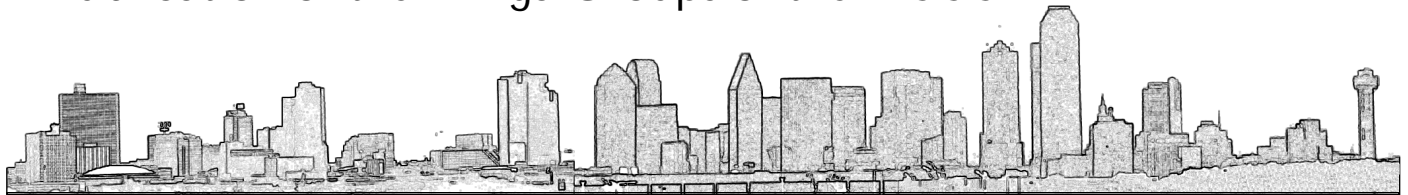


The AGM Connection

A Publication of the Amiga Groups of the MCCC



Fort Worth

November 1999

Dallas

Fleamarket Report Low Attendance — Lots of Fun

One of the main goals of last year's Extravaganza was to bring user groups in the region together. This year we put on our thirteenth annual computer Amiga show with the help and support of the Central Texas Amiga Computing Society (CTAS) in Austin. CTAS was able to obtain an Amiga 1200 and other Amiga items from Petro in Germany. Both of our user's groups sold raffle tickets for the A1200, and second and third place prize packages.

Unfortunately, attendance was down from last year. A total of 28 people registered at the show, including Amiga enthusiasts from Houston, San Antonio, Austin and other Texas locales. Since a number of people did not resister, myself included, I estimated attendance at between 50 and 60.

There still was much to do at the show. The flea market was the largest part of the show. A wide variety of hardware and software was available at some bargain prices. The club sold Amigawares shirts, caps and more on consignment from Randomize. The club still has a few caps and beach balls available for sale at the club's monthly meetings. The club's Amiga disk library was available to all. The Jay Miner Memorial Tape was available for sale for the first time in three years (if interested in a copy of the tape, contact Johnny Kitchens).

Donald Kassebaum from CTAS gave the demos on ARexx and REBOL. Donald has done some programming on commercial software packages including a program in the flea market called Toaster Vision. Max Sappenfield, one of our own members, gave continuous demos about MIDI and the Amiga. I would like to thank Donald and Max for giving their time to present well received presentations.

This year we had no dealers at the show. Exodus Multimedia initially was to attend but canceled one week before due to the uncertainly "In light of current events of Amiga..." Show regular, Commodore Country has gone out of business and did not attend the show.

The raffle for the A1200 was conducted at the end of the day. The A1200 was won by a brand new member to the club, David Baldock. Second and third place prize packages consisting of Amiga posters, stickers, and playing cards were awarded to current member Mark Siedle and former member David Campbell. Door prizes were graciously supplied by the club and club members. In fact, there were so many door prizes that at the drawing everyone went away with at least two door prizes!

I would like to thank everyone else that helped at the Extravaganza, many of whom helped in more than one area (if I miss anyone I am sorry). Okley Moss ran the registration table and gave out those lucky winning tickets. Ned Kelly handled the club's Amiga software library. Bill Raecke, Johnny Kitchens and David Owens helped throughout the day with everything. Alexander and Catherine Stodola, my children, sold drinks, snacks, magazines and raffle tickets for the club. Most of all, I would personally like to thank my wonderful wife Genie for putting up with me and helping the entire day.

...Mark Stodola

3.5 Order Update

It's on its way...

On October 18th, Amiga finally shipped the new 3.5 Operating System. Our order will ship from Software Hut by October 25th and should arrive by the end of October or early November. I will send email or phone all with orders and leave a message on the BBS.

The orders will be available at each of the monthly chapter meetings. Arrangements can be made to pick up your order from my home in Cedar Hill. Other arrangements are possible.

If you have any questions, leave mail on the BBS, call me at metro (972) 299-6824 or leave me an email at mstodola@airmail.net.

...Mark Stodola

The Net Connection

All that I couldn't fit here...

Last month we got the word that Amiga / Gateway were abandoning plans to build the Amiga MCC. We were told that the direction now would be aimed and "internet appliances." You might have expected this pronouncement to cause a furor among the Amiga faithful. If you did, you'd be right. It does seem, at this point, that the Amiga as we know it is at an end — at least so far as future development and support from Gateway is concerned.

There is some hope that the Amiga will be given a rebirth by a group of developers who have organized as the Phoenix Platform Consortium. And there's another group called AROS (the Amiga Research Operating System)

that's making progress on developing an Amiga compatible OS to run on other platforms.

For lots of articles berating the Amiga / Gateway decision as well as some informative articles that explain in greater detail where the future may lie, check out this month's AGM web site. I should have it updated no later than the 1st of November. (It's a lot quicker to do with that new cable modem.)

In case you haven't looked recently, you'll also find some pictures of our Fleamarket Extravaganza on line at the AGM web site. You may even see yourself in some of the shots. My thanks to Johnny Kitchens and Dan Stockelman for the pictures.

...Bill Raecke

The AGM Connection

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<http://www.starttext.com/np/agm/>

November Calendar

- Nov 9 — Amiga By-The-Loop Chapter
7:30 pm — N.Richland Hills Community Ctr.
Loop 820 at Rufe Snow, N.Richland Hills
- Nov 9 — MCCC Board of Director's Meeting
Approx. 10:00 pm — TGI Friday's
Loop 820 & Bedford Euless Road
- Nov 18 — Amiga North Dallas Chapter
7:30 pm — SMU Building
Collins Blvd. & International Pkwy, Richardson
- Nov 27 — Newsletter Deadline — 7:00 am

BBS # — (817) 280-9900

Silly Product Labeling

- On a bag of Fritos: "You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside."
 - On a bar of Dial soap: "Directions: Use like regular soap."
 - On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom of the box): "Do not turn upside down."
 - On packaging for a Rowenta iron: "Do not iron clothes on body."
 - On Nytol sleep aid: "Warning: may cause drowsiness."
 - On Sainsbury's peanuts: "Warning: contains nuts."
 - On an American Airlines packet of nuts: "Instructions: open packet, eat nuts."
 - On a Swedish chainsaw: "Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands or genitals."
- ...more at the AGM web site.