

# **OpTime**

The newsletter for: RS-DOS, OS9, OSK, CoCos, and 68xxx's.

Volume 1, Issue 10

June 1993

#### Overview

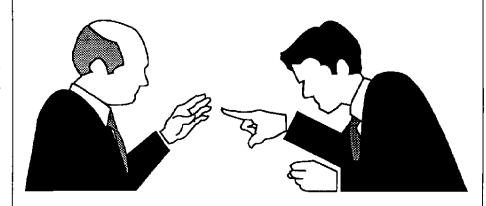
This edition marks our second large-page issue, and I would like to thank all of the advertisers and subscribers who have made this possible. This issue is jam-packed with articles ranging from the Internet to another 'Fest report. The Life on the Internet column which was slated to make its debut in the last issue has finally made it to print. This article will start at the beginning with an introduction to communications and move into the Internet, a massive world-wide network of computers. Also included is the Introducing the GEnie column along with the first part of the Chicago Fest report and a special message from the Whitehouse.

Much talk has been made recently about the numerous CoCo magazines/newsletters that are now in publication. An interesting point on this topic was made by Terry

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# Which One???



Simons from the MI&CC, who hosts the Guest Editorial this month. Along those lines, I recently received an issue of the OS9 Underground Magazine. Some of you may have heard that the magazine literally went Underground for a while. Alan Sheltra, the publisher, has recently had some personal problems which interfered with the publication, but he has assured everybody that OS9 Underground is now on firm footing. All subscriptions have been extended by two months because of the delay in publication.

The magazine really looks great, and it is currently 46 half-pages in size. Inside, there were articles concerning Basic09 and C programming, along with a contest testing your knowledge of C. Subscription rates are \$18/yr (12 issues), and you can write to: Fat Cat Publications, 4650 Cahuenga

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## Guest Editorial

Can We Combine Magazines?— The present and future of CoCo magazines.

Every now and then I hear the suggestion, "Maybe it would be better if all magazines combined so you could subscribe from one source". Granted, subscribing to everything could be expensive and so this sounds like a "good idea on the face of it". But in reality, I can't see any possibility for several good reasons. Consider first, to the surprise of many, Rainbow has only been the largest magazine for the last several years. Several magazines and newsletters have been carrying a following aside from Rainbow for several years. That is why some like myself subscribe to Rainbow and many

## **UpTime**

Editor: Jordan Tsvetkoff

UpTime is published 12 times a year by JWT Enterprises, 5755 Lockwood Blvd., Youngstown, OH, 44512. Yearly subscription rates are \$15.00, or \$7.50 in two installments. Foreign orders (except Canada and Mexico) add \$7.00 postage. Copyright ⊚ 1993 by JWT Enterprises. Quotation not permitted. Material may not be reproduced in whole or in part in any form whatsoever without the express written permission of JWT Enterprises.

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Purpose: To provide information about products, services, and activities relating to the Tandy Color Computer and OSK/68xxx-based machines.

Submissions: Submissions of any form can be sent to *UpTime Submissions*, **JWT Enterprises**, 5755 Lockwood Blvd., Youngstown, OH, 44512. Please note that article/editorial submissions are preferred, although short program listings will also be considered. If reimbusment is requested, please indicate in writing with the initial submission.

To order a subscription to Up-Time, please send a U.S. check or money order for \$7.50 to:

> **GpTime, JWT** Enterprises 5755 Lockwood Blvd. Youngstown, OH 44512.

You will be billed for the second installment of \$7.50. Canadian orders, \$9.00 installments. Foreign orders, \$11.00 installments. Ohio residents add 6% sales tax.

users have subscribed "only to others" for quite some time. Each of these puts forth effort building a readership, and it's doubtful they would just turn it over to someone, somewhere, though it too may be a nice magazine.

Consider also what you would lose. The individual characteristics for each publication are part of the reason that the readership, or we who publish would like to assume, chose that particular publication. There are more factors than the balance of RS-DOS vs. OS-9 articles. Or even how many pages. I wouldn't want to start with the foreseeable problems of our editors trying to get their format across to a central controller. Then we must consider a subscription an obligation. Risking another incident like the help OS9 Underground offered to several magazines and didn't deliver would be a bit much or me. On the other hand, a few years back Howard Medical elected to furnish our UPGRADE disk to his "Howard club" members. Ross Litton paid their freight, and we fulfilled without complaint. Some are still with us, so I guess it can work. Then consider a close relative to our publication, Glenside's "CoCo 1,2,3". Both spring from a CoCo group, and I really doubt that Glenside wants us to publish their newsletter. They do very well as it is. And I'd say, visa-versa.

In reality there is a nice variety in place with some new entries that show possibilities. While automation makes TV's faster and cheaper, in magazines, you would lose that precious quality: individualism. As I recommended in our May '93

Rainbow ad, look around and subscribe to one or two publications that seems to fill your needs. I think you too will like the variety each offers. And I don't ask that anyone subscribe to everything. That too would be a little much. For all the same reasons, I don't see any one publication as the magazine. If one should decide to go, another will take up its place, because for the most part, we have found working together and supporting each other goes a lot farther then worrying about who's the biggest or the best. I am continually picking up a note from a new subscriber (referred by our promo in XYZ magazine) saying, "I like your UPGRADE, but will still subscribe to XYZ". And, gosh, I didn't suggest they don't. But it does reflect the appreciation for the variety offered. For the same reasons I don't see any suggestion a primary "CoCo Leader". We've always had many build on their knowledge and willingness to help and their track record for reliability. There are and will continue to be more than several publications. If there isn't satisfaction in this answer, then I hope this at least answers some of the why.

-Terry Simons

#### Corrections...

Our apologies to Allen Huffman, whose first name was misspelled in the last issue. In addition, GEnie's signup number is 1-800-638-9636 instead of the number which appeared in last month's edition.

### Introducing the **GEnie**

In the previous issue of UpTime, I presented a small introduction to the GEnie online service offered by General Electric. At this time I'd like to make a few corrections to that article and announce some good news! First, the phone number to GEnie Client Services (voice) is 1-800-638-9636. If you are interested in signing up by credit card or checking account, you may dial 1-800-638-8369. "CONNECTed", type "HHH" to wake up GEnie and at the "U#="

prompt, type "XYX99188,TANDY" follow the prompts. (GEnie recommends you be in HALF DUPLEX/Self Echo when logging on. If you wish to use full duplex, type Ctrl-R at the "U#=" prompt before entering the password.)

And now ... some excellent news for CoCo/OS-9 users! Starting July 1st, 1993, GEnie will be effectively lowering it's online rates by 50%! First, the bad news. There will be no more GEnie\*Basic services. The flat-rate features are gone and everything on GEnie will be under an hourly charge. Second, the monthly fee has been raised from \$4.95 to \$8.95. Now for the good news! Included with your

\$8.95/month fee you get *four* full hours of GEnie service to be used as you please: downloading, chatting, playing online games, or just keeping us company in the Tandy/TRS-80 RoundTable. Additional hours are just three dollars each at speeds up to 2400 baud! (Please note that some remote access numbers may still require an extra \$2/hour surcharge.) This new pricing plan will make GEnie a much better alternative for CoCo support allowing, if nothing else, four hours in the Tandy area free each month (or for at least \$8.95). And, with GEnie having the most dial-up access numbers of any online service. GEnie may be there waiting for your call even if you

#### UPGRADE National Diskletter! From: Mid lows & Country CoCo We are a national reachout!

Our "UPGRADE" newsletter mailed on Disk, has become a real hit with MAX III graphics accompaning articles. The articles from RSDOS Basic programming, and hardware, to OS-9 by James Jones of Microware; dump to screen (TV, Mono, or RGB) or printer. Sometimes with the news before the big mags, and editorals you will not see in the commercial magazine. With many user tips and ideas.

Our Power Packed Domain Library: is purposty small relative to thousands available; because the few hundred disks there are carefully selected as "The Best Available"! Public Domain, Shareware, OS-9, & previously big named Orphaneware

programs.
We also have a "Christian Software Sub-chapter". Which simply offers

Christian oriented software and listings for those interested.

Where can you buy? Or sell that equipment you've just upgraded from? Your free ads will be in the middle of the community.

Be in touch for Middle America's Fest '93 In Des Moines, IA.

Have you noticed the 3rd part market producers (i.e. support) dropping like fles in late fall? The shrinking Rainbow? The support of your CoCo is rapidly being left up to YOU! As third party decreases; belonging to a CoCo group is your only support. Radio Shack and a long list of magazines have folded it in. If one more magazine folds,,, where will you look next month?

Our eight year record speaks very well to reaching out and serving members. A strong treasury assures confidence of delivery. Most members are out of lown or out of state! Presently we have paid memberships in 23+ states and 3 provinces of Canada, Plus five clubs, and some dealers. Out 90% renewal rate says most all feel MI&CC is very worthwhile. Join up and see why: even user groups by vote; sign up with a paid applicable.

Your membership will bring you all Newsletters, Library, Voting, and other privilages, for a year. (\$3 Sample disk)

Mid lows and Country CoCo (non-profit group)
"Gathering the CoCo community"|
Do you want support tomorrow?
Then stay with a group that keeps you in touch!
Annual Membership: \$16.00 US - \$21.00 Canada

Say, "I saw it in **Up Time"** and receive,,, an UPGRADE Disk plus added bonus disk via return mail!

Terry Simons (MI&CC Treas.), Des Moines, IA 50311

1328 48th St. (515) 279-2576 after 8:00 PM



Six new J & M Digital Diagnostic Drive Analizers from Computer Villa. As of 4/93 there are still four left.

Includes: • Program disk (CoCo 2 or 3) • Digital disk

· J&M Comprehensive Instruction Manual

The manual has instructions on how to adjust alignment and index hole timing speed on most drives. I've found the index timing speed is off on most drives, sometimes not a problem in itself within one system except that setting it right will usually bring other readings into better sync.

It Tests: • Drive Speed

- Index Hole Timing
- · Head Scew O/I/M (Outer/ Inner/ Middle)
- · Head Alignment O/I/M · Alignment Sensitivity O/I/M,
- · Head Rotation
- · Directional Seek

and drives 1 - 4 single or double sided drives.

When I first purchased a J&M test disk set, we felt the price was a bit much for one person and split the cost between several of us. You may do the same (one check). For a club or small group, it's a bargin. And for those like myself who have vital need of our CoCo sytems with disks serving a broad spectrum, I want disks written to ulitmate standards. The fringe benefit is many times a small adjustment rather than a new drive and longer lasting, more reliable drives. J&M doesn't even have the software left in stock. When these are gone there may be no more!

Onginally sold \$99 + \$5 Shipping Like having a technician at home MI&CC mmebers only: \$75.00 Plus \$4.00 shipping via Prioriety Mail Terry Simons, 1328 48th, Des Moines, IA 50311

cannot find a Delphi number near you. Of special interest are the reduced pricing for prime time and 9600 baud access. The above listed rates apply to non-prime (6pm-8am local time) GEnie usage. There is a prime-time surcharge of \$9.50/hour (\$12.50 total per hour during prime time) and a \$6.00/hour 9600 baud surcharge (\$9 an hour for dialing in at 9600)! If you need to dial in on GEnie's 1-800 number, it's only \$6/hour extra (\$9/hour total). And, best of all, if you are using 9600 baud there is no additional cost for using the 1-800 line! That's correct - you can dial GEnie from anywhere in the U.S. toll free at 9600 baud for just \$9/hour! Confused yet? Let's make this deal even better... Since you get your first four hours each month included, you could think of things this way: the first four 9600 baud 1-800 hours you use of GEnie each month are just \$6/hour! And for those of us who don't have 9600 baud, that's toll free 2400 band access for only \$6/hour (first four hours only)...the same price as local dialup rates were before the rate change! I personally think this is one great deal and it makes GEnie an even more affordable alternative for those who cannot access Delphi. Please stop in and check us out! Once online, the keyword "TANDY" will take you to our area. (Note: Before July 1st, all non GEnie\*Basic areas are still \$6/ hour plus any surcharges...) Again,

I hope to see you online!

(P.S. - To our Canadian friends! GEnie is available "up north" at only slightly higher rates. For more information, contact Client Services today!)

- Allen C. Huffman Owner, Sub-Etha Software, COCO-SYSOP on GEnie, SYSOP@DELTA on StG Net, COCO-SYSOP@GENIE.GEIS.COM on Internet, or P.O. Box 152442, Lufkin, TX 75915 / (409) 560-9696 (days)

DISCLAIMER: The author's views and opinions are his own. This information comes from him and not GEnie. Allen Huffman is Color Computer SysOp of GEnie's Tandy RoundTable.



**ColorSystems** 

Quality OS-9 Software for your Color Computer 3 and the MM/I from IMS

<u>Variations of Solitaire</u> - A game pack which includes FIVE variations of the popular one-person card game Solitaire! Includes Pyramid one of the most habit-forming, Klondike, the standard version of Solitaire, Poker which gamblers would enjoy, Spider were a single hand can take hours of play, and the popular gambling variation Canfield.

Game Pack - A game pack of FIVE popular board games adapted for your favorite computer! Includes Othello, Yahtzee, KnightsBridge, Battleship, and Minefield.

These two products come for both the Color Computer 3 with OS-9 Level 2 and at least 256K of memory or for the MM/1 from IMS. Color Computer version is \$34.95 and the MM/1 version is \$49.95. (Multi-Vue is NOT required for the Color Computer Version!)

<u>WPShel</u> - This is an impressive tool which allows those who do a lot of Word Processing on their Color Computer 3 to put all of their favorite tools under a single point and click environment. Requires OS-9 Level 2, system support from the *WindInt* module which comes with *Multi-Vue* and at least 256K of memory. Mouse and Printer are optional but desirous. Only \$22.00!!

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## Chicago Fest Report

1993 2nd Annual "Last" CoCoFest Report (May 1-2, Chicago, Illinois) by Allen Huffman of Sub-Etha Software 05/ 05-05/09/93 (Four days of typing!)

"Just when it looked like there would be no more 'Fests," started my 1992 "Last" Fest report, and here I am, several Fests later, writing "yet another" Fest report. I want everyone out there who is still a loyal CoCo user to take a moment and pat yourself on the back. Thanks to the support of our loving community, we are still here... And thanks to this same support I drove over 2000 miles this past weekend. So... let's get on with this report, shall we?

But before starting, let me say thanks Carl Boll for all your help and support. Without you Sub-Etha Software would not have been able to be there. We are grateful for you, and will do our best to repay your kindness. You're a great guy, Carl. Your help means a lot to me/ us and is greatly appreciated.

And now...

#### The Drive

Last year Sub-Etha flew because we didn't feel like making an "800 mile" road trip. Hmmm... Due to lack of funds, myself and founding partner Terry Todd (back temporarily from installing satellite dishes) decided to give my Honda a workout on a drive that turned out to be over 1000 miles long. Now you may understand what has taken me so long to get up to speed and

get this thing typed up! Two hours sleep Wednesday, then a full day (10am-8pm) of work for me Thursday. I certainly wasn't rested. Home Thursday night I decided to pack all my clothes and gear. I certainly wasn't prepared. Terry would be coming back from somewhere-near-Dallas and I would be driving to his house (some 15 miles away) to pick him and his gear up. I certainly wasn't looking forward to all this driving. I packed, and we embarked on our "leave at 10:30pm journey" at about 1:30am. No worries. Two gas cards and about \$100 in cash and we were ready to go. Luckily, Terry had a map-atlas. I had my official "Fest Map" with me, complete with routes to Atlanta and Des Moines highlighted.

Chicago would be new and exciting since neither of knew exactly how we would be getting there. And so we drove. Shreveport, Louisiana. Uneventful. Texarkana. Interesting. Once entered Arkansas we were greeted by signs with large, friendly letters saying "Welcome to Arkansas Home of President Bill

Clinton". Didn't he move? Pity the roads were such a mess. Hope that's not a sign of what might happen to the rest of the highways. Of interest, when we stopped at gas stations (using one of the two gas cards I had available for this trip!) we saw many pictures, post cards, etc., of Clinton. It is a proud state indeed! Heck, we even passed through Hope, Arkansas - "Birthplace of President Clinton". Bill Gee...Texas never had any Bush signs. Sigh. Anyway, back to driving... We drove, and drove, and drove, allowing sodas and Vivarin's to help us along the way. It was a long, uneventful night, and Jolt cola was nowhere to be found.

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The C Compiler for the CoCo has finally arrived...

CoCo-C

CoCo-C is a complete RSDOS based C development package for the Color Computer not requiring the OS-9 Operating System CoCo-C consists of the following programs.

Text Editor

A full featured screen oriented line editor for the CoCo 3 developed by Bob van der Poel Powerful editing and cursor commands with auto-indent and user defined macros make this a great editor for writing C or assembly language programs. A less sophisticated version for the CoCo 2 is also available.

C Compiler

The CoCo-C Compiler is a full featured K&R style integer compiler specifically designed for RSDOS based systems. It has assembly language output, position independent code and can output ROM-able code if desired. Added features allow you to mix C, assembly language and BASIC commands within your program!

Assembler

This symbolic assembler is capable of assembling files as large as available disk space. It supports a Molorola style syntax and outputs standard binary files ready for LOADM and EXEC. Options include list file output and generation of symbol table file.

Library/Linker

The Library Linker is a utility which links the CoCo-C's 90-4 function library with your compiled binary file, creating a stand alone executable ML tile.

Command Coordinator

The Command Coordinator is CoCo C's main program. Its user friendly menu driven screen smoothly switches back and forth between the Editor, Compiler, Assembler and Linker

The CoCo-C Compiler package includes BOTH CoCo 2 and CoCo 3 versions of ALL the programs listed above plus MORE! (Min req 64k)

Never before has there been an offer like this for the Color Computer!

Only \$59.95

Plus \$4.00 shipping & handling (check, money order, or COO)

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# Life on the Internet

This era in the world's history has been classified by many as the "Information Age", and rightfully so. Much of the repetitive work of the first half of the century has been replaced by automation, freeing people to spend their time developing new ideas, images, sounds, texts, objects, and much more. Information is the one thing that cannot be massmanufactured: each piece is unique and must be continually developed into its own form.

And information is only of benefit to those who can use it, and in order to use it, one must be able to

gain access to it. This simple fact has led to some of the biggest communications advances ever. Starting with the telephone for getting our message across naturally, with the voice, and progressing from modems for binary data transfer to even faster modems and telephone systems, our communications capacity has grown to incredible bounds. Online services have developed, where you can dial in over phone lines with your modem and gain access to encyclopedias, facts & figures, virtual stores supermarkets, airline reservation systems, and most importantly, other users. Many in the scientific community have stored their findings on computers which can be accessed by others, and new discoveries

propagate not by the monthly deadlines of scientific journals but by the minute-by-minute transfer and processing delays of sending electronic mail. These are just a few of the accomplishments of the electronic medium, which offers speed and flexibility that was never seen before.

One of the largest and oldest information backbones in our country is the Internet. The Internet allows the high-speedtransfer of raw information in the form of computer data across the country and the globe by means of an extremely large and complex internetwork of communications channels. Nextmonth we will look more closely at the Internet and see where it came from and how it operates.

- Jordan Tsvetkoff

#### Introducing a **NEW MAGAZINE** for CoCo users:

the world of

# 68'

micros
Tandy Color Computer, OS-9, OSK

Where will you go for CoCo support after this issue of "The Rainbow"? "the world of 68" micros" is dedicated to producing a *QUALITY* publication supporting the CoCo, Disk BASIC, and OS-9. Top writers and articles will be featured, including the infamous *Marty Goodman*, who will continue answering CoCo questions. The initial issue will be delivered in August 1993. Contents will be:

- Repackaging the CoCo edited, several authors
- CoCo Answers! Marty Goodman
- "C" Programming (DECB & OS-9) Bill Sgambati
- Beginners Showcase Readers Programs... any language!
- · OS-9/OSK Answers! Matthew Joel Hegberg
- Beginning OS-9...from the box! F.G. Swygert & Rick Ulland
- Telecommunications Network Database/BBS News
- Micro News New Products and News
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Classified ads will be .20/word, \$4 minimum (subscribers get 120 words per year free). No complete systems Software may be sold or traded... PRATING NOT TOLERATEDI Display ads are \$25 1/4, \$45 1/2, \$80 full page. Subscriptions are \$23/year (\$30 Canada) for 8-9 issues levery six weeks). "micro disk" is \$30/year (\$42 Canada) and features DECB and CoCo OS-9 formats. Individual copies are \$6 each.

SECIAL FUR ISSUE SUBSCRIPTION: \$122."

#### FARNA Systems

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#### Tandy's Little Wonder

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#### Softbound book contains:

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- Historic Memoirs
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ONLY \$25 00

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#### Fest cont'd from page 5

A plethora of radio stations made the drive a bit more bearable. We heard about 8 different Pink Floyd songs along the way. Classic Rock is much more abundant going to Chicago than it was going to Atlanta or Des Moines. Sometime Friday afternoon we stopped for burgers somewhere, but I really don't know where. Did I mention we were tired? I even did find some Jolt, though it turned out to be quite bad. So, more uneventful driving. Eventually we were in Illinois and got to find Elgin. We wandered through Chicago, sort of lost, and were "pulled over" by a guy in a white van. "You guys lost?" he asked. He ended up being very nice and gave

us instructions on how to get out of this "bad part of town" we were about to stop in. Thanks, whoever you were! Gosh! The people in Chicago are so nice! Of course, that was before the tollways. From my experiences with tollways in Iowa, I don't like them. For those who haven't had the pleasure of experiencing them, tollways are great ways to collect money from overtired travelers who didn't realize that once you got on one, you had to keep paying over and over and over, 40 cents here—25 cents there— large diesel there. Large diesel? We were driving and trying to get over to the lane we needed in. I harmlessly moved into a lane in front of a large (are there small ones?) 18-wheeler. Traffic

stopped, and so did I. We were amazed when a rather noticeable "bump" hit us from behind. The truck was pushing us. Bump, bump. "What the @\$#% is he doing!?!?" I asked. Bump—Push—Whether he was having problems or not, I could not tell. The large grille that I saw through my little Honda's rear window was not a friendly sight! Bump. Suddenly we were being pushed into the car in front of us. I knew we were going to be crushed by this truck. Wedged in, I did my best to get into the next lane and get the heck out of there! We got his license plate number but I was too terrified at this whole event to do anything about it. Gosh!

Fest cont'd, page 9



919/294-1558

hours 8:00 a.m.— 7:00 p.m. technical support



All orders add \$3:00 S/H C.O.D. orders add an additional \$3:00

#### Ulti*Music*® Library

Kala Software's Ulti**Music\* Library** is a collection of Classis Rock, Soft Rock, New Age & Jazz arrangements.

#### TRANSCRIBED SCORES:

The following scores are complete 'Off the Flecord' arrangements. Every sound has been caputred to the best of our ability and arranged in such a way that best duplicates the original score.

THE BEATLES - Volume 1       \$ 9.         THE BEATLES - Volume 2       \$ 9.         THE BEATLES - Volume 3       \$ 9.         THE BEATLES - Volume 4       \$ 9.	95 95
BILLY JOEL - Volume 1	
THE WHO Double Disk Set\$ 12.	95
LED ZIPPELIN - Volume 1\$ 9.5	95
BLOOD SWEAT & TEARS - Volume 1\$ 9.5	95
STEELY DAN - Volume 1\$ 9.	95
ROCK YOUR SYNTH - Volume 1         \$ 9.           ROCK YOUR SYNTH - Volume 2         \$ 9.	

#### PIANO SCORES:

The following scores were arranged for 3 or 4 Channel MiDI keyboards. All arrangements were scored in the standard 2 or 3 stave format. However, each disk is *LOADED* with *GREAT* sounds.

THE BEATLES - Volume 1	\$ 12.95	i
THE BEATLES - Volume 2	\$ 12.95	i
Ulti ROCK - Volume 1	\$ 12.95	,
Ulti ROCK - Volume 2	\$ 12.95	,

SERIAL TO MIDI CABLE ...... \$ 19.95



The Ultimate MIDI Music Notation Editor for the ColorComputer~3

#### \$54.95

UltiMusE-III and UltiMusE/K are the most complete MIDI Music Notation Editor for either the 512k ColorComputer-3 or the new OSK machines. Compose detailed music scores to simple piano runs or just mouse in your favoriate sheet music score. The UltiMusE system is perfect for the novist music lover to the professional musician.

— It just doesn't get any better than this!

#### \$149.95

The Ultimate MIDI Music Notation Editor for the MM/1 and OSK mechines



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VISA



ROCKET-CPU (OK kit + OS-9/68K) \$195 ROCKET-2MB (2Meg kit + OS9/68K) \$295 Need More Power? Ride The Rocket!

Imagine turning your CoCo 3 into a blazing fast 68000 computer with OS-9/68K, without giving up your existing floppy disk drives and other peripherals. That's what you can do with The Rocket from Burke & Burke, But there's a catch...

The Rocket plugs into your CoCo's 6809 microprocessor socket, replacing the old 2 MHz 8-bit processor with a 14 MHz 16-bit 68306. Up to 8 megabytes of on-board 16-bit memory, a 32K boot ROM, built-in 6309 emulation software. OS-9/68K, and a windowing system you'll recognize from OS-9 Level 2, make The Rocket a powerful answer to the quest for the CoCo 4. If that isn't enough, the flip of a switch enables The Rocket's on-board 6809 or 6309 CPU for true CoCo 3 compatibility.

What's the catch? To build The Rocket cost-effectively, we need at least 100 orders (at this writing, we've received the first twenty). We also have to leave out the OS-9/68K C compiler, BASIC-09, and a few other frills.

If you're interested in The Rocket, please place an advance order for either the ROCKET-CPU or the ROCKET-2MB before July 30, 1993 for shipment 10/93. As always, no check will be cashed or card charged until we actually ship The Rocket to you. If we don't get enough interest, we'll cancel the project and return your check. Call or write for more information.

#### CoCo-XT Hard Disk Interfaces

Hundreds of Color Computer enthusiasts in the US, Canada, Europe, South America, and Australia love our affordable high-performance hard disk interfaces! Look at these features:

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POWERBOOST (INCLUDES HD63B09E MICROPROCESSOR) \$34.95. POWERBOOST (SOFTWARE ONLY) \$24.95.

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File Recovery System - Helps recover damaged OS-9 disks EZGEN - Fast OS-9 boot file editor (uses RAMDisk work files) WILD & MV - OS-9 wildcard and file moving utilities ZCLOCK - Continuous date / time on Level 2 OS-9 windows	\$19.95 \$9.95					
RSB - Complete CoCo BASIC, for OS-9 (requires DECB ROM OS-9 is a trademark of Microware Systems Corp. and Motorola Daggorpatch for RS-DOS (requires DAGGORATH cartridge) HYPER-I/O - Use 720K floppy disks, hard disk from BASIC	\$9.95 \$24.95	MC68B09E 2MHz uP HD63B09E 2MHz uP 27128 EPROM (Blank)	\$14.95 \$19.95 \$9.95			

#### **News from the Whitehouse**

This letter recently appeared on many of the Internet sites across the country, and for all of those devil's advocates out there, it appears to be the real thing. This may be one of the first steps of the Clinton administration's committment to build a national "data superhighway" by building first on the largest data network in the world, the Internet, and the fastest going method of communication, electronic mail, or e-mail, for short. For more information, see the *Life on the Internet* article in this issue.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Presidential Correspondence

For Immediate Release

June 1, 1993

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT
IN ANNOUNCEMENT OF WHITE HOUSE ELECTRONIC MAIL ACCESS

Dear Friends:

Part of our commitment to change is to keep the White House in step with today's changing technology. As we move ahead into the twenty-first century, we must have a government that can show the way and lead by example. Today, we are pleased to announce that for the first time in history, the White House will be connected to you via electronic mail. Electronic mail will bring the Presidency and this Administration closer and make it more accessible to the people.

The White House will be connected to the Internet as well as several on-line commercial vendors, thus making us more accessible and more in touch with people across this country. We will not be alone in this venture. Congress is also getting involved, and an exciting announcement regarding electronic mail is expected to come from the House of Representatives tomorrow.

Various government agencies also will be taking part in the near future. Americans Communicating Electronically is a project developed by several government agencies to coordinate and improve access to the nation's educational and information assets and resources. This will be done through interactive communications such as electronic mail, and brought to people who do not have ready access to a computer.

However, we must be realistic about the limitations and

Whitehouse cont'd, page 13

#### Fest cont'd from page 7

These truck drivers in Chicago are so dangerous! This was one of the most terrifying things I have ever had happen to me! For the record, though, no damage was done. The truck had a large metal plate on the front of it, almost as if he had it designed just to push little import cars around on the tollways. I hope I never "run into" him again. So, we were close! A few exits and we passed a carnival, Ramada Inn, and found ourselves at the Holiday Inn where the Fest was to be held. Did anyone make it to the carnival? Looking very rough and visibly shaken, I parked. We checked in, then we went to look around.

#### The Arrival / Pre-Show

I don't remember the time, but I'm sure it was about 7pm or so. The hotel looked very nice. A large indoor pool, whirlpool, weight room, ping pong/pool/football tables, and a small game room were in the center. Neat. Someone recognized us, and I think it was Carl Boll whom we first spoke with but I was a bit incoherent after the 16 hour drive. We wandered and found our room, completely on the other side of the hotel, as usual. Why do I bother to "call early to reserve rooms close to the Fest area"? We unpacked, and I decided to bath and shave. Feeling much better, it was time to explore! Joel Hegberg (Sub-Etha OSK Midwest Divisional Manager) and gang were there! Many familiar faces—Scott Griepentrog, Paul Jerkatis, Lee Veal, Carl Boll, Al Dages, plus dozens of others I won't include at this time due to forgetting who all was there. A few Canadians (Brian

White and Alan Dekok, among others) even found me, greeting me with my "anonymous" handle I have been using lately! Someone showed me to the convention room... I was speechless. Hard to believe, huh?

#### The Show Area

The room was setup as shown on the map...well, actually this was tough. The room was so big and had so many vendors that even the map in the Fest guide was a pull out "centerfold" of two pages to get it all on. Sorry, that's the best I can do to make it fit and keep the proportions as least close to how they really were. Note that there are some differences in my map versus the show guide since some

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Have you ever wondered how nice it would be if you could lift an object on your screen out of it's surroundings by just pointing at it and clicking your mouse button? Or resize the working area on your screen that way? Now you can do that and a lot more with level II graphics.

But things don't stop there. You can save your objects in disk files, print them as clipart or paste them into another screen, even if this screen is a different type then the original. Clipboard functions also include stamp and reshape. You can even have multiple boards open simultaneously as long as you can find the memory for them.

Another part of level 11 graphics is the campas program. Here you can make your own artworks with all the tools you would expect: brushes, spraycans, drawtools, etc. The program also includes zoom, palette and animation functions. On top of that you have the entire screen as working area. File format is standard VEF and includes optional data compression.

Other programs included in the package are a slideshow program, printer drivers for black/white printouts and for color printouts that should work with most printers. You will also find a funt editor and a pattern editor to make your own fill patterns.

There is still more: programs showin fractals from the julia and mandelbro sets. A program that shows you how to simulate plant growth on your computer. Graphics subroutines you can use with your own programs and source code that you can use as an example.

There is also an <u>installation routine</u> to take care of the hard parts of getting things to run reliably. All of this doesn't fit on a single disk so you will get 2; one SS and one DS.

System requirements are 512K and 0S9. A hires adapter and ramdisk are recommended. Package includes 40 page manual for

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shipping+handling: US/Canada \$3.00 all others \$5.00 Prices in US dollars Send cheque or money order NO COD'S

booths ended up a little different than the guide. (XXXX's mark tables. Skirted, but no backdrops.) The vendors were as follows:

Al Dages: There to show support for this event, Al (Atlanta Computer Society) was present with "previously owned" hardware/software, rom-paks, power supplies, etc. Al furthers attempts to keep hardware and software from passing out of existence. Thanks Al! (Note: Al was also there to see if there was enough interest to justify ACS sponsoring another Atlanta CoCoFest this year.)

Adventure Survivors: A newsletter is available with hints, tips, walk-throughs, solutions, maps, etc., for many CoCo adventure games. They also sell several classic adventures and sold graphic adventures based on the past (and current - how would they manage that?) CoCoFests. Neat stuff, and fun folks!

AniMajik Productions: Not present, but a letter from Alan Sheltra explaining what has been happening with The OS-9 Underground Magazine was there. The letter basically cited some financial problems, then stated that OS-9UG will be publishing regularly. I spoke with Alan the other day and OS-9UG should be back on schedule any time now!

BARSoft: You know, this guy could probably sell even more if he threw his weight around! Er, uh, just kiddin' man! Dave Barnes was there with various software titles and bits of hardware. Yet another vendor helping take up the slack.

Burke & Burke: Okay, here we go. Chris Burke was there.

Apparently Mrs. Burke was at home watching a pet (?). Her presence was missed, but Chris made up for it with goodies like: PowerBoost 2.0 which patches OS-9 to run in *native mode* with a 6309 chip. I picked up my copy and let me say that from initial checking it's a very noticeable speed improvement! Well done, Chris! Also, the Thexder/OS-9 converter was there, which moves Thexder to OS-9 and runs just like the rompak! Amazing. The conversion was done by Alan Dekok, who also wrote the amazing Ball Demo, of Canada. Enhanced 512-byte SCSI drivers were available. Of special interest was an amazing "new" (though designed long ago) product prototype called The Rocket. The

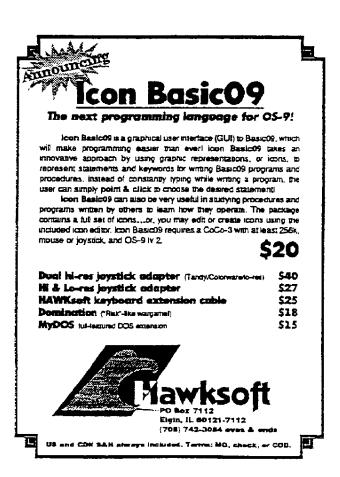
Rocket is a small board containing a 68000-type **CPU** and memory which plugs into the CoCo where the 6809 goes and turns the CoCo into a OSK true machine using the CoCo's hardware and I/O. The unit is set to sell for just under \$200 and will be made if enough interest is shown. Folks. this 14 MHz "update" might be just the way for us

to get into OSK without spending \$1000.

Chicago Area OS-9 Users Group: Promising "big plans" in the future, this club was there to show their support. It's this type of attitude that helps everyone! They had buttons which slogans commenting "I <Heart> my CoCo", "I <Heart> my MM/I", "OS-9 Users Group", etc. Neat stuff! "CoCo Classic" and "Friends Don't Let Friends Use MS-DOS" buttons were also there at great prices. I hope they return to future shows so I can pick one of each up!

CoNect: Hmmm... Rick Uland's RS-232 pak replacement was nice. Dual port version? Sure,

Fest cont'd, page 13



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submissions welcome Independant program

#### Whitehouse cont'd from page 9

expectations of the White House electronic mail system. This experiment is the first-ever e-mail project done on such a large scale. As we work to reinvent government and streamline our processes, the e-mail project can help to put us on the leading edge of progress.

Initially, your e-mail message will be read and receipt immediately acknowledged. A careful count will be taken on the number received as well as the subject of each message. However, the White House is not yet capable of sending back a tailored response via electronic mail. We are hoping this will happen by the end of the year.

A number of response-based programs which allow technology to help us read your message more effectively, and, eventually respond to you electronically in a timely fashion will be tried out as well. These programs will change periodically as we experiment with the best way to handle electronic mail from the public. Since this has never been tried before, it is important to allow for some flexibility in the system in these first stages. We welcome your suggestions.

This is an historic moment in the White House and we look forward to your participation and enthusiasm for this milestone event. We eagerly anticipate the day when electronic mail from the public is an integral and normal part of the White House communications system.

President Clinton
PRESIDENT@WHITEHOUSE.GOV

Vice President Gore
VICE.PRESIDENT@WHITEHOUSE.GOV



#### Fest cont'd from page 11

but what was this other thing they were talking about? Do my eyes deceive me when I see an RS-232 pak capable of over 5000 CPS under OS-9? Say hello to the next generation of RS-232 paks for about \$130, I believe. This received much talk and attention as well! According to the spec sheet, 5300 cps on this new pak is only slightly more CPU intensive than 900 cps using SACIA and a normal RS-232 pak. Amazing!

Cook County CoCo Club: Fest T-Shirts on blue designed by Nancy Myers. Nice and only \$8 (\$5 near close of show). CCCC took care of ticket sales, etc., and worked closely with Glenside during this event. Thanks guys!

Dave & Nancy Myers: Ahem. While "CoCoPro!" is no more, Dave and Nancy were there to show support, have fun, and sell down (and in some cases give away!) old bits of software and hardware they still had. I was touched to see them there. Dave (in my opinion) is very much responsible for non-Rainbow supported Fests being possible. Thanks, man. It means a lot to us. (Side note: I ended up with one of the *last* pieces of CoCoPro software... snif...) Dave and Nancy are going to be moving, but it is rumored we shall see them again at future Fests. I sure hope so.

Stay tuned next month for the rest of the report!

- Allen C. Huffman
Owner, Sub-Etha Software, COCOSYSOP on GEnie, SYSOP@DELTA
on StG Net, COCOSYSOP@GENIE.GEIS.COM on
Internet, or P.O. Box 152442,
Lufkin, TX 75915 / (409) 560-9696

#### Overview cont'd from page 1

Blvd., Ste #7, Toluca Lake, CA, 91602, (818)-761-4135, for more information.

The OS9 Underground Magazine seems to be back on firm footing, but proceed at your own risk. One thing to be noted about OS9 Underground is its devotion to OS-9, whereas UpTime and the soon to be released World of 68 Micros will be more general in nature. As with any publication, there is always some risk in subscribing. I have only presented what I know at this time, and this is simply an announcement, not an endorsement. If you have any further questions, comments, or experiences, I would appreciate any

information you might send this way. Any relevant letters may be printed in a future issue.

Again, congratulations to the Glenside CoCo Club for putting on another great 'Fest. With this kind of support by really great people, the CoCo will still be around for a long time. If you didn't notice in last month's issue, the PNW CoCoFEST-3 is going to be held at the end of June near Seattle, Washington. If you are in the area, this is a great opportunity to the together with other CoCo fans and see some of the "big names" in the CoCo Community. Check out their advertisement on page 15.

I will see you next month in the July issue, featuring the regular

columns *plus* Part 2 of the Fest report. Don't miss it!

#### - Jordan Tswetkoff





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Rainbow on disk to December 1988. Also old CoCo magazines excluding Rainbow. Quote prices and write: James Kelly, P.O. Box 3244, Astoria, NY 11103.

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