Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 10-8-22024

Hosted by Kevin

In Attendance. Kevin,Robbie,Don,Scott,Mariano,Michael S.

- Robbie mentioned the strobe effect of his new webcam.Kevin thought it was his camera. Robbie said he's only leaving it on so Michael can see it, since he warned Robbie about a$17.00 camera.Kevin mentioned the blinking picture is matching the blinking blue new LED on his camera.

- Robbie thanked Kevin for the apps. he suggested for taking notes, and appreciated that it shows who's talking, not recording them but speech to text.

- Kevin thought the blinking was a little annoying, so as soon as Michael shows up it will get replaced with another camera.

- Don mentioned he thought it was,"your typical Bay Area electrical", but Robbie explained it was his cheap webcam.And Don said," it's not P.G.&E."?

- Kevin asked Don,"so How are things in Florida today"?

- Don answered,"It's beautiful today, just lovely, all over the State, it's a beautiful day."

- Kevin said,"unless you have 3 feet of water in your basement."

- Robbie said,"Kevin, you asked about the Niner's Game? It was scary, we walk a long way to and from the Stadium, we both almost passed out. I don't know how those guys play football in 105 degree weather. And everybody's saying,"it had nothing to do with the Game."

- Kevin said,"baloney, it did too, but it affects both teams."

- Scott asked about the AI that Kevin was using,"that AI thing, what was with that?"

- Robbie assured him we weren't recording voice, just speech to text, the one I'm using is called Tactiq.

- Kevin asked what Bob had been up to, anything Atari related?

- Bob said no, not much, just a mess.

- Kevin showed a small PC with an ARM processor that runs Windows, that he is going to use for an Atari retro gaming system with a trackball and a joystick, and buttons for

playing. A professional game system that he can put on a coffee table. It's not compatible with the Atari Game Station Pro because it doesn't have enough inputs. He says it was only $40 or$50.he thinks the Atari version of "Centipede" is really good, close to the arcade version, and so it "Defender".

- Mariano was warned about the flickering screen for Robbie and said,"I was wondering if you were in a "rave"? Robbie answered,"I'm too old to even know what that means! To me it's like Fillmore West with the black lights."

- Mariano answered,"or like in the horrow movies when the lights begin to fail."

- Kevin mentioned the Geico commercial where there's the chainsaw guy chasing people and they run to a barn instead of to the car that's running, and there's all kinds of tools that can kill them..."that's a funny commercial."

- Michael shows up and Robbie changes webcams.

- Mariano talks about downloading a game in the Steam Deck.

- Kevin talks about Bill contacting him about a nice lady who emailed Bill, but he's not sure why, but she says she found his email address on our Facebook page.

- Mariano says,"I hope it's not a mail order bride"!

- Kevins says, she says her father used to come to the SLCC Meetings and he's downsizing, she finds a bunch of SLCC Newsletters and wants to know if we want them. So she sends them to Kevin including a huge "Special Edition"(Bob says). Kevin says he already has all of them scanned, and they are equal to or better than these particular ones, and she did include a nice little note. She also sent along some Atari Tax Software, and Robbie says his wife could use it. Kevin says she also sent some highly classic card games like
Solitaire,Cribbage, and Bridge. Kevin shows a pamphlet for Atari ST that was included.

- Kevin talks about another book about a crypto system that takes text you type in and turns it into "Adventure Games", that people like to write in BASIC. Kevin also made a purchase of what he thought would be a used book, but it seems brand new. It was originally written in 1983 and reprinted in 2016.He says it talks about the program runs, what lines are,what each line does and variable listings and why they are that way. It's really well done.

- Michael notices the AI icon and wonders if it's a virtual little companion.

- Scott says,"like "Clippy".

- Kevin finds the program name, it's"The Atari Home Computer Crypto System". He thinks it was written in 2016, the height of the data mining stuff going on.He thinks they were making a little dating program for our favorite computer.He says it takes any program and turns it into data statement numbers that you could use for writing "Adventure Games".So when you type in an "Adventure Game" yourself from a magazine, all the clues are right there in the text of the game so you could know how to solve it.

- Mariano adds that it's in Amazon Books and Timothy Banks is the author and you can get it for 10 bucks.

- Kevin adds the programs in it are all basic stuff like a simple driving game, heat loss cost analysis programs, and who needs that?A program to audit your P.G.&E. bill, but the program is half a page long.

- Michael talked about Atari Age threads and Lenore who is working on Atari motherboards.

- Mariano thinks that his computer is overheating. He says it's a 9 or 10 year old computer. He replaced the liquid cooling for a couple of big fans, but he thinks it's kind of aging now.

- Kevin says he's still rocking along with an I7, 700K.

- Scott says his is a 4,700.

- Mariano says his is a 9 80, a Sandy Bridge, Kevin says that's old.

- Scott says his is an I7.

- Michael says his is an I5, 32 10 M.an "all in one"system, probably like a 12 year old system.

- Kevin says that processor is 3 years newer than the one Mariano is using.

- Michael says he put a solid state drive in his and 16 Gigs of memory which is the max, so it works pretty decent.

- Mariano thinks his is a 6 core with hypers like 12. He upgraded the graphics card twice and it's doing great for games, but now it's overheating all the time. It used to have a big cabinet(case?)but it wouldn't fit in his house so he had to move everything to a smaller cabinet and remove the liquid cooling. He says that helped a bit more, but now

it kind of has cables everywhere.

- Michael says he used to be part of a firm 14 years ago called Extreme Systems, and they actually have a section about phase change, which he got involved in for a while, which is basically a little refridgeration system, for the purpose of cooling it down, for over clocking.

- Mariano talks about it being time to get a new computer. Scott says,"with this group you're only allowed to use computers that are at least 40 years old.

- Kevin asks Bob how fast he got his Atari 1200 up to, like 14 Mhz., or something?

- Bob says ,"yeah, 8 times the clock speed".

- Kevin says it does run faster but it can't draw anything faster on the screen but it could do calculations to put stuff on the screen, much faster.Bob says he wanted to see how many colors he could get across, color changes at 14. It's just a blur of colors. You can do all kinds of things at high speed that you can't do at normal speed because you can't load the data. Then you wait for the interrupt and then load the data.He says it's smooth. He says,"Michael, I see upgrades coming."

- Michael says he built 3 of them, just last week, and he found one little bug, on the size of the battery holder, it was a little too small on the boards. He says it was the weirdest thing because he bought 10 of the little holders, 2 from one vendor and 8 from somebody else. And all of his are like little square pins, and they fit, but when he looked at the data sheet, the other guy was saying that the pins on his are rectangular.He said they take a little bit bigger hole,so he updated the Gerbers. He hasn't uploaded those to his website yet. And then he says,"we decided to make a few changes to the bomb as well, he took off all the Jamco parts.They're starting to carry a new line of machine pin sockets made by Ada Tech. They're fairly inexpensive and they're actually pretty good quality.

- Bob says he's had problems with machine sockets.He says if you lug a cable in it's not coming out with round pins, they have way too much adhesion, some of the sockets work, some don't. He moved over to double wide sockets. He sent a machine to Germany and when it got there the board had popped out of the socket, and that made a mess.

- Michael said if you shake it up it's probably going to pop out. You have to get in there with a flat blade screwdriver and go back and forth on each side and work it out, or you're going to break something or bend something.

- Bob says he's had good luck with dual wide, and gold plated sockets.

- Kevin agrees, and says they're flat and the legs of the chips are flat, so flat against flat, a lot more contact. If you put flat into round you'll only get contact on the 4 edges of the leg.

- Bob says he doesn't know what internally the machine socket looks like, and Kevin says it's just a tube all the way down. It's got to transmit the mechanical and electrical connection.

- Kevin says that would make them very expensive to make if they have little things inside the socket hole. Michael says it's a 40 pin socket for 5 bucks.He says the Adam Tech ones are actually a lot cheaper, and not much more than the dual leaf ones, like when he does a piggyback board, he wants to make sure it doesn't pop out.

- Bob says to make sure you get the 0 18 pins not the 0 25 because the 0 20s aren't going to work at all.

- Kevin tries to see the pins on a chip and says the legs are thick at the top and then they get thinner at the bottom. Scott suggests getting out a grinder and grind half of it to expose the inside. Michael finds on Google about Turn Pin sockets which are basically a machine socket, with tapered entry and 4 points of contact.

- Bob says you use bakelite material to fill and grind off.

- Kevin shows pictures of sockets that are spring loaded.

- Michael describes Chinese sockets with 40 pins, assuming they were machine sockets but when he pulled them from a board and then re-inseted them it wasn't so good anymore. so it was a waste of money and screwed up something he was working on.