Meeting summary for SLCC-Atari Zoom Meeting 10/15/24 7pm (10/16/2024)

Quick recap

The team discussed various personal experiences, future plans, and technical topics such as computer building, upgrading, and glitches. They also shared their experiences with different internet connections, video games, and operating systems. The conversation ended with discussions on computer processors, components, and the importance of proper packaging for shipping.

Next steps

• Kevin to consider building a new computer with the latest Intel chips or AMD Ryzen processor.
• Richard to finish assembling the solder paste jig for PCB manufacturing.
• Richard to complete building the Ethernet board for 8-bit computers.
• Mariano to research and potentially purchase a new gaming PC.
• Richard to organize and label his screw collection.

Summary

Personal Experiences, Future Plans, and Tech Discussions
The meeting involved discussions about various topics, including personal experiences and future plans. Richard shared his experience of adding a gas line to his house, while Mariano mentioned a potential job change with a pay bump and more interesting tasks. The group also discussed computer building and upgrading, with Mariano considering a custom-built computer and KLund1100 considering an all-in-one water cooler unit. There were also mentions of computer glitches and the transition to Windows 11. However, the conversation ended without any clear decisions or action items.

Railroad Simulators and Video Games Discussion
Mariano and KLund1100 discussed a December project. Donald shared about his family and interest in the railroad simulator Train Z. Ronald and Donald discussed Microsoft potentially having a train simulator, with Donald preferring Train Z. Mariano mentioned the factory/railroad game Factorial, and Donald suggested its AI could handle train crossings. The discussion touched on having multiple simultaneous trains if there's enough railroad. The conversation also covered video games, operating systems like Ubuntu, and an Atari-related joke understood by Mariano, Richard, and KLund1100.

4K TV Experiences and Internet Speed Discussion
Ronald discussed his recent experience with his 4K television's internet speed, which significantly improved after using a USB 3.0 dongle. Richard explained that most TVs only have 100 megabit Ethernet connections, which could be the reason for the initial slow speed. Ronald also shared his dissatisfaction with the TV's design, considering the cost of the high-end TV. Additionally, Ronald discussed his recent purchase of a 4K Sony Bravia OLED TV and his positive experience with it, particularly the built-in Google TV. He also mentioned a work trip to the Philippines office that was cancelled. Furthermore, Ronald shared his experience with his local cable company, which he found reliable but limited in speed, and his backup internet connection, a T-Mobile broadband over the 5G network. Richard and KLund1100 also shared their experiences with their own 4K TVs and internet connections.

Internet Connectivity and New Laptop Discussion
Ronald and KLund1100 discussed the poor internet connectivity at the library, with Ronald considering bringing a hotspot to the next meeting. Richard jokingly suggested Robbie was torrenting during the meeting. Mariano shared details about an Alienware laptop he found, prompting discussion about its potential overheating issues. KLund1100 provided information on Intel's new chip set with a neural processor for AI tasks, though he was unsure of its performance. He mentioned considering AMD but being unfamiliar with setting it up properly. Mariano talked about giving his old MacBook Pro to his daughter for college. The team discussed the challenges of migrating software and settings when building a new computer.

Shipping Test Board and Software License Comparison
KLund1100 shared his experience of shipping a test board to another individual for testing purposes. The board, known as the Cps super salt test board, was found to be inside an 850 case and was used for testing purposes. KLund1100 also mentioned that he had contacted the individual who was rebuilding the board and had shipped his own board to him for testing. The board was used to run more testing on the 400 and 800 models. Ronald shared a link to a program called Belarc, which he had used in the past to migrate software licenses. The program provides a detailed report of all software licenses and could potentially be useful for comparing licenses.

Atari Bot Development and Contract Concerns
Ronald and Mariano discussed bookmarking a page for future reference. Mariano shared his work on the Atari bot, which now correctly handles hashtags and labels in assembler, and his struggle with stripping HTML tags from text using the

Beautiful Soup library. Richard shared his concerns about his contract ending at the end of the year and his search for new work. The conversation also touched on the roles of men and women in managing household finances, with both Richard and Mariano noting that their wives don't scrutinize credit card statements.

Discussing Projects and Building Electronic Boards
The team discussed their ongoing projects, with Richard sharing his progress on building PC boards and working on an ethernet board for an 8-bit project. Mariano and KLund1100 expressed interest and admiration for Richard's work. The team also discussed the process of assembling their own PCs, with Richard sharing his method of using a solder stencil for precise soldering. Richard also shared his recent hobby of building electronic boards, specifically focusing on an Ethernet card for 8-bit computers, and the potential of networking all 8-bit computers together.

Organizing Screws, Label Printers, and YouTube Channels
The meeting involved Richard, Mariano, KLund1100, Ronald, and Donald discussing various topics. Richard shared his recent activity of organizing and labeling screws in drawer systems. Mariano and KLund1100 also shared their experiences with label printers and voice-activated toys. The conversation then shifted to discussing favorite YouTube channels, with Mariano recommending the 'Low Spec Gamer' channel for its animated stories. The conversation ended with Donald expressing his need to end the meeting early.

Computer Processors and Components Discussion
The team discussed various computer processors and components. Richard mentioned a numeric processor that could replace a 386 processor. Mariano expressed interest in Intel processors, while Richard noted that AMD processors are generally better in terms of price versus performance. The team also discussed the Wise Tech processor, which was considered fast and affordable. Ronald shared his experience working for Everx, a company that produced a range of computer components including video cards, memory expansion cards, and I/O cards. The team agreed that Everx made good quality components that rarely failed.

Vintage Audio Equipment and Retro Computer Collectibles
In the discussion, Kevin shared about his vintage Carver audio equipment, which he believes sounds better than more expensive Macintosh gear. Richard and Ronald discussed the features and collectibility of old computer components like the Apple II Plus. Mariano showed a $3,000 gaming PC with an RTX 47 graphics card, which some found overpriced. The team also talked about the backward compatibility of software on older Apple II models.