Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 9-10-2024

Hosted by Kevin

In Attendance, Kevin, Robbie, Don, Scott, Bob, Richard, Ron

- We talked about the Starliner space flight, that the return went well, it came back without humans, but what other life forms?

- Don recovered from COVID.

- We discussed Radio Shack TRS-80's... Kevin's was a portable 4P model, fully backwards compatible. Scott asked what processor was used...it was a Z80 4 mhz.Scott has a ZX 81.

- Don upgraded his 130XE to 16K, years ago, for $120. Members in the SLCC thought he was lying. One can upgrade to 320K. The ZX81 was slower after an upgrade to 16K Rampak.

- Richard's making a 3D print faceplate for his workbench. Kevin said it looks like a faceplate on an AT computer. Kevin has all the wires for his, but Richard has ordered everything already.He's making realtime clocks for his computers...he's replacing Dallas clocks. There are lots of chips and PCBs.Kevin needs some if Richard can spare some.

- Ron found an Atari Lynx, 1st. Generation, the long and skinny one. He picked up a game drive cartridge to use an SD Card. He found an Atari 600XL, although off-color, brown, but hasn't tested it...he needed a display. He has a PBM 1390 Sony Trinitron monitor that doesn't look industrial, with composite, S-Video. It looks great, but wasn't cheap. Does it have sound? Yes, he said.Ron showed the "industrial" monitor, and Richard said he should make a new, 3D badge.

- Richard showed processor cables and Dallas adapters and VARTA battery PC boards.Ron asked if the pins match. Richard said the battery fits in the VARTA board.

- Don needs to replace soldered in HAM radio batteries which are corroded.

- Scott got bees from Walker County because bees were in a County water meter. He put on a bee suit and got honeycombs from the hives. He still got stung through his bee suit. It was so full, he had to cut off honeycombs. He was scooping up bees with his hands, and he could feel the vibrations of the bees.The 2nd hive was warmer and more active. He needs 6 hives for 5 years for his property tax to drop. People lease bee hives to get the discount. Richard knew about leasing in Texas with animals. Scott gives the bees sugar water in the Winter. He won't get any honey yet since the bees need it.

- Scott and his wife rescued a kitten on a freeway ramp. They name it LOR, "Lucky On Ramp"). They can't keep it, though, they're cats aren't happy.

- Kevin is bringing the HP Stream computer to the next In-Person Meeting to test the Wi-Fi speed. He's impressed with it's speed-it came with Windows R, which may be on Surface tablets also. Robbie asked about transferring to a new, faster computer for the Meetings.

- Kevin records football games, but he can't skip commercials when streaming on Amazon Prime.

- Richard showed a small shelving unit he printed, for organizing small parts. Kevin showed a box he uses with labelled plastic bags. Kevin and Richard compared their storage solutions.

- Bob showed his big plastic box with individul boxes. Kevin showed his EPROMs, as did Richard. Kevin has 200, 64K, 16K, 24 pin EPROMS. Richard is interested in getting some, they're for Atari 2600s.The older equiptment uses 24 pin. 2716 are 4K Atari cartridge adapters for 28 pin that you can use in Apple IIs.

- Richard 3D printed"Butter Pigs" to cut and shape butter. It takes 5 hours to print, so he does it overnight.

- Robbie mentioned that Meade and Orion telescope companies have gone out of business.