

Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 3-18-2025

Hosted by Kevin

In Attendance: Kevin, Robbie, Ron, Michael, Bob, Richard, Scott, and Don

- **Quick recap**

- The team discussed various topics including their personal computer-related items, 3D printing projects, bee biology, and electric vehicles. They also shared updates on their projects, reminisced about their childhood experiences, and discussed soldering techniques and equipment. Additionally, they discussed recent weather events, a British Netflix series, and other films and TV shows.

- **Next steps**

- • Michael: Send group email with details about Marlon's garage sale in Woodland, including address and dates
- • Kevin: Wait for CPU board capacitors to arrive and complete the Amiga 4000 motherboard recapping
- • Robbie: Run next Tuesday's meeting in Kevin's absence
- • Ron: Bring wide-angle camera to next meeting and arrive early to help set up
- • Michael: Print case for Kevin's 320K RAM board and bring to next meeting
- • Kevin: Meet Bob at the garage sale in Woodland to collect items he wants to get rid of
- • Michael: Send email to Kevin as discussed
- • Robbie: Bring TRS-80 to San Leandro meeting for potential raffle

- **Summary**

- **SpaceX Launch and Computer Accessory**

- Robbie shared his experience of watching a SpaceX rocket launch and the subsequent recovery of the Dragon capsule. He also discussed his recent receipt of a computer accessory that came with no instructions. Kevin provided guidance on how to use the device, which involved using alcohol to lubricate the felt pad. The team also discussed the potential for data on the computer disks, with Robbie mentioning his use of open source software to read the disks.

- **Atari Enthusiasts Garage Sale Discussion**

- Robbie mentions a game conference in San Francisco where Atari was not mentioned. Michael informs the group about a large garage sale in Woodland, near Sacramento, where Marlon (known as Mick Rory on Atari Age) will be selling various computer systems and gaming equipment. The sale is part of Marlon's plan to close his Brewing Academy business, which has been an important source for many Atari enthusiasts. The group discusses the significance of this closure and the possibility of someone else continuing the business.

- **Computer Keyboard Discussion and Possibilities**

- The team gathered for a casual meeting, sharing their personal computer-related items. Robbie showcased his IBM keyboard, while Richard and Don revealed their TRS-80 shirts. The conversation then shifted to computer keyboards, with Kevin discussing the model F and model M keyboards. The team also discussed the possibility of creating new keycaps for these keyboards to improve typing.

- **Scott's 3D Printing & Bee Update**

- Scott shares details about his 3D printing projects, including a small trailer hitch and a purple grip for his wife's pistol. He also provides an update on his beehives, mentioning that he recently fed them sugar water and that they were calm during his inspection. Scott then gives an extensive explanation of bee biology and hive dynamics, covering topics such as the roles of worker bees and drones, the process of queen bee reproduction, and how bees create new queens. The conversation concludes with Robbie expressing interest in learning about bees and jokingly transitioning back to discussing Atari.

- **Atari Games and Amiga Repair**

- The group discusses various topics including old Atari games, an Amiga 4000 motherboard repair, a recent earthquake in California, and a brief mention of snow in Livermore. Kevin shares that he's waiting for capacitors to arrive to complete the CPU board recap on his Amiga 4000. The conversation then shifts to the recent splashdown of a spacecraft, with Don noting some inaccuracies in the news coverage regarding the landing location. Michael joins the call and mentions that his video feed has switched to black and white due to low light conditions.

- **Electric Cars and RAM Upgrades**

- Michael and Richard discuss their Tesla vehicles, with Michael owning a Model 3 and Richard a Model Y Performance. They highlight the smooth acceleration and impressive speed of electric cars compared to gas vehicles. The conversation then shifts to Cummins developing a gas engine based on their diesel technology, likely for emissions reasons. Ronald shares his experience with a 320K RAM upgrade for Atari computers, showing a 3D-printed case he made for it. Kevin expresses interest in getting a similar case printed for his own RAM upgrade.

- **Team Updates and Weekend Plans**

- The team discussed various projects and updates. Michael shared that he had uploaded changes to the NUC plus 4 project, including fixes for pick chips and an upgrade to the main chip. He also mentioned a new board with a Fuji net and a Midi player. Michael plans to send a mass email with details about a garage sale happening at a friend's place, where Atari, Amiga, and other gaming items will be sold. The team also discussed their plans for the upcoming weekend, with some members planning to attend the garage sale. Robbie will run the meeting on Tuesday when Kevin is unavailable.

- **Weather Events and Skiing Conditions**

- The group discusses recent weather events, including storms and tornadoes in various states. They share experiences about Walmart stores, with Kevin describing an exceptionally clean one near the company's headquarters. The conversation then shifts to skiing conditions, with Robbie mentioning extended ski seasons due to heavy snowfall. Michael shares that his son's family recently enjoyed sledding on a snow-covered driveway at his house in Pollock Pines, indicating significant snowfall even at lower elevations.

- **Childhood Experiences and Retro Games**

- The team reminisced about their childhood experiences, including sliding down hills in cardboard boxes, using fiber barrels, and playing at amusement parks like Playland at the Beach. They discussed the evolution of games and the impact of lawyer-induced lawsuits on the availability of certain attractions. The conversation also touched on the future of retro games and the potential for robotic assistance in daily tasks.

- **Soldering Techniques and Vintage Computer Upgrades**

- The group discusses soldering techniques and equipment, reminiscing about their experiences with various soldering irons and the challenges of working on older computers. They share stories about upgrading RAM in vintage machines and the high costs associated with it at the time. As the conversation winds down, Don and Michael leave the meeting. Robbie reassures the group about an upcoming event, while Kevin mentions an audiobook he's listening to about a fictional cyber attack, jokingly suggesting it might relate to their next meeting.

- **"Adolescence" and Continuous Take Filmmaking**

- Scott discusses a British Netflix series called "Adolescence" that features four hour-long episodes, each filmed in one continuous take without editing. The group then talks about other films and TV shows that use similar techniques, including "1917" and an episode of "Daredevil." They also mention "Firefly" and its follow-up movie "Serenity" as good space-themed entertainment. The conversation concludes with Kevin mentioning he needs to leave as his wife has arrived home.