CoCo~123

CoCo⁻123 Memory Map

Upcoming Events:
The Annual Glenside Picnic - Harvard Sunday September 9, 2007
The 17th Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! April 12 - 13, 2008
Regular meetings every 2nd Thursday @ Schaumburg Public Library

G.S.B.A.A. OFFICERS

Here is the list of 2007 club officers and how to contact them.
If you have questions about the association call one of the
officers for the answers.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Howard Luckey	708-747-1735	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Chris Hawks	815-943-4690	Meeting planning, etc.
Vice-President	Tony Podraza	847-428-3576	CoCoFEST! Organizer
Vice-President	Brian Goers	708-754-4921	Special Events
Secretary	Bob Swoger	630-837-7957	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	George Schneeweiss	815-346-5017	Dues and Purchasing

Howard Luckey   Chris Hawks   Brian Goers   Tony Podraza   Robert Swoger   George Schneeweiss

CoCo~123 INFORMATION

CoCo~123 is the newsletter of the Glenside Color Computer Club. Your annual contribution of $15.00 keeps our club going. Send your check to Glenside Treasurer:

George L Schneeweiss
13450 N 2700 E Road
Forrest IL 61741-9629

If you are unsure of when you last paid dues, look at the address label on this newsletter envelope. The numbers to the right of your name indicates the last year you made your annual contribution.

Our treasury provides newsletters and good times with fellow CoCo users at our Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! and annual Glenside Picnic.

CoCo~123 CONTRIBUTIONS

If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or would like to submit an article, please contact the CoCo~123 Newsletter editor:

Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, IL 60107-1647

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Howard Luckey
Frank Pittel
George Schneeweiss
Robert Swoger

G. C. C. MEETINGS

The Glenside Color Computer Club meets the second Thursday of each month at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 7:00 pm. If you need a map, see our Glenside Homepage at:

http://members.aol.com/clubbbs/glenside/

A social get-together always follows at a nearby restaurant.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DISK

Wow! We've had another "LAST" Chicago CoCoFEST! For me, this was one of the best because of the return of people who haven't attended for a while, and a wonderful new member I'll mention later.

I thank all those who attended and I especially thank those who made the effort to organize and help to make the FEST a success. I include Bob Swoger for his work in acquiring rooms and for keeping track of costs and income, Tony Podraza for his work in arranging the showroom, handling the CoCo stuff such as software and hardware and auctions and Brian Goers for coordinating the lectures and all the other fest events and providing the cake for Nancy Hawks' birthday celebration.

was very happy to see some folks I haven't seem for awhile, notably Steve Bjork and Allen Huffman. Thanks for attending, gentlemen. I am wondering if would be possible to get Marty Goodman to attend soon.

I loved meeting Mary Kramer, a wonderful new member and our new librarian. As a member of the panel, she told us about her dad, Dale, and his association with the CoCo and how she has stepped forward and has done and is doing a lot to promote the CoCo. (See the **CoCoNutz! E-Zine** newsletter at /www.coco3.com.) Thank you Mary.

Speaking of the panel, I thought it was a great idea and I was pleased to hear some of the war stories about the CoCo experience each of the participants had. On Sunday I left early to attend my nephew's sixth birthday - so I missed that 2nd panel and also missed meeting Diego Barizo.

Please notice that we have already started plans for next year's FEST! With this early, start we may have even a bigger and better FEST.

Some weeks after the fest I had contact with Mary over the Internet. She mentioned that she wanted to use Gizmo, the over-the-Internet telephone service, to join in on our club meetings. However, she had trouble installing Gizmo and getting it to work. She mentioned that Yahoo has a similar telephone system. So, I downloaded Yahoo and got it to work so that Mary and I had a nice conversation. My hope is to get Yahoo running on my computer at the meeting so that Mary and maybe others can join in. We'll see what happens.

Keep the good things going for yourself.

Howard Luckey, President
Glenside Color Computer Club

TREA$URY NOTE$

As of June 8, 2007, we have $702.27 in checking and $5500 in savings for a total of $6202.27.

After the 2007 CoCoFEST! bills were paid, we had $348.28 "in black ink".

George Schneeweiss, Treasurer
Glenside Color Computer Club

THE SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

Normally in this section you would be reading minutes of our previous meetings. This time we will just hit the high points. Those that most often attend our regular meetings are President Howard Luckey, Chris Hawks, Brian Goers, Tony Podraza, George Schneeweiss, Justin Wagner, Bob Swoger and Frank Pittel.

After our 2006 CoCoFEST! we received some criticism for not promptly getting the news of our 2007 CoCoFEST! out soon enough. So, this year, we posted all the particulars for the 2008 CoCoFEST! back in May 2007, yet, there have been those that still contact us asking when next year's fest will occur! We can now only assume they either don't look at our web site or don't believe what they read!

At the 2007 CoCoFEST!, we had planned to have our dinner in the Johnson Room served by Bennigan's restaurant as we did in 2006. This year Bennigan's really let us down. First, we were let into the room 20 minutes late. After waiting more than half an hour no waitress showed up to take our orders. Nine of our attendees left and went to Alexander's restaurant across the street after conversing with the belligerent Bennigan's manager. One of Bennigan's managers (they had three that night) decided that a single waitress, a new girl with no experience, could handle our group of 30 alone. WRONG! After hearing of this blunder, the Inn, as a courtesy to our group, gave us free vouchers for Sunday breakfast. The Inn later made us an offer to cater our dinner next year, however, the menu was slim and the cost was considered prohibitive.

As a result of the 2007 Bennigan's blunder, the Glenside board has decided that in 2008 our dinner social event will be held at Alexander's Restaurant rather than at the hotel.

It was John Chastain that checked out Alexander's and recommended moving our dinner there. Bob and Annette Swoger later met with Alexander's manager and set up our dinner for 2008. We will be allowed to order off their dinner menu for prices lower than we would pay at the hotel. We have been assured that our group will be served by competent waiters. We will be seated with Alexander's other clientele but as a group occupying the south east corner of the restaurant against the Windows.

Brian Goers, who was selling Glenside IDE interfaces at the fest this year, reported that we occasionally get e-mail requests for Glenside IDE interfaces. It has come to our attention that the documentation and software for our interfaces needs to be updated.

This summer we relocated our Glenside Library and equipment store. Mary Kramer graciously consented to become our librarian. She has been working hard to straighten out all of the library material delivered to her. She has begun to compile the list of over 80 titles of software documentation that we have. She has separated out all the duplicate manuals and left the club officers to determine what will become of all the duplicate manuals. It has been suggested that we make them available free at the next CoCoFEST!. Anything left over can be discarded as we plan to put all documentation on CD-ROM. Thanks, Mary, for taking on a humongous task and doing such a great job.

All of the hardware items are now in the possession of Brian Goers to store for the next CoCoFEST!.

Mary Kramer discovered that our club computer had a broken joystick port. Several CoCo 3 computers were given to Vice President Chris Hawks to be checked out, cleaned up and made ready for the next CoCoFEST!. Chris has fulfilled this task and cleaned up two CoCo 3s

with all the necessary equipment, joystick's, disk-drive and whatever, to be put in our soft case Macintosh travel bag. Of note is the fact that we are short a monitor for these CoCos. We will endeavor to come up with at least one CM-8 monitor, or equivalent, that we can use at either the CoCoFEST! or at meetings to demo new software or whatever we need them for. Bob Swoger, Secretary

16th Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST!

This year we had 16 Exhibitors and 51 total attendees not including children. Some of those present were Bill Astle, Rich Bair, Diego Barizo, George Bethea, Joe Beucher, Steve Bjork, Brother Jeremy, Carl Boll, Ken Carlin, Marge & John Chasteen, Brenda & Dick Crislip, Carol & Frank Davis, Rob Gibons, Brian Goers, Crystal & Scott Griepentrog, Wally Grossman, Nancy & Chris Hawks, Allen Huffman, Roy Justus, Dave Kelly, Keith Kounovsky, Mary Kramer, Bill Leighty, Linville, Howard Luckey, Mark Marlette, Ralph Petter, Boisy Pitre, Frank Pittel, Chris & Tony Podraza, Susan & Dave Poitras, Tom Schaefges, George Schneeweiss, Brian Schubring, Karl Sefcik, Annette & Bob Swoger, Justin Wagner, Mike Warns and Sandy Weimer.

The highlight of this year's fest was the presence of Steve Bjork and the two seminars he lead. The first was a table panel discussion with various CoCo users explaining how they got started using the Color Computer and it changed their lives. Mary Kramer's start was most unusual as it was her dad's use of CoCo that got her started and it has been nothing but fun since. My own story was of past member Jim Peulecke and me writing a Secretary/Treasurer report program that is used to this day to do all the secretary functions of both Glenside and my alumni association. There are over 4400 members in the alumni association.

Steve's second seminar was for the purpose of discussing the next CoCo platform. The purpose of this concept is to have a virtual CoCo 4. (Keep in mind that "virtual" means "isn't really", just acts like it.) The problem the community presently has with emulators is that emulators are applications requiring the Graphics User Interface (GUI) and port support of the already existing operation system on the host machine. This means the emulator software is not portable, which is to say, one emulator might work on a Windows 98 machine but not a newer version using Windows XP or Windows Vista. Virtual CoCo 4 firmware would work on all platforms.

This seminar made plans for using firmware already available to run CoCo software. Some firmware modules would have to be written to fill in the holes of firmware not yet available.

It was good to hear that there were a few in the CoCo Community that could generate this kind of firmware, I believe there were at least five. I was just one of many in the group that listened intently and learned what was out there but could not contribute to the effort.

Also of note is the admirable philosophy of Cloud–9's Mark Marlette. I'm sure other CoCo users have the same philosophy but had not put it into words as Mark has done. The words: **"They don't make this stuff any more!"** Yes, all this CoCo "stuff" is VALUABLE because it still works, is still fun and gives users great pleasure – and is still supported by vendors that upgrade the machines to modern times. 512K memory upgrades, Hard Drives and Compact Flash are now possible from Cloud-9.

Flat screen monitors are now possible with interfaces from both Roy Justus (RGB) and Hawksoft (S-Video).
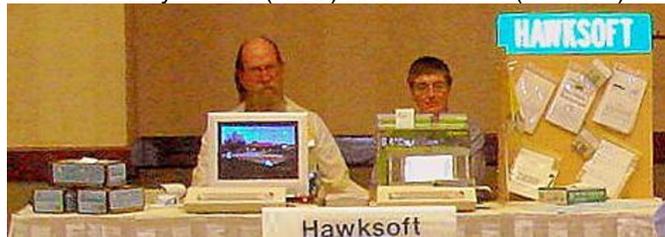
I got my S-Video TV/Monitor from Menards for $149 – it works/looks great!

Hawksoft was again this year selling X-10 controllers for the CoCo (boxes on left side of picture above). This controller is programmed by your CoCo to automatically turn on and off all the lights and appliances in your home. A TV remote and receiver can be added to immediately operate the X-10 modules all over your home as well as your TV, stereo and cable boxes from your easy favorite chair. Chris's X-10 Software permits programming the controller using the CoCo3. The CoCo is used only to program the controller, then is disconnected freeing the CoCo for other tasks. The controller, with its own clock and battery back-up, then controls your home 24/7. This is great for having your home look lived in while you are traveling or on vacation. "I won't leave home without it."

For the 2005 and 2006 fests, Brian Goers had asked his mom to bake large cakes to be enjoyed by all the attendees. At those fests, the subject of the fest was a birthday. This year the theme was a bit different – however, Chris Hawks came up with a way to get another cake to the fest – his wife Nancy's Birthday! This year Nancy Hawks' birthday fell on the same day as our fest. Brian Goers again provided a birthday cake again baked and decorated by Mom.

Brother Jeremy led the singing of "Happy Birthday" to Nancy Hawks. (Brother Jeremy had to leave at day end Saturday as Palm Sunday fell on April 1 this year, the second day of our fest. Brother Jeremy spends time now in the UK working with youth. He plans to be at our 2008 fest and again have a Sunday morning service – "and maybe another Saturday night sing along? Ed.")
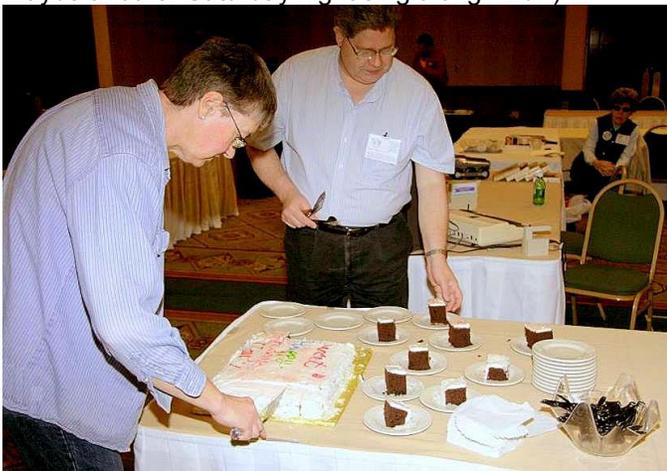
Nancy and Brian prepare the cake to be shared by all. By the way, Nancy and Chris Hawks graciously consented to host our picnic this year at their home in Harvard, Illinois

Mary Kramer, above with Music Man Brian Schubring, debuted Sockmaster's Donkey Kong – for the CoCo 3!

While trying to use the software on our club computer, Mary discovered that the joystick wouldn't work. Tom Schaefges checked out our setup and found that the joystick port on the club computer simply didn't work, confirming what Mary suspected.

Mary went out to her car and returned with her own CoCo3 and disk drive – she was now happy to demo the new software. The crowd was pleased. Mary reported that one youngster played the game for nearly an hour.

Sara Schubring enjoying the game for nearly an hour.

Frank & Carol Davis own a company that restores old sound and video recordings and sells them at his on line store at:
http://fwdcomputing.bizland.com/fwdcomputingsoftware/

Frank Davis's FWD Computing once again provided racks of interesting audio and video disk titles. His collection is a must see – just visit his web site to see what I mean. My wife and I purchased several disks and played them on the four vacation trips we made this summer.

Jim Johnson of Kokomo, Indiana, an artist for the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches magazine, once again designed our Shirt artwork and FWD once again affixed the artwork to the shirts and mouse pads. They sure were pretty – seems they just keep getting better every year!

Dave and Susan Poitras from Allenstown, NH, had a good time at the fest despite the airline losing their luggage. The luggage was delivered to the hotel later. Just before the fest, Dave went into early retirement, but attended the fest anyway. Dave told me he has two Glenside IDE interfaces. It is always good to have a back-up – you never know when you'll need it.

John Linville of TUX DRIVER is here enjoying children having fun running games on his CoCo – does that bring back memories? I'm sure John's heart was warmed as well.

Many knew Diego Barizo through email, chat and Malted Media. Diego wanted so much to attend this fest – he had been looking forward to it for quite some time. He had been a victim of train travel

. Trains were as much as six hours late. He had hoped to set up a table and sell software but checked in at the end of the day Saturday, I'm not sure he got a table, but he did distribute his software, VP Chris Hawks received a copy. I could tell Diego was sure having a great time meeting all those he had met on the internet and never had heard their voices or seen their faces. Everyone there enjoyed meeting him. The real problem happened when he traveled home. Somehow INS slowed down his trip home. Many of you already know the rest of that story. We all wish him well.

Perhaps the largest table which produced the largest amount of sales including the largest monitor on sale, a 27 inch Sony, was that of Scott Griepentrog of Indianapolis. That monitor sure will be easy on the eyes of its new owner.


Justin here prepares for his upcoming Security seminar.

Justin Wagner updated us on all the improvements for computer security developed since last year.

Again, Tony had a successful time with our no minimum bid auction. Tom Schaefges, Bob Swoger and others helped Tony identify some of the goodies. This auction is greatly responsible for the financial success of our CoCoFEST! The auctions brought in about $500 during the two day event assuring a 2008 CoCoFEST!
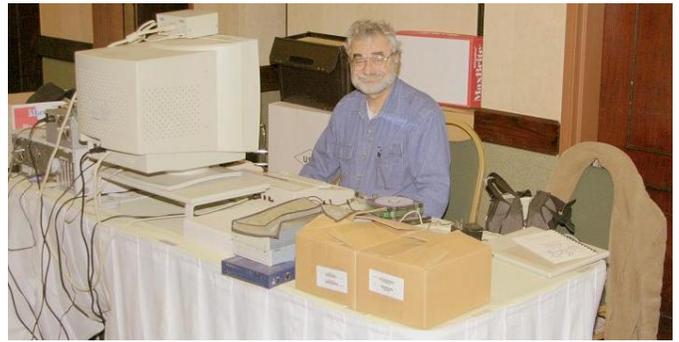
Richard Crislip of Norton Ohio, a yearly exhibitor at the fest, bought a table to have a place to set up his rig and to fellowship with anyone who would reciprocate. He donated his Amiga A4000 to the club to sell at the auction. Richard is one of many that do this. Our most faithful exhibitor at the fest is Karl Sefcik of Bargeman Research Labs who has been an exhibitor since our first fest in 1991. We almost lost Karl this year due to an unfortunate choking accident.
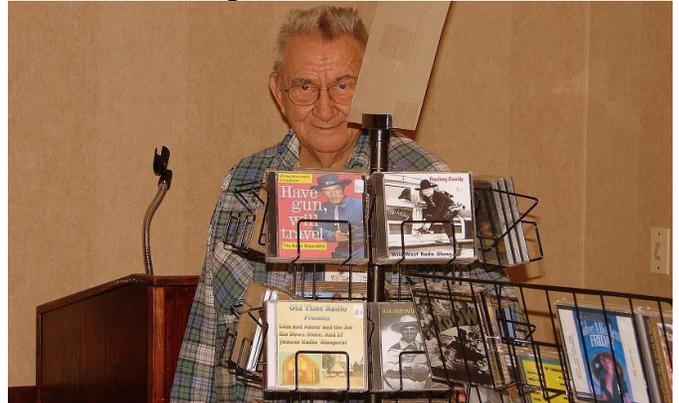
George Schneeweiss looking over Frank Davis's Old Time DVD collection. Those are "Have Gun, Will Travel" and "Hopalong Cassidy" radio shows on the top shelf.

Mark and Boisy had no shortage of new goodies to show the attendees. Check out all the exciting new products for the CoCo at http://www.cloud9tech.com/

ODDS AND ENDS

I just liked these pictures of John Linville,

Diego, Steve and Boisy,

Happy faces – Rich Bair and Mark Marlette,

Music Man - Brian Schubring,

Toni Pitre and Sandy Weimer, and…

President Howard Luckey manning Luckey Corner.

Here are the 5 "W's"
WHO?   1) Glenside Color Computer Club, Inc.
PRESENTS
WHAT?   2) The 17th Annual "Last"
Chicago CoCoFEST!
WHEN?   3) April 12 & 13, 2008
 (Sat. 10 am - 5 pm; Sun. 10 am - 3 pm or whenever)
WHERE? 4) HOLIDAY INN & SUITES ELGIN
495 Airport Rd
Elgin Illinois 60123
(A city block North of I-90 & IL-31)
(Same great location as last year!)
Overnight single occupancy room rate:
$80.00 plus 10% tax ($88.00 Total)
Call 1-847-488-9000 for reservations.
Please ask for the Glenside "CoCoFEST!" rate.
>>>YOU MUST REGISTER UNDER "COCOFEST!"<<<
>>>>>TO GET THIS RATE <<<<<

WHY? 5)   A. To provide vendor support to the
CoCo Community
B. To provide Community support to
the CoCo Vendors
C. To provide educational support to
new users.
D. TO HAVE AN OUTRAGEOUSLY
GOOD TIME!!!

And now, the "H" word.
HOW MUCH? 1) All Attendees - General Admission
Saturday & both days: $15.00 1st - $10 2nd & more
Sunday Only: $10.00 1st - $5 2nd & more
********* Children 12 and under - FREE *******

Advance ticket sales available between 1/15/2008 and 3/28/2008 from:

 George Schneeweiss
 13450 N 2700 E Road
 Forrest, IL 61741

    Include a Self-Addressed-STAMPED-Envelope (SASE)

For further information, general or exhibitor, contact:
Tony Podraza, GCCCI   Brian Goers, GCCCI
847-428-3576, VOICE   708-754-4921, VOICE
tonypodraza@juno.com   briang0671@sbcglobal.net