

## From the President's Platen

by Tony Podraza

I say this a little *sheepishly*, but I'm not *lion* to ya, March is going to be a month of hectic running around. What with the reality of a Chicagoland CoCoFest sponsored by *DNM Enterprises, INC.*, preliminary preparations will keep us sufficiently occupied to keep us out of trouble. What's this, you say? A 1992 CoCoFest in Chicago and you haven't heard of it? Well, in this issue, you'll find an ad that will give you all the details. You'll remember that, in the last newsletter, we asked for input re: attendance from our membership to a fest of some type. At the moment of this writing, I don't have the results of that poll. Those results were going to be used as an indicator for the possible sponsorship of a "gathering of CoConuts" by Glenside. However, largely due to the interest of Glenside and the ACBBS network, *DNM Enterprises, INC.* has decided to put plans into action and has started the ball rolling for the 1992 Chicago 'fest. We hope that we'll be able to see many of you there at the Glenside Booth and in the hospitality room. And now, some details for the Glenside Club. You will note the ticket prices for the 'Fest in the ad, BUT for card-carrying GLENSIDE members, prices are as follows for a two-day pass only:

1. If you order your tickets prior to May 8th, either through the club or direct from the CoCoFest Headquarters, GLENSIDE members' cost will only be \$12.00! That's almost a discount of 30%!!!!
2. If you wait until you arrive and have your membership card, your cost for tickets at the door will still be reduced to a cost of \$15.00. That's still a 25% discount!!! So order your tickets now and beat the rush!

Now, as you know, there's no such thing as a (totally) free lunch. GLENSIDE will be needing members to perform security functions during the show. Basically, the security functions are to keep people from hurting themselves and to make sure that everybody has their nametag/badge on as they enter the 'Fest floor. Either drop me a line or sign up in the hospitality room if you are willing

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to serve. It'll be a BIG help.

Well, by now all of you who are RAINBOW subscribers have gotten your first issue of same in the new format. Tell us what you think of it. Personally, it turned out better than I expected. Remarks from Vice-Pres. Gene Brooks are extremely flattering. If the rest of the community are as appreciative of the job that the staff at Falsoft is trying to do (and succeeding in that effort, I might add) as Gene is, you might think that they've just won an Olympic medal. Which is just about the case, considering the recent obstacles. But, enough, I have other things to insert before I ship this off to the Editor.

In the first section, I mentioned "card carrying member". Those of you who have their membership current through Dec. '92 should have received membership cards with your last (FEB) newsletter, or with this one. If your mailing label has a "91" at the end of the first line, then this is the last newsletter you'll be getting until you contact George Schneewiess about your dues. If you are a vendor, your participation in support of the mailings is appreciated, but not solicited. You know our policy already regarding that. We want you to know what's going on in the community, at least from our standpoint.

So much for business.

Last month, we were hit by the 'Hardware Bug', again. If you were at the

Glenside Color Computer Club

### CoCo~1,2,3 Information

The Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois is a not-for-profit organization whose members share an interest in the Tandy Color Computer®. The CoCo~1,2,3 is the official newsletter of the Glenside Color Computer Club. The Glenside Color Computer Club of Illinois has no affiliation with Radio Shack® and/or the Tandy Corporation®. The opinions expressed by the authors of articles contained within this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, the Executive Officers or the actual Club membership.

We are committed to publishing a minimum of four issues and a maximum of twelve issues per calendar year. For an annual fee of \$12.00 you can become a GCCC member with full membership privileges. Persons wishing to receive the CoCo~1,2,3 newsletter without full membership privileges may receive this newsletter for an annual fee of \$14.00. Send your dues to:

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

Here is the list of 1992 Executive Officers and how to contact them. The club has four strong SIGS, Tandy Color Computer 1, 2, 3 and OS-9. If you have questions concerning these computers or OS-9 call one of the officers. Area code C=312, S=708.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Tony Podraza	S428-3576	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Carl Boll	C735-6087	Meeting Planning, etc.
Vice-President	Gene Brooks	S897-9023	" "
Secretary	Howard Luckey	S747-0117	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Geo Schneeweiss	C376-0126	Dues and Purchasing
Editor	David Barnes	S587-9820	Newsletter coordinator
VP Telecom	David Barnes	S587-9820	Club BBS SysOp
Printer	Dennis Devitt	S629-2016	Newsletter Exchange

### CoCo~1,2,3 CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute an article to the newsletter, upload a file to the Glenside CoCoRama BBS with an extension of '.NEWS'. If you have an AD for the newsletter UPLOAD a file with the extension of '.ADS'. If you have NEWS to POST about your group, please use the message base. These files are gathered by the BBS computer and downloaded to the Editor. If you need help contact the SYSOP by E-MAIL, mail, in person, or by phone:

**DAVE BARNES  
P.O. Box 281  
LAKE VILLA, IL. 60046**

It is preferred that you call: VOICE 708/587-9820 or BBS 708/587-9837  
On DELPHI - DAVIDBARNES On CIS - 73357,1324

Articles for the CoCo~1,2,3 will also be accepted on diskette in ASCII form and UNFORMATTED only in the following formats:

RS-DOS 5 1/4"-35 SSDD/DSDD 5 1/4"-40 SSDD/DSDD  
OS-9 5 1/4"-35 SSDD/DSDD 5 1/4"-40 SSDD/DSDD 3.5"-SSDD/DSDD  
MS-DOS 5 1/4"-40 SSDD/DSDD 3.5"-SSDD/DSDD 5 1/4"-1.2 Meg

Submission deadlines for the CoCo~1,2,3 are two weeks prior to each monthly meeting. Articles submitted after the deadline will appear in the next issue.

### CoCo~1,2,3 NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

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

**DENNIS DEVITT  
21 W 144 CANARY ROAD  
LOMBARD, IL. 60148**

If you desire to reprint any articles that appear here, please provide credit to the author and this newsletter.

We encourage your user group to copy this newsletter and distribute it at your regular meetings to your members free of any charge as we believe that this will encourage better meeting attendance. If you are a user group that feels as we do, please let us know in your newsletter so that we might do this for our members and keep our attendance up.

### GLENSIDE CLUB MEETINGS

The Glenside Color Computer Club meets on the second Thursday of each month, from 7:30 - 9:30 PM, at the Glendale Heights Public Library. Further info can be obtained from Tony Podraza at home 708-428-3576.

### FUTURE MEETING DATES:

**March 12  
April 9**

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

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

• Tony Podraza • Paul K. Ward  
• Howard Luckey • L. Todd Knudsen  
• David Barnes • Greg Cramsey  
• Kevin Darling • Joel Mathew Hegberg

### EDITOR:

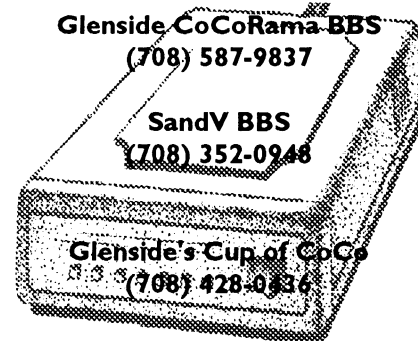
**David Barnes**

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## From the President's Platen

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meeting, you know what I mean. If you weren't, be sure to read Howard's write-up of the meeting in this issue. Rest assured that we will have a working set of drives at this month's meeting. Might also be an idea to have a working OS-9 boot for the system, eh? Since the club owns a copy of OS-9, and we DO demo stuff from time to time, anybody got the time to compile one? Standard, of course, no 'no-halt' controllers or hard drive descriptors, please.

At this time, I'd like to welcome the following new members to Glenside:

John Chasteen from Wood Dale, IL  
Peter Tutelaers from Leende, The Netherlands  
Rick Adams from Santa Rosa, CA  
Will Bywater from Hoffman Estates, IL  
Randall Boland from Arvada, CO  
Jack Walls from West Grove, PA  
Jean Edwards from Glendale Heights, IL  
Shawn Lape from Glenview, IL  
Walter Janus, Sr. & Jim Anderson from Chicago, IL  
Ivan Richwalski from Medford, WI  
Dorothy Wegrzyn from Chicago, IL  
Robert Sturnfield from Bellwood, IL  
Gerald Summer from Stone Park, IL  
Tom Schaeffges from Woodstock, IL  
Harold Dickerson & the Twin Tiers CoCo Club  
from Elmira, NY  
Jeff Bennett from Chicago, IL  
M. David & K. Heather Johnson of  
BDS Software from Glenview, IL.

To all of you, Welcome ... and thank you for making our lives fuller for your friendships and club participation.

### HELP!

It seems that the Glenside Disk of the Month OS-9 disks from the first two years have been attacked by the media monster, atleast in my collection. If you have a GOOD copy of disk #10(JUN 89), #20(AUG 90), or #24(DEC 90), please contact me so I can get the "master file" back in order. Thanks!

Time to get this off (by modem) to the Editor. If there's anything or anybody that I missed (there's always something), I'll try to get you in next time. Till then, find something good.....and praise it. I bid you peace.

## February Meeting Review

By Howard Luckey

The meeting started at 7:50 PM. The reason for the late start was that Mike Knudsen and others couldn't get UltiMusE to boot. Why UltiMusE you ask? Because Tony wanted to start the meeting with the musical greeting which traditionally opens the RainbowFest. Mike arrived in time with his keyboard and the program but couldn't get things to run, so at 7:50 Mike hit a few notes and the meeting started. Since the meeting I have talked to Tony and the problem was one of the drives was single sided and the other one, although double sided, was probably out of alignment.

Tony made the big announcement, THE FIRST ANNUAL

**COCOFEST IS COMING TO CHICAGO!** Yea! After approximately one month, Dave Meyers has decided to have the fest after all. On Tuesday (Feb. 4, 1992) Dave visited the Chicago area to check out facilities and arrangements for decorators (people who set up the room) and with other support, made his decision. The other support includes a \$1000.00 contribution from *ACBBS* and the support of the Glenside club. *ACBBS* is a share-ware software BBS, and they have donated some of the proceeds to help support the fest.

The club support, in addition to what we can do locally, is to provide a hospitality room right next to the showroom. This room could also be used for show space if more is needed than is provided by the regular one. Assuming that we will have a hospitality room the club is open to suggestions about how to use it. Some suggestions already mentioned are: having the club on line to our local bulletin boards; setting up a place for EPROM burning (This could be for vendors who could charge a fee.); setting up a place for hardware hacking (Marty Goodman might use this to cover some of the cost of the Fest.). If you have any suggestions please forward them to one of the officers.

At this point Tony asked Carl to take the floor to present some of the particulars. The location is in Westmont which is a little south of Ogden Ave. on Cass Ave. The building is called the Inland Meeting Center and the showroom is DuPage Hall. The main hotel for participants is the Club House Inn which is approximately 3 1/2 blocks from the Center. The room charge is from \$55 to \$95 plus tax and includes breakfast and a cocktail party. The Inn will also provide a shuttle service to the meeting hall. Carl mentioned a number of other hotels nearby in case of need. The Fest is scheduled for the last weekend in May the 30th and 31st.

At present there is no set cost for the booths. Dave has to balance the cost to vendors so as to cover his costs and perhaps make some profit and at the same time not charge so much as to discourage vendors from participating and making a profit.

Vendors believed to have committed so far include **Interactive Media Systems (IMS)**, **Frank Hogg Laboratory (FHL)**, and **Burke and Burke**. Other possibilities, were mentioned. (Since the meeting Tony has mentioned that **Glen Dahlgren** of **Sundog Systems**, and **Cray Augsburg**, managing editor of **The Rainbow**, will each lead seminars at the fest.)

Tony and Carl said the club will probably have a booth and we have the money in checking and savings to support our participation.

After Carl's report Tony took the floor again and mentioned the Computer Fair which is held almost monthly at the Orland Park civic center, 147th and LaGrange Road, Orland Park, IL. Carl also had some discount coupons to pass out a few which were free. For some of the free passes Tony asked some trivia questions about the Color Computer and those who answered got one of the free passes.

**Paul Jerkatis**, president of the OS-9 users group and *SysOp* of the **SandV BBS**, announced he has purchased a new Hayes modem. It is a 9600 baud unit which includes the up to date standards now being used. He said he purchased it for \$350.00, a very good price, at **CompUSA**.

Tony stated that Mike Allen (708-780-3023) has a complete CoCo3 system for sale for \$250. If you wanted a LP8 and TRP100 the price would be \$350.00.

This took care of the business part of the meeting and now it was time for the demos. The plan was to have Bob Swoger

## February Meeting Review

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demonstrate the 1Meg printer buffer he had talked about at the last meeting, but for some reason Bob wasn't at the meeting. Fortunately Tony had a backup plan. He and Carl had brought in different models of buffers, serial to parallel, parallel to serial interfaces, and A/B switches. Tony then proceeded to make a very nice presentation about "getting from here to there" when we are ready to print the important work we have done on our computer. First Tony asked the question, "Why use a print buffer at all?" The answer is that a buffer sucks in the file and sends it to the printer and you can begin to use your computer for another task almost immediately. Then Tony would hold up one of the devices, describe it, and tell how it worked. One of the switches was electronic so that it would do the switching when one computer or another would send data to the printer. One of the better buffers and one that Tony liked a lot was a 64k one sold by **OWL Ware**, a long standing vendor in the CoCo market. It was a nice looking package, a little bit larger than a pack of cigarettes, and cost around \$40.00. It had parallel in and parallel out which means most CoCo owners would need a serial to parallel interface. Some of those were on display also. Tony mentioned a buffer that looked the same as the one from Owl Ware is in the Inmac catalog for \$130.00 to \$140.00.

After the presentation the idea was to use a buffer to show how they work and to show the benefit of using one. For some reason it didn't work that way. (Since the meeting Tony thought the problem was that the buffers got their power from the printer and we didn't have that kind of set up at the meeting.)

Later many of us went to the restaurant for the meeting after the meeting.

## FYI

### Figures from the history of electronics innovation

These selections are a casual sampling from the pantheon of electronics innovation. Most, in fact, predate the era of "electronics." But these innovators and their unsung colleagues laid the foundation for tomorrow's creations.

#### Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

Along with a weakness for gambling, Pascal is known for his philosophical and mathematical work in probability. He invented the Pacaline adding machine, and with his brother-in-law Perier, invented the barometer. He is the namesake of the Pascal programming language.

#### Jean Baptiste Fourier (1768-1830)

Remembered for the mathematical techniques he introduced as a result of work with heat diffusion. Chief among these techniques is the Fourier Transform. Arrested twice during the terror following the French Revolution, Fourier spent much of his life trying to avoid politics long enough to pursue his studies.

Next month we will see more of these selections, until then keep thinking. Who knows what will be the next innovation?

## From the desk of ...

By Paul K. Ward

Of the three most popular operating systems (MS-DOS, MacOS, and UNIX) used on the desktop, UNIX was the first and remains the only one with modular, multi-tasking and multi-user elements built-in. It is a mature operating system that can finally be offered on the desktop thanks to cheap memory and fast microprocessors.

The recent rise of UNIX has generated a lot of interest in improving UNIX's ability to solve the needs of common, non-technical users.

I follow *UNIX Today!* religiously, and have been following this trend with great interest because it impacts on IMS's goals for the personalization of OS-9. UNIX has basically two chief choices for Graphical User Interface -- Open Look and Motif. There is some work being done to combine these two at some level (for example, by creating interchangeable C libraries to ease porting an application to both).

Recently, *UNIX Today!*'s Philip J. Gill summarized areas in the UNIX market where software will need to be improved. Interestingly, he wants to see exactly the same kind of changes in UNIX software that IMS is working to create in the OS-9 market.

### Client-server applications

"Client-server" is a phrase that can describe applications and user interfaces. IMS is striving for both.

The reason is that Client-Server approaches to software take advantage of a distributed computing environment (not to be confused with the more precise term used by the Open Software Foundation, namely, Distributed Computing Environment). A general purpose distributed computing environment is the future. Networks, both local and wide area, will carry data and commands between places and among different pieces of software.

IMS is architecting simple methods for allowing software to work together in this fashion. We are also looking at some new technology from Sun and Hewlett-Packard that unifies Client-Server data structures.

An example of a client-server application might be a transaction-oriented database where the data is entered on one computer and is committed to the database housed on another. In the home, you might have an MM/1 Personal in the kitchen with a data entry form for the phone number and address of a friend. Once you enter the data, the MM/1 network software will carry the data to you MM/1 Extended in your work room, committing the data to the database and making it available to other computers and terminals you may have attached to your MM/1 Extended.

Also, IMS is building in network-transparent hooks into its windowing system to permit client-server GUI functions. For example, we have tested running a mouse cursor on a remote system by moving the mouse on a local system. The codes that control windowing can be packetized and sent over a network so that menus, overlays, and drawing commands can be executed anywhere on a network. This would allow you to run a very powerful application on a remote MM/1 -- just the screen data and windowing codes are sent across the network. You can use your mouse, menus, and text editing as though you are actually using the remote system.

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