

## From the President's Platen

by Tony Podraza

**D**o you know what the cost of data recovery is for a 20 Meghard drive?

Can you say "backup"?

Can you imagine the desperate flurry of activity that takes place when the database which has the names and addresses for a 200 entry mailing list suddenly goes into never-never land? Ask me! I've recently had that experience. And it isn't a fun one!

It would be one thing if I were the only person affected by this instance, but I wasn't. All of you were, too. And for that, I apologize to you all. My lack of good data storage protection has caused all of you to miss out on at least one copy of the newsletter. I will try to not allow that to happen again.

How's the system coming back together? It's not yet at the same level of operation, yet, but it is getting there. By the way, Group One Electronics, mentioned in an earlier newsletter, will be trying to recover the data from the hard drive for me. And the cost is not cheap... but reasonable, considering the consequences.

If it weren't for Joel Hegberg, who downloaded the database containing the membership information, and Mark Farrell, who helped me reconstruct the different control files for OS-9 Profile, I would have been a much more of a loss than I am now, regarding the mailing list. Gentlemen, Thanks!!!!

### SOAPBOX TIME!

I mentioned, in the last column, that the CoCo community is not like a family, but IS a family. If you continue to think along that line, you will come to the conclusion that an offense against

one is an affront to us all.

I have been cautioned against bringing this up in the newsletter, as it is not in the positive line of thinking, but I can't just let it pass, so give me a little leeway, here, if you please. At the recent CoCoFEST! gathering in Chicago, a number of items ended up changing possession while not changing ownership. I'm not going to spell it out for you, you know what I'm saying. These items were not inconsequential items in value, neither were there just one or two items in total. Occurrences of this sort discourage the participation of some good people in future gatherings.

You know the saying, "burn me once, shame on you... burn me twice, shame on me." Some people don't want to expose themselves to a second chance at being burned. It's been a while since the software and hardware grew legs, and I sincerely hope and pray that no one reading this newsletter has any cause for a guilty conscience, BUT, if you do, or if you know of the specifics of this incident, please, please, PLEASE do what you can to correct the errant behavior. Send the stuff back, or if you want to remain anonymous to those who have been unable to find the items when they went for them, send them to me and I will forward them to the proper parties, no questions asked, no names given, no names wanted, no return address. If this seems to be a bit presumptuous, so be it. I've never been known to be shy. 'NUFF SAID!

I've recently had the pleasant opportunity to have had a number of conversations with Cray Augsburg of The Rainbow regarding Glenside, the community, and Rainbow and their futures. Be looking for the results of those discussions in an upcoming issue of that publication.

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### 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	5428-3576	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
Advertising	Bob Swoger	S576-8068	Newsletter Ads

### 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:

**September 10**  
**October 8**

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

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

• Tony Podraza • Howard Luckey  
• Tom Kowalski • Joel Mathew Hegberg  
• Ken Gideon • Carl Boll • Robert Bruhl  
• Alfredo Santos • David Barnes

### EDITOR:

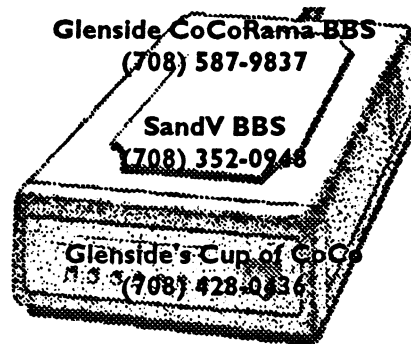
**David Barnes**

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## July Meeting Review

By Howard Luckey

The meeting opened at 7:45 PM. Tony announced that there was an open agenda and proceeded to cover a number of topics. There was a review of our records. As of June 169 records have been entered and 151 of those are active. When records are deleted in the program only the first two bits are deleted and in effect the record is still present except for that. Tony mentioned that our editor, Dave Barnes, is very busy and hasn't had time to edit the newsletter. He probably needs some articles also.

Tony had a copy of the last issue of *The OSKER*, the OSK magazine. It contains two pages about our club. He also had copies of a new magazine, *The OS9 Underground*, and a copy of the OS-9 User Group's newsletter called MOTD. Tony made these available to pass around.

Additional information made available from Tony was from Group One Electronic Company at 18661 Parthenia St. in Northridge, CA 91324 (818-993-4575 voice and 818-993-4855 fax). This company has good prices on many electronic and computer hardware items. One more item was info from Farna Systems of 904 2nd Ave. in Warren Robins, GA 31098-8870 (912-328-7859 voice and 912-328-8870 fax). Tony mentioned the OS-9 Quick Reference Guide for \$7.95 as one of their products. For an additional \$2.50 you can get a disk with the most popular and recommended OS-9 patches from Delphi (for the disk alone pay \$5.00). If you are in the process of enhancing your system this could be a handy way to get these patches without having to download them from a BBS. Farna Systems also has an ad in *The Rainbow*.

An important item was the plans for the annual picnic. It is scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 1992 starting a 1:00 PM and going until... Again this year we are honored to have the picnic at Bob Swoger's place, 612 Parkside Circle in Streamwood (708-837-7957). As usual the club will provide the meat and rolls, and we can bring a dish to pass and our own drinks. Make plans to be there.

Scott Montgomery asked if there had been any feedback from Dave Myers about the outcome of the CoCoFest. Tony said he had talked to Dave and got back what most of us have been hearing: by and large the vendors were satisfied, made some money and were glad to see, meet, and make friends in the CoCo community.

Carl Boll announced the Disk of the Month was available. He said the May disk is missing and members will get it next month. He mentioned that among the disks there was a bonus floppy which has on one side an article that will appear in the newsletter, and he told us that if anyone has a problem with a diskette to let him know and he will give you another one.

### THE DEMOS

The first one was Tony's demo of the Radio Shack chess game. Chris Burke has ported this from the cartridge pak to disk and fixed things so that the game can be played under OS-9. Tony got it up and running and put it through some of its paces such as showing how to use the cursor to move pieces. Thanks Tony.

The other demo was a hardware upgrade of Multi-Pak Interface (MPI) done by Carl Boll. This upgrade was to make the Multi-Pak compatible with the CoCo 3 and was based on an article in the

October 1991 issue of *The Rainbow*. Fred Havranek made the satellite board containing the chip and wiring for the upgrade. Carl opened the MPI, attached the satellite board to the bottom of the MPI mother board, replaced that board, cut one of the traces as per the instruction, and then began to solder connections again following the instructions. It was a very nice demo especially if you haven't done much hardware hacking and like to see how it is done. Thank you Carl.

After that we retired to the restaurant.

### SOME OTHER STUFF

In the August 1992 issue of *PC/COMPUTING* (p 20) Mike Edelhart wrote a column about virus jokes.

Here are a few of them:

**THE TEENAGE VIRUS**--You can get your PC to do what you want, but only after an interminable argument that leaves you feeling horribly guilty.

**THE VAMPIRE VIRUS**--Your PC can operate only at night, and its performance really sucks.

**THE CONGRESSIONAL BANK VIRUS**--It overdraws your disk space.

## True Confessions

By Tom Kowalski

I've had my CoCo III now for about 8 years. The first couple of years, it just kinda' sat there. Sure, I tried to work my way through the example programs in the "EXTENDED BASIC BOOK", trying to learn how this thing worked and what it could do for me. I found out about *RAINBOW MAGAZINE* through my friendly, local Radio Shack store, at Harlem and Irving; there was a cardboard post there with an 800 phone number listed. I called, and they sent me some info on what the magazine was about, a sheet of one liners (remember those?), and a listing of where to buy the *RAINBOW* in my area. I went out to the local book store to buy my first issue of *RAINBOW*. Afterwards, I couldn't wait for the next issue to come out, and finally subscribed. I have been a subscriber ever since.

Once again, I was typing in the program listings for several programs that interested me, but I was very rapidly losing interest in how the programs worked - OH MY GOSH! - I WAS BECOMING A 'USER'! I even gave up trying to understand the program, let alone typing in the program. If a program interested me, I would order *RAINBOW ON DISK*. After a time, I gave up almost totally in trying to understand the programming - just buy it, read what I had to do, and run it. OH MY GOSH! - I AM A USER!

Well, okay, I can live with that, I think. Let's see - full moon, okay, no excess body or facial hair... fangs didn't grow, no visible signs of 'user-itis'. Still beat the kid everyday, whether he needs it or not; still kick the dog when I come home... nothings changed - (ONLY KIDDING - JOKE - LAUGH - FUNNY - HAHA! )

Up until about five months ago, that was what I was, a user. It was about April of this year when I bought a new 24-pin printer.

## True Confessions

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Also about that time, my wife started posting a small, hand drawn 'chore-chart' on the refrigerator, listing various chores for my 7-year old son to do to earn his allowance. I soon got tired of looking at that hand drawn chart, with its crooked lines. I found a 'CHORE CHART' print program in one of the back issues of Rainbow. I typed it in, and it worked the first time. This was okay for a while, but I wasn't satisfied with it. It didn't give me too many options; plus it still looked a little hoakey using typing characters to make up the lines.

So I started looking to see what my new printer could do. I dug out the past issues of Rainbow dealing specifically with print programs. I tried a few things, some worked, others didn't, and I couldn't figure out why. But my curiosity was up. I kept trying this, trying that. I managed to put a semi-simple program together that would print a straight, double line in graphics mode on my printer. That took me several weeks. For me, it was a MAJOR victory.

But it was a start in BASIC programming. I have been through all my back issues of Rainbow, dissecting programs to see how a specific line works. My poor BASIC handbook is now falling apart, from all the times, over the past few months, that I had been flipping through it, to get a single line to run properly. I also received help from a gentleman at work, Tracy Cox, who is our resident guru of the IBM-class computers.

To my surprise, he told me that he loves to work in BASIC, and gave me several helpful clues, along with some commands that might work better. (He has an Atari at home that he plays around with.) Also, thanks to Glenside's BBS's, I also received specific help from several club members.

Anyway, my chart program is ALMOST finished. I say 'almost', because, as I was told and so found out, that a program is NEVER finished. I do have two working versions of "Dachart" ready, version 1 and 2, Rev. 0, that will be soon posted on the club's BBS's, and (I hope), published here in several successive issues of our club newsletter, since the program itself is over 3 full pages of BASIC. Version 1, I think, can be used on almost any printer using Epson print codes. Version 2 is specifically for the 24-pin family of LQ class Epson printers.

The point of this article is to all of you out there who might fit into the mold that I found myself in. I want to encourage those, as I was encouraged, to try their hand at programming. Find a specific need for yourself, and try to write a BASIC program to fill that need. There's plenty of help out there: just post a 'help' on the BBS of your choice, or bring your problems and thoughts to a club meeting. Or, even as I did, ask around at work for help. The resources of both the club and the BBS's are tremendous - the expertise is unbelievable! Just give it a try! This little 'spark' of an idea could flare up into a full, raging program, just as mine did. Don't get discouraged-keep at it! This is what we need to help our orphan CoCo's survive and flourish. There's probably someone out there that has a similar need for your program.

Once again, TRY IT! If at first you don't succeed, at least you've learned something.

## Great Stuff for your OS-9 System

We've been in the software business for over 10 years—and we've developed lots of excellent software over that time. We don't have room in this space to tell you everthing, but we'd love to send you our catalogue listing all of our products. Great stuff like our *Ved* text editor, *Vprint* text formatter, *Cribbage*, *Magazine Index System*, *Ultra Label Maker*, *Vmail*, and more.

So you only get what you need, please specify OS-9 or OS9/68000!

### Bob van der Poel Software

PO Box 355  
Porthill, ID  
US 83853

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Wynndel, BC  
Canada VOB 2NO

Phone (604)-866-5772

## Cool Dude...

Perhaps the most widely-used term in 'modermland', second only to 'ware', is the word 'dude' (and the many variations thereof). The title of 'dude' is, undoubtedly, a term of respect, since many people often claim themselves to be 'dudes'. In fact, a super-elite person is often referred to as a 'cool dude'. I know you must be saying to yourself, "But how can I become a Cool Dude?"

Well, here are some guidelines:

Cool dudes don't leech.

Cool dudes don't keep their disks in a cardboard box.

Cool dudes know how to pronounce "DOS".

Cool dudes never talk like: "HAY, DO U WANT 2 XFER W/ME L8R?"

Cool dudes are over 15 years of age.

Cool dudes drink lots of beer.

Cool dudes NEVER drink "L.A." beer.

Cool dudes do not refer to a dictionary every five minutes while typing in a message.

Cool dudes don't leave their computers idle for more than 24 hours.

Cool dudes don't use their computers 24 hours a day.

Cool dudes appreciate it when a sysop gives him a security raise.

Cool dudes don't buy cracked wares, or any wares, for that matter.

Cool dudes don't trade "ware-for-ware."

Cool dudes type at least 50 words a minute.

Cool dudes have patience when they are chatting with some-