Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 2-18-2025

- Hosted by Kevin
- In Attendance, Kevin, Robbie, Don, Bob, Richard, Scott, Ron, and Michael S.

Quick recap

• The team discussed their recent experiences at the Vintage Computer Festival in Southern California, including interesting exhibits and the challenges of playing certain games on the Atari. They also shared their experiences with vintage vehicles, printers, and beekeeping, as well as their concerns about air travel safety and the issue of homelessness. Lastly, they discussed various topics related to vintage computers, including the restoration of old machines, the process of creating a new model one, and the potential for selling honey and other bee products.

Next steps

- Scott to continue testing and troubleshooting the Pico cart on his Atari 800 and 800XL systems.
- Ronald to prepare for the upcoming motorcycle event on Saturday with his restored Kawasaki Z1.
- Kevin to share more details about the Vintage Computer Festival Southern California with the group.
- Robbie to try cleaning his old cassette tapes using the method suggested by Kevin.
- Scott to add a new brood box to one of his beehives on Sunday.
- Scott to consider selling honey at the farmers market in the summer.
- Scott to prepare for expanding his bee operation to 6 hives to qualify for the agriculture exemption.

Summary

Vintage Computer Festival Recap

• Kevin and Richard attended the Vintage Computer Festival in Southern California. Kevin flew down and Richard picked him up at the airport. They saw interesting exhibits, met cool people, and Kevin was recognized by some attendees. Kevin took pictures of the event and shared them with the group. Scott received a package containing a USB device, which he had some trouble setting up, but the group helped troubleshoot the issue.

Vintage Computer Show Experiences

• Kevin shares photos and experiences from a recent vintage computer show near Disneyland. He highlights a custom-built Atari 65XE laptop, Qbert-themed displays across multiple platforms, and useful stickers for chip pin identification. Richard mentions receiving video adapters for a TRS-80 Model 1 from a specialist at the show. The group discusses various exhibits, including an Atari projects book and website, and a unique business card with soldering information.

Atari Discussion and System Compatibility

• The team discussed various topics, including the cost of a Trs 80 motherboard, the process of creating a new model one, and the challenges of playing certain games on the Atari. Scott shared his experience with the Pico cart and his struggles with diagonal

movement in Cupert. Ronald shared his recent purchase of a 7800 off eBay and his plans to get a game drive cartridge, but expressed concern about the compatibility of the game drive with his 7800 plus. The team also discussed the value of the 7800 system and the high cost of certain cartridges.

Air Travel, Homelessness, and Airport Inspections

• The team discussed their recent experiences with air travel, with Ronald and Robbie sharing their concerns about the safety of smaller planes and private jets. They also discussed the issue of homelessness, with Scott mentioning a new law in Fremont that prohibits camping in public areas. The conversation also touched on the topic of airport inspections, with KLund1100 suggesting that private companies may not be inspected as frequently as major airlines. The team also shared their observations about the weather and the location of Livermore Airport.

Atari Product and Gaming Experiences

• Kevin showcased a newly arrived Atari product, and Scott shared his experience with the game Necromancer. Richard and Ronald discussed the Atari product, with Ronald mentioning he already owns one. The group also discussed Atari cartridges, with Kevin mentioning he obtained rare ones. Michael joined the meeting, sharing that he was dealing with motorcycle repairs and that his collection of 1975 Kawasaki z1s was almost complete.

Vintage Vehicles and Early Printers

• The group discusses vintage vehicles and printers. Michael shares about his red motorcycle, which was the fastest production motorcycle in 1975. Kevin reminisces about his 1979 Trans Am and shows a personalized license plate. The conversation then shifts to old printers, with several members recalling their experiences with early dot matrix models like the Epson MX-80 and the Apple ImageWriter 825. They note the slow speed and low resolution of these printers compared to modern ones.

Yosagi's Vintage Computer Restoration

• KLund1100 shares information about a YouTuber named Yosagi who builds and restores vintage computers. Yosagi has created a 1-byte vacuum tube computer with paper tape input and has restored several other old machines, including a Centurion minicomputer and a 1959 vacuum tube computer with drum storage. The group discusses Yosagi's YouTube channel, which features his restoration projects and vintage computer builds. They also briefly touch on the high electricity costs associated with running these old machines.

• Cassette Tapes, Filament Drying, Weather

• The team discussed various topics, including the restoration of old cassette tapes, the drying of filament, and the weather. Robbie learned from Kevin how to clean cassette tapes to improve their sound quality. Scott sought advice on the ideal humidity level for drying filament, but Richard suggested focusing on temperature and time instead. The team also discussed the weather, with Scott mentioning the upcoming cold weather and rain, and KLund1100 noting the change in temperature for the weekend.

Beekeeping Experiences and Business Opportunities

• The team discussed their beekeeping experiences, with Scott sharing his observations of his bees filling up all the frames in their hive and adding comb underneath. They also discussed the potential for selling honey and other bee products, with Scott considering selling at a farmers market. Scott also mentioned his plans to expand his beekeeping operation to six hives to qualify for an agriculture exemption. The team

also discussed the potential for harvesting pollen from bees and the value of honey. Lastly, Scott received a working cartridge from Richard for his 800 device.