

CoCo~123 INFORMATION

CoCo~123 is the newsletter of the Glenside Color Computer Club. Your annual contribution of \$15.00 helps to keep our club going. Send your check to Glenside Treasurer:

George L Schneeweiss
13450 N 2700 E Road
Forrest IL 61741-9629

Our treasury provides newsletters and good times with fellow CoCo users at our Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! and annual picnic.

If you are unsure of when you last paid dues, look at the address label on this newsletter envelope. The numbers to the right of your name indicates the last year you made your annual contribution.

CoCo~123 CONTRIBUTIONS

If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or would like to submit an article, please contact the CoCo~123 Newsletter editor:

Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, IL 60107-1647

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Howard Luckey
Steve Bjork
Mary Kramer

G. C. C. MEETINGS

The Glenside Color Computer Club meets the second Thursday of each month at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 7:00 pm. If you need a map, see our Glenside Homepage at:

<http://ncmedals.com/glenside/>

A social get-together always follows the meeting at a nearby restaurant.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DISK

Hey, fellow CoCo users. It is that time of year again.

GO 18th Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST!

My hope is that all of the usual suspects will be able to make it, and maybe some suspects that usually don't make it - will attend also. For me, it is a great joy see everyone and to participate in all the socializing. The high light of socializing is the dinner we have at Alexander's restaurant across the street Saturday evening. We will come back to the exhibition room for another annual sing along about 7:30 pm.

A new deal this year is that the Glenside IDE Interface, created and sold by the club, will be available and, for the first time, ready to be installed - at a new lower price. I want to thank Brian Goers and Chris Hawks for their work in creating the new installation disk so that the user can install the software and have everything ready to go.

Howard Luckey, President
Glenside Color Computer Club

TREASURY NOTES

We have \$2344.11 in checking, \$5000 in a CD.

George Schneeweiss, Treasurer
Glenside Color Computer Club

THE SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

Rather than give excerpts of our monthly meeting minuetts, I shall report on the main focus of our meetings leading up to the 2009 CoCoFEST!.

Those that regularly attend our meetings this past year are President Howard Luckey, Vice Presidents Chris Hawks, Brian Goers and Tony Podraza, Treasurer George Schneeweiss, Secretary Bob Swoger and members John Mark Mobley, Justin Wagner, Frank Pittel and Brian Schubring.

As reported in our Winter 2007 issue, Bob Swoger and Brian Goers noted a submission on coco@maltedmedia.com regarding Glenside IDE Interface owner **Randy Just** reporting that he had recently pulled out his Glenside IDE controller purchased a number of years ago and tried to get it up and running for the first time. Even with all the help people gave him, he was unsuccessful in getting it to work. He was so frustrated that he sold his entire CoCo collection on eBay.

To prove this claim, we asked Chris Hawks to bring the club computer to our next meeting. Brian Goers brought the IDE Interface with its docs and disks. Chris set up the club computer, it worked perfectly. Brian then added the Glenside IDE Interface to the set up. The 5-1/4 disk provided with the interface did not contain all the required software required to make the interface operational. We found that a key piece of software was missing because it is proprietary and we can't distribute it. Also, the manual was put together by our technical types - so the average guy was unable to use it to initially set up his Interface and Hard Drive. Boisy Pitre made an offer to provide a reduced feature version of his software to be sold with our interface. This would have driven the cost of our interface package too high to sell.

Chris Hawks, himself a software developer, undertook the task to make a 35 track single sided 5 ¼ floppy disk which would provide all that would be needed to set up our IDE Interface and format an IDE hard drive, by any non-technical person, with first time success.

At our November 2008 meeting, we set up our system for the 4th month in a row using Brian Goers' Digital Equipment Corporation Dual Disk Drive set which sports two TEAC 30 ms step rate - single sided drives that mimic the very first Radio Shack 35 track drives to assure that the disk would work in any floppy drive out there. We had complete success setting up an IDE hard drive at this meeting. Brian then promised to write a Quick Setup Manual to go with the package.

Robert Swoger, Secretary
Glenside Color Computer Club

Of our forty three attendees, we had five first



1st timer Mark Sabbatini from Juneau, Alaska

time members attend our 2008 CoCoFEST!



From Sunrise, Florida, 1st timers Sue and ...



1st timers John Mark & Melanie Mobley, Des Plaines, Illinois.



George Spahn. Note George's 1985 Rainbow fest shirt.



Members Karl Sefcik TX, James Jones of Clive,



Iowa, and Wally Grossman from Cleveland, Ohio

Glenside's CoCoFEST! 2008

Steve Bjork opened the 2008 CoCoFEST! with the announcement of the CoCo 4 Projects with the goal of keeping the Color Computer (CoCo) alive. The CoCo 4 goals are to be completely backwards compatible with all three models of the color computer while using the modern technology to create a next generation CoCo.



The first step is a new version of a CoCo emulator that runs all three versions of the Color Computer. Yes, CoCo emulators have been done in the past, but this one is design for both hardware and software improvements too. First off, you have the option to plug in your old CoCo hardware.

CoCo 4 system will use your old CoCo Joysticks, Game Paks, Keyboards and even Floppy Disk Controllers using an optional I/O control board. This I/O board and Pico size PC motherboard will fit inside an old CoCo 3 case, there by letting you rebuild a CoCo 4 inside a dead CoCo system.

The CoCo 4 emulator also has planned upgrades including enhance graphics and sound to name a just two. Other improvements like SQL database and improved file management will open the door to programming that could never been done on your CoCo.

As you can see, its not just keeping the past alive but opening the door to future to you. These improvements will let you write programs using the capabilities of modern technologies while based on what you already know from your old friend, the CoCo.

Please visit www.CoCo4.com for more information about the CoCo 4 projects.

Glenside's annual concern is collecting enough funds to support CoCoFEST!. This because the meeting room cost had increased from \$500 to \$2000 for the past three years



Happily, our two Auctions this year brought in \$618 and donations from three members added another \$373. After all was counted we were \$173 in black ink, that's close.

Frank & Carol Davis of FWD Computing were unable to attend this year but were able to make our 2008 fest shirts.



Nancy Hawks graciously accepted the task to sell FWD's merchandise.



Chris Hawks this year was selling not only his CoCo 3 to S-Video interface, but also his X-10 Software and hardware. Though we don't have close up pictures, Chris gave a demo of X-10 Home Control and Security using a X-10 programmable controller, light and appliance modules, remotes and light & motion sensors.



Mark Marlette and Sandy Wiemer of Delano, Minnesota, in back are Frank Pittel of Westmont, Illinois, and Bill Astle for Calgary Alberta Canada.



Secretary Bob Swoger and Treasurer George man the checkin table.



Recently married Eddie Kuns having an outrageously good time at our fest.



Tom Schaeffges, now living in Madison, Wisconsin, getting in some CoCo time.



John Linville of Mebane, North Carolina, and Roy Justus of Redford, Virginia.



Most of the whole 2008 CoCoFEST! crowd.

Our Saturday Evening Dinner Social

Another plus of this year's fest was the our dinner social which this year was held at Alexander's Restaurant just across the Holiday Inn parking lot. The idea for this venue was proposed by member Frank Davis and others after experiencing poor service at Bennigan's restaurant during the 2007 fest. We were all seated in our own section of the restaurant and were able to order from the regular menu. Pocket book speaking, we got a real good deal.



Marge & John Chasteen, John Mark and Melanie Mobley, Wally Grossman, Frank Pittel and Rich Bair.

The staff at Alexander's seemed to bend over backwards to make our dining and social experience vary enjoyable. We shall use Alexander's again at the 2009 CoCoFEST!

Returning from Alexander's we reconvened in the exhibition room for a Brother Jeremy led jam session.



James Jones – 2 instruments – 2 angles.



Always a treat to hear is Rich Bair on his trumpet.



The pictures show that Allen Huffman was having a great time as were we all. We played until the groves in our fingers were down to the bone, then retired to our rooms to get our needed sleep so as we wouldn't fall asleep in Brother Jeremy's morning service.



Librarian Report

Just after the 2007 CoCoFEST! I was told that the Glenside Color Computer Club needed someone to take over the job of Librarian from Brother Jeremy who would be working with young people in the United Kingdom for some time to come. The job would begin by scanning their printed materials onto disks. I volunteered for the job and Bob Swoger and his wife Annette delivered material to me on their way to Marion, Illinois, for a Labor Day weekend stay with Annette's sister. I had to meet with them in between my sons martial arts class and transfer a car load of storage tubs from his little rental car into my Explorer. It was quite funny as we did so in the back of a Wal-Mart parking lot like a couple of FBI agents quickly loading up precious documents. I wish I had more time to talk with them but my son was in the middle of belt testing as I met them across the street.

That Christmas my 19 year old brother bought me a super duper nice Cannon all in one scanner/printer/copier. Soon after that I had began scanning my heart out. I do have to say I cheated a little by finding some of the manuals already scanned online. I then started to notice my computer was moving as slow as a slug trying to outrun salt. I then asked Glenside for a flash drive to store the documents onto. They sent me one and it has been a blessing. I now have submitted a list of documents and items that have been scanned.

I haven't had time in past month to work on since I started college. DO NOT BE ALARMED! It will be ok.. I have since been able to take out a loan to get a laptop. I plan to use the laptop to spend time editing and cleaning up the documents and manuals into a cleaner format.

I also have kept so far most of the stuff as hard copy for those whom wish to have the actual paper form. If there is anyone that needs a PDF of any documents, PLEASE ask me and I will make that my next scanning priority for them. I have so far gotten through 2 of the storage tubs and removed most of the copies of copies of

copies of stuff and cut the documents down from 8 boxes to about 5 boxes of things.

If anyone out there needs any binders... well, then please let me know, I have a lot of binders in different sizes that I have emptied. If anyone finds scanned docs online please let me know, and perhaps I can add those to the archive, even if we do not have the original. Feel free to send me anything you have and ask me for anything you do not.

Remember, the CoCo is of no use at all without software. It is our purpose to try to get a copy of everything that was ever out there for the CoCo - and be able to provide it to CoCo owners. If the software is still under copyright and you are an owner of that software but your tape/disk went bad, it is our purpose to give you a free replacement.

I have also helped with last years T-shirt logo and design. Bob Swoger sent me the basic design and I helped with the lettering. I am glad to help in that area as well. This year we found ourselves in same situation. I helped do the lettering and I believe Bob has finished off the design. (See the last page. Ed.)

Watch our web site and future newsletters for a list of software so far achieved. I want to say thanks to anyone who has helped with this library project. I know Brother Jeremy had worked on the library archive before I got hold of it. I appreciate the condition that the documents were in. I will continue to give updates as they are available. I believe the original idea was to make the CDs with manuals on them and also a DSK image of the program to go along with it. So if anyone has DSK Images of any programs they would like to send me then that would be great. I can start pairing them up with the appropriate manuals. I am happy to be able to help and be of service to The Glenside Color Computer Club.

Mary E Kramer, Librarian
Glenside Color Computer Club

Note about Vista Computers

A note to those thinking of buying a new computer. Friends of mine have recently purchased the new 64 bit computers loaded with the Vista operating system. These computers are also loaded with the latest Office operating system but only on a three month trial basis, you have to purchase the Office system for more bucks if you want to keep it.

I for one found that all of my previous older software, including my batch files and BASIC programs used to maintain the records of both Glenside and my Glenwood Alumni association was unable to load, let alone run, on these new computers. One returned his machine for a refund and seeked out an older XP machine. I plan to pay over \$100 to repair my XP lap top and will use it until my end! Sales people at two of my favorite shopping stores have confirmed my fear. (Ed.)

Glenside's Web Site Moves

Since 1998 the Glenside has been hosted by America Online along with 19 other web sites maintained by Bob Swoger. Shortly before the end of 2008 AOL informed all its clients that they would no longer host web sites after the first of the year.

Bob had to scramble to move all his web sites to a new host, one that was owned by his brother Bill on Godaddy. A couple of the Glenside members suggested that Glenside get their own domain name. Many of the favored domain names had already been take, but member Justin Wagner found that GlensideCCC.com was available.

The day before Bob Swoger was to acquire the new domain name, he was contacted by Steve Bjork who made an offer to acquire the domain name for the club and also host the site. Bob, on behalf of the club officers, gratefully accepted Steve's offer. Steve also put in a lot of effort to convert the HTML files to run on his site. Thanks, Steve, for all you have done to set us up and host us on your site. Presently you can see our web site at either <http://ncmedals.com/glenside> or our latest site located at <http://glensideccc.com>

Howard Luckey, President
Glenside Color Computer Club

The 18th Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST!



Proudly Presented by
Glenside Color Computer Club
Holiday Inn, Elgin, Illinois
March 28th & 29th, 2009
Happy 30th Birthday 6809!

Here are the 5 "W's"

WHO? 1) Glenside Color Computer Club, Inc. PRESENTS

WHAT? 2) The 18th Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST!

WHEN? 3) March 28 & 29, 2009

(Sat. 10 am - 5 pm; Sun. 10 am - 3 pm or whenever)

**WHERE? 4) HOLIDAY INN & SUITES ELGIN
495 Airport Road
Elgin Illinois 60123**

**(A city block North of I-90 & IL-31)
(Same great location as last year!)**

Overnight single occupancy room rate:

\$80.00 plus 10% tax (\$88.00 Total)

Call 1-847-488-9000 for reservations.

Please ask for the Glenside "CoCoFEST!" rate.

**>>>YOU MUST REGISTER UNDER "COCOFEST!"<<<<
>>>>> TO GET THIS RATE <<<<<<**

- WHY? 5) A. To provide vendor support to the CoCo Community
B. To provide Community support to the CoCo Vendors
C. To provide educational support to new users.
D. TO HAVE AN OUTRAGEOUSLY GOOD TIME!!!**

And now, the "H" word.

**HOW MUCH? 1) All Attendees - General Admission
Saturday & both days: \$15.00 1st - \$10 2nd & more
Sunday Only: \$10.00 1st - \$5 2nd & more**

******* Children 12 and under - FREE *******

Advance ticket sales available between 1/15/2009 and 3/8/2009 from:

**George Schneeweiss
13450 N 2700 E Road
Forrest, IL 61741**

Include a Self-Addressed-STAMPED-Envelope (SASE)

For further information, general or exhibitor, contact:

**Tony Podraza, GCCCI Brian Goers, GCCCI
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