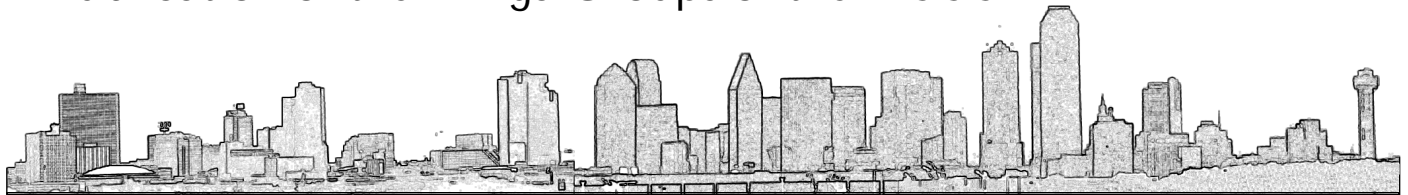


The AGM Connection

A Publication of the Amiga Groups of the MCCC



Fort Worth

April 2000

Dallas

March News by Fabian Jimenez, NCAUG

With the recent demise of Phase5, it is apparent that Haage & Partner's Warp Up will be the Power PC standard of default for the Classic Amiga line. Paul Sadlik will demo Warp Up versions of datatypes, media players, games and the latest WarpUp Power PC software for the Amiga.

Amiga's Intent

Well, the best source of news on Amiga's future plans has been the monthly conference given by Fleecy Moss on AmigaZone (www.amigazone.com). If you are a member, then you can participate during the conference. Otherwise, you have to wait until a edited transcript is released for download a few days later.

During the February 23rd conference, Fleecy revealed that Amiga has a new VP of Operations named Vince Pfeiffer. This adds to the known Amiga board members of Bill McEwen, Randy Hughes, and Fleecy. Fleecy also mentions that venerable Amiga hardware guru Dean Brown [DKB] has been hired as part of Amiga's development team. More names and partners are expected to be revealed shortly.

Fleecy also stated that Amiga has hired a development team, a developer support manager, and a management team of 14. The AAC [Amiga Advisory Council] has been restarted, and they are trying to get the ADN [Amiga Developer Network] moving again. Information is to be posted shortly on a new website. I wonder with Fleecy mentioning the ADN if Kermit [Kermit Woodall of Nova Design] is involved, as he was in the past? If so, then it marks yet another popular Amigan's involvement with the new Amiga plans.

With respect to the user community, Fleecy mentioned that the AAC will be developed to its full potential. Not known at this time is if the folks originally mentioned to comprise the AAC [launched on August 6, 1999] will be

the same as before. As you recall, the AAC was comprised of an Amiga representative, users, dealers, and developers. Their purpose was to serve as a means for which Amiga would interface and support the Amiga community.

Amiga 2K Show

On April 1st, Bob Scharp will be having yet another show in St. Louis. If you do plan to go and attend the banquet, remember that you must send in your ticket order shortly. If not, then you will pay the higher door rates as well as be shut out of the banquet dinner. Bill McEwen will be the main speaker at this event. Also expected are demos of TAO's Intent, the foundation of the new Amiga's OS environment.

Several Amiga dealers and user groups will be present at the show. [At this time, NCAUG will not be sponsoring a table at the show.] Famous Amiga developers like Kermit Woodall's Nova Design and Haage and Partner are scheduled to appear. For more information surf on over to <http://www.amigastl.com/show.html>.

A video conference sponsored by Amiga from the Gateway Amiga's March 1st club meeting has been cancelled. However, Bob stated that planning such an event served as a very educative experience.

Life After Amiga Web Directory

Many Amigans were saddened when CUCUG announced the end of their Amiga Web Directory service. However, a plethora of web sites have filled the void left by AWD. As I have mentioned before, if you wish to keep on top of the latest Amiga developments, I suggest the following web pages: Amiga Network News which is a digest of USENET fodder (<http://www.ann.lu>), Amiga.org which has news links and information, Czech Amiga News for news links also (<http://www.realdreams.cz/lamiga>), and a newcomer called Amiga-News.de (<http://www.amiga-news.de/indexe.shtml>).

Speaking of Amiga web stuff, have you been on e-Bay recently? Besides getting our own Amiga category on

their web site, it seems that some dealers have decided to move their wares using e-Bay. In particular, I have noticed Devine Computer and Centsible Software filling pages with their items. Buyer beware is all I will say.

aDSL Angst

Well, one of the unfortunate things about my new house is that my modem can only achieve 33K bps on the noisy phone line. I think it has something to do with my alarm system patched in on the line. My solution? I looked into many things to replace my dial up connection with. The best deal was aDSL for about \$50 a month.

Now despite all the ads you see in the papers, all aDSL connections to your home [in the Washington D.C. region] are subcontracted out to Bell Atlantic. This means if Bell Atlantic hasn't wired your neighborhood yet, then no one will be able to install it for you. A handy utility on

their web site can check to see if your phone number can do aDSL yet. Chances are it will tell you that aDSL is available in your area, but not for your specific phone line. They are nice enough to notify you when aDSL is available on your line, but they won't tell you when that will be.

There is something called sDSL that most providers can install on your line without waiting for Bell Atlantic. It offers a higher bandwidth, but also a higher bill at about \$100 a month. It's a better deal than ISDN though.

What about cable modems? Well, Montgomery County offers a buggered up system in comparison to Fairfax County. You must have a modem dial-up to send requests that are eventually sent back to your machine via the cable system. CableTV Montgomery naturally only supports Windows machines, but I guess you can get Miami DX to figure things out. My bandwidth sucks.

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

April Calendar

- Apr 10 — Amiga By-The-Loop Chapter
7:30 pm — N.Richland Hills Community Ctr.
Loop 820 at Rufe Snow, N.Richland Hills
- Apr 10 — MCCC Board of Director's Meeting
Approx. 10:00 pm — TGI Friday's
Loop 820 & Bedford Euless Road
- Apr 20 — Amiga North Dallas Chapter
7:30 pm — SMU Building
Collins Blvd. & International Pkwy, Richardson
- Apr 22 — Newsletter Deadline — 7:00 am

Quote of the Week

"Dean was one of the board members of the infamous ICOA with Fleecy, so you see why he was such a likely choice to get onboard Bill 'n Fleecy Convergence Computers, Inc. (BFCCI)"

...Jason Compton on c.s.a.misc

Jason has been a little grumpy lately. He also coined the famous FIAM, Fleecy's Initiative Acronym of the Month.

by Fabian Jimenez
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