



## ●Notes For SLCC Zoom Meeting 8-19-2025

### ●Hosted by Kevin

### ●In Attendance, Kevin, Robbie, Don, John, Ron, Chris, Mariano, Bob, and Scott

### ●Meeting summary

### ●Quick recap

●The meeting began with introductions and casual conversation before transitioning into discussions about Atari hardware, including a movie review and computer magazine content. The group explored various technical topics including programming languages, hardware modifications, and troubleshooting issues with 1050 drives, while also sharing personal experiences with gaming equipment and audio systems. The conversation concluded with discussions about computer development units, upcoming game releases, and various hardware improvements, followed by meeting wrap-up remarks.

### ●Next steps

- Kevin: Talk to the Compute Gazette publisher about including the Souls Computer Club meeting information in the User Group Directory.
- Chris: Find a working Z-80 processor to test the CPM card in his 1090 expansion system.
- Chris: Find a lawyer to deal with squatters in his San Francisco house.
- Bob: Continue wiring the barn and document the 1200 XL motherboards in his inventory.
- Kevin: Continue troubleshooting his 1050 drives with the correct jumper configurations.
- Scott: Complete building new beehives and help the city's Director of Public Works with bee removal from his shed in the coming weeks.
- Mariano: Consider writing an article about assembler or sound on the Atari for submission to Compute Gazette.
- Chris: Spray paint his 3D printed 1090 case.
- Mariano: Check the Compute Gazette magazine that Kevin shared.
- Robbie: Learn more about Facebook group interactions to see likes and comments on posts.
- Chris: Potentially attend a future Atari meeting with his 1090 expansion slot equipment.
- Kevin: Share any additional photos from the VCF meeting with Robbie.
- Chris: Share more information about the white 5,200 special edition "Nolan Bushnell Pro System Signature Series" case.
- John: Finish setting up his Atari space in the basement.

## ● Summary

### ● Star Trek and Atari Discussion

● The meeting began with introductions and casual conversation, including mentions of new members and technical difficulties with identifying attendees. Robbie discussed his recent absence and issues with using an iPad for meetings. The group briefly discussed school and military service before transitioning to a discussion about an Atari 2600 with a joystick, which Robbie had posted about on Star Trek. The conversation ended with Robbie mentioning his background in PR and the ongoing Star Trek case.

### ● Atari Movie and Magazine Discussion

● The group discussed a YouTube review by Minty of the movie "Cloak and Dagger," which is centered around a child stealing an Atari 5200 cartridge containing secret plans for a U.S. plane. They shared their enjoyment of the movie, which they described as a humorous 2-hour Atari commercial. The conversation then shifted to examining a new issue of a computer magazine, which included articles on Fuji Net for multiplayer gaming and an Atari Outpost section. Mariano expressed interest in purchasing a subscription to the magazine, which contains thick pages and digital copies of type-in programs.

### ● Programming Languages and Education Discussion

● The group discussed programming languages, with Kevin advocating for teaching Python to junior high and high school students despite its complexity compared to Basic, while noting that Cobol remains widely used in banking and other sectors due to its reliability. They also discussed a Commodore-focused magazine that Mariano expressed interest in writing for, and John reported that Midwest conference had about 100 paid exhibitors, including the Wisconsin Computing Club and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Retro computing club.

### ● Health Updates and Hive Challenges

● Ron shared that he scratched his right eye and visited an urgent care, where he was prescribed antibiotics. Mariano discussed his recent challenges, including dealing with allergies, contracting Covid, and experiencing issues with household appliances. Scott mentioned building new beehives and encountering a problem with wax moth larvae, which led to the loss of one hive but allowed him to save another by translocating its frames.

### ● Atari and Autism Learning Benefits

● The group discussed John's son using an Atari 1025 for typing, which has helped him surpass his peers in keyboarding skills. Robbie mentioned receiving new power supplies for his 800XL and XC computers, which are safer than the older models. The conversation also touched on how video games and interactive CDs have helped children with autism develop communication skills.

### ● Barn Wiring and Squatter Issues

● Bob spent the day at the doctor's office and is slowly getting the wiring done in the barn, where he plans to install lights for better work conditions. He mentioned finding various components, including motherboards, and discussed the challenges of documenting and identifying modified

parts. Chris shared that he discovered his father-in-law had died a month ago and is dealing with squatters in his San Francisco house. Mariano mentioned trying to rent out his mother's unused house and considered displaying a photo of a granny who successfully defended against squatters.

## ● 1090 Expansion Board Testing Discussion

●Chris printed a 1090 case and obtained a backplane board, but hasn't tested the boards yet to see if they work. The group discussed the 1090 expansion slot, which was an unreleased item from early XL literature that could add features like CPM support, extra memory, and serial/parallel ports to 800 and 600 XL computers. Chris mentioned he needs to find a working Z80 before testing the boards, as some of his Chinese Z80s may be non-functional.

## ● Riot Chip and Social Media Engagement

●The group discussed the concept of a "riot" of people, with Chris mentioning he has a silicon wafer from a company called Chipscapes that features a Riot chip design. They clarified that while Facebook likes and followers might not match up with the actual number of people following the group, Kevin explained that his personal posts on the Atari 8-bit Facebook page received 160 likes and 20-30 comments. The discussion concluded with Robbie expressing confusion about the transcript showing "and others" when reviewing meeting participants, and Kevin clarifying that these were likes on his personal account rather than followers of the official group.

## ● 1050 Drive Troubleshooting Insights

●Kevin discussed troubleshooting issues with 1050 drives, discovering that they have jumpers for configuring EEPROM or static ROM, which he had not known before. He shared his findings on Atari Age and received guidance, learning about different versions of the WD controller and the importance of matching the correct components for the desired configuration. Mariano attempted to play Moon Patrol and shared his experience, highlighting the challenges of playing without save states. The group discussed their past experiences with upgrading 1050 drives, with Scott and Chris recalling their initial difficulties with the process.

## ● Atari Joystick Latency Solutions

●Mariano discussed fixing latency issues with a wireless Atari joystick by adjusting settings in Steam OS, while Kevin shared his experience with getting 1050 drives to work after learning about jumper settings and potentiometers for chip adjustments. Mariano also mentioned a new color version of the joystick being released, though he noted some drawbacks in plastic quality and button feedback compared to the classic model.

## ● Audio Systems and Atari Nostalgia

●The group discussed various topics, including the texture and quality of cables, the performance of different audio systems, and the nostalgia of playing Atari games. They shared anecdotes about their experiences with high-end audio equipment and the marketing of cables, with Kevin mentioning the success of Monster cables. The conversation then shifted to Atari joysticks, with Mariano suggesting improvements like gold-plated terminals and microswitches for better conductivity. Chris showed a signed, limited-edition Nolan Bushnell Pro System 5200 case, which sparked interest among the group. John briefly mentioned setting up a space in his basement for playing Atari games and potentially hosting meetings.

## ● Omnimon Development and Moon Patrol

●The group discussed various aspects of the 800 computer, including modified development units and testing ports. They explored the history and functionality of Omnimon boards and development units from the 1980s, with Kevin providing detailed insights into testing processes. Mariano shared information about a new release for the 7800, Moon Patrol, which is expected to be released soon. The conversation concluded with participants saying their goodbyes and mentioning an upcoming space launch.

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