

# CoCo~123

A GLENSIDE  
PUBLICATION  
SINCE 1981

## SPRING 1991 CoCo~123 Soon To Change Editors!!

CoCo~123 Press Association

Glendale Heights, Illinois

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### GLENSIDE CLUB OFFICERS

Here is the list of 1991 club officers and how to contact them. The club has four strong SIGS, Tandy Color Computer 1, 2, 3 and OS-9. If you have questions concerning these computers or OS-9 call one of the officers. Area code C=312, S=708.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Tony Pordaza	S428-3576	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Len Zielinski	S967-8791	Meeting Planning, etc.
Secretary	Howard Luckey	S747-0117	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Geo Schneewiess	C376-0126	Dues and Purchasing
Editor	Dave Barnes	S820-3920	Newsletter coordinator
---GATOR---	Bob Swoger	S576-8068	Newsletter Exchange

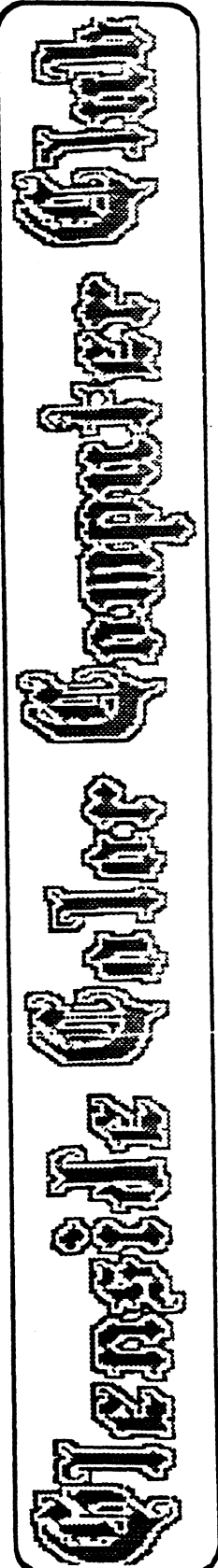
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CoCo~123

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## CoCo-123 Information

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CoCo-123 is the newsletter of the Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois. We are committed to put out at least four newsletters a year. For an annual fee of \$12.00 you can become a GCCC member with full membership privileges. Send your dues to:

**GEORGE SCHNEEWEISS  
2801 S KILBOURN AVE  
CHICAGO IL 60623-4213**

Articles appearing in this newsletter can be obtained by downloading this newsletter from our GLENSIDE WEST BBS. You may reprint it using this means if you wish.

### CoCo-123 CONTRIBUTIONS

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If you would like to contribute an article to the newsletter, upload a file to GLENSIDE WEST called GLENSIDE.ART. If you have an AD for the BBS and newsletter UPLOAD a file called COMPUTER.ADS. If you have NEWS to POST about your group, UPLOAD a file called POST.NWS.

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  
37218 N FAIRVIEW LN  
LAKE VILLA IL 60046**

It is preferred that you call:  
H708/587-9820 or BBS708/587-9837

### CoCo-123 NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

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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:

**GLENSIDE WEST SYSOP  
BOB SWOGER  
613 PARKSIDE CIRCLE  
STREAMWOOD IL 60107-1647**

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.

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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**Howard Luckey  
Tony Podraza  
George Schneeweiss  
Bob Swoger, K9WVY**

### CLUB MEETINGS

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The Glenside Color Computer Club meets on the second Thursday of each month, from 7 - 9 PM, at the Glendale Heights Public Library. Further info can be obtained from Tony Podraza at home 708-428-3576.

### FUTURE MEETING DATES:

**MAY 9, 1991  
JUNE 13, 1991  
JULY 11, 1991  
AUGUST 8, 1991  
SEPTEMBER 12, 1991**

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

### THE PRESIDENTS PLATEN

-----  
Ed's leaving marks a new era for us here at Glenside. There is a comfortable feeling of the familiar, yet the strange aura of the unknown, the unexplained. A few of the faces that have been in the forefront are now beginning to take on a less prominent, but no less supportive, position.

George Schneeweiss has recently been elected to the office of

Treasurer and is tackling that responsibility with all the vigor of Mike Singletary.

Dave Barnes, with some of the uproar of moving to a new home behind him, has volunteered to take on some of the responsibilities of newsletter editor, as long as he receives support from the rest of us [INPUT! Johnny 5 needs more INPUT!] and an occasional helping hand from the man who personally put at least one Glenside Newsletter into the hands of every RainbowFest attendee (well . . . it sure seemed like it.)

You will note changes in the club meetings, format of the newsletter in the future, the advertising support . . . BUT THE CONTENT WILL BE JUST AS INFORMATIVE, JUST AS RELEVANT, JUST AS . . . well, you get the picture; We are still the old Glenside and we will continue in the tradition of giving our members the best support that they can get IF NOT BETTER!

It is no secret that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, for we all contribute to the 'whole' of Glenside; and we are the richer for it. Indeed, the entire CoCo Community has contributed to the unravelling of the secrets of Tandy's CoCo.

Now, perhaps Tandy's best kept secret is that of the availability of discontinued software. There have been quite a few people that have asked me if I have seen this or that software in any of the stores that I have recently visited.

Of course, the software in question has been out of the catalog for over a year, and is not something that Everyman would want, but is desirable to those few diehards, anyway. The fact that the item has been pulled indicates that the nationwide sales were not high enough to warrant continued support in the national publication, i.e. the catalog, where each line of advertising is equal to a certain

percentage of the total investment required for such a publication.

This is not to mention that if it is in the catalog, the average person will assume that the item is immediately available in the stores, or at most two days away by UPS delivery. This being the case, when the return on the investment of hundreds of copies of a program (perhaps even thousands of copies) falls below a predetermined profit level, the active support and supply will be cut off and the remaining inventory is priced below cost in order to "get it off the books", meaning, current inventory.

However, this does not mean that the items cease to exist. Any item that is copyrighted will remain in the company's archives until that copyright runs out. Now, enter the person who wants a legitimate copy of the program. How can he acquire it? (This is not a test, just a rhetorical question.) It seems the some of the good people in the Fort Worth area have provided for just such an eventuality.

Enter Software Assembly and Consumer Mail departments of Tandy Corporation/Radio Shack. Through these arms such exotic items as catalog number 26-3032 may be ordered. Just what is that? Ask any OS9 Level 2 user what the catalog number of the Development System is. Ask him if he has his copy? If not, tell him what you have just read and have him ask his friendly Tandy store manager to call Software Assembly for pricing of the photocopied manual and a copy of the disk. It may not look like the mass-produced item that was originally listed, but it will be a legit copy, and chances are that it will not cost as much as it used to.

Give it a try, but ask for prices before ordering. In fact, ask for pricing from a couple of different stores; you

may get a better dollar figure.

Want to call Tandy yourself?  
Okay, here are the numbers:

**Tandy Consumer Service**  
1-817-390-3011

**Tandy Software Assembly**  
1-817-336-1330

Good luck in your search.

Tony Podraza, President  
Glenside Color Computer Club

### TREASURY NOTES

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As of 5/9/91 the balance in the checking account is \$914.71. The balance in the savings account is \$56.84 for a total of \$971.55.

The current paid membership stands at 101.

For the year 1991 forward, please be ready to include your ZIP+4 code when you renew your membership. It will speed up the mailing of notices and newsletters. Thank you!

George Schneeweiss, Treasurer  
Glenside Color Computer Club

### SECRETARY'S NOTEPAD

#### MARCH MEETING

Tony opened the meeting at 7:48PM, and started with the following items of old business:

1. The latest newsletter was available, volume x, Number 4 for the winter of 1990. Paid members at the meeting picked up their copies and the rest will be mailed. I think this gets us pretty well caught up to date for issuing newsletters and completes four issue set for 1990. Bob Swoger does a lot of work getting information to print and putting the newsletter together and I think he does a mighty fine job.

Thank you Bob.

2. Tony announced that the

club had received the anti-piracy agreement forms from The Rainbow. The club will submit these forms. Once The Rainbow gets these forms the name of the club will be listed in the magazine. Tony wants everyone to understand that the club will be committed to an anti-piracy policy and that all members should do their best to follow it.

3. There was some discussion of the up coming RainbowFest on April 26, 27 and 28: the club has a good price on the tickets for the weekend, \$6.00 instead of \$9.00 or \$7.00 for one day, the club may offer a rebate on the breakfast tickets, the club wants members to sign up to work the booth especially on the first night, and there was an example of a trifold to be available to hand out from the booth. At the the last meeting Tony had initiated a trifold contest. Only one was submitted it being done by Dave Barnes, Sysop of the Glenside BBS, and a very nice one it is. Thank you Dave.

So much for old business, one item of new business was the announcement of a new phone number for the Glenside BBS starting on March 26, 1991, 708-587-9837.

Tony made announcements about products available at reduced prices: pal chips for \$7.52 plus tax and shipping, the development system for the club price of \$40.00 versus the regular price of \$99.95, and OS-9 Level-II for \$19.95 at the outlet store. (There are hints that Tandy will be having some very low prices at the Rainbowfest.)

Ed Hathaway announced a going away, good-bye, thank you for everything party for Friday April 5, 1991 from 4-8PM. He had tickets available at the meeting. I hate to see Ed leave and at the same time I wish him and his family great success.

Eddie Kuns flashed his empty CoCo3 case. It is going to be

his extended keyboard on his computer which he has put into a tower. At the next meeting he is suppose to bring his work in and show it to us.

The meeting finished with two demos. One was a demo of the MM/1. As mentioned above Eddie and Paul had taken the computer with them so this time things were a little more prepared. The graphics was a little smoother, and they even had some sound.

The other demo was done by Tony and he demo-ed a program called snap. This is a disk editor that runs under RS-DOS and it can be used to modify programs or to correct disk errors. This might be a good program to add to our library because it is a shareware program.

Howard Luckey, Secretary  
Glenside Color Computer Club

#### SYSOP's TWISTED PAIR

-----  
!!! R E M E M B E R !!!  
We now have 4 24 hour BBSs and encourage you to exchange mail and contribute to the Download Section. Use it and have fun!

```
*****
*      PinBall Haven BBS      *
*      708-428-8445           *
*      S&V BBS                 *
*      708-352-0948           *
*      GLENSIDE EAST BBS      *
*      312/745-1387           *
*      GLENSIDE WEST BBS      *
*      708/576-7072           *
*      Type at the > prompt:  *
*      MOTOROLA then GUEST     *
*      BYE to log out         *
*      Commands are:  DIR, TYPE, *
*      UPLOAD filename.type   *
*      DOWNLOAD filename.type  *
*****
```

#### NEWS ITEMS

##### OS9 USER's GROUP

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The OS9 user's group meets on the fourth Thursday each month, from 7 - 9 PM, at the home of:

**Paul Jerkatis**  
**341 Newberry Ave**  
**LaGrange Park IL**

Further information can be obtained from Paul at:

**Home (708-579-1314) or**  
**BBS (788-352-0948)**

#### FEBRUARY MEETING

This was our first meeting at our new meeting place, the home of Paul Jerkatis, and five of us including Paul attended. In addition to myself there was George and two newcomers, Joel Hesberg and David Taylor. I hope the newcomers will continue to come to meeting, and that others will also join us.

At first I had some reservations about meeting in a private home because in my mind it just seems more right for a club to meet in a meeting place. In this case, however, I think there is an advantage to meeting in Paul's house because he has a real nice system set up, he knows a lot about using OS-9, and as the Sysop of S&V BBS he has a lot of knowledge about communicating with a modem. I look forward to meeting there as long as it is convenient for Paul and the club.

One topic George brought up was the trouble using dsave especially to transfer directories and files from a smaller disk to a larger one, say from a 35 track disk to a 40 track one. I agree with him. When I started OS-9 I had that same problem and after awhile I did learn how to do it. However, later I got a program called dircopy which makes the whole thing a lot easier. Dircopy has some nice features to it. For example, if you wanted to transfer files from a 35 track disk /d0 to a 40 track (or larger) disk /d1 you would type in 'dircopy /d0 /d1 d' and all of the files would be copied including sub-directories. Other capabilities of dircopy include overwriting old files, sorting files,

confirming, replacing old files with new, updating files's owner number and date of creation, and an interactive mode. It's a really nice utility.

Another topic dealt with deleting files and directories. We learned that if you want to delete a file use the command `del` and the path to the file such as `del /dl/sys/file`. If you want to delete a directory use the command `deldir` and the path to directory you want deleted. If your directory has subdirectories `deldir` will go to the deepest one to start. For each directory it will stop and ask if you want it deleted, listed, or do you want to quit. This is a safe-guard to give you a chance to reconsider because `deldir` will delete all of the files in the directory before it deletes it.

One thing I learned was that you can leave out of the boot file all of the modules that you wont be using such as `modpak`, `M1`, and `T1` if you don't have the Tandy modem pak. We also had a discussion about Paul's BBS and the network he is a part of. I have read about networks in magazine articles and I know that if you are on a network you can send and receive messages and news from all over the country and possibly the world. Paul talked about the root, the parent, how to address messages, how the messages are passed through the system, how he communicates with a system in California called `Zog`, and how he has his computer and board set up to send and receive messages at 4:00 o'clock in the morning so as to get the cheapest telephone rates. I find all of this very interesting and want to know more about it, and when I learn more I will write about it.

Paul told an interesting story about how he had transposed a couple of numbers on a phone number and some women out west some place got about 5 or 6 calls, one after the other,

before the his system aborted.

Along with the general socializing during the evening Paul began to help David to get started with OS-9. He was having a problem with booting up with one of his disks. Paul began to go through the step to make a bootable disk and making comments as he went along about what to do.

I enjoyed the meeting very much and I am looking forward to the next meeting on March 28, 1991 (the meetings are on the forth Thursday of the month from 7:00 PM to ?PM). I thank Paul for having the meeting and doing fine job of running it. If you want to meet some very fine people (many are very good with OS-9), and want to enjoy learning/teaching - teaching/learning about OS-9 then plan to join us.

#### MARCH MEETING

This was one of our best meetings of the year. Counting Paul there were nine of us attending. We covered a lot of materiel and had a nice social activity after the meeting.

One of the activities was a demo by Paul of a program called `tshell`. This is a program that does a lot of the same stuff that `gshell` does under multi-view except it is all done in text mode. Paul put it through some of its features showing how you can change its appearance on the screen, how you can set up your printer so as to format the text file output from the computer, how you can set it up so that you can have certain programs in the environment ready to run when you want them, etc.

The program was developed by Alan Sheltra of AniMajik Productions and the price is \$39.95 if ordered from them or \$29.95 if downloaded from them. Even though Paul had an address and phone number he wasn't sure it was correct so I will leave that information for another time. One purpose of a program

like this is to increase a persons productivity by having the shell do a lot of the work instead of having to type everything in on the command line. It might be very nice to help a person just starting OS-9.

One of the activities of the evening was based on a most important reason for users groups. Gene Brooks was there with his son Dan, and Gene wanted some help patching Tandy's OS-9 Profile to work on Level-II. Gene had downloaded a patch program from the Glenside BBS and was having some trouble getting it to work. After putting profile and the patch programs on his computer Paul begin to have a problem, and when he did a listing of the basic09 patch program he found that the keyword DIM was misspelled. Once that was taken care of things started moving along, and according to Gene we had gotten farther than he had ever done so far. Paul wasn't able to complete the patch, however, it seems that a module needed by profile was missing. At this point Gene was satisfied because he had a good place to start from.

After our work with patching profile Carl Boll showed us the Marty Goodman hardware hack to modify the Tandy modem pak into a RS232 pak. He had a kit and a completely modified modem pak. I think the kits will be priced in the middle twenties and the completed job will be in the middle forties. This could be a way for someone to get a relatively inexpensive RS232 pak especially if you already own a direct modem pak which can only go up to 300 baud. Otherwise Tandy is selling the modem paks for \$10.00 or less. Remember with the RS232 pak you will need to have a modem.

The last event of the evening before going out for refreshments was a demo of the zmodem protocol developed for the CoCo under OS-9. It is one of those things that people said couldn't be done and again

somebody has done it. Paul called a unix board in the area and began to download a file.

The difference between zmodem and xmodem, ymodem and maybe some other protocols is that it sends data in a stream until the end of the file or until there is an error and if there is an error it checks and corrects the error where it occur in the file and then goes on. On the other hand the X and Y protocols send data in packets and checks each packet for errors before going on. The Z protocol should be a lot faster then the other two and this could save a lot of time for big files. When I learn more I will let you know.

I really enjoyed the meeting and I am looking forward to the next one. Remember we meet on the fourth Thursday of the month which means our next meeting is on April 25, 1991 from 7:30 to 9:?? PM at Pauls house. Call 708-579-1314 for more information.

#### **APRIL MEETING**

There was no meeting this month.

#### **COOK COUNTY CLUB**

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Meetings on the forth Wednesday of the month in the Park Forest Library 7:00 to 9:00 PM

#### **MARCH MEETING**

Boy, this was some meeting! Mary Kay Weglein from Interactive Media System (IMS) was to attend and bring a MM/1 with for demonstration purposes, and we had the biggest winter storm of the year or any of the last few years.

Mary Kay planned to arrive at the Park Forest library around 6:30PM because she had not had time to work with the computer and to run the demo programs. Getting there early would have given her and me time to set the system up and to become familiar with running it and the demonstration programs.