



CoCo ~ 123

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Glenside Color Computer Club

From the President's Platen

by Tony Podraza

I don't mean to bore you with one particular fact, month after month, but it HAS been ten years since I acquired my first CoCo. Christmas of 1982 found me sitting cross-legged on the floor in front of my television trying to gain some sort of noise from my 16K non-Extended BASIC CoCo I.

The past two years had seen me in various Radio Shacks in the area, stealing some time on the keyboards of Model 1's and 2's, running "Dancing Demon", or some space war game. It was pretty neat, actually. Then one of the salesmen set a small amplifier down beside the keyboard and VOILA! I could hear some sounds that sounded like musical notes (sort of) being picked up by the amplifier!!!! WOWSERS!

But now, I had my very own computer to learn on and didn't need the amplifier because it was already built in. Now what? Familiar scenario? In a lot of cases, probably so. ENTER.... the user's Group, where one learned and taught. ENTER.... newsletters, where one saw articles and short programs to type in. ENTER.... national publications, where one saw many, many articles and LARGER (read: longer) programs to type in. ENTER.... regional gatherings, where hundreds (and sometimes, hundreds of hundreds) of fellow "CoCo-ists" gathered for seminars, new product demonstrations, "bargain deals" in Radio Shack hardware and software, second party support in better hardware and software than Radio Shack had available at the time, and, of course, the renewing of friendships that had been forged over time because of Radio Shack and Motorola's little 6809 microprocessor.

Now, after ten years of involvement with this fun-loving powerhouse, seven of

which has seen me as an elected official of some sort in either of two user groups, and having been involved in the workings of 8 Rainbowfests (7 in Chicago and one in Princeton, thank you very much for the opportunity, Ed and Dave), 2 Atlanta CoCoFESTs, and one Chicago CoCoFEST, either as spectator, vendor personnel, Seminar speaker introducer (now I know how the 'opening act' groups for the superstars feel), Seminar speaker/round table moderator, host club president, or announcer, I am about to make the BIGGEST decision regarding this CoCo that I have ever made in my life.

Are you ready for this? In June 1993, Glenside Color Computer Club will sponsor the Second Annual Last Chicago CoCoFEST! The dates are not yet cast in concrete, but are tentatively the 5th and 6th. Final arrangements are being made this week, and I hope to get the February newsletter out early so you can properly plan ahead. We sincerely hope that you all will be able to support the Fest by your attendance.

Verbal intentions of participation from vendors include, but are not limited to: BARSoft, Frank Hogg Laboratories, Kala Software, Farna Systems, Hawksoft, ColorSystems and Sub-Etha. Consideration of attending is being given by STG, Sirius Software, and T & D Software. More contacts are being made on a weekly basis, and I expect to be able to give you a more complete list of vendors next month. This is real exciting for me, as I hope it is for you. This may, indeed, be the LAST Chicago CoCoFEST, due primarily to the rising costs and the declining number of vendors who are willing to put forth time and effort to

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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
RR #2 Box 67
Forrest, IL 61741-9629

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, F=815.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Tony Podaza	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 Schneewiess	F832-5571	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 Podaza at home 708-428-3576.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

January 14
February 11

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

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

· Tony Podaza · Howard Luckey
· Robert Bruhl
· Alfredo Santos · David Barnes

EDITOR:

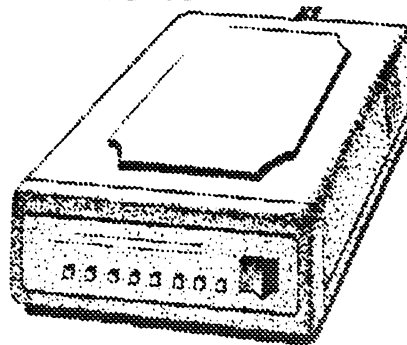
David Barnes

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9600 BAUD



SandV BBS
(708) 352-0948
9600 BAUD

Glenside's Cup of CoCo
2400 BAUD
(708) 428-0436

Chi-Coco BBS
(312) 735-3355
2400 BAUD

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

From The President's Platen

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make the gathering AN EVENT! Future gatherings could end up in Dayton, mixed up in a mass gathering of a multitude of orphaned computers. BUT, IN 1993, WE'RE GOING TO SHOW THE WORLD WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!!! Come join us for a real celebration! By the way, nobody sent in any guesses about the October newsletter contest. Maybe the timing was bad in reference to when the newsletters were sent out. Anyway, the contest is still open, and the award is waiting for the winner. Anyone interested?

December Meeting Review

By Howard Luckey

There was a general discussion about computing and the CoCo. Someone mentioned that the CoCo has been a jumping off place for many people to get into some part of the computing business such as software or hardware vending. Carl mentioned that ColorWare was getting out of the CoCo business and someone wondered if the CoCo community could, somehow, get access to their products for continued use.

It was announced that there would not be a disk of the month at this meeting because Scott Montgomery was absent. He has the October issue in his possession. Someone suggest that he be called to see if he is okay.

Tony mentioned that company called Arrow Electronic will fill single orders for chips with a minimum order of \$25.00. Many other companies require a person to buy a large number of chips.

THE DEMO

This is the demo of Simply Better (SB) carried over from last month. Simply Better is a very fine word processor that works under RS basic. First I ran the config program which allows you to set up screen size, text width, wrap on or off, etc., the printer codes for different fonts, and formatting parameters such as margins, justification, line spacing, in all thirty one different parameters. Once this is done it can be saved to a file for loading when you boot SB. Incidentally most if not all of the parameters can be changed from within the program.

Once SB is up and running you are in the command mode. This is were you can change screen size, toggle beep on or off, load and save files or tasks, and a lot of other stuff. When you are ready to type in text you hit the break key and now you are in the text mode. In this mode you have all of the usual features of any word processor such as cursor commands, find text, find and replace, deleting, block commands, etc. SB has a information line at the top of the screen which lets you know that you are using SB, the word "Normal-O" which lets you know what font you are using in this case the normal one, and to the left of the screen are the letters NTMVL. N stands for normal text but that letter will change when you hit one of the control keys such as Ctrl, Alt, or F1 on the CoCo keyboard. Once you hit one of the keys N will change to a blinking C, or A or I to let you know that those keys are ready for another input to carry out some processing command. The next letter indicates either the overstrike or insert mode which can be

toggled. Then M stands for mask on or off, if the M is absent, and if it is on and you use the find command. Case will make no difference. The V stands for verify, that is asking you if you want certain commands carried out, and it can be toggled. Lastly the L stands for lower case that can be toggled to upper case with shift-0.

There is a lot to SB and if your computer is the CoCo 3 and you need a word processor I highly recommend it. Other features include but are not limited to: a view mode to see what your document will look like in print, an eyes mode for hearing impaired i.e. the boarder flashes to indicate error messages, line numbering ability, macros, called tasks, that can store a bunch of commands and key strokes into one or two of them and these tasks can be saved to disk and loaded when needed, a calculator, a sorting ability, etc.

History Of The CoCo

By Alfredo Santos

This is the fourth in the series of articles presented by Alfredo Santos. These files were originally downloaded from Delphi and are reprinted with the author's permission.

THE FOURTH YEAR (July 83 - June 84)

Does it seem like I'm being too hard on CCN? Well in July, there was a full-cover photo of the DRAGON/32 but, nothing on the inside about the computer.

RAINBOW magazine, now supporting the MC-10, celebrated its second anniversary with a 308 page issue containing a two year index, a record with some BASIC programs, a look at the "new" MC-10, and a review of April's RAINBOWFEST.

Marketing began for UN-DISK from DR. PREBLE, ELITE CALC from ELITE SOFTWARE, and PBJ's 80 COLUMN CARD.

If 64K wasn't enough for your CoCo, you could always try DENNIS KITSZ's 128K bubble memory upgrade which appeared in July's TCCM.

A new CoCo magazine, 68 COLOR MICRO JOURNAL, was announced in August, which brought to 5, the number of dedicated magazines for the CoCo.

Just about all magazines carried articles on the MC-10. My personal favorite is the one in CCN!

New product announcements in August include a new CoCo keyboard from HJL, the MULTI-PAK INTERFACE from Radio Shack, PIRATECTOR from Sugar Software, and Chromasette goes to disk.

SOFT SECTOR MARKETING stops marketing CoCo software.

Always on the leading edge, Star-Kits starts its software AMNESTY program. Who but Peter Stark would be bold enough to give software pirates a chance to cleanse their soul? Star-Kits also markets the first MC-10 software. HUMBUG.

If you missed the first RAINBOWFEST, take heart, their is a very strong possibility of three more.

If you needed a new computer to take back to school with you in September, you might try the newly released CoCo II but, don't bother subscribing to CCN because, unknown to its subscribers, the September issue, is its last.

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History Of The CoCo

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Reports circulate that THE COLOR COMPUTER MAGAZINE will hold COLOR EXPO'83 in Pasadena, CA. November 4-6.

New product released include COLOR MICRO JOURNALS 32 page debut issue, POOYAN from Datasoft, a keyboard from KEYTRONICS, PRO-COLOR FORMS from DERRINGER SOFTWARE, and the DRAGON/64 from TANO.

The following was to have appeared in CCN but.....

“Enter The DRAGON/64”

by: Alfredo(!) September 30, 1983

The DRAGON/64 computer, which is enjoying great success in England, is now available in America. What makes the DRAGON worthy of mention in this magazine is the fact that it uses a 6809E microprocessor and MICROSOFT BASIC just like our friend the TRS-80 Color Computer.

When I first heard about the DRAGON/64 (and little brother DRAGON/32) my first question was: “Will Color Computer programs run on the DRAGON?”. The answer is YES..... and NO!

The incompatibility of “BASIC WORD TOKENS” between the 2 machines prevent CoCo programs from working on the DRAGON/64 but, not to worry!

If you save a CoCo program using the ASCII format (i.e.: CSAVE“filename”,A) it will CLOAD and RUN on the DRAGON/64 with little or no problem. Problems may occur if any memory locations in LOW RAM are PEEKed or POKEd and problems will occur for sure if any CoCo ROM routines are called. Here's why:

DRAGON's COLOR BASIC and EXTENDED COLOR BASIC are identical to CoCo's in many ways with one major exception: They are both on A SINGLE HN4827128G-30 28 pin EPROM. While DRAGON's BASIC chip (IC 18) occupies memory locations \$8000-\$BFFF (like the CoCo), ROM entry points are not the same. CoCo's POLLCAT routine, for instance, is at SA1C1 while on the DRAGON it's at \$BBE5. This fact prevents Color Computer machine language programs from running on the DRAGON.

The table below contains DRAGON/64 ROM entry points and CoCo 1.1 BASIC and the 1.0 EXTENDED BASIC equivalents.

CoCo/Dragon ROM Conversion Table (Color Basic ROM 1.1)

CoCo Addr	DRAG Addr	Comment
(A000) A1C1	(A000) 8006	POLL KEY
(A002) A282	(A002) B54A	CHAR OUT(cass)
(A004) A77C	(A004) 8021	CASS READ
(A006) A70B	(A006) B93E	BLOCK IN
(A008) A7F4	(A008) B999	BLOCK OUT
(A00A) A9DE	(A00A) 8012	READ IN JOYSTK VAL
(A00C) A7D8	(A00C) 801B	HEADER OUT

Both the CoCo and Dragon/64 have indirect addresses at SA000-SA00C. Dragon's bid at CoCo compatability.

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*, amd 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

PO Box 57
Wynndel, BC
Canada VOB 2N0

Phone (604)-866-5772

CoCo/Dragon ROM Conversion Table (Color Basic ROM 1.1)

CoCo Addr	DRAG Addr	Comment
894C	9D3D	
95CF	A95D	
A00E	B39BS	ECONDARY RESET
A027	B3B4	MAIN RESET
A02A	B3B7	
A06E		HARD START
A0E8	B44F	SOFT START
A176	B50A	CHAR IN
A186	B51A	
A1B1	B538	
A1C1	BBE5	CHECK KEYBRD
A282	B54A	CHAR OUT(cass)
A290	B560	
A2A8	B578	
A2BF	BD1A	
A30A	BCAB	CHAR OUT(scrn)
A34B	BCE2	SCROLL UP ONE LINE
A390	B5C6	INPUT FROM KEYBRD
A393	B5C9	
A398	B5CE	
A42D	B663	
A444	B67A	
A46C	B6A8	
A491	B6CD	
A502	A095	
A59A	B7CC	Data mover routine

History Of The CoCo

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CoCo/Dragon ROM Conversion Table (Color Basic ROM 1.1)

CoCo Addr	DRAG Addr	Comment
A5EE	B820	
A619	B84B	
A629	B85B	
A635	B867	
A65C	B88E	
A65F	B891	
A663	B895	
A701	B933	
A70B	B93E	BLOCK IN
A77C	BDE7	Cass. READ out
A7E9	BDDC	
A7D1	B480	
A7D3	B482	
A7D8	BE68	
A7F4	B999	BLOCK OUT
A928	BA77	Clear Screen
A951	BAA0	
A956	BAA5	
A974	BAC3	
A976	BAC5	sound routine
A9DE	BD52	
AD19	8417	Clear mem (NEW+3)
B277	89B4	get operand
B99C	90E5	PRINT text string

Another area of major incompatibility is the keyboard (HITEK 107044 H). Although the DRAGON has a full stroke keyboard, its matrix is not wired the same way as the CoCo keyboard. For example, a CoCo machine language program (which you've modified, of course) will produce unexpected keyboard input. Typing the following: "DRAGON COLOR COMPUTER" will put this on the screen: "4B17/. 3/,B 3/-@ED5B". Indications supporting the keyboard matrix incompatibility is the fact that if the DRAGON keyboard is installed in the CoCo, or vice versa, the wierd output continues. This condition does not effect any CoCo BASIC programs running on the DRAGON (unless you are PEEKing the keyboard rollover table to check keys pressed).

A couple more items on keyboard related matters: DRAGON BASIC's routine to poll for entry from the keyboard is somewhat less efficient then CoCo's. I'm not a speed typist but, in the two years I've been computing, I've gotten pretty proficient at typing the word "LIST". The word is typed so fast that before the "L" key is released, the "I" key is being pressed then "S" and "T". The DRAGON turns my lightning "LIST" into "LST". This occurs because DRAGON's keyboard polling routine will not recognize the "I" key stroke until the "L" key is released because they are apparently on the same row of the keyboard matrix. This also effects the method used to pause scrolling during a LIST with a "SHIFT @". The inability to accept a double keystroke happens only while DRAGON is in the 32K mode (on powerup). While in the 64K mode, not only is the "problem" eliminated but, if a key

is held down for more than a few 10ths of a second, it starts repeating.

By the way, You'll know at a glance whether you're in the 32K or 64K mode simply by the cursor color. While in the 32K mode, the cursor will be a blinking solid black graphics character while a blinking solid blue cursor indicates 64K mode.

DRAGON's 64K mode is entered by typing "EXEC" and pressing <ENTER>. Easy hey?? When the machine is turned on, part of its initialization process includes moving data into LOW RAM (\$0000-\$03FF) for the BASIC interpreters to use. For instance, the system uses location \$009D to hold the EXEC address of the last machine langue which was loaded into the computer. This eliminates having to specify an EXECution address after you CLOADM a program. Power-up initialization puts the value BF49 at \$009D. DRAGON's 64K mode ROM entry point is \$BF49.

If, however, you wish to enter the 64K mode AFTER having loaded in a machine language program, \$009D will then contain then EXEC address of that program so typing EXEC & HBF49 will be required to access the 64K. Another nice thing about the DRAGON's use of it's 64K is that it frees user RAM from \$0600-\$BFFF's by MOVING the ROMS up to \$C000-\$FFF0. Radio Shack's doesn't move its ROMs so you end up with 2 blocks of RAM: \$0600-\$7FFF and \$C000-\$FFF0, with memory locations \$A000-\$BFFF (\$8000-\$BFFF for EXTENDED BASIC CoCos) off limits because CoCo's ROMS are there.

Beside its 64K of RAM and full stroke keyboard, the parallel printer port and monitor output should make this computer a very serious consideration to anyone in the market for an inexpensive yet powerful computer with high resolution graphics capabilities.

In addition to the above mentioned ports, the DRAGON/64 has connectors for 2 joysticks, a cassette recorder, 40 ROM cartridge/disk interface, TV hook up and external power transformer.

The DRAGON/64 gives you all the power and versatility of the very popular TRS-80 Color Computer plus features which make the DRAGON/64 a much more professional machine with far greater capabilities. If you've held off buying the TRS-80 Color Computer because of some above mentioned limitation then now is the time to stop DRAGON your feet and check out this very GREAT BRITON. (You liked the BEATLES didn't you?)

Nelson Software, in September, announced that their Super "Color" Writer had become the official word processor for the DRAGON.

The highlight of the second RAINBOWFEST (held in Ft. Worth on October 14-16) was a walking tour of Tandy's new CoCo Plant. The same month Radio Shack releases the WALT DISNEY and SESAME STREET educational software, MULTI-PAK interface, the MOUSE, the KRAFT joystick, and the OS-9 operating system.

DENNIS KITSZ says "I'm gonna teach you a lesson" when he releases his 6809E instructional kit.

In November, at COLOR EXPO'83, MARTY GOODMAN debut his state of the art graphics program GRAPHICOM. Thanks Marty!

Other releases came from ELITE WORD from Elite Software, SUPER SCREEN from Mark Data, PASCAL from DEFT SOFTWARE, the BASIC UNRAVELLED books from Spectral