

Notes for SLCC-Atari Zoom Meeting 6/30/26

Hosted by Kevin

In Attendance, Kevin, Robbie, Richard Chennault, Don, Bob, Richard Diaz, and Harry

[Review action items](#)

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The Atari club meeting covered various personal updates and technical discussions among members. Kevin shared plans for an upcoming show at the Computer History Museum on August 1-2, where they will display 1400XL and 1450XL systems, and he discussed his successful restoration of an Atari TT keyboard using sunlight exposure. Harry demonstrated his new arcade setup using a MiSTer FPGA system with dual cabinets, allowing simultaneous gameplay across two different orientation screens. The group discussed various technical topics including hard drive storage solutions, with Richard C. sharing details about an 18TB hard drive purchase, and they examined expensive audio cables from AudioQuest, debating the merits of high-end cable investments. The conversation ended with Robbie announcing that the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 7th would proceed as planned, pending application approval for the venue.

Next steps

Harry

- [Bring the large folding cart \(roadie\) to the show at the Computer History Museum on August 1st and 2nd.](#)

Kevin

- [Pick up the two 1400XL machines from the owner in San Rafael sometime in mid-July.](#)
- [Repair the keyboards of the two 1400XL machines before the show.](#)
- [Decide and inform Harry if he should bring any Atari items for the show.](#)
- [Bring the new Atari magazine to the next in-person Atari Club meeting for others to see.](#)

Robbie

- [Submit the application for the in-person meeting tomorrow \(July 1st\).](#)
- [Send out an email to the group regarding the meeting status after submitting the application.](#)

Summary

Home Improvement Project Discussion

The group discussed various personal topics including home improvement projects. Bob mentioned challenges with earth moving work in Placerville and considered hiring professional help. Kevin recommended using Angie's List to find contractors, sharing his positive experience of finding a reliable plumber there who charged only \$85 compared to the initial \$400 quote. The conversation included some lighthearted banter about dog breeds and DNA testing services.

Computer History Museum Event Planning

The group discussed personal updates and plans for an upcoming show at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View. Kevin confirmed they have two 10-foot tables for the event. Harry offered to borrow equipment, including a roadie cart that could be used to transport items to and from the venue. Kevin indicated he would minimize the amount of equipment he brings compared to previous events to avoid multiple trips up and down the elevator. The group also briefly discussed train safety after Don mentioned experiencing issues with a train simulation project.

Arcade Setup Demonstration Planning

Kevin confirmed that the event will take place on August 1st and 2nd, with setup on Friday evening and operating hours from 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and 9 AM to 5 PM on Sunday. Harry demonstrated his arcade setup using MiSTer FPGA technology to enable multi-player gaming across two different cabinet orientations, showing how it can handle both horizontal and vertical games optimally. The discussion also touched on technical details about using the SNAC interface for low-latency controller connections and light gun compatibility.

Arcade Cabinet Modification Project

Harry discussed his project of modifying arcade cabinets, explaining how he uses an external arcade stick with a trackball and spinner that can be connected via USB to play games like Tempest. He mentioned challenges with getting the rotary controller to work properly in Heavy Barrel and expressed interest in creating a larger arcade setup if he had more space. Richard Diaz suggested visiting an arcade museum in Alameda with both pinball and video arcade cabinets.

Atari 1400XL Show Planning

Kevin discussed plans for an upcoming show featuring Atari 1400XL and 1450XL systems, with a focus on gathering as many of these machines as possible for display. He mentioned reaching out to previous badge buyers who own these systems and secured two 1400 machines from a collector in San Rafael, though both keyboards need repair due to membrane corrosion issues. The group also briefly discussed the poor design quality of Atari's 5200 controllers and keyboard issues in other systems, with Kevin noting he's working on repairs for a 5200 project and experimenting with keyboard restoration for an Atari TT system.

TT Keyboard Restoration Method

Kevin shared his successful method of restoring a TT keyboard case using sunlight exposure, which took about a week and successfully bleached the yellowing to a cream color. He mentioned being busy planning a large birthday celebration for his father in Arroyo Grande, which will include a city council recognition event for approximately 150 people. The conversation concluded with Kevin showing an old Ziff Davis mouse pad he had found, which prompted a discussion about the publisher's various magazines from the 1990s.

New Atari Magazine from Poland

Kevin shared details about a new Atari magazine from Poland that costs \$10 for the magazine plus \$35 shipping. The 86-page full-color publication covers Atari history from 2600 to Falcon and Jaguar, including articles on demo scenes, hardware reviews, and a new SD card solution for the Jaguar. The group discussed the high shipping costs and the magazine's quality, with Richard suggesting Kevin bring it to the next Atari Club meeting for others to see.

Star Trek and Audio Discussion

The group discussed various topics including Star Trek video games and high-end audio cables. Kevin shared his discovery of an unofficial Star Trek video games guide book, while Richard D. talked about purchasing an 18TB hard drive for his NAS system. The conversation then shifted to discussing expensive audio cables from companies like AudioQuest, with participants expressing skepticism about the high prices and marketing claims. .