

- **Notes for SLCC Zoom Meeting (03/26/2025)**

- Hosted by Robbie

- In Attendance, Robbie, Don, Bob, and Scott

- **Quick recap**

- The meeting covered a range of topics, including technical difficulties with setting up the call, personal updates from participants, and discussions about various technological subjects. Participants shared their experiences with beekeeping, vintage computers, and the evolution of computer technology from early systems to modern developments. The group also explored scientific concepts like quantum entanglement and gravitational waves, reminisced about the history of computing, and discussed plans for future in-person meetings and events.

- **Next steps**

- • Kevin to run the Zoom meeting next Tuesday.
- • Robbie to meet with Kevin to iron out smoother transition procedures for when Kevin is absent.
- • Robbie to send out meeting invitations if Kevin is unable to run the next Zoom meeting.
- • Robbie to attend the in-person meeting next week.

- **Summary**

- **Technical Difficulties and Flight Simulations**

- Don and Robbie discuss technical difficulties with setting up the meeting, including issues with the meeting link and invitations. They chat about the weather in their respective locations, with Robbie mentioning a heat wave and Don talking about a recent storm in Florida. Don shares updates on his flight simulator activities, including downloading more detailed scenery for western states. They briefly touch on train simulators and Amtrak's new trains, with Don jokingly asking about the progress of California's high-speed rail project.

- **Meeting Invitation System Frustration**

- In the meeting, Robbie expressed frustration with the meeting invitation system, which didn't work for them despite following Kevin's instructions. The team discussed the need to cut and paste the meeting URL from emails to join the meeting. They also shared some personal updates, including Don's experience watching a YouTube video about Atari games and Scott's anticipation of a meeting. The conversation ended with the team waiting for more participants to join.

- **Building Top Bar Beehive**

- Scott describes building a new type of beehive called a top bar hive, which is inexpensive and more natural for bees. He explains the construction process using 2x10s and scrap wood, and mentions that this design allows for easier harvesting of honeycomb. The group also discusses the premium value of honeycomb and its various uses. Later, Bob attempts to show the group a 1 Meg RAM upgrade for a Commodore 1200 computer, but experiences difficulties with camera glare.

- **Scott's Beekeeping Projects and Plans**

- Scott discusses his beekeeping projects, including building a new top bar hive and preparing for the arrival of four new hives in April. He explains that he started beekeeping for

tax purposes, as it provides an agricultural exemption on his property. Scott shares insights into bee behavior, hive management, and his plans to potentially catch wild swarms. Don briefly mentions recent weather, including a storm with significant lightning that disrupted his sleep.

- **Atari STE Emulator Discussion**

- The Atari STE emulator was discussed, with Don downloading it but not yet trying it. Bob shared his experience with Atari, starting with the 8-bit and then shifting to the STs around 1986. Don also shared his journey, starting with the 8-bit in 1976 and then moving to the STs. Robbie announced a surprise for the next meeting, hinting at a vintage computer auction. Bob offered to donate PCBS for a raffle, while Robbie mentioned having a tape drive and needing help with loading programs.

- **Atari, Steve Jobs, and Quantum Computing**

- The team discussed the history of Atari and its connection to Steve Jobs. They also talked about the evolution of computer technology, from dedicated hardware for neural networks to software-based solutions. The conversation touched on the potential of quantum computing, but the team expressed skepticism about its practical applications. The conversation ended with a discussion on the stock market and the risks associated with investing in buzzwords like quantum computing.

- **Quantum Entanglement and Space Travel**

- Scott and Bob discuss quantum entanglement and its potential for instantaneous communication. They debate the nature of gravity, with Scott arguing that gravitational waves prove gravity is not instantaneous, while Bob suggests gravity might propagate instantly. Scott mentions the LIGO experiment that detected gravitational waves from events like black hole collisions. The conversation then shifts to space travel, with Bob expressing a desire for gravity manipulation technology to enable faster-than-light travel. They conclude by discussing the portrayal of gravity and space travel in science fiction, particularly Star Trek, acknowledging that while some technologies from the show have become reality, others like warp drive remain in the realm of fiction.

- **Evolution of Computing and Microprocessors**

- In the meeting, the team discussed the evolution of technology, particularly focusing on the development of computers and microprocessors. They reminisced about the early days of computing, mentioning the use of discrete components, cassette tapes, and punch tapes for data storage. The conversation also touched on the shrinking of computer sizes and the increasing speed of microprocessors. The team also discussed the Atari 2600, a popular gaming console from the 1970s and 1980s. Towards the end, they discussed the fastest clock speed that could run on a 65C02 microprocessor, with some members suggesting that it could go up to 20 Megahertz.

- **California Computer Sale Event Recap**

- The group discusses a recent trip to a computer sale event in California. Bob and Kevin attended, with Kevin purchasing several Atari 800 XLs, Epson drives, and books for under \$300. Bob bought a PR Connection for \$20. They met with other enthusiasts, including Drop Check, and had lunch at a Mexican restaurant. The group then talks about an upcoming in-person meeting next week, which some members will attend while others, like Scott, will not be present. They joke about having a retro Atari meeting in Las Vegas. Lastly, they briefly mention issues with the current meeting's organization and discuss plans for smoother

transitions in the future.

