

Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 1-14-2025

Hosted by Kevin

In Attendance: Kevin, Robbie Don, Scott, Bob

Quick recap

The team discussed various topics including the successful loading of a program onto a new drive, and the use of a non-contact voltage tester. They also shared their experiences with new acquisitions, such as a portable bookcase and a new Atari trackball, and discussed their preparedness for potential fires and emergencies. Lastly, they explored the use of a new communication tool, the potential of inviting new people to their meetings, and the process of editing and sending meeting notes.

Next steps

- Kevin to edit the meeting notes to remove inaccuracies and send to Robbie for review.
- Robbie to review Kevin's edited transcript, make final adjustments, and send to Bill.
- Kevin to explore ways to use the Facebook page to generate more interest in the group.
- Bob to send Conrad's email address to Kevin for inclusion in future meeting invitations.
- Kevin to research options for enabling closed captions in Zoom for deaf participants.
- Robbie to purchase a Light Keeper Pro device for Christmas light repair.
- Kevin to investigate eyedroppers or smaller needle options for applying Deoxit to electronics.
- Kevin to consider purchasing a fire blanket for kitchen safety.
- Scott to check if he has a fire extinguisher in his house.
- All attendees to review and potentially create a "go bag" for emergency evacuations.
- Scott to watch for updates on the SpaceX rocket launch scheduled for the next day.
- Kevin to inform Scott if he receives the "feed in".

Summary

Steam Program, Christmas Lights, Hardware Prices

Don successfully loaded the Steam version of a program onto his new drive, after several attempts. Robbie sought advice on how to use a non-contact voltage tester to fix his Christmas tree lights, and Kevin recommended a specific model, the Light Keeper Pro, which he has used for 15 years. Scott shared his dissatisfaction with the increased prices of items at Dale Hardware due to Ace's new rules.

Rocket Launches and SpaceX Innovations

Scott discusses his attempts to watch live streams of recent rocket launches by SpaceX and Blue Origin, which were repeatedly delayed and eventually canceled. The group talks about the upcoming Starship launch by SpaceX, the loud rumbles felt when witnessing launches in person, and SpaceX's innovative approach of catching and reusing rocket boosters and ships. There is anticipation for the next Starship test launch scheduled the following day.

Portable Bookcase and Snow Discussion

Bob brought a portable bookcase from his barn to organize his workshop. He can arrange drawers on the shelves for easy access to his parts and tools. The group discussed the lack of snow in their respective areas despite cold temperatures. Scott mentioned a possibility of snow showers with a 42% chance of precipitation on the upcoming Tuesday when temperatures are forecasted to be extremely cold.

Atari Trackball Discussion and Differences

In the meeting Kevin shared his recent acquisition of a new Atari trackball, which he found in a box. The discussion revealed that there are two types of trackballs, one with a switch for trackball and joystick mode, and another with a different design and color. Scott and Kevin also discussed their experiences with the trackballs, including issues with the buttons and the need for cleaning. The conversation also touched on the differences between Atari 800 and 5200 games, with the latter having animated splash screens. Scott and Kevin both have both types of trackballs, and Scott also mentioned that he has a box of Atari games that he hasn't opened yet.

Shirt, Drawing Devices, and Wildfires

In the discussion, Don asks about Kevin's shirt, which Kevin explains is an intentionally distressed shirt that changes colors. Scott shows some old drawing devices he has that mimic an Etch A Sketch. Kevin discusses reorganizing his collection of books and pamphlets. He raises a question about using a dropper to apply Deoxit liquid inside switches, and the group offers suggestions like using a smaller needle or an eye dropper with a bulb. The conversation then shifts to discussing the wildfires in Los Angeles and their potential impact on the economy and insurance companies.

Emergency Preparedness and Car Fires

The team discussed their preparedness for potential fires and emergencies. Robbie and Kevin shared their experiences and strategies, including having fire extinguishers in strategic locations, portable safes, and fire blankets. They also discussed the importance of having important documents and items backed up and easily accessible in case of an emergency. The team also discussed the challenges of dealing with car fires and the importance of prioritizing personal safety. The conversation ended with a discussion on the potential for car fires during police chases.

Chemical Impact and TV Show Discussion

The team discussed various topics, including a chemical that caused fuel injectors to fail and the environmental impact of its use. They also talked about a TV show called "Land Man" on Paramount Plus, which they found to be well done and entertaining. The show, starring Billy Bob Thornton, was described as having a heavy R-rating but not being tasteless or for shock value. The team agreed to check out the show, especially since one member's wife would be away for a couple of days.

MTBE, Ethanol, and Hypothetical Hydrogen

The group discusses the negative environmental impact of MTBE, a gasoline additive, and its subsequent phase-out in the late 1990s due to groundwater contamination. They mention the switch to ethanol-based additives, with some preferring non-ethanol gasoline for certain equipment. The conversation then shifts to speculating about the potential effects of a hypothetical hydrogen fuel economy on humidity levels and erosion. Finally, they briefly discuss binge-watching the TV shows JAG and NCIS from the beginning.

Inclusive Communication for Deaf Participants

Bob suggested a way to include his deaf friend, Conrad, in the meeting. Don and Kevin explored the possibility of using Zoom's closed captioning feature to facilitate communication. They discovered that the feature could be activated by clicking on the "more" option, followed by "closed caption". The feature was successfully activated, and the transcript of the meeting was displayed on the screen. The team agreed to look into further options to ensure

inclusivity for deaf participants in future meetings.

New Communication Tool and Games

The team discussed the use of a new communication tool, which was found to be effective. They also discussed the possibility of inviting new people to their meetings. The team also talked about the potential of using the Facebook page to generate more interest in their group. There was a discussion about a new 2,600 game found in Atari backup tapes, which was exciting for the team. Lastly, they discussed the process of editing and sending meeting notes to Bill. The team agreed to continue using the new communication tool and to meet again next week.