

Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 4-29-2025

Hosted by Kevin

In Attendance, Kevin, Robbie, Don, Scott, Bob

- **Quick recap**

- The meeting covered a wide range of topics, including personal projects, technical discussions, and shared experiences. Participants discussed various subjects such as flight simulators, beekeeping, computer repairs, and recent aviation incidents. The group also exchanged information about tools and techniques for working with small wires and connectors, as well as updates on their ongoing Atari projects.

- **Next steps**

- • Kevin: Investigate and fix the chroma signal issue on the 600XL video port by testing luma/chroma connections and checking component values
- • Kevin: Prepare working Atari 600 XL computers - one stock version, one for S-Video modification, and one for RAM/video upgrades
- • Bob: Set up the KVM switch and get the PAL/GAL programming system working
- • Scott: Feed the new bee hives tomorrow
- • Kevin: Test Scott's photography equipment with Atari 800s and provide feedback
- • Robbie: Install and test the new battery holder for the 386 PC
- • Kevin: Clean up the Atari cases and continue repairing keyboards for the remaining units
- • Kevin: Distribute remaining working Atari 600 XL computers to other people after keeping the ones needed
- • Kevin: Measure and inform Bob about the box sizes needed for shipping Atari 800s
- • Bob: Keep the shipping boxes ready for Kevin after receiving size requirements
- • Kevin: Find the dishwasher manual to reset the sanitize setting
- • Robbie: Share flight simulator repair pictures with the group

- **Summary**

- **Flight Simulator Repair and Molex Connectors**

- In the meeting, Robbie shared his experience with repairing a flight simulator and his efforts to sell it on eBay and Facebook. He also discussed his work with Molex connectors, explaining how he used an extractor tool to remove pins from the connectors. Don showcased his new machine, and Scott provided some context about Molex connectors. The team also discussed their personal experiences with weather and their locations.

- **Bee Handling and Hive Setup**

- Scott and Kevin discussed their experiences with bees, including the challenges of handling them and the importance of proper care. Scott shared his recent purchase of four hives of bees and the process of setting them up, including the advice he received from the bee club. He also mentioned the potential for the bees to be Africanized, which could make them more aggressive. The conversation also touched on the idea of feeding the bees and the importance of not disturbing them when they are all in the hive.

- **Africanized Bees and Flight Simulator**

- In the meeting, Scott and Robbie discussed the size of Africanized bees, which are slightly smaller than European bees. They also talked about the tax benefits of beekeeping,

with Scott emphasizing the importance of property tax deductions. Robbie shared a picture of a flight simulator made of PVC, which he had repaired, and discussed its features. They also discussed the potential future of the flight simulator, with Robbie expressing doubts about its marketability.

- **Beekeeping and Computer Repair Discussion**

- In the meeting, Scott and Kevin discussed their beekeeping experiences, with Scott sharing details about his hives and the process of honey production. Robbie joined the conversation, sharing about his ill dog and his beekeeping experiences. The discussion then shifted to Kevin's work on repairing and upgrading old computers, specifically focusing on the 600 XL model. They discussed the challenges and solutions in identifying and replacing faulty components. The conversation ended with Kevin expressing his intention to clean up the computer cases and work on the keyboards.

- **Keyboard and Plumbing Issues Discussed**

- In the meeting, Kevin discussed issues with old keyboards, including tight keycaps and exposed springs. Scott suggested using a dishwasher to clean the keyboards, but Kevin mentioned a malfunctioning dishwasher that melts plastic items. Robbie shared a recent experience with Comcast, where a technician fixed their internet issue by changing connectors. The team also discussed housing prices and the increasing presence of Indian people in their area due to job opportunities. Scott shared a plumbing issue with a motion-sensing faucet and how he fixed it.

- **Router, Rabbit, and 3D Printing Tools**

- Scott discussed his recent project involving a router and a rabbit, which took him some time to complete. He also shared his experience with using a scribe gauge and scribing disks for measuring and subscribing. Additionally, Scott mentioned printing useful tools on his 3D printer, including a scribe gauge and radius gauges. Kevin shared his problem with motherboards from Sacramento, which lacked certain features, and he ordered them to be printed by PCB Way. Scott suggested that Kevin should consider getting a 3D printer, as it could be cost-effective in the long run.

- **Personal Experiences and Plane Crashes**

- In the meeting, the participants discussed their personal lives and experiences. Bob shared that his grandson was visiting, and Don mentioned his large family of 9 grandchildren. Robbie reported on his efforts to fix a computer battery issue and his experience with flying a plane. The group also shared news about recent plane crashes, including one in Boca Raton, Florida, and a helicopter crash in New York. They discussed the importance of pre-flight checks and the potential causes of these accidents.

- **F-18 Incident and Recovery Discussion**

- The team discussed a recent incident involving a carrier under attack and a hard turn that led to the F-18 on the tow tractor falling over. Fortunately, no one died, and only one person had a minor injury. The team also discussed the potential recovery of the F-18 and the possibility of a destroyer parked on top of it. They also reminisced about the Glomar Explorer, a ship that pulled up a Russian submarine, and its current use as a party venue by Google.

- **Atari Project Updates and Distribution**

- In the meeting, Bob and Kevin discussed their Atari projects. Bob was working on a system backup to program the Pals and Gals, and Kevin was putting together 600s, which required different screws for each version. They also discussed the upcoming meeting

scheduled for the 13th, not the 6th as previously thought. Kevin planned to fix up a few 600s for himself and then distribute the rest. Robbie asked about the difference between a 600 and an 800, and Kevin explained that the 600s are smaller and have less memory.

- **Working With Small Wires and Connectors**

- In the meeting, Robbie, Kevin, Scott, and Bob discussed various tools and techniques for working with small wires and connectors. They shared their experiences with wire strippers, crimpers, and other tools, with a focus on the Molex connectors. They also discussed the challenges of stripping small wires and the importance of proper tool usage. The team also touched on the topic of shipping boxes, with Bob offering to provide large shipping boxes to Kevin. The conversation ended with the team expressing their appreciation for the discussion and looking forward to their next meeting.