



A GLENSIDE PUBLICATION SINCE 1985

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 1992 ISSUE

Glenside Color Computer Club

From the President's Platen

by Tony Podraza

A hhhhhh, October! When our thoughts turn to glorious sunsets, chilling night air, colorful deciduous plumage, large orange pumpkins ripening between harvested rows of corn and Linus Van Pelt waiting expectantly for the Great Pumpkin to arrive in the middle of the night at the very pumpkin patch in which he is sitting. Alas, will he be disappointed, again? Probably. But, with any luck, you won't be. By the time you read this, we (and there isn't any mouse), Carl, Paul, Dave, Joel, Chris, Brian, Gene and myself will have returned from the third Atlanta Co-CoFest. I hope to have a full report of the events and new products that we will see there for you in the next issue. From what I have heard so far, interest on the behalf of the venders has been very encouraging. But that's next month.

Recently, I've had occasion to do some re-evaluating of the ways in which I spend my time. Typically, I'm up between 6:00 & 6:30 AM, off to work and in the office somewhere around 8:00. I'm back on the road home by, oh, anywhere between 5:00 and 7:00 PM and home 45-65 minutes after that, depending on traffic. After grabbing a byte to eat, I have been reclusing myself down in my corner, sitting at the keyboard, checking out the BBS, or doing something related to club business. Sometimes I just have a little fun (Startrek games are good for that); sometimes i just don't know what to do. And then there are times when I'm on the phone...but that's club/computer business, isn't it? By the time that I get away from the keys, the time is often past 11:30pm...and I have to drag myself away to the stairs and up to bed. Not much time for the family, is there?

The fact is, there are

times I think that this avocation tries to make prisoners out of us. Beware....the monster is hiding in every CoCo. I can see myself sitting back in the chair, my silver flecked deep blue raiment loosely draped over my shoulders and flowing over the seat to the floor. There is an owl perched on my shoulder. From my fingertips, a tightly-focused beam of personal aura energy is drawn into the computer, against my will. The power of the entity that is draining my aura has me in such a tight grasp that I fear that I may have to call upon the gallant knight in the shining armor to come charging to my aid on his galloping white steed and separate me from this malevolent entity that has me so tightly in it's grasp. As I contemplate casting the incantation that will invoke the presence of this champion of men-at-arms from the acrid mists of the land of ROM, a small sprite appears behind me and whispers something in my ear. I am so deep in thought and struggling to extract myself from the present situation that I barely notice that the solution to the dilemma is in the bit of information that this gnomish elf has freely imparted to my memory. I telepathically offer him (it?) thanks and reach over the possessed machine to the left rear corner of the case and TURN IT OFF! I have WON!

If you think that you recognized the inspiration for that Halloween story, short as it was, write to me in care of the return address on the front of this newsletter and tell me where you think it came from. Tell me a little about yourself and interests, too. The, ummmmmmm, lessee, how about seventh letter that is postmarked between the 12th and 20th of November, 1992 wins the prize of a 10-pack of a major manufacturer name brand of 5.25" floppy disks and to be delivered by UPS to their home by December 1, 1992.

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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	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
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:

November 12
December 10

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

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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These are YOUR club BBS's... Please support them !!!

From The President's Platen

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HEY!!!! Let's make two prize categories!!! One for The state of Illinois (they have an unfair advantage over the rest of the members) and one for the rest of you. That should make it fairer.

Have any of you tried the Hitachi HD63B09E upgrade? Whose system patches are you using? Have you had any interesting side effects? Have you noticed any real improvements to the system operation? If so, what are they? How much did you pay for the upgrade? What are the chips costing and through who? Speaking of chips, Fox Electronics in California has 256 x 1 static RAM available for \$.70 a chip. Specify long pin solder/socket pulls and ask for Tim Merkle when you call. Tell him that you are affiliated with Glenside Color Computer Club and mention me or Marty Goodman, a fellow member, to confirm your special price. Ask him what else he may have available if you're looking for special chips, or just common replacement items. He might be able to help. CHIPS AHOY!!!

Humph! Not as much good gossip and tips as I would like to have had for you this month. But, I hope the rest of the CoCo~123 will be more interesting. You can help in making it so. Read page two regarding submissions. This is Your club and the CoCo~123 is YOUR mouthpiece, too, not just mine. We all want to know what you are doing and finding out about your systems.

Keep your eyes peeled for the November issue of The Rainbow for a question and answer article regarding Glenside and the CoCo Community. I hope that I've represented you well. If not, let me know. I'll send in some corrections, additions, or retractions. Whether they'll get printed or not, who can tell? But the effort to echo the sentiments of the Club will be continued. Till next time, I bid you Peace.

August Meeting Review

By Howard Luckey

The meeting opened at 7:36 PM. The first order of business was for each of us to make a quick introduction of ourselves.

Announcements and discussions included:

Group One Electronics of California has a make your own deal program. Call 818-993-4575, ask for Brian and let him know you are from the Glenside Club.

The June/July issue of the newsletter was available. Info about problems getting it out are in this issue and Tony said something about losing the data base of addresses and other club info. He thanked Mark Farrell for his help in restoring a lot of the data and Joel Hegberg for having a recent copy of the data.

A copy of a Computer Direct catalog was offered for members to check prices.

Larry Miller presented a list of Tandy software for the CoCo that is still available either in some stores or through the Tandy order service. Thank you Larry.

Burke and Burke has ported the pac game Thexder to run under OS-9 like he did with Cirrus chess. He has also release his book about the 6309 upgrade chip for the CoCo. Eddie Kuns mentioned that the assembler is also available.

Cray Augsburg, managing editor of The Rainbow, sent a set of written questions to the club through our president for the purpose of conducting an interview about the club, the CoCo, The

Rainbow, the future of the computer, etc. There was a copy of the questions and Tony's responses to pass around. There may be an article about our club in a future issue of the magazine.

Tom Schaeffges, chairman of the picnic committee, announced the final plans for the club picnic on Saturday August 29, 1992 from 1 PM to ??? at the home of Bob Swoger. Bob drew a map on the chalk board showing how to get to his place. Attendees should bring something to drink (ice will be provided), tableware, lawn chair(s), and a dish to pass.

The club will provide meat, buns, and a grill. Please plan to come. There will be a flea market type table set up for people who want to sell items.

Scott Montgomery asked about the discount arrangement that we are suppose to have with Inmac, the computer supply company. Our president said that our contact had left the company. We may have to recontact the company. Scott also asked about the inventory of the equipment and software the club had bought. The hardware was on the table but nothing was said about the software.

CoCoPro! has announced that their newsletter, CoCo Press, will no longer be the same as in the past. The company will still sell new items of hardware and software, but if an individual has items they want to sell CoCoPro! will no longer buy them but CoCo Press will offer them a chance to put ads in the publication (I don't know about cost.). Somebody mentioned that there will be exceptions for hard drives, floppy drives, and bulk quantities of an item.

The latest issue, complimentary to the club, of "The OS9 Underground" was set out for members to pass around.

An important discussion related to the announcement by the Atlanta Computer Society (ACS) of the third annual Atlanta CoCoFest. The Fest is to be fully sponsored by ACS and is set for October 3 and 4, 1992 at a Holiday inn. Admission is \$5.00 for both days and booths or tables will be available for \$25.00 (deadline Sept. 18). The question was should our club sponsor a table. Carl Boll thinks we should especially if we purport to be a national or even an international club. A show of hands indicated that possibly four to six members might go. Bob Swoger made a motion that if Carl goes and enough other members go to help out that the club would sponsor a table. After discussion the motion passed. Later Carl made a motion, seconded by Paul Jerkatis, that the club pay the \$5.00 fee for a member if they help man the booth and they are not with another vendor. After discussion the motion passed. Probably most potential attendees would like more information about vendors, seminars, etc., before committing to go.

Someone presented a copy of the "OS-9 Quick Reference Guide" from FARNA Systems (912-328-7859). The book lists the commands that come with OS-9 and some of the ones that have been added over the years by some of the OS-9 super stars. It gives the syntax and the flags that can be used with each command. The book includes error codes, screen codes, etc. It is authored by F. G. Swygert and proofed by Rick Ulland and costs \$7.95 plus \$1.50 for S and H. You can also purchase a disk that has the extra commands on it for \$5.00 or \$2.50 with the book. The book is very small and compact making it handy to have next to your computer instead of the bulky manual.

One more item was a catalog from California Digital, Inc., 17700 Figueroa St., Gardena, CA 90248, 800-421-5041. They are offering a computer from the past the Dragon Computer that was a clone of the CoCo1. The price is \$39.00.