

●Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 7-22-2025

●Hosted by Kevin

●In Attendance, Kevin, Robbie, Don,Bob, Ron,Rod, Scott, and Richard

●Meeting summary

• Quick recap

●The group discussed various personal updates and projects, including weather conditions, home improvement tasks, and technical repairs. They explored power supply specifications for different computer models and shared experiences with mechanical keyboard repairs. The team also discussed preparations for an upcoming event, including booth setup, equipment logistics, and plans to create promotional content.

• Next steps

- Ron: Bring CX 88 trackball, tablet, Atari 1020 printer, and metal monitor stands to the 600 XL show.
- Kevin: Bring unopened sets of pens for the Atari 1020 printer and the rebuilt Atari CPS Super Salt Test Assembly unit to the show.
- Eric: Distribute exhibitor passes to the team on Thursday and Friday morning.
- Richard: Finish installing the TV over the fireplace this weekend and bring the board and 1200 to the event.
- Scott: Investigate and potentially repair the broken trace on his Excel keyboard.
- Scott: Search for and send a copy of his Atari 1020 printer screenshot program to Ronald.
- Robbie: Arrive between 8 and 10 AM on Friday to set up his equipment, entering through the back door.
- Ron: Use the newly ordered protective plastic for his Atari tablet when it arrives.
- Ron: Bring equipment on Thursday evening around 5 PM for setup.
- Kevin: Arrive at the venue around 5 PM on Thursday for setup.
- Kevin: Consider options for improving lighting in the Atari display area.
- Kevin: Potentially pin an Atari service flag to the divider for visibility.
- Bob: Ensure Sharon brings her sewing/quilting stuff to the show and has a space for her activities.
- Kevin: Bring extra floppy drives as backup for the show.
- Kevin: Bring a selfie stick or similar device for recording video interviews and content at the show.
- Kevin: Coordinate with the team to capture video footage during the event for potential YouTube or social media content.
- Team: Take pictures of the exhibit at the show.
- Team: Prepare for one more meeting before the show next week.
- Team: Continue brainstorming ideas for the event and bring them to the next meeting.

Summary

Florida and California Weather Updates

The group discussed weather conditions in Florida and California, with Don reporting 94-degree weather and high humidity, while Kevin mentioned 60-degree temperatures in Pismo Beach. Scott shared details about burning pallets and moving bricks, having acquired 630 pavers and 3,000 edging bricks at an auction, which he plans to use for a sidewalk and driveway project. The conversation concluded with Kevin offering advice on installing the pavers with sand and a 2x4, while Scott mentioned a previous paver project in Fremont.

Magonia Train Simulation Project Update

The group discussed various personal updates and projects. Don shared that he was reworking a train simulation project called "Magonia" which involves a unique route combining Mediterranean coast and Alps scenery. Kevin mentioned he was visiting his parents' house and had set up their computer for the meeting. The group also briefly discussed a new consignment room system that requires advance online signup for faster checkout at upcoming events.

Power Supply Specifications Discussion

The team discussed power supply specifications for various models, with Kevin confirming that the 1450 requires +5V, -5V, and +12V voltages, distributed across 8 pins, while the 800 series uses different voltage configurations. Scott inquired about the 1450's power requirements, and Kevin explained that the +12V is used for disk drives, while the -5V is for RAM refresh, with the +5V distributed across multiple pins. The discussion clarified that while the 800 series generates all voltages internally, the newer models use standardized pinouts for power distribution.

Home Projects and Keyboard Customization

Richard shared updates about his home improvement project, involving the installation of a TV over a fireplace with a swing arm mechanism and custom wall modifications. He also discussed his hobby of customizing mechanical keyboards, currently working on replacing keycaps with transparent ones and adjusting the RGB lighting. The group had a casual discussion about keyboard layouts and historical computer designs, with Scott noting that modern PC layouts are based on the IBM Model M design.

Keyboard Layout Evolution Discussion

The group discussed keyboard layouts and historical changes, particularly focusing on the relocation of quote marks and the at symbol on various keyboards. Scott shared his experience with a non-functioning key on a mechanical keyboard, which Kevin identified as a mylar keyboard with a broken trace rather than a mechanical one. The conversation concluded with a brief mention of Bob, though no specific action items or decisions were made.

Keyboard Trace Repair Discussion

The group discussed a broken trace on a keyboard, with Kevin explaining that it likely involves carbon scoring and would require disassembly, copper paint application, and careful reassembly, which would take about 3 hours. Scott shared his experience with similar repairs on other keyboards, including using a hair dryer to loosen Mylar and cleaning components. The discussion concluded with Scott deciding to postpone

the repair due to an upcoming vacation, while Kevin confirmed that the repair was within Scott's capabilities if he chose to proceed.

Event Equipment and Supply Planning

The group discussed various accessories and equipment for an upcoming event, including t-shirts, monitor stands, and styluses. Ronald mentioned bringing extra monitor stands and a metal stand for a computer monitor, which Kevin confirmed would be useful. Ron also shared his experience ordering from a supplier who limits purchases to one item per customer. The conversation concluded with Ronald agreeing to bring the monitor stands if needed.

Atari Printer and Show Planning

The group discussed an Atari printer and related programs, with Ron planning to test if his printer still works and Scott offering to share a program that can print color screenshots from Atari. They agreed to meet for an upcoming show, with Kevin arriving around 8 AM on Friday and Ron bringing items on Thursday evening. Robbie was advised to enter through the back doors near the truck ramp when bringing in his equipment.

Event Booth Lighting Setup Challenges

The team discussed the setup and logistics for their booth at an upcoming event, focusing on lighting challenges in their second-floor location. They explored options to improve lighting, including using window shades and potentially moving the booth slightly to increase visibility. Ronald and Kevin agreed to use social media to promote their presence, and Kevin mentioned they would be able to make minor adjustments to the booth setup as long as it didn't pose safety hazards.

Atari CPS Super Salt Test Assembly

Kevin showed pictures of a rebuilt Atari CPS Super Salt Test Assembly unit, which was updated with a new display and fitted into a 1050 case.

Atari Testing Device Demo

Kevin demonstrated a new testing device that displays results of various tests on Atari machines, including voltage checks and baud rate testing. The device, which fits inside a 1050 case, can test 800, 1400, and 1450 models and includes modified super salt test cartridges with additional features like paddle testing. Kevin plans to bring the device to an upcoming show and will create instructional videos about its use. The device has been developed by a friend who is also working on an updated, more compact board version of the original Atari testing board.

Vintage Computer Festival Event Planning

The group discussed preparations for an upcoming Vintage Computer Festival West, where they will be exhibitors. Kevin confirmed that everyone would take pictures at the event, and the team discovered that the Computer History Museum has several rare XL prototypes in their archives. Bob suggested donating some of their Atari computers to the museum to gain access to their collection. The group also discussed the possibility of creating video content at the event to share on YouTube and their Facebook page. Richard confirmed he would bring up a board and 1200 for the event. The conversation ended with plans for one more meeting before the show.

AI can make mistakes. Review for accuracy.