

Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 4-21-2026

Hosted by Robbie

In attendance, Robbie, Bob, Don, Richard Diaz, Ron, and Harry

Meeting summary

Quick recap

This meeting was an Atari club virtual gathering where participants experienced significant technical difficulties with audio and video connections. The meeting was hosted by Robbie, who was filling in for Kevin who was traveling in Mexico, and they had trouble with multiple aspects of the Zoom platform including email invitations, meeting links, and audio quality. Despite the technical issues, participants shared updates about their retro gaming setups, with Harry demonstrating various FPGA systems including a MiSTer and discussing hardware emulation, while Ron shared his recent purchase of a QM tech MiSTer system and discussed challenges with international shipping tariffs affecting retro gaming equipment purchases. The conversation ended with plans to address the technical issues with Kevin in the next in-person meeting and discussion about an upcoming raffle that would be postponed due to scheduling conflicts.

Next steps

Harry

- [Wait to present the raffle item in person at a future meeting \(not to mail it ahead\).](#)

Robbie

- [Sit down with Kevin at the next in-person meeting to review and correct the process for sending out meeting invitations and ensure proper handling of meeting links and dates.](#)
- [Remember to bring the raffle tickets and related materials to a future meeting for the raffle.](#)

Summary

Technical Setup and Meeting Logistics

The discussion focused on technical setup issues for an upcoming meeting, including camera and background adjustments. The participants discussed waiting for attendees to join and addressed some confusion about meeting logistics.

Technical Meeting Connectivity Issues

The meeting experienced significant technical difficulties with audio and video connectivity issues, particularly affecting Don's participation. Despite these challenges, participants managed to connect and verify that email invitations had been sent. Richard later rejoined the meeting using a different client and shared information about a retro chip tester he had built, similar to one Kevin had purchased the previous week.

Technical Meeting with Audio Issues

The meeting experienced significant technical difficulties with audio issues and participant access problems. Richard mentioned working on a project for a year and a half that he's still building, though he hasn't completed it yet as he needs to upload firmware. The team struggled with Zoom functionality, including participant video and audio issues, with Robbie attempting to troubleshoot and invite Harry to the meeting.

Kodak Scanner and Audio Issues

Robbie discussed a Kodak film and slide scanner he purchased for \$200, noting its comprehensive features and some technical adjustments needed for optimal results. The group addressed audio issues experienced by Don, with Ron and Bob assisting in troubleshooting the overdriving problem. Harry joined the meeting briefly, mentioning his fond memories of the Hardhat Mac game, and the group briefly discussed Kevin's vacation in Mexico.

Retro Gaming Hardware Discussion

Harry shared details about several retro gaming purchases, including a Donkey Kong Christmas cartridge for the 2600, a Wii Ninja homebrew game for the 5200, and a multi-game Dragon Cart for the 7800. He also discussed the Uno cart, which allows users to select and flash games onto an SD card for use in original 2600 systems. The group briefly discussed technical aspects of these gaming devices, with Ron inquiring about compatibility and pricing.

Technical and AI Meeting Discussion

The meeting began with technical difficulties as participants experienced issues with audio and meeting links. Robbie mentioned plans to discuss Zoom link problems with Kevin at the next in-person meeting. The group then had an informal discussion about vintage video games, including Robotron, Space Dungeon, and Crazy Climber. Near the end, Robbie confirmed that the meeting was being recorded with AI transcription, and Harry shared his experience with AI-generated action items from previous meetings.

FPGA Gaming Hardware Discussion

The group discussed unusual weather patterns, including a sudden downpour and foggy conditions in different locations. Ron shared his recent purchase of a QM tech mister, an FPGA-based hardware emulator for retro gaming systems, which he noted was more expensive than alternatives but came with 128MB of RAM. Harry explained that the mister's design includes a VGA port and HDMI port, with the single RAM stick being typical for most cores. The conversation ended with Harry describing the mister as an impressive project in the FPGA community that provides cycle-accurate hardware emulation.

Hardware Emulation and Shipping Concerns

The group discussed hardware emulation and retro computing systems, with Harry and Ron sharing experiences about multi-system emulators and custom builds. Ron expressed concerns about international shipping tariffs, particularly from the UK, citing past experiences with unexpected fees and variable calculations that reached up to \$119 in tariffs for a \$200 order. Due to these uncertainties, Ron decided to postpone purchasing additional accessories and components from UK suppliers.

Mister Retro Gaming Setup Demo

Harry demonstrated his MiSTer retro gaming setup, which includes two different units - one connected to an LCD and another to a CRT television. He explained that vertical games require a special CRT setup, which is why he uses HDMI for those titles and LCD for others. Harry highlighted the ease of maintaining the system, noting that updates can be done through a simple script running on the Linux-based ARM CPU in the Mister. The group discussed the simplicity of the MiSTer interface compared to other retro gaming systems, with Ron praising its straightforward design.

Atari Computers and Raffle Discussion

The group discussed the lack of modern Atari computers, with Harry expressing surprise and interest in seeing one developed. Robbie shared details about a recent trip to Old Sacramento, including an encounter with someone wearing an Atari t-shirt and experiences on a paddlewheel boat hotel. The conversation ended with discussion about an upcoming raffle, though Harry will be traveling and unable to present it in person, with the group deciding to postpone the raffle to June 2nd.