing that does get submitted is copyrighted material. I would not mind that if the owner of the copyright was the person who submitted it, but that is not the case. One thing we got was an article about dumb help line questions. I laughed as I read it, just like I laughed when I read it in **Infoworld** a few months before. Do not assume that, because you found it on the Internet and it does not have a byline then it is in the public domain. It would be much safer to assume that anything you find there is pirated.

Yes, pirated. Copying something without the author's permission is piracy whether it is software or an article, and it leaves us just as liable. To protect the club from lawsuits (and myself from arrest) I cannot publish anything that is not submitted by the author or has a note by the author where he puts it out for public viewing. Period. So stop wasting Tony's disk space by uploading pirated (or possibly pirated) articles.

By the way, whoever uploaded the September minutes, please do it again with a straight ASCII file! I cannot read the file on the board.

By another way, I now have an e-mail account, thanks to Tony Podraza and a fellow named John Ludolph. You can reach me at mikewarns@juno.com. Just don't expect me to reply right away—at this moment it has been about a month since I checked my mailbox!

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## Delphi Announces New Pricing

*Editor's note: One reason I have been slow to get "online" in any but the most basic manner has been my inability to make heads or tails of most services' pricing structures (Juno is easy—e-mail is free.). This is relatively clear, but, again, you have to join Delphi for access to the full details, same as AOL or some ISP I called up once. Kinda like "We won't tell you how much this car will cost until you buy it." I don't buy from car dealers like that, but this may interest you Delphi users.*

Delphi Announces New Pricing Programs; Including Unlimited Monthly Graphical Access plan at 28.8kbps; New Value plan; and Telnet Access plan for \$34.97 per year!

Delphi Internet is today announcing to its members that on October 1 they will be able to access both the full range of Delphi communities along with the World Wide Web for as low as \$16.95 per month (based upon an annual commitment). Delphi makes available to its membership 220 new 28.8kbps POPs (Points of Presence) covering nearly the entire continental U.S. Full information on the new unlimited numbers and pricing options is found within Delphi at GO NEWPRICES. Delphi also is unveiling its new Content plan, which allows unlimited access through a telnet client to Delphi for as low as \$34.97 for a full year!

"Our members have told us repeatedly, 'We want unlimited Delphi!'" says Dan Bruns, CEO. "Well, now Delphi members can have it all -- full graphical World Wide Web access using the Internet Valet software suite, plus full access to the hundreds of communities within Delphi, with unlimited usage for one monthly price!"

### Delphi Unlimited Plan Details

For the Delphi Unlimited Plan, Delphi is offering access to both the Web and the communities of Delphi at 28.8kbps for as low as \$16.95 per month. For this rate, members will have to pay in advance for a full year. The six month rate is \$19.95 per month, which also requires up-front payment, and the month-by-month rate is \$23.95. Members needing 28.8kbps speed and full IP are required to use Delphi's new network of 220 dial-in ports only, which can be found within Delphi at GO NEWPRICES.

Also, for Delphi members seeking unlimited pricing but who don't need 28.8 modem speed or full IP, Delphi offers unlimited pricing for the X.25 networks! Members can stay with the current Sprint and Tymnet networks (Tymnet surcharges still apply) and sign up for the twelve month, six month or monthly unlimited pay plans, at the same prices as for full IP/28.8 speed. Sprint's 28.8 network is not included in this plan.

### Value Plan Introduced

In addition, Delphi today announced that it has a new "Value Plan" which on October 1 will allow members to access Delphi and the Internet for a low price. For \$12.95 each month, members will be able to explore Delphi and the Internet for 6 hours each month, with additional hours priced at \$2 each. This offers a far greater value to Delphi members than the current Basic Plan option, which offers 4 hours of access only to the Delphi service for \$10 with additional hours costing \$4 each, and access to the Internet an extra \$3 per month.

### Content Plan Announced

Finally, Delphi is very pleased to offer on October 1, unlimited access through a telnet client to Delphi through other ISPs for \$6.95 per month, with no limit on usage! Pre-paid pricing for longer time periods makes the savings even greater: \$34.97 for unlimited membership in Delphi for one year (save 58% off the \$6.95 monthly rate!); \$24.97 for six months (save 40%), or \$14.97 for three months (save 28%). There's no cheaper way to participate in Delphi's wonderful communities!

Delphi members will be able to stay in their current plans with no change in rates or dialing capabilities. The \$3 Internet access fee will remain as an option for the current rates. New members, however, will only be given the \$12.95/6 hours and unlimited hours option, with Internet access bundled into those plans.

Registration for the new plans will begin on or before Friday, September 13, 1996.