

● Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 10-21-2025

- Hosted by Kevin
- In Attendance, Kevin, Robbie, Rod, Chris, Lenore, Ron, Bob, Richard, Don, and Scott

● Meeting summary

● Quick recap

- The group discussed various technical issues and project updates, including PCB boards, case files, and injection molding solutions for cases. Personal updates were shared among members, covering topics like beekeeping, computer repairs, and retirement activities. The conversation ended with extensive discussions about vintage computer collections, technical troubleshooting for various systems, and historical stories about retro computing devices.

● Next steps

- [Lenore to complete assembly, soldering, and testing of the 1250 PCB boards.](#)
- [Kevin to follow up with the person working on the Atari case project and provide updates to the group.](#)
- [Ron to order a cable from the UK for his STE to connect to the RetroTink 5X.](#)
- [Robbie to bring his 386 computer to the next meeting for troubleshooting the video artifacts and sound issues.](#)
- [Kevin to bring a small VGA monitor to the next meeting to help with Robbie's 386 troubleshooting.](#)
- [Bob to test his 1010 tape drive using the power supply from a 1050 drive.](#)
- [Scott to check if his bees have moved into the new hive box and relocate them to his bee yard if successful.](#)

● Summary

- PCB and Case File Updates

- The group discussed technical issues and personal updates. Lenore shared progress on her 1250 PCB boards and mentioned upcoming updates to her website. They also talked about the status of 1450 case files, which are currently too large for some printers. Devin mentioned that the person working on adapting the files for smaller printers is busy with other projects but will follow up once available.

● **Injection Molding and Project Updates**

- The group discussed a project involving injection molding of cases, with Kevin sharing that a vendor can produce complete cases for \$60-120, which would be a cost-effective solution. Under discussed his progress on a board project, which he has integrated and is now working on assembly and soldering. Rod shared his recent acquisition of a Tektronix portable oscilloscope, which he has restored and found useful for Atari repairs. The group briefly discussed the Portland Retro Gaming Expo, with Kevin expressing interest in attending next year, potentially as a road trip with others.

● **Personal Updates and Hive Rescue**

- The group caught up on personal updates, with Scott discussing his beekeeping challenges and efforts to rescue a hive from the city director's shed. Richard mentioned replacing a camera and experiencing some technical issues, which were eventually resolved. Don shared that he has been enjoying retirement and continues to use his Jaguar computer. Chris reported working on a deep learning course and dealing with an overwhelming amount of retro items in his garage, which he is organizing using Costco tote boxes.

● **Atari Vintage Collection Discussion**

- The group discussed their extensive collections of vintage computer equipment, particularly focusing on Atari and related items. Chris and Kevin compared their collections, with Richard's being noted as the most extensive due to his organized basement storage. They discussed specific models of Atari tape drives, with Kevin explaining the differences between the silver-badge and orange-badge versions, noting that the orange-badge model was easier to repair. The conversation concluded with Kevin suggesting the use of Syncalc on an Atari 800 to catalog collections, though this was presented as a humorous suggestion rather than a serious proposal.

● **Video Output Solutions for STE**

- Ron discussed his challenges with video output for his STE and explored solutions, including using a RetroTink 5X with a SCART cable for better compatibility with various monitors. Chris suggested alternative, more cost-effective options like OSSCs and shared insights on purchasing cables from a UK vendor. The group also touched on customs fees and brokerage charges for international shipments, with Ron mentioning a recent unexpected charge for a package from Canada.

● **Monitor Specifications and Maintenance**

- The group discussed the availability and specifications of monitors, with Kevin noting that smaller flat-screen models listed in their database are no longer available. They also addressed tape loading procedures for the 1010, with Kevin explaining the process and emphasizing the importance of not pressing the brake key at the wrong time. Bob inquired about the 1010's power supply and belt replacement, to which the group confirmed its unique specifications and the difficulty of replacing belts.

● **Computer Issues: RAM and Sound**

- Robbie discussed issues with his computer, including screen artifacts and sound problems while running Flight Simulator. Kevin identified the artifacts as likely due to video RAM, while the system crashes could be related to system memory. They agreed to bring the computer to the next meeting for further investigation, with Kevin planning to bring a VGA monitor. The group also discussed the possibility of corruption in high memory affecting the sound output and suggested examining the sound card as a potential issue.

● **Sound Card Issues and BBC Micro**

- The group discussed technical issues with a sound card and bus compatibility on an older computer system. Robbie mentioned observing a comet with his telescope, though visibility was hampered by clouds and a tree. The conversation then shifted to a historical story about a BBC Micro computer that mysteriously received messages from the 16th and 21st centuries, with Kevin sharing details from a magazine article about this phenomenon.

● **Retro Computing Magazine Discussion**

- The group discussed the latest issue of a retro computing magazine, which Kevin noted was 98 pages long and included more ads for retro websites and companies. They also talked about the cost of subscriptions, with Richard mentioning it was \$12.95 for print plus digital. Kevin shared that he had been busy with family matters and had not done much computer work recently. The conversation then shifted to travel plans, with Kevin mentioning potential trips to Mexico to deal with inherited property issues. The group also discussed passport renewals and the challenges of traveling with vintage computers across borders.

● **Hunting and Vintage Tech Stories**

- The group discussed various topics including hunting experiences, wildlife in different regions, and vintage computers. Kevin shared stories about hunting boars in Texas, while Chris mentioned seeing deer and lynxes near his home in Florida. The conversation then shifted to a discussion about vintage computers, particularly the TI-99 series, with Richard and others sharing their experiences with and collections of these machines. The conversation ended with a brief discussion about the history of Tandy Leather and its connection to Radio Shack.

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