CoCo~123



Glenside Color Computer Club, Inc. Volume 24, Number 1

Carpentersville, Illinois Spring 2004

Upcoming Events:

'Baker's Dozen' Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! May 15-16 2004 The Glenside Annual Picnic Sunday September 12th, 2004

CoCo ~ 123 Memory Map

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G.C.C.C. OFFICERS

Here is the list of 2004 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	Justin Wagner	630-363-0518					
Vice-President Scott Montgomery Vice-President Brian Goers		773-282-6044	Navigation Special Events				
		708-754-4921					
Secretary	Tony Podraza	847-428-3576	Records and Reporting				
Treasurer Ge	eorge Schneeweiss	815-832-5571	Dues and Purchasing				

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Justin Wagner Howard Luckey









CoCo~123 - A Glenside Publication Since 1985

CoCo~123 INFORMATION

The 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

Our treasury provides newsletters, local meeting room and good times with fellow CoCo users at our annual Chicago CoCoFEST!.

CoCo~123 CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Bob Swoger 613 Parkside Circle Streamwood, IL 60107-1647

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Steve Adler from article in '87 DATA BUS NL
Tim Hennon
Howard Luckey
Tony Podraza
George Schneeweiss
Bob Swoger
Roger Taylor

G. C. C. C. MEETINGS

The Glenside Color Computer Club meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Schaumburg Township District Library. See our Glenside website at:

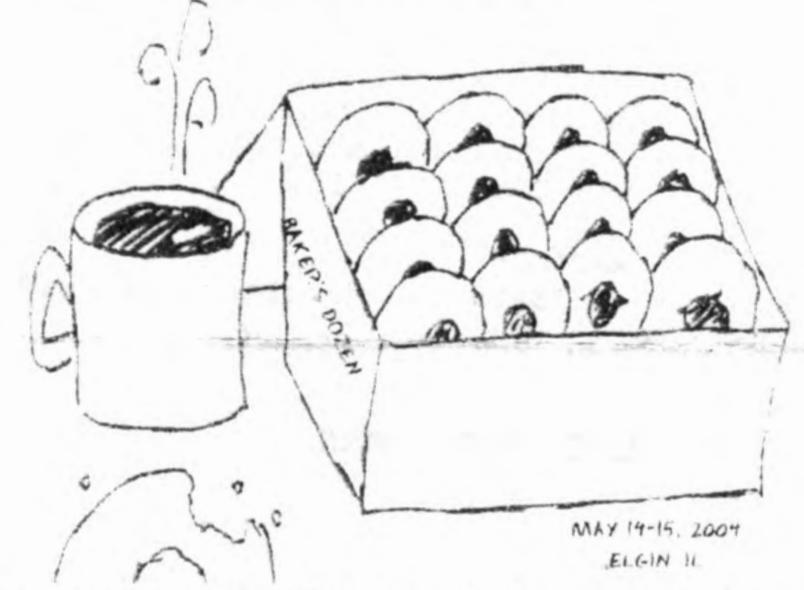
http://members.aol.com/clubbbs/glenside/

if you need a map. A social get-together always occurs at a nearby restaurant. We will be discussing our upcoming CoCoFEST! and what jobs need to be handled by each of our members to again make the fest a success.

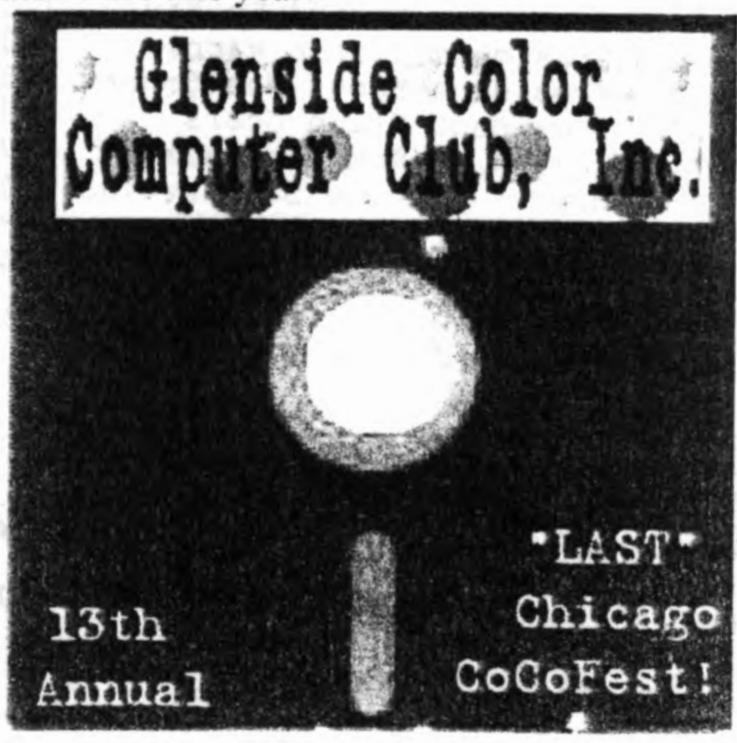
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DISK



Ever wonder what it takes to come up with a CoCoFEST! logo? It isn't easy to come up with a shirt design. It's like pulling teeth for ideas.



We are always running out of time to get the task done. Above and below are a few ideas of shirt ideas we didn't use this year.



May 14-15, 2004 Elgin, IL



13th Annual "LAST"
Chicago CoCoFest

Finally, we come up with something we can all agree on. Watch our Glenside web site to see what we finally come up with.



So, don't just stand around like these folks waiting until the LAST MINUTE, start looking around for some things to sell or swap and come to our Bakers Dozen Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! for a fun time and a great visit with new and past friends.

Howard Luckey, President Glenside Color Computer Club

The V-P's Platen

There will be a BAKER'S DOZEN ANNUAL "LAST" CHICAGO CoCoFEST! The dates are scheduled to be May 15th & 16th, 2004. Please e-mail Robert Swoger at rswoger@aol.com so that we might get a head count, this always helps us plan.

Tony Podraza, Vice-President Glenside Color Computer Club, Inc.

TREASURY NOTES

As of March 5, 2004, the balance in our checking account is \$5552.56. Total paid membership is 67.

George Schneeweiss, Treasurer Glenside Color Computer Club

THE SECRETARY'S NOTEBOOK

January 8, 2004

Howard opened the meeting at 7:45 P.M. Present were Howard Luckey, Brian Goers, Scott Montgomery, Tony Podraza and Bob Swoger.

Bob read the Secretary's report from the newsletters he brought. The Treasurers Report was not read as George was not present. We have had no response from Carl Boll.

The latest newsletter is on our web site. Dick Crislip wrote to tell us that many of the links on the web site no longer work. He also has CoCo stuff he will send in for the fest.

Ernie Hedberg also has CoCo stuff that needs a home. Bob will contact him and tell him about CoCoFEST!.

Bob presented the updated roster with new information about OS-9 users group people and IDE users. Bob asked the President and those present for permission to send newsletters that were promised those two user groups. The motion passed. Tony is to run 36 more newsletters to send to these folks. Tony confirmed he would do so.

Since publishing his article about shutting down the Cup-O-CoCo BBS, Tony has received no feedback at all, let alone anyone asking to keep it going. Tony has therefor decided to terminate the BBS.

There was another discussion on what would be the 2004 Fest LOGO. Bakers Dozen still seems to be the choice but no concrete design yet has come to mind. Bob is to get the shirts started immediately by contacting FWD computing to see if they will again provide our shirts.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m. and we all went to near by Sante's Restaurant for the meeting after.

February 12, 2004

Howard opened the meeting at 7:14 p.m.. Present were Howard Luckey, Brian Goers, Scott Montgomery, Tony Podraza, Justin Wagner, George Schneeweiss and Bob Swoger.

Bob read the Secretary's report.

The Treasurers Report was read by George reporting that our present balance was \$5552.56. Four blank checks were given to Justin Wagner and Howard Luckey by George to allow backup representative to fund access.

There was more discussion on the shirt Logo for our upcoming CoCoFEST!. It was decided that we would come up with a picture of a baker holding "A Baker's Dozen" CoCos on a tray/plate/stone/platter.

Bob reported that the latest newsletter is on the web site. Tony said that there was some problem getting this last issue printed and suspected that he could get the job done soon.

Bob reported that he had acquired a list of IDE owners but that it was incomplete and addresses were missing from some of the names. Tony said he also had a list and would get his list to Bob.

Bob is to contact member Richard Bair about charter documents.

NEW BUSINESS: News of our upcoming CoCoFEST! went out on the CoCo LIST.

Labels delivered to Tony Podraza for the next mailing.

Bob again asked Tony for his PROFILE membership list file.

We voted to once again renew our SAM's Club membership. Howard is to mail the renewal form.

FEST prices are to be the same as last year, \$40 for a table and 2 day ticket. Rooms at Best Western to be \$62.

March 11, 2004

Howard Luckey opened the meeting at 7:18 p.m.. Present also were Justin Wagner, George Schneeweiss, Brian Goers, Tony Podraza, Scott Montgomery and Bob Swoger.

Bob read the Secretary's report. The Treasurer's report was read by George informing us that our present balance was \$5513.56. George reported that two more members had renewed their memberships bringing our total paid membership so far this year to 46 compared to 67 in 2003 and 92 in 2002. George reminded us that there are always those that wait to renew their memberships at the CoCoFEST!. Bob was presented a check for \$84 for our last mailing and Tony received \$30 for the printing.

As we always wish to have other classic computer user groups attend our CoCoFEST!, Bob e-mailed the president of the area Amiga User's Group to see if they would join us this year. Bob received a post card from the group which stated that the subject would be discussed at their March 4th meeting and gave the information to President Howard who lives very near their president. Howard reported that he had personally knocked on the door of their president, Ralph Munroe, but found Ralph was not at home at that time. We will continue to pursue their participation. The last group to attend our fest was the Michigan Timex/Sinclair user's group.

The shirt LOGO for our upcoming CoCoFEST! is being developed by Jim Johnson of the G.A.R.B.C. (General Association of Regular Baptists). Jim did a shirt for us several years ago. Being a professional graphic artist, he has the ability to do the kind of graphic for us.

Bob reported that the latest newsletter is on the web site and that our mailing to 130 members had gone out three weeks earlier. Of those 8 were returned with bad or changed addresses. The newsletters with the changed addresses were resent. Tony was asked to provide the 30 copies of the first two newsletters of 2003 that we were short of for our previous mailing. Bob is still to contact member Richard Bair about charter documents.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. and we again Bob was asked to put out one more newsletter went to Sante's Restaurant for the meeting after.

before the upcoming CoCoFEST!. Brian Goers

was asked to put out a message to CoCo users informing them that we would like to get a head count of those intending to attend. Tony was directed to pay the \$1200 for the CoCoFEST! show room.

Brian Goers will be selling IDE interface boards at the FEST and will also be giving an IDE SEMINAR at 11 a.m. Saturday morning. Brian will also be gathering information on all interesting CoCo related subjects.

Our May meeting will be held May 14th at the Best Western Plaza Convention Center so that we can assist in the Fest setup. Tony asked for all to help get the fest room ready Friday evening by showing up as early as possible.

We were informed that Boisy Pitre need a ride from the airport to the fest and that wishes to find a person to share a room with.

FEST prices are to be the same as last year, \$40 for a table and 2 day ticket. Rooms at Best Western to be \$62 with an additional charge of \$10 for each additional occupant.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.. We then headed over to Portillo's for the meeting after. We ate a bit lighter than we had at Sante's Restaurant and spent lighter as well.

Robert Swoger, Secretary Glenside Color Computer Club, Inc.

Glenside Color Computer Club has a Web Page!

The Glenside Color Computer Club has a web site. Look for us at:

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

Bob Swoger, Webmaster Glenside Color Computer Club

WEB COMMUNICATIONS

Roger Taylor wrote: Hey, Bob... I got the newsletter and I enjoyed reading it. I will probably be sending a \$15 money order to the treasurer soon. You guys are doing a great job. Keep up the good Roger Taylor WORK.

Tim Hennon wrote: ... The Color Computer 2 & CoCo3 were huge parts of my childhood in the 1980's! Around about 1992 I ditched it in favor of my first "real" computer, a 286 running DOS. It's great to see people like you keeping the CoCo 3 alive.

Anyway, one day when I was about 12 or 13 I worked up the gumption to write a program and rat and is always suggesting that I throw away old submit it to Rainbow magazine. They actually ribbons, bad disks, and my other 'potentially' useful published it!!! I remember looking at that check for \$25 and thinking how cool it was that a simple program I wrote appeared in a magazine that I had been reading at the time for about 3 years. I have

long since lost that copy of Rainbow magazine, and I would now like to find it.

The problem that I have is that I can't remember which issue it appeared in! I'm pretty certain that it will be in an issue somewhere from June of 1988 to August of 1990. Can you help me track down which issue my old program is in? If not, can you direct me to someone who could?

I've seen the Rainbow on-line store at http://www.the-e-mall.net/netcat.htm

but unfortunately they don't seem to have a contact address. Short of spending \$300 buying every issue in the time frame, I'm at a loss on how to pinpoint the issue I'd like.

send my way is greatly appreciated. Thank you, Tim Hennon

ARTICIE

A 'Saturday Morning' Tax Return Steve Adler

Saturday mornings are a precious treasure of time in my life as I am sure it is for most men that have to earn a wage during the week. In early February of this year, after receiving my W2, 1099's and other tax information, I decided to retrieve an old BASIC income tax program I had written. I was sure that the loss of one of my precious Saturday mornings to modify this program would be out weighed by the time savings in the preparation of my 1987 tax return.

On that Saturday morning, I dusted off the Color Computer, and searched through my floppy disks to find the tax program. I finally found the latest version of my tax program on a half filled working disk. It was very clumsy reviewing the program by 'LIST' in. So after getting tired of LIST/SHIFT-S/RETURN sequences, I decided to print out a copy and use it to develop the needed program changes.

Since this was going to be a working copy scrounged around for some old printer paper that I had saved just for this purpose. You know, the paper with something printed on one side which you keep to turn over and use the 'clean' side. As I proceeded to set up the printer, I thought to myself, this is why I never throw anything away which might be useful sometime in the future. My wife thinks I am a pack items.

After printing out a program listing, I took my 1040 in hand and line by line made the appropriate program adjustments. It only took a few moments to

recall the program structure and make decisions as to the easiest way to up date the program.

I had originally made the program follow all the lines in the tax form thinking then that I might share my effort with someone later. This time I removed many items, like Farm Income, Single Filer Tax Table, and other items not relevant to my personal my revised tax program. tax return.

I finished the revised program and carefully saved the new version on the disk. I was now ready to try this completely revised version. Foolishly, I ran the program without making a copy on another disk, and as Murphy's Law will, the disk crashed!!

I then made my second mistake in a row. The revised program was 'in' the computer when I had decided to 'RUN' the saved copy from the disk. When the program wouldn't "RUN" and the disk error message was presented, I forgot that I could have inserted a new disk and "SAVE'd" the program which was still in the computer memory.

was thinking so intently on how to retrieve information from a damaged disk that I missed this potentially easy way to capture the most current program version. I searched for my old disk zapper program. Simultaneously, as I successfully loaded this zapper program, I remembered that the revised tax program had been in the computer memory.

Boy was I mad now!! I thought to myself, you dummy, etc., etc., etc., After a few moments of silent contemplation, I rationalized my mistakes and decided to go for the disk repair. I ran the program and then realized that I had forgotten the commands for my zapper program! It was easy to do global checks of the disk. I recalled, however, that the commands which repair and potentially remove data were less obvious (by design) and were difficult to use.

Time flies when you are having fun and it was now time for lunch and more contemplation. Later, in a much more rational mood, food often has that effect, I decided to practice on another disk with the zapper program to refresh my memory without doing damage to the tax program.

I was also at the point where I felt that I must reread the material on how the information is stored on the disk. I relearned, rather quickly, all about the FAT (file allocation table) and the format in which the information was stored that pointed to the tracks, sectors and grans on the disk. After this refresher, I practiced on the test disk. I remembered the HEX displays and recognized letters, numbers and other symbols. I tried out the commands I thought would work and with effort discovered the appropriate move, read, write and verify commands.

I was now ready to repair THE disk. I inserted the disk and started to read the FAT table. I was able to read only the first portion because, it turned out, that the disk error was caused by an unreadable second portion of the FAT table. Again Murphy ruled!! It was in this unreadable portion of the FAT table where the information was stored which pointed to

> Well, I was disappointed but not daunted. I examined the undamaged portion of the FAT and was able to determine by elimination where the revised program was stored. I was also able to look at each gran and determine the order in which the program was stored. So, here I was, a damaged disk with the program safely tucked away in several grans and the pointer information in the damaged, unreadable part of the disk.

Now, I thought, if I only had a program to duplicate disks bit by bit. Maybe, I could get the program back if the pointer information was not corrupted. I then realized, however, that such a program would have to be able to 'READ' in some manner and if the pointer information on that portion of the disk was damaged I would probably still get junk. I decided that I would have to independently reconstruct the pointer information even if I could make a bit by bit copy of the disk. So I carefully reconstructed the name and pointer information that would be in the -FAT table for my tax program.

I also decided to reexamine THE disk. As I looked at the undamaged portion of the FAT, I saw a file pointer for an earlier version of the program. Inspiration struck!! I decided that I would put my reconstructed pointer for the final program revision on the FAT in place of the pointer for the earlier version of the program.

I very carefully wrote in the reconstructed pointer file name and gran information. I quit the zapper program and then reentered zapper to examine the changes. I wanted to make sure they were correctly written and stored. I quit zapper again and put in the command to LOAD the tax program.

It worked! Eureka! I saved the program on a second disk and lived happily ever after.

It was now late afternoon and I realized that I had spent several hours on this effort, however, I really felt good because now I had a working copy of the tax program. I felt even better because I had been able to overcome this problem and renew some computer skills. Now the odor of dinner in the air and glance at my watch made me realize that had blown away another precious 'Saturday morning'!

The Glenside Color Computer Club, Inc. presents The 'Baker's Dozen' Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! May 15th & 16th, 2004

(Sat. 10am-5pm; Sun. 10am-4:30pm)

Best Western Plaza Hotel & Convention Center of ELG1N

345 W. River Road Elgin, Illinois

(A city block from I-90 & IL-31 - SAME GREAT LOCATION AS LAST 10 YEARS!)

Overnight single occupancy room rate: \$62.00 (plus 10% tax) Call 1-847-695-5000 for reservations. Be sure to ask for the "CoCoFEST!" rate. THERE IS A LIMITED SUPPLY OF ROOMS BLOCKED OUT FOR THE FEST. Reserve your room early. THESE ROOMS WILL BE RELEASED for regular reservations on May 8, 2004 and WILL NOT, !NOT! !NOT! BE AVAILABLE to FEST! attendees. YOU MUST REGISTER under "CoCoFEST!" to GET THIS RATE.

WHY? WHY? OH WHHYYYY? DO WE DO THIS?

- 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!!!!!

HOW MUCH? General Admission, ALL ATTENDEES: \$5.00/day, \$7.00 whole show Children 10 and under - FREE

Advance ticket sales available between 2/01/2004 and 4/20/2004 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:

Brian Goers, VP, Special Events, GCCCI

708-754-4921, VOICE

bgoers@ais net

Tony Podraza, Secretary, GCCCI 874-428-3576, VOICE

tomypodraza@juno.com

Be sure to visit GLENSIDE's web site ~ http://members.aol.com/clubbbs/glenside/

Frank Davis of FWD Computing writes: While Carol and I are still active with FWD Computing, we have also become part of a new company: Good Life Productions, L.L.C. There are four partners in the company, of which Frank Davis is the CEO and Carol Davis is the Chief Financial Officer. Product Officer is R.J. Dratch who runs our Golden, Colorado audio lab and factory for the production of audio and video CDs. Charlotte Low runs our audio and video lab in Austin, Texas and is our Chief Technology Officer.

We are engaged in the high quality production as well as post production work on audio and video. We have taken a lot of old radio shows and movies and greatly cleaned them up with a proprietary process which is owned by our new company. We take old audio and video, removed any old background unwanted noise, hiss or pops as well as volume adjustment, we then create it as a multi-channel audio that sounds as real as has been achieved for recorded audio and video.

Several of our most recent releases are:

Billy Holiday in France, Jazz and Blues music from the 1940s. - A 3 CD set of the best of Django Reinhardt, swing Jazz from Europe 1930s and 1940s - A complete restoration of the original Orson Wells' radio drama of 1938 - War of the Worlds. Sounds so much better than the original broadcast!. - A complete restoration and improvement of the original Christmas Carol radio program from the 1930s starring Lionel Barrymore.

Projects now in final stages of post production are works from Hank Williams, Glen Miller, Artie Shaw, Tommie Dorsey, Jimmie Dorsey and The Hillbilly Boys from the 1930s in Texas.

Coming to CoCoFEST! we plan to display and audition some of our new works and give more of an explanation of the direction of our new company and of course have available samples for sale, also lots of our new video CDs of movies you just may like.

Sincerely,

Frank W. Davis

The 'Baker's Dozen' Annual "Last" Chicago CoCoFEST! May 15 & 16, 2004

Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM Sunday 10 AM to 4:30 PM

Same great location as past 10 years -- now the Best Western Plaza Hotel & Convention Center

Best Western Room Rates are \$62.00 per night, plus 10% tax. You must register under "CoCoFEST!" to get this rate, so be sure to ask for the "Glenside" or "CoCoFEST" rate.

RESERVE YOUR ROOM EARLY as there is a limited block of rooms that will be only held until MAY 8, 2004. These rooms will be released to the general public and will NOT be available to the FEST! attendees. Call the Elgin Plaza Hotel at 1-847-695-5000 for reservations.

General Admission all attendees: \$10.00 - Whole Show Children 10 and under - FREE Please send your reservations and funds to:

CoCoFEST! Reservations C/o George Schneeweiss 13450 N 2700 East Road Forrest IL 61741-9629

For further information, general or Exhibitor, contact: Tony Podraza, VP Special Events, GCCCI Home 847-428-3576 - E-Mail: tonypodraza@juno.com

BOB SWOGER 613 PARKSIDE CIRCLE STREAMWOOD IL 60107-1647

Here's a SuperIDEA for your CoCo...



Want The Ultimate In CoCo Storage?

Look no further than the SuperIDE Interface from Cloud-9. This innovative product utilizes the latest in electronic design technology to bring you an interface that rocks your CoCo.

Blazing Fast CompactFlash On-Board
Use popular, widely available CompactFlash modules
to access up to I gigabyte of solid-state, super fast
storage. No hard drive crashes to worry about, and
fast, reliable data storage that lasts for years.

It Does Hard Disks, Too
If you prefer rotating cylinders, no problem! The
SuperIDE Interface sports a standard 40-pin IDE
connector that gives you access to hard drives.

Boot In A Flash!

With 64K of flash memory, you can house up to four 16K ROMs. Choose from HDB-DOS, Radio Shack Disk BASIC, your favorite DOS, or even a ROM Pak! Easy to use software allows you to program your ROM in-circuit. No more hard-to-find obselete EPROMs or cumbersome burners needed!

Need Time?

Choose the optional real-time clock for up to the second time on your CoCo. Never wonder again what time it really is.

It's A Wrap
Get your CoCo souped up with the SuperIDE Increace
from Cloud-9 today!

Learn more at www.cloud9tech.com