



# MCCC NEWS



Fort Worth

May 2015

Dallas

## The "Bankruptcy" and an Amiga History Blog

The supposed bankruptcy of Amiga OS4 software developer Hyperion continues to (under)develop. According to their reports, the company is reorganizing and shuffling some management positions, but never officially met bankruptcy conditions, despite being temporarily listed as such. Hyperion claims to still be developing the Amiga OS, though there may be delays as their reorganization is ironed out.

Continuing with my recent series on Amiga stuff, first I'd like to highly recommend the blog website "The Digital Antiquarian" by Jimmy Maher (<http://www.filfre.net/>). You might recognize him as the author of "The Future Was Here" Amiga book among other computer history volumes. The blog also covers a lot of history for computers and games. The Amiga got a lot of press in his recent blog articles, such as a history of one of the Amiga's first "killer apps," the game "Defender of the Crown" by Cinemaware. Even better is a three-part series of articles titled "The 68000 Wars," which covers much of the Amiga's history from its earliest inception to the shuttering of the Commodore-Amiga west coast division in Los Gatos, while telling parallel tales of Atari, Jack Tramiel,

their relationships with Commodore and Amiga, and the development of the Atari ST computer. The articles strive for honesty, sometimes to a brutal degree, and as much historical accuracy as possible, trying to avoid the more heroic spin often attached by the storytellers. Even so, the Amiga story remains at least as interesting and exciting as any ostensibly historical movie or TV series revolving around Bill Gates or Steve Jobs or Mark Zuckerberg. All we need is to find a suitable canine star to play the part of Mitchie. Summing up, if you have any interest in Amiga history at all, and a spare hour or two, I strongly urge you to check out Mr. Maher's blog. You might need to backtrack some to get to the beginning of the "68000 wars" series, but it's extremely worth the time and effort for a rewarding read.

<http://www.filfre.net/tag/amiga/>

...by Eric Schwartz  
from the AmiTech Gazette  
April 2015

## This and That

It's time again for the ramblings of the Veep. A name from the past and one that has been missed. The AMI-cast podcast included talks with Petro Tyschtschenko! I had the honor of getting to meet him a few times. He really stood by the Amiga and was a really great friend to all with the systems. You can see more on this at <http://amicast.ppa.pl/> Episode 3 was

the talks with Petro. I'll be trying to find more on this as I can. The headphones on the Pegasos II are damaged so I'll have to resort to the PC.

It has indeed been an odd month. The biggest news seems to be that Hyperion is claiming not to be in bankruptcy. Quoted from their site: "The company was temporally listed as 'bankrupt' despite the fact that the conditions for bankruptcy were never met...in the eyes of the law." They also went on to say they are working on AmigaOS 4.2. That if folks want to help they need to upgrade to AmigaOS 4.1 FE since they will be basing further updates from there. The wording on this seems bit odd to me. Like "Well it's right, but not technically." That and adding the request for folks to buy more seems oddly timed too. We'll see where things go. Even though I don't have AmigaOS 4.1 I still hope they can keep it going.

<http://www.commodorefree.com/index.html> has released issue 86. These always have so much to share on all the Commodore brand machines. It's a really good source for info on Amiga as well as Vic 20 C64, and even the C16. There was one article in it that caught my eye. Sadly, it seems that Ralph Baer, the father of gaming consoles, passed away. He was 92. In the early 1970s Mr Baer built the Magnavox Odyssey. I know a few of you know of that one at least. On happier news, Fire V0.24 has been released. Not sure if we shared this one before. TAWS, The Amiga Workbench Simulation, runs

in your web browser using Java. It runs in IE, Firefox, Opera and Web-Kit browsers, which includes OWB. This is something I will be looking at and passing to a few friends that are still curious on the Amiga systems. 4.1 is there, but if you look in presets they have earlier Classic versions as well. If nothing else it lets us show others why this system means so much to us.

This next link is a history: The Digital Antiquarian.

<http://www.filfre.net/2015/03/the-68000-wars-part-1-lorraine/>

This one gives info on the Amiga. The early years and how the original OS wasn't quite what many remember it as. I think this was slightly before I got my A1000. I had kickstart 1.3 for it however I did have earlier disks as well. It's a good read. Brings back memories for me at least.

Aros Vision 2.9.2 online has been released. This can be looked at as new or an update. It's going to be adding a lot more as well as be available for other systems including the Amiga Classics. There is more information at

<http://www.arosplatform.de/>

The download would seem to be free. So far it still seems to be that you run it on top of something. Stand-alone versions are still in the works. I don't know as much on AROS as I'd like but it's something to look into.

As you can see it has been a pretty busy month for Amiga. MorphOS seems to be rather quiet for now. I'm curious to see what comes up from them soon.

I'm still trying to get my A1200 working again. There is supposed to have been a way to do so with Amiga

Forever, but I've had no luck with that. Formatting the CF card on the Pegasos II has had limited luck at best. I have a few ideas, but getting to them of late has been the biggest issue. I've been having to deal with restricted time due to health issues. Seizures are a pain as are bad medication interactions too. I think I need to look into getting my external HD floppy drive back on. I just can't remember the right way for the connector. If I can get that going I do have an Emergency boot disk for the A1200. Admittedly it's an older one though.



This is what a revolutionary technology looks like. In very early 1986 Tim Jenison, founder of NewTek, began distributing these full-color digitized photographs, the first of their kind ever to be seen on a PC screen, to Amiga public-domain software exchanges. The age of multimedia computing had arrived.

The above is from "The Digital Antiquarian." The link to this page is <http://www.filfre.net/2015/03/the-68000-wars-part-1-lorraine/>

...by Michael D. Barclay  
from the AmiTech Gazette  
April 2015

## May Calendar

May 4 - Amiga-By-The-Loop Chapter  
7:00 PM - Main Grand Prairie Library  
901 Conover Drive, Grand Prairie

May 4 - Board of Director's Meeting  
Approximately 9:00 PM - Location TBD

May 25 - Newsletter Deadline - 8:00 AM

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<http://www.amigamccc.org>