Notes For SLCC In-Person and Zoom Meeting 8-5-2025

Hosted by Kevin

In Attendance at the Library, Kevin and Robbie

In Attendance At The Zoom Meeting, Kevin, Robbie, Don, Michael, Bob, Lenore, John, Chris and Richard

The meeting began with discussions about scheduling confusion and the display of XLD cases at a VCF event, followed by updates on recent activities including a TV interview, barn renovation, and repairs to vintage computers. The group shared experiences from various events, including a successful Vintage Festival West that attracted a large crowd and a black-tie event reenacting the 1984 Amiga launch. Technical discussions covered adapter panels for computer cases, printing challenges with case covers, and color matching for projects, while the conversation ended with updates on event attendance and participation.

Next steps

- Kevin to connect with Retro Stack to scan 1450 and 1400 case designs for reproduction
- Kevin to send case scan files to Bill for website posting
- Lenore to test printing 1-piece cover design with different orientation and supports
- Lenore to send STL files to Chris for printing test
- Chris to test printing 1-piece cover design using H2D printer
- Chris to investigate printing at slower speeds and using new PLA material for better results
- Chris to apply primer and RAL 9001 paint to printed cover for additional rigidity and color matching
- Bill to post new photos and videos from the Vintage Computer Festival West to the website
- Chris to send out invites for next week's meeting
- Chris to dismantle and load exhibit materials into truck
- Chris to coordinate with Joe Decor and Leonard Tramiel for future meetings/interactions

Summary

XLD Cases Display Discussion

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Don and Kevin discussed the timing confusion regarding a meeting, which Kevin acknowledged was due to a mistake in the email. Michael joined the conversation and inquired about the presence of multiple XLD cases in a video from a VCF event, to which Kevin explained that Bob had provided them, noting that one case was an early design mockup that only fit a 1200 motherboard. Kevin expressed the intention of displaying these cases to allow people to see and interact with them, emphasizing the value of sharing rare items with the community.

Typewriter Projects and TV Interview

The group discussed Kevin's recent TV interview with KTVU, where he was featured, and Robbie was talking about being old enough to have typewriter classes, not computer classes. Michael shared updates about his barn renovation project, including plans for adding air conditioning using a mini split system. Bob successfully repaired a 1450 model that had earlier issues with solder joints and keyboard functionality.

Vintage Festival West Success Review

The group discussed a recent event where Kevin shared photos and experiences from a successful Vintage Festival West, which attracted 3,900 people, including families, kids, and seniors. Kevin highlighted the high foot traffic and positive engagement, mentioning that many attendees were unaware of Lenore's motherboards. The team agreed to compile and send the photos and videos to Bill for further distribution.

Atari Replica Board Quality Discussion

The group discussed the high quality and similarity of Kevin's replica Atari boards to the original Atari boards, with Bob noting that even experts could not easily distinguish between them. Kevin mentioned receiving compliments on the boards and shared that the build quality was comparable to Atari's original boards.

Atari Historian Archive Discussion

Kevin discussed meeting a woman in Guernville who is an Atari and Apple veteran, concerned about archiving her extensive historical documentation. She helped develop the OS for the 800 and has early Atari materials that need scanning. Kevin reached out to Ken Savitz regarding the archive work, but hasn't received a response yet.

XL Theme: "1 Year All the Clones

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The group discussed the idea of creating a theme for an XL series focused on "1 Year All the Clones," which would showcase remakes and variations of different items.

Richard's Home and Storage Tour

Richard joined the meeting and had technical difficulties with his camera, which was resolved after some discussion about physical camera sliders on laptops. Richard then gave a tour of his home, describing it as four stories tall with a 50-foot width and 80-foot depth, and mentioned his storage setup with 40-foot runs of shelves.

Show Success and Retro Highlights

The group discussed the recent show, noting that while last year's consignment items were better, they still attracted many attendees, with Chris estimating around 3,500 people visited his display. They highlighted the popularity of the 14-fifties, which generated significant interest on Reddit and Facebook, and John mentioned that the Atari 8-bit model caused jaws to drop. Kevin shared that a vendor named Retro Stack offered reproduction TRS-80 Model 1 cases for $80 and agreed to help scan and edit files for the 1450 and 1400 cases.

Customizable Adapter Panels Design

The group discussed creating customizable adapter panels for different computer cases, with Kevin proposing a design that could accommodate various board sizes (1200, 1450, 800, 600) and port configurations. Michael suggested using PCB material for the adapter plates, which could be produced by JLC PCB and customized with holes and colors, though these would not function as active circuit boards. Chris mentioned seeing high-quality printed front panels for Amiga 4000s made using JLC PCB, which could be produced at reasonable sizes and costs. The group agreed that injection molding was not feasible due to high costs and would require significant sales volume.

TRS 80 Case Printing Challenges

The group discussed printing challenges with a one-piece STL file for a TRS 80 case cover, where Under reported issues with thin walls warping during printing on his H2D printer. Chris offered to try printing the file using a different technique, and Under agreed to send the STL file to Chris for testing. Michael suggested investigating Bambu's new tough PLA filament as an alternative material that might better handle the printing challenges.

Project Color and Event Challenges

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The group discussed color matching for a project, with Lenore explaining she used available PLA material in dark chocolate and desert tan colors, though the desert tan was noted as slightly yellowish. John introduced himself as a member of suburban Chicago, who had previously been led by Nick Demasi until his passing in January, and shared his experience attending the Midwest Gaming Classic where he participated in a table setup with help from gaming industry figures. Chris recounted challenges with a recent black-tie event, including delayed room access, technical difficulties, and a stolen PC meant for streaming, which led to a late night and reduced sleep for the team.

Amiga Launch Reenactment Festival Success

The group discussed a successful event that reenacted the 1984 launch of the Amiga computer at a computer festival. Chris explained that they had a black-tie affair with a mock awards ceremony called the "Amis," featuring Tim Janison from NewTek and others who stood in for original Amiga launch figures. The event attracted over 3,600 visitors, with long queues and successful interactions with notable figures like Joe Decuir and Leonard Tramiel. The exhibit included a recreation of the CES booth, a bedroom scene with an Amiga 500, and a video editing suite, which resonated with visitors, including one who became emotional at the display. The event was deemed a success, with parking being the only limiting factor.