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AMIGA WORKBENCH

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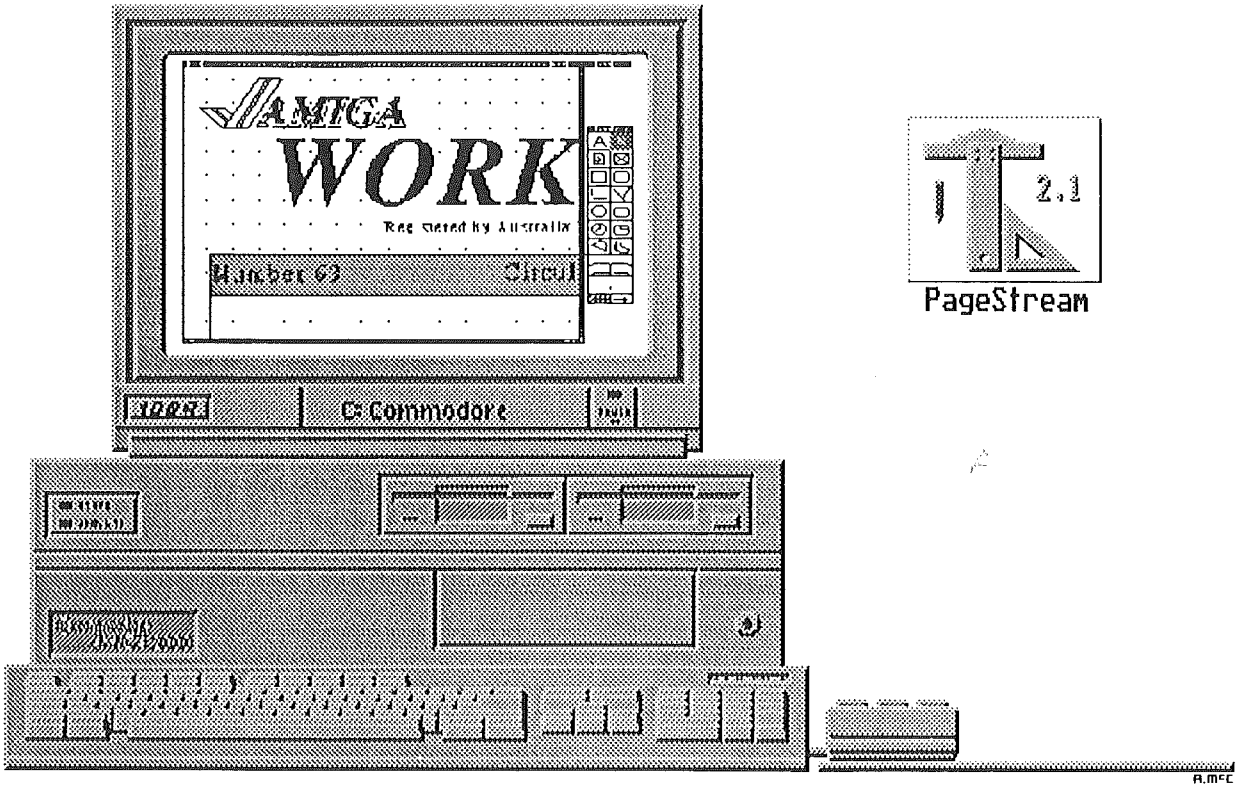

Next AUG Meeting

Sunday, August 18th at 2pm

(Doors open at 1pm, meeting starts 2pm sharp)

AUG meetings are held at Victoria College Burwood Campus Burwood Highway, Burwood - Melways Map 61 Reference B5.

Amiga Users Group Inc GPO Box 684E Melbourne 3001 Victoria Australia

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AMIGA Users Group Inc.

P.O. Box 684E, Melbourne 3001, Victoria Australia

Who Are WE?

The Amiga Users Group is a not-for-profit association of people interested in the Amiga computer and related topics. With over 1000 members, we are the largest independent association of Amiga users in Australia. We DO NOT condone software piracy. We can be reached via an answering machine at:

527 1995

Club Meetings

Club meetings are held at 2 pm on the third Sunday of each month at Victoria College, Burwood Highway, Burwood. Details on how to get there are on the back cover of this newsletter. The dates of upcoming meetings are:

Sunday, August 18th at 2 pm
Sunday, September 15th at 2 pm
Sunday, October 20th at 2 pm

Membership and Subscriptions

Membership of the Amiga Users Group is available for an annual fee of $25. To become a member of AUG, fill in the membership form in this issue (or a photocopy of it), and send it with a cheque or money order for $25 to: Amiga Users Group, PO Box 684E, Melbourne 3001.

Public Domain Software

Disks from our public domain library are available on quality 3.5" disks for $6 each including postage on AUG supplied disks, or $2 each on your own disks. The group currently holds over 500 volumes, mostly from the USA, with more on the way each month. Details of latest releases are printed in this newsletter, and a catalog disk is also available.

Member's Discounts

The Amiga Users Group negotiates discounts for its members on hardware, software and books. Currently, Technical Books in Swanston Street in the city offers AUG members a 10% discount on computer related books, as does McGills in Elizabeth Street. Kev's Computer Shops in Coburg and Prahran offer 10% of RR items. Master Systems of Bayswater offer good deals and MidiMouse offer 10% off all software.

Back Issues of Workbench

All back issues of Amiga Workbench are now available, for $2 each including postage. Note that there may be delays while issues are reprinted. Back issues are also available at meetings.

The Bulletin Boards

The Amiga Users Group operates two bulletin board systems devoted to the Amiga. The first is Amiga Central running on an Amiga 2000 running the Paragon software allowing multi-line conferencing facilities and the other system uses the MAXIMUS message and conferencing system - AmigaLink I, and is avilable 24 hours a day. Both can be accessed with a modem and appropriate communications software using any of the following speeds: 300 (V21), 1200 (v22), 1200/75(v23) or 2400 band (v22bis). Parameters should be set to 8 data bits, 1 stop bit and no parity.

Amiga Central: 376-3887, 376-6385, 376-7375 (this for 1200/75).
AmigaLink-I: 792-3918

Amiga Central and AmigaLink-I are part of a world-wide network of bulletin boards and we participate in national and international Amiga conferences. Both have selected Public Domain software available for downloading and we encourage the uploading of useful Public Domain programs for our users.

Production Credits

This month's newsletter was edited by Jim Berry, Lester McClure, Alexander McCooke, Ashley Schwall-Kearney. nikolai kingsley had something to do with it also. Equipment and software used was: Amiga 2000, Pagestream2, DME, Scribble, HP Deskjet and Apple LaserWriter IINT Interlink 12345 9600 baud modem by Interlink. The Magazine is Published by the Amiga Users Group inc. and printed by Kwik Kopy Printing Highett.

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Contributions

Articles, papers, letters, drawings, cartoons and comments are actively sought for publication in Amiga Workbench. All contributions submitted for the purpose of publication that are printed in the newsletter are rewarded on the basis of one free public domain disk copy per column or half page printed with a minimum of one free copy. Contributions may be sent in on disk, paper or uploaded to Amiga Link-1 or Amiga Central in the area set aside for this purpose. Please send your contribution in text-only, non-formatted if they are on file and remember to include your address for return of disks and tokens for PD disks. Absolute deadline for articles if 23 days before the meeting date. Contributions can be sent to: The Editor, AUG, PO Box 684E, Melbourne 3001.

Newsletter Advertising

The Amiga Users Group accepts commercial advertising in Amiga Workbech subject to the availability of space at these rates:

Quarter page $20
Half page $40
Full page $70
Double page spread $120

These rates are for full-size camera-ready copy or Pagestream2 format only. We have no photographic or typesetting facilities. Absolute deadline for copy is 23 days before the meeting date. Send the copy and your cheque to: The Editor, AUG, PO Box 684E, Melbourne 3001, Victoria.

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Committee-Torial

This is the first "committee edition" of Workbench. Previously Con Kolivas and before him Peter Jetson edited workbench on their own. Easy for making decisions, but in the end an overwhelming task for a volunteer organization like ours. While eastern Europe and the rest of the world are hurriedly dismantling the central committee, we start one up. Can't always go with the crowd I guess.

The committee approach was chosen to try and spread the workload and to involve more members in club activities. We still need articles, comments, suggestions and more input from club members. In particular has anyone bought any hardware recently? Please let us know if you have.

This is also the first Workbench produced with Pagestream. The copy we used to produce this Journal and the one auctioned at last month's AUG meeting were donated to the group by Soft Logic. We are gratefully putting our copy to good use and we might even review it in a later edition.

Contact us at the numbers listed in the back of the magazine if you have an idea about what you would like to see in Workbench.

Ashley Schwall-Kearney
for the Workbench committee

World of Commodore

by Russell Porteous

I waited at the door for what seemed like a day, I could hear the displays and the scurrying of the people still busily setting up their stands at the great event dubbed "World Of Commodore 'AMIGA' ". Waiting at the front door, free pass in hand I could hear the buzz of excitement as both young and old prepared for their first taste of concentrated Amiga.

The time hit en O'clock and the doors opened to reveal a landscape of Amigas unheard of in Australia until now. The crowd moved in slowly, controlled by the limited amount of ticket collectors. As I passed into the realm of the Amiga I was suitably greeted by the most amazing demonstration of digitized computer animation I have seen. The manufacturer (ICD) who develop Amiga hard disks, memory and flicker fixers proudly maintained that their animated demo, 6 minutes of a "Star Wars" battle scene, was running at 25 frames per second including full audio, took up in excess of 300 meg of hard disk. To see this demo and hear these facts proved that by visiting this show I was in for a treat.

The show itself was broken into many stands, the two biggest stands were of course Commodore's and Harvey Norman's. Other representatives of the Amiga were GVP in conjunction with Power Peripherals, Hard Disk Cafe, ICD, Memory And Storage Technology (MAST), Phoenix, New Horizons, Real 3D, Platypus Systems, Neriki Genlocks, VidTech, Canon (Ion), ATonce, Digital Micronics (DMI), Professional Amigo, Amazing Computing, Sunrise Industries and New Tek (Video Toaster).
Commodore officially released the CDTV-which was well received by the patrons and to back this up there were seminars every day to illustrate the titles now available and future prospects for the new Amiga based machine. New equipment released to the Australian market at the show included 16 bit audio digitizers, 24 bit (16 million color) display boards, Software, Canon Ion camera, hard disks and the miracle music teaching system.

Another novel display was the art gallery with framed colour graphic images. These images were created on the Amiga from a variety of graphics enthusiasts.

For the bargain hunter the Harvey Norman stand produced some amazing discount prices on Amiga's, Hardware and Software. The sale price of Amiga A2000 was $1300, Amiga A2000HD was $1699 and multisync monitors were about $750. software too was in abundant supply with great prices coming from every stand.

The User Groups of NSW also gave an impressive display of their talents and showed that they supported the Commodore Amiga as a persons machine.

As a By-Product of the World of Commodore in Sydney, a collective group of users from Melbourne gathered together to have a night out at Doyles Seafood Restaurant at Watsons Bay. With a lovely meal and a good Amiga based show held by Commodore, the trip to Sydney was a grand event and well worth the time and money spent.

As for future events, word has it that all exhibitors were pleased with the show and attendance. This may lead to this show being an on going event, Possibly next time in Melbourne.

My Weekend at World of Commodore

by Arnie Robbins

Arriving at Darling Harbor Convention Center on Friday morning the first requirement was to find World of Commodore. D.H.C.C. is a rather large center and there were several other attractions whose billing was even more prominent than W.O.C= (but not for us one eyed Amigans). No Sir (or M'am), we just walked right past the Netball championships and the Roger Ramjet Closing Down Fahkari Rug Sale.

Like Lemmings who have been guided well, we found the magic portal to ***WORLD OF COMMODORE*** complete with queue to enter. Speaking of Lemmings, on the CDTV version of Lemmings, Psygnosis have a demo of their next game, a jet fighter chasing a cruise missle, this MUST be seen to be believed. Totally awesome! Oh, the show. I was surprized that it wasn't larger, though a lot was packed in.

Australian content was high with GP Software, Horace (A Satellite horse betting Network), Platypus Systems (an Amiga controlled large scale irrigation manager), JCUWeatherView (Software for displaying still and animated weather satellite pictures), Hard Disk Cafe, Mast, and many others. G-Soft released their new Audio Engineer Jr. G.V.P. showed off their new Professional Video Adaptor card (perhaps a real competitor to the Toaster). Commodore 'officially' introduced CDTV. (On horseback ?) Gail Wellington from C= was there and gave several seminars explaining and showing off CDTV to both the developers and the potential consumers.

Guiness stuff: The largest exhibit was Commodore's. The most entertaining - The Vivid Group showing off Mandala and Live. Most professional - GVP. Most impressive single exhibit - ICD's Star Wars movie from hard drive at 24 or even 30 fps. The busiest - Harvey Norman's where great bargains on hardware were available to all. Best perception at W.O.C= - To be at a computer show where the Amiga was known and shown.

Excerpts from Internet Postings

by Adrian Tritschler:

I was there for Friday and Saturday helping to man a stand for some friends, overall I was fairly impressed. The main emphasis from Commodore was on the CD-TV, heaps of em littering the place! Plenty of hardware around, not as much software, and in my opinion, not many "good" prices at the show, except for the Harvey-Norman (enormous) stand. Bad marks to Commodore: They had a multi-part stand with different themes, Amiga in kids bedroom, Amiga in Education, CD-TV in lounge-room, 3000UX in university, computer in business. The business section had 1 3000 displaying a graphics demo and five or so PC-Clones!!!

By Murray Gilbert:

Overall I think the show was pretty good, I was impressed by the ICD stand showing a 2x00 showing 4.5 minutes of star wars playing from hard disk the anim was supposed to be 320Meg, running 24fps (ie normal movie rate), 1.3 - 1.5 MBytes/sec, not sure what video mode it was (HAM? other video board?)

Digital Micronics had their 1280x1024 video board ('Resolver')which looked ok, but their on screen anim/pics didn't (to me anyway) show the board off properly.

The toaster was there I think but I can't be totally sure as most of the time the projector displaying its output was just showing video of people walking around the show, or AmigaBasic with an error!

The Hard Disk Cafe had the largest non-commodore stand at the show, but I didn't look much at that except for Greg Perry's GPTerm/AmigaNET. GPTerm 4.5 was demoed, I had a try at ringing up Uni but we hada fun time trying to get the parameters right (7E1), only got it working once to the Uni. other than that GPTerm looks very nice. G.P. suspects that it was the modem playing up that caused the problem. I wonder, but if that is the case, I think I'd consider buying GPTerm. He also had a touch screen with video disk which looked good, and Whatyzname had AudioEngineer there too. Nice sounding effects, though his "Greetings from the land down under" playing all the time got on my nerves a bit.

Commodore of course were displaying the CDTV everywhere about their stand. Looks very nice, I'm impressed. Fairly fast I think, and the progs on it were interesting too. The guys demonstrating the music program disk with the play along drums to any CD music title had fun trying to get it going. Not too good I think unless you get in a bit of practice, good for the toddlers to pretend they are in aband or something being the drummer.

The 3000UX was there as well but not very prominent though. Once 3000 was demoing itself, and once 3000 running unix and X windows monochrome with fractals, on a A2024 I think or the like, (only 14" about, needed to be larger).

Professional Amigo Art & Type Systems from up at Toukley on the NSW central coast were displaying their Graphics & Typesetting stuff from $13000+. Just the thing to pull it the people who think that high price = high quality, and that it is not possible to gett good results for low price. It does look worth it though as they provide 1 years training and support in addition to the computer gear (Amiga XXXX + hard drive, extra Ram floppy, monitor, HP laserjet iii, pagestream2.1, dpaint III/IV(when avaliable), clipart). I mainly mention them because I had never heard of them before, and they look like they are doing a good job (phone (043) 97 1480).
Plenty of others were there too (GVP, Megadisc, usergroups Mindscape with its "Miracle" piano teaching system,etc etc etc. I'm looking forward to next year (I hope there is one next year! :-))

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BBS Review

The Guru Meditation BBS: (3753438)

review/plug by nikolai

What could you say about a BBS that has all of the Fish Disks online, up to 500 (Last time i was on)? One that lets you read AND POST to Internet forums such as comp.sys.amiga.advocacy? One that has a 9600 baud modem and two (count em' TWO) friendly sysops? :-)

The Guru Meditation BBS has all these... i can hear one or two of you muttering, 'It can't be all good news, there _must_ be a down side to this...' The closest thing that this board has to a down side is the BBS software, Waffle-BBS, which could be described as 'slightly intimidating to the newbie' (and if you're wondering what a 'newbie' is; the derogatory answer is 'then you probably are one', and the nice answer is 'a newbie is someone who has the courage to get out there and try new systems out by themself'). So, what do i mean by 'intimidating?'

Most BBSes give you a menu that looks like figure 1.

```
+-------------------------------------------------------+
|     AMIGA CENTRAL MAIN MENU                           |
+-------------------------+-----------------------------+
| [M]essage Section       | [F]iles Section             |
| [D]oors                 | [B]ulletin Menu             |
| [A]djust Parameters     | [S]tatistics                |
| [W]aiting Mail          | [L]eave Feedback            |
| [C]hat With Gary        | [U]serlist Search           |
+-------------------------+-----------+-----------------+
|                         | [G]oodbye (Logoff)          |
+-------------------------+-----------+-----------------+
| [O]ther Users Online    | [T]ele-Conference           |
+-------------------------+-----------------------------+
|     Commands may be stacked with the ";" character.   |
|          ^C cancels most menus or text displays.      |
+-------------------------------------------------------+
```

... everything up-front and spelled out. Which is okay if you call dozens of systems and you can never remember which key does what (particularly so if 'G' takes you to the 'Games' section on one BBS and it takes you to the 'Good-bye' section on another!) The down side of THIS approach is that if you are calling at some miserable speed like 300, unless the system can respond to a key as soon as you type it, you have to wait for the whole... danged... menu... to appear before you can go straight to the files section and start leeching games (although why anyone would leech games at 300 baud is beyond me).

The approach taken by Waffle-BBS is; once you get on, you are given a prompt. You type commands which do things like send mail, go to the file upload/download system, page the Sysop, etc.

The 'FILES' system also follows this pattern of commands rather than menus; 'DIR' will give you a list of files and directories available; 'LOG' will take you to a new directory; SEND will send a file from the BBS to you, and so on. The Fish Disks are grouped into several directories, like f060-209, which has a number of sub-directories called 'FF060', 'FF061', and so on... each of these sub-directories has the contents of that Fish Disk, each 'feature' of that Fish Disk in its own ZOO file. Also available are the contents of the Fish Disks, in text format (although they are ZOOed so that you don't have to spend hours downloading them!). The whole setup resembles the Unix FTP system, more or less... which brings me to the next great feature of this board... Internet!

You have probably seen messages that resemble the following:

From alt.tasteless Sun Jul 21 22:15:43 1991
Path: ariel!munnari.oz.au!uunet!orca!dsd.es.com!jason
From: jason@dsd.es.com (Jason S. Ehrhart)Newsgroups: alt.tasteless
Subject: More Cows 'n chickens...
Keywords: cowpie games for the bored...
Message-ID: <1991Jul15.235637.19049@dsd.es.com>
Date: 15 Jul 91 23:56:37 GMT
Sender: usenet@dsd.es.com
Reply-To: jason@dsd.es.com
Organization: Evans and Sutherland, Salt Lake City, Utah Lines: 32
Nntp-Posting-Host: 130.187.90.26

Well, since we havn't heard anymore cow tastelessness, I thought I'd add a tidbit from last night's dinner conversation. (We just have so much fun at mealtimes around here during the summer.)

While eating dinner, we were told about a new game. It is called, "Cow Bingo".... and so on... ever wonder where they came from? Internet is a world-wide network of Unix boxes (and others, like Waffle-BBS, that can talk to Unix boxes), all busily exchanging mail in hundreds of different forums, from the informative..... (comp.sys.amiga.misc, a forum for discussing things not covered in the dozen other Amiga forums), to the slightly unusual (alt.dreams - dream interpretation and related matters) to the marginal (alt.fan.furry - for fans of anthropomorphic cartoons). The Guru Meditation BBS will let you read messages and post new ones to some of these forums; it will also let you send and receive mail to others on Unix systems, so if someone leaves you an e-mail address like 'kelanie@gpu.utcs.toronto.edu', you won't be at a loss. You can store your personal mail messages on the BBS, which means that you don't have to answer them immediately; you can also create a '.sig' file, which is appended to all of your mail; it is supposed to be an informative tag describing your interests and where you're calling from, but all too frequently contains witticisms like:

'Lord Atrillo, your booties are basting and your tuffence is twice. However, your alligator sader is without any serenader.' 'Baffles! I've harkened my henus!' R. Williams, Coochy Cooty Comics.....So. Give them a call... and, unlike some systems i've been on, the Sysops: a) aren't Amiga Bashers, and b) aren't afraid to chat with you. :-)

Frequently Asked Questions

This is part 2 of the list of questions and answers published in last month's Workbench. It is posted by Ferry de Jong every month on Usenet in comp.sys.amiga.introduction. It contains contributions from the following people:

Kent Paul Dolan, Richard Gering, Edwin Hoogerbeets, Mic Kaczmarczik, Jerry J Trantow, Joe Smith, Dan Zerkle, Peter Kittel

Answers about HARDWARE questions.

1.12. Can I change the speed of my battery-backup-ed clock?

Yes you can, on the printed circuit board is a small trimmer (Usually yellow) that changes the clock-speed of the battery-backup-ed clock. Turn it slightly to change the clock speed. NOTE: This voids warranty, so only do this if you know what you are doing!

Answers about SOFTWARE questions.

2.1. Who is Fred Fish and what are the AmigaLibDisks?

The AmigaLibDisks are disks with public-domain software and shareware programs (If possible with sources.) assembled by Fred Fish. It is the largest set of public-domain disks available for the AMIGA. You can find hundreds of utilities and games on these disks often with their sources included. The contents of these disks can be found on the same sites mentioned in the following paragraph, in the magazine Amazing Computing and with the Aquarium database program (FishDisk #???). These disks are available from the Amiga Users Group's Public Domain Library.

2.2. What is CATS?

CATS stands for Commodore Applications and Technical Support. (CATS) provides technical support to Amiga developers. This is provided through a number of channels, including network support, phone support for commercial developers, and technical documentation.

2.3. What are RKM's?

RKM stands for ROM Kernel Reference Manual. The RKM's are part of a series of books describing the Amiga's Hardware and OS Software in detail. You can buy (or order) them in any bookstore.

Amiga ROM Kernel Reference Manual: Libraries and Devices Addison Wesley, Dec 1989, ISBN 0-201-18187-8

Amiga ROM Kernel Reference Manual: Includes and Autodocs Addison Wesley, Jan 1989, ISBN 0-201-18177-0

Amiga Hardware Reference Manual Addison Wesley, Sept 1989, ISBN 0-201-18157-6

2.4. How do I control a printer from AmigaBASIC?

There are two ways the Amiga Operating System can access a printer: a) via the printer driver you selected in Preferences b) directly via the (parallel or serial) port driver without any driving software in between. What does the printer driver in case a)? Two things: It translates the special Amiga characters to character codes (plus control sequences) which this 'special' printer understands, and secondly it translates all other control sequences (for bold print, underline, but also for all graphics output) to the language your printer speaks. Those control sequences for bold print and those things are standardised on the Amiga, they are called "ANSI sequences", and you should find them in an appendix of your user manual (as well as in the official documentation, the ROM Kernel Manuals. See question 2.3..). The idea behind this is that any application program on the Amiga uses these ANSI sequences as standards, and as soon there is a printer driver available for your special printer, all these applications can use this printer. So the application programmer does not need to pro- vide hundreds of printer drivers with his program, but can simply build on ONE standard. How does all this affect AmigaBASIC? Well, the normal command to access a printer is the LPRINT statement. This uses method a), the printer driver. Thus it can talk to any printer of the world, if it comes with a printer driver. But it only "understands" ANSI control sequences, and NOT those escape sequences you find in your printer manual! LPRINT has also a not so nice feature: If you have once used it in one program execution, then the printer channel is occupied by it and can't be freed unless you END the program regularly. (If your program breaks, it's a good idea to give an END command by hand in the Output Window to reset this printer channel; else every following access would result in an error.)

So, the first recommendation is: DO NOT USE LPRINT!

But what else? You can access the printer in two ways: as device named "PRT:" (like LPRINT via printer driver, but you can CLOSE it properly), or as device "PAR:" (or "SER:", if connected to the serial port), where no driver program gets into your way. You use the printer in this way if: 1. Output of normal text OPEN "PRT:" FOR OUTPUT AS 1:PRINT#1,"your stuff": .. :CLOSE 1 This way you are sure that every character is translated to the printer's alphabet (you know we Germans have those umlauts...). 2. Output of standard control sequences (ANSI) Just like in 1., but with those CHR$(27);"[1m"; like commands. You need no extra OPEN to separate this from normal text output. 3. Output of printer-own control sequences (Generally try to avoid this wherever you can, because this program will be restricted to be used only on this very brand of printer and will fail on any other one!) If the printer channel is already open from 1. or 2.: CLOSE 1 : OPEN "PAR:" FOR OUTPUT AS 1 : PRINT#1,CHR$(27);..; : .. : CLOSE 1 So, unlike the examples in the printer manuals, use PRINT# instead of LPRINT! If your printer is connected to the serial port, use "SER:" instead of "PAR:" (plus make sure you have set up the serial interface properly in Preferences).

2.5. What file transfer protocols are there for a modem?

The absolutely simplest way for an executable file to come to you is in raw, binary mode, exactly the file you want to execute. This is most unusual. Normally they are converted [See question 3.6..]. To download such a file, you have to start getting concerned with the method you use to download it, called the protocol, since many (most) communications lines are not directly capable of transporting a raw binary file. (They tend to use some of the possible bit combinations as control signals for the line software and hardware.)

Here are some protocols your terminal program may support: ASCII, xmodem, ymodem, zmodem, umodem, kermit. (There are others.)

ASCII protocol is used to transmit only printable characters. The eight bits that form a character can represent decimal integer values from zero to two hundred fifty five. The printable ones are the ones from 32 (space) to 126 (tilda), plus the codes for tab, newline, and carriage return (the latter only in older systems). This won't work for raw binary data, whether your executable files or other kinds of binary.

The x,y,z,u-modem protocols are a family of ever more capable protocols, which are capable (with some tricks you can ignore) of transmitting all 256 possible character values. One, xmodem, is not especially good for transmitting executable Amiga programs, though. It is left over from the days of the old CP/M operating system, when all files were allocated in blocks of 128 bytes (characters), with a special code in the last block at the correct point after the last data character (byte) to indicate the end of file, and junk after that mark filling out the rest of the block. This extra junk makes the Amiga executable program loader program "sick", because it does "scatter loading" (puts parts of programs in parts of memory that don't necessarily "touch"), and it tries to interpret the junk (it doesn't know about the old CP/M file format) as scatter loading instructions. This problem with xmodem can be one of the reasons a file you download doesn't "work" after it is downloaded. The next difficulty can come because these programs are written to do file transfers among both MS-DOS and Unix computers. It happens that, for printed text, many older systems, including the IBM-PC MS-DOS ones, use two characters (carriage return, line feed) to indicate the end of a line, while newer systems, including Unix and AmigaOS, use a single character (now called "newline", but the same code as the old line feed) to indicate the end of a line. To "simplify" transfering text files, the x,y,z,u-modem and kermit transfer protocols automatically translate the two characters to the one character when copying files between certain systems, and this translation is the **default** operation of these protocols. In each one, to transfer an archive (below) or an executable file, you have to do whatever is appropriate to the protocol to specify *binary* or *image* transfer mode.

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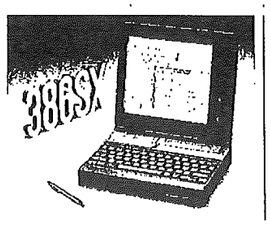

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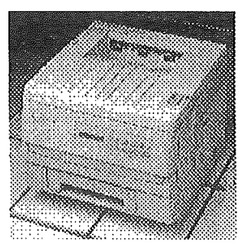


12 months warranty from TI locally.

AGM 1991

Minutes of the AUG 1990 Annual General Meeting

Present were: Lots of people
Meeting started at 2:25 pm

General Business:
Arnie Robbins opened the meeting with a touch of humour (I said a touch). Then the reports from the different portfolios were given.

Neil Murray reported that we currently have a membership of around 900. These numbers, however, are in constant flux.

Drac (Bohdan Ferens) didn't have much to report on purchasing.

Michael Lamb reported that the disk library currently has all Fish disks up to number 360. Approximately 150 disks are copied per month. The group bought a second disk drive and a copy of Xcopy to assist the disk librarian. Michael stated that he was willing to continue on as disk librarian. Peter Jetson moved that we thank Michael for the work he has done... and we did.

Ross Johnson reported that the book library has expanded with 60 new magazines and 6 new books this year. 6 new magazine subscriptions were taken out. We currently have a magazine usage of about 70-80%. On average, 70 items are borrowed from the library each month. All in all the library has 350 items (books, magazines, and associated disks), but this jumps to 600 if we include other club newsletters.

Lester McClure reported that we currently have about 3000 back-issues of "Workbench". This ranges from 2 copies to 150 copies per issue. 12 to 15 back-issues are sold at each meeting. The current price of back-issues is $2 and yearly collections are in the process of being put together for sale.

Donna Heenan presented the treasurer's report. It basically said that our financial position has not altered too much from last year. Although the figures are not published with these minutes a supplement will be produced within the next few weeks containing the financial statement. Donald Reilly moved that we accept the treasurer's report. This was seconded by John Elston with almost everyone in favour. Neil Murray thanked Allan Duncan for arranging the Barco for the meetings. He also thanked Helmut Schultz and David Peel for assisting with the membership.

Now Onto the Elections... most positions were pre-nominated. Under the current constitutions all nominations would be closed due to the pre-nominations but, for the sake of democracy, all pre-nominated candidates were asked to withdraw their nomination so that nominations could be taken from the floor. All agreed to this.

Before nominations and voting commenced Eric Salter spoke on behalf of a group of AUG members who were concerned about the way the club was being run. Basically they were concerned about why membership was not increasing and why members apparently were dissatisfied with the current status quo.

All current committee positions were declared vacant. (Does that mean I could have stopped taking minutes at that point ?).

The position of co-ordinator had two nominations - Eric Salter and Angela Heal. Eric was elected to the post by about 75% of the vote. He replaces Neil Rutledge in this position.

Lester McClure was the only person nominated for the position of vice co-ordinator and therefore was elected by default. He replaces Chris Wearn in this position.

Neville Sleep, being the only nomination received, replaces Donna Heenan as treasurer.

David Peel, the temporary membership officer, was replaced by Peter Barton who was the only person nominated for the position.

Arnie Robbins retains his position as meeting chairman since he was the only one nominated.

Alan Garner, being the only nomination for secretary, retains that position (otherwise the minutes would have stopped there !!).

The excitement then began to elect 4 ordinary (in what sense) members. The nominations received for these positions were Hugh Leslie, George Wahr, Donna Heenan, Bob Laidlaw, Chris Tremelling, David Peel, and Michael Lamb. The four members elected were Hugh Leslie, George Wahr, Bob Laidlaw, and Chris Tremelling.

Everyone congratulated the new committee members as well as thanking the members of the outgoing committee for all the work that they had done.

4 people were then appointed to non-elected positions. Russell Porteous was appointed purchasing officer, David Marks was appointed disk librarian with John Elston as his assistant, and Chris Tremelling was appointed public officer.

Although Angela Heal did not obtain the position of co-ordinator she was encouraged to get involved in any way she wanted to. The meeting closed at 3:40 pm.

The following amendments were made to the original minutes after objections were raised at a committee meeting:
Contrary to the minutes, Michael Lamb stated that he did not wish to continue as disk librarian.

Helmut Schultz was thanked for his general assistance, not for helping out with memberships as was implied in the minutes.

Alan Garner Secretary AMIGA USERS GROUP

Positions Vacant (Committee)

Co-odinator (President) - Has the responsibility of overall co-ordination and control of the groups activities. This position offers an opportunity for any member of AUG to become strongly involved and help set the future direction of the group.

Assistant Co-ordinator (Vice-President) - This position exists primarily as a support to the co-ordinator but has in the past taken on the specific responsibility of co-ordinating the SIG groups and special activities undertaken by AUG and its members.

Meeting Chairman - Is in general required to organize the events at the AUG monthly meetings and with assistance from other committee members arrange demonstrations and displays of items considered to be of interest to general group members.

Secretary - Performs the usual functions expected of the secretary of any club or user group such as general correspondence, collection and distribution of committee meeting minutes and booking of meeting rooms.

Treasurer - Again a fairly traditional position involving the management of the daily finances of the group e.g. collecting and banking of funds received from P.D. disk sales, membership payments etc.

Membership Officer - Responsible for managing membership of the group by collection of dues, updating of database and issuing of renewals.

In addition to the above formal positions there are four general committee positions to cover the additional requirements of helping to run a group the size of AUG. The positions of Newsletter Editor, Software Librarian, Book Librarian and Purchasing Officer can be held by ordinary members of the group and are usually selected by committee members. This summary is offered as a guide only and is not to be considered a formal position description, the rules of the association define the specific requirements in more detail. The group would also fail to operate without the support and work put in by the co-ordinators of the Special Interest Groups. The committee meets once a month to discuss group business and apart from this most other duties can be handled by phone contact or at the main monthly meeting.

Financial Statement

Statement of accounts of the Amiga Users Group Inc for the period ending 30 June 1991

Balance at bank at 30th June 1990	$5787.17
Total credits for period $38870.37	
Total debits for period $36535.71	
Balance at bank at 30th June 1991	$8121.83
Liabilities brought forward from 1990-1991	$2855.00
Liabilities passed on to 1991-1992	$3444.76
Major expense areas,	
Workbench production	$12778.00
Postage Workbench $5744.55	
BBS equipment phones etc	$4055.00
Victoria College hire	$5715.00
Other services and fees	$10577.82
Total $38870.37	

The auction at the july meeting resulted in $2112.00 in revenue being taken for the club. Over $1800.00 of this amount being due to direct gifts of articles to auction for the club. This result is a remarkable effort, and will ensure a great start to another great year

Coordinator's Comment August 1991

Eric Salter.

What an absolutely amazing year for the Amiga Users Group and the Amiga! This is my final column as Co-ordinator of the 1990/91 committee of the AUG and I'd like to thank a number of people and particularly the members of this committee for a job very well done. This column is being written in the midst of the flurry of activity that goes into organising a PC exhibition as well as moving back from Geelong to Melbourne.

This year has been a bit of a dissapointment for me---I wasn't able to give as much time as I'd have liked to being the co- ordinator of the group. I didn't expect to be transferred to Geelong for 6 months of the year and modems don't like talking to other modems through hospital switchboards and some 86 kilometers at STD rates so it's been a little difficult being part of the dynamic processes that go on through the bulletin board in the committee area. Nonetheless, I think this committee has achieved a great deal this last 12 months and has laid the ground work for future committees that will make their job of running this show a lot easier.

The financial side of the group is significantly better due to the work of our treasurer Neville Sleep who, with the help of Lester McClure, has created a structure for the treasury to be able to deliver the information the committee need to make sound decisions and satisfy our obligations to our members and to Corporate Affairs. This is also the first edition of the new-look editorial committee that has the task of putting together our Workbench Journal each month. This group is dynamic and will be actively soliciting material for the journal---look forward to significant changes in the months to come. Thanks must go to Con who has editied a record number of Workbench journals. He has relinquished the position due to study committments but this committee thanks him and wishes him every success in his chosen career path.

I can't thank Lester McClure and Bob Laidlaw enough for giving me the moral support necessary to get through this year. Many times the committee seemed to be bogged down with administrative tasks and loose ends (and there are still plenty of these) and Lester and Bob took some of these tasks on and lightened the load. Thanks to Arnie who always made the Burwood meetings interesting, even if we had little planned. Thanks to George who always has something to contribute and has been instrumental in forging the ties between the Burwood and North-West group such that they are now indivisible---He also took up a fair bit of my time in committee meetings, dampening his enthusiasm! Thanks to Peter Barton or membership officer, Gary and Drac our BBS sysops, our librarian and disk librarians (especially David Marks who put his heart into it at the tender age of 14). If I've left anyone out, it's not because I've forgotten you!

The life of this group is very healthy indeed. Volunteers have been plentiful, people have answered the needs of the group by giving of their time as evidenced by the massive disk copying effort at the beginning of the year for the first Workbench-on- disk edition. I think this trend will continue---people see that the more they are willing to put into the group, the more they get out of it.

Exciting things are about to happen with PC-91. By the time you read this, it will all be over but hopefully it will be a demonstration to Melbourne and Commodore that the Amiga is a great machine and the AUG is doing useful and inovative things with it.

Thanks for putting up with me this last 12 months. All the best and happy computing my fellow Amigans. (Speaking of Amigans, I was saddened to learn of the death of Dick Barnes, the editor of that fine journal - Amigan Apprentice and Journeyman which ceased publication 2 years back due to Dick's ill health. The contribution that Dick and the A.& J. made is immeasurable.)

AUCTION

Lester McClure

Don't Panic - this is not another auction notice. We wish to simply thank everyone who helped make the July 1991 auction the great success it was.

***** THANKYOU *****

Particular thanks must go to George Wahr who did a fantastic job as auctioneer. To everyone who brought along donations for sale on the day, you helped make our task a lot easier. Although I was worried earlier on that we might not have enough to sell you all proved me wrong. To all who brought along their own goods to sell, thankyou for agreeing to our commission terms and for your patience in waiting until all the donated goods had been sold.

Attendance was good, over 200, with many eager bidders for the diverse range of goods for sale and others simply enjoying the experience. As a fund raising exercise it was easily a GRAND success with more than $1800 raised from the sale of donated goods alone. Commission from items sold on behalf of members raised another $300. AUG will definitely have another Burwood auction next year. The money raised will go towards the purchase of equipment (yet to be decided) and to expand the club's facilities for members to use.

For those unable to attend I can only say that you missed a great day and get ready for next year. What did we sell ? Almost anything, ranging from collections of AmigaWorld (including a rare 1st edition) and other Amiga magazines, games, books, 12v rechargeable alarm batteries (very popular), disk drives (various condition), monitors, memory expansion boards, chips and even a 350+ disk fish collection. Then we got to the interesting (weird) stuff - a pair of safety boots, a matchstick blind, a toaster (not New Tek type) an Atari computer and you had to be there to believe what else.

So, to round off, thankyou to everyone who donated items for sale and helped make the day a success.

ART SIG

by John Barlow

The ART SIG held on 23rd July was attended by 9 members. With 2 computers available it was a busy and useful evening. We decided to get together some of our work to present at PC91 - no doubt by now many of you will have seen the results of this joint effort.

The Art SIG was started by Norm Christian over a year ago and he has now decided to relinquish its direction so that he can concentrate on organising a similar Music SIG. However, the Keysborough venue (Norm's place), will remain unchanged for the present.

A vote of thanks is owed to Norm from all the people who attend these meetings. Norm had the insight to realised that the multitude of different activities going on at the General Meetings made it difficult to get a regular group together. In the slightly more formal environment of the General Meetings, everyone tends to watch what's happening out the front and expect that the discussion will be at the right level for them, and it usually isn't. There is a lot more interaction between individuals at the home meetings and because of this the "beginners" and "experts" tend to communicate much better and we all tend to learn things from one another. On behalf of all the people who have attended these SIGs I would like to thank Norm for setting the ball rolling and for regularly allowing the use of his home as a venue.

The group is now continuing to put together Demo disks of paintings, digitised work and animations etc. for display as a background to the General Meetings or at venues such as the Computer Show. If you have work you would like to display in this way bring it along or give it to someone who will be attending the Art SIG.

The next Art SIG will be at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 20th August. All members interested in any form of Amiga graphics or animation are welcome to attend, and don't forget to bring programs or work you would like to show or demonstrate. Please notify me, John Barlow on 551-4760 if you intend coming.

COUNTRY AMIGA SERVICES

AUG member George Francis from Morwell has started a Studio called TELRAYVision. George states that he will be specializing in

- Film to Tape transfers
- Imaging
- Computer Graphics
- Video in many formats & standards

People in the La Trobe Valley and Gippsland areas can contact George at: 23 Bunyip Court, Morwell 3840. 'phone (051) 337118

REPORT ON MUSIC SIG

by Norm Christian

A few months ago my proposal to re-form the Music SIG elicited interest from 13 people and a good proportion of those came to the first SIG in April. Attendance dropped off in May and June, and several members said that the SIGs were too soon after the main monthly meetings.

Accordingly I delayed the July SIG by one week and this was announced via Workbench and at the meeting. On 29th July a grand total of 2 people turned up. Where were all the members who said they would come if the date was later ? Well, the loss was theirs because we had an excellent evening delving into the mysteries of Bars & Pipes, and in fact the small number turned out to be an advantage because among other things we were able to concentrate on editing some music files in preparation for PC91.

Bars & Pipes is an incredibly good program and could be a continuing subject for several months to come. Although able to instruct beginners, I am still a long was from full understanding and would appreciate help from other users. So come one, come all !

Next Music SIG will be at Keysborough, 7.30 pm on Monday, 26th August. We have an ever-growing library of music files available for copying and would welcome further contributions. If you intend coming please advise on 798-6552.

FOR SALE

Complete MIDI studio consisting of Yamaha Keyboard PSR4500 and collection of Amiga disks to suit. Keyboard has 100 voices (each with editing facility covering 10 different parameters), 100 rhythm styles, 56 drum sounds, 3 RAM packs, 61 full size touch sensitive keys, MIDI and multi-timbral capability. Disks include large collection of songs in formats suitable for Music Studio, DMCS, Bars & Pipes, etc. all edited for immediate playback, sequencer programs for step or real-time recording of multiple tracks, MIDI data dump utility with many SYSEX files each loading 4 songs at a time into keyboard's multi-track Music Programmer and setting up registrations plus customised rhythm styles which play automatic backings, riffs, breaks, intros, endings, etc. (all alterable to suit.)

The lot - $1200.

Norm Christian, 798-6552.

2 Months To Go...

PD Copying for month of July - Aug 91

Mark Barnes (Disk Librarian)

10 NEW Fish Disks 491 - 500 received at meet.
118 DISKS Copied and returned at meet
36 DISKS Copied at meet not collected

Proposed Changes/Additions to PD Library:

1: Addition of NEW demos including MEGA DEMOS and Compilations Tasteful DEMOS only :-) Current demo collection stands at 22 Disks. Listing available at meet.

2: Addition of MUSIC disks. A collection of modules placed on disk with player to listen to. Current collection stands at 5 disks. Listing available at meet. (Enough modules available to make a further 20 or so disks!)

3: Addition of ART disks compiled by and graded by the ART sig. (This is still at the proposal stage as a few things need to be sorted out like standards and submission format etc.) Norm has a collection available for addition to PD library.

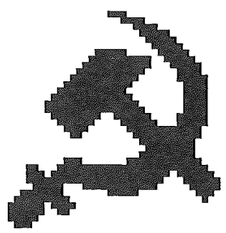
4: Addition of 60+ Theme disks such as Best of Fish, Utilities (Fish).

5: Removal of TBag, FAUG, 17Bit, Amigan, Amicus disks from library due to lack of interest. These disks WILL still be available by request ONLY. This means that they will no longer be taken to the meet but listings will still be available.

I do hope that this does not upset anyone!! :-l

OOPS DEPARTMENT OR: ARE YOU NOT RECEIVING THIS MAGAZINE??

Sometime around April or May a bundle of membership application/renewals got lost!. If YOU haven't, or know of someone who hasn't received notification of their application/renewal then please contact the membership secretary who will sort out your problem. The A.U.G. can't be accused of being TOTALLY incompetent because before the bundle was lost we did manage to cash their checks. Sorry folks.



2 Months until the Revolution...

SCREEN SAVE UTILITIES

Reviewed by Rob Pemberton

One of the most useful hardware additions to the Commodore 64 was the ubiquitous Action Replay cartridge, in particular its screen-save facility that would create files for simple reincarnation within the many multi-colour paint programs available. Whether the Amiga AR cartridge (now into its second version) is as successful I can't say, but seeing that the manipulation of graphics is an Amiga forte, a snapshot facilty should be a must in any user's toolbox.
In addition to Action Replay there are various commercial programs around ("Grabbit" & "Butcher" come to mind), but as usual, scanning the public domain collections can provide a suitable (and cheap!) alternative.

Such a utility is "SSS" - a set of three programs written to help you get an IFF file and at the same time address some of the inadequacies of the grab & snapshot programs currently available.

These programs- "Grabviews", "TimeSave" and "MemView2" are designed to be used in ascending order dependant on how hard it proves to get at a screen. For example, if you have control of your computer while a program is running that you need a screenshot of, "GrabViews" will do the trick. When run, the program will save all currently active displays with incremental file names. Operation is fairly simple, but the interface is different depending on whether you start from Workbench or CLI.

"TimeSave" was written to handle those times when the program you are trying to get a screen from won't let your hotkeys get through, or does something strange when you switch back to CLI (if it will even LET you get back to CLI). It was also written to allow unoprompted and scheduled saves of the active displays. The basic operation of the program is similar to that of "GrabViews", but with a few more options.

"MemView2" is based on a program written a couple of years ago by Leo Schwab. It is designed as your last resort -- for those games that don't start from Workbench conditions (Psygnosis products for example) and for times when the displays may be hidden in memory but not actually showing on the screen. Basically what it lets you do is scan through chip memory (via joystick control) looking for bitmaps, and then (if you choose) saves the image as an IFF file when you exit the program.

From my initial look it appears that author Chris Bailey (not an Aussie muso!) has created a utility to cope with most user requirements, although it must be pointed out that HAM, Extra-Halfbrite and overscan modes produce unpredictable results.
Still - if you ever wanted to check out all those great game screens (and clip brushes out for your own designs...) then give "SSS" a try. It is fully documented and can be found amongst some other useful stuff on T-BAG Disk 27, which can now resides in the AUG Library. Released as shareware, it carries the author's dire warning-"buy or die!"

BADGER

FRED FISH # 432

SHAREWARE - (US)$15

by ASHLEY SCHWALL-KEARNEY.

Badger is a computer version of an Appointment/Reminder calander, where the computer does the scanning and reminding for you each time you boot-up your machine. Optionally you can be reminded only the first time you boot your machine each day. A useful feature during a frustrating session where you re-boot often, as there is a limit to the number of times you can be safely reminded that your dental appointment is imminent.

To be reminded of your important events you have to type them in. You begin by typing "BADGER" from the CLI and are presented with a page listing the basic commands SEARCH / ADD / VIEW / DELETE / QUIT. A command is selected by typing its associated number or typing the first letter of the command - no mouse here - and then on to the ADD EVENTS page.

The pages are dull and uninspiring. The Plain-Jane approach is dissapointing and reminds me of the style of presentation used in the days of teletypes. A few bells and whistles would help, perhaps some other colours?. I found it difficult to read the black text on workbench blue. The program and its documentation seem to be written for the IBM. The Amiga version is a simple translation, with little attempt to utilise the Amiga's facilities. This may explain the low level look and lack of mouse support.

Despite its lack-lustre appearence Badger works well, is easy to use and understand. The top of the ADD EVENTS page is for information about your important event; DATE / ADVANCE WARNING / DESCRIPTION. The bottom describes the syntax for the current data field. After entering the date (American style only) you are asked, How many days advance warning you need. The default is 10 days but you could make it longer if you need more time to come up with a good excuse to avoid some unwanted event.

The program then asks for a reference year. If your EVENT DESCRIPTION includes "Birthday" or "Anniversary", the program calculates the persons age or how long ago their anniversary was and displays it in your reminder notice - neat!. The last field is the event description. A single line (70 characters), no room for a novel but long enough for most occasions.

When all your events have been entered and saved its time to sit back and relax with a peaceful mind because you won't forget all those important events - unless you forgot to enter some!.

With Badger installed in your 's' directory and a small addition to your startup-sequence (well explained in the documentation), the next time you boot-up before an important event, Badger will compare the data file and your real-time clock and remind (or badger) you about the upcoming event. It can even tell you if nothing is scheduled for the day (God! what a dull & boring life I lead). After you have been reminded of an event you can choose to be reminded of the same event next week, next month or next year.
None of this will be of any use if after reading the reminder you continue to use the computer for whatever reason you turned it on, then promptly forget about the special event and the reminder notice.

Badger is simple and easy to use and should be quite useful for regular and predictable events, but a calendar or a piece of string around your finger may be more practical if you are truly forgetful or easily distracted.

The program is not really shareware but tryware. You can use the program for 30 days after you initialize it. When 30 days have expired the program ceases to function, erases its files, gives off a bad smell and begins to scream "Hang the Pirates". All this turmoil can easilly be avoided by paying 15 bucks to the author or erasing the program from your disk and your memory - not a real problem since if you had a fine memory you wouldn't be interested in this program in the first place.

COLOUR PRINTS FROM YOUR AMIGA

We recently recieved a letter from Jim Morraitis of

Classic Colour Copying
350 King Street West Melbourne
Phone 329 2774

The letter announced

"...a unique and exciting Computer Imaging Service available to all Amiga (as well as Macintosh, MS-DOS, Silicon Graphics, SUN and Unix) users.

Our system can print full colour Postscript and Raster files up to A1 (894mm X 540mm), in 16.7 million colours...."

They offer full colour scanning of paper up to A1, slides, negatives, transparencies, VHS or Canon ION signals as well as colour photocopying.

A single laser photocopy costs $4, while a colour Bubble Jet photocopy costs $15

Apart from Postscript material they convert all files to the TIFF format. If you bring in a Tiff file you pay a $10 set-up charge as well as for each print. They charge $10 to convert other file types to TIFF format.

I spoke to Jim who was quite helpfull and familiar with the Amiga and its software, particularly Pagestream and Pro Page. He is quite willing to help and has offered a 10% discount to AUG members (show your card). If you want to see hardcopy versions of you masterpiece then give Jim a call

Public Domain Fred Fish 501 - 510

CONTENTS OF DISK 501

AddMenu
A program to add infinite number of menus to the Tools menu on Workbench V2.0. Uses the correct Workbench.library calls and allows updating from CLI or from within the menu itself, meaning infinite number of functions. Binary only but source available from author. Author: Nic Wilson

AutoCLI
A 'PopCLI' type replacement that works with WorkBench 2.0 and fully compatible with A3000 & accelerator boards. Always retains the default path and stack, and current directory. Can automatically open CLI/SHELL windows to 1 pixel less than screen size on opening. Other features include an optional Function-key press with the qualifier to execute an S:script file. Version 1.99d, binary only. Update to version on disk 424 with more enhancements. Author: Nic Wilson

Dominos
Standard game of dominos with 6-6 set. The computer will provide a challenge to any skilled player. Version 1.0, includes source in Basic. Author: Russell Mason

DOSWatch
Monitor for calls to AmigaDOS via dos.library. Needs Kickstart 1.2 or 1.3. This is version 1.0. HiSoft Devpac Assem. V1.21 source included.
Author: A.Voss Wrede

Genesis
A uniquely flexible and powerful program for generating and rendering fractal landscapes. Original algorithms allow incorporating fractal rivers as integral parts of the landscapes, with natural looking river valleys, gulleys, waterfalls, and lakes. Parameters can be varied to modify the landscape construction process and change the character of the final landscape, there is also great flexibility in the rendering. This is a demo version of the commercial product by the same name available from Microillusions and has some features disabled. Binary only. Author: James M. Bardeen

LList
A 'list' program that displays file type. Many types of files included. Ability to extract information from other file types for recognition. Standard Amiga Wildcards supported. Binary only. Author: Nic Wilson

NewList
A powerful LIST replacement. Iincludes sorts, character filters, case sensitivity, most options offered by LIST, date construction, UNIX wildcards, and much more. Sort routines are very fast and memory usage is minimal. Version 5.0, update of version 4.9 on disk 478. Binary only. Author: Phil Dietz

NoClick
A program to stop drives clicking in KickStart V2.0. Uses the correct method. Also a patch for the kickstart files for a permanent no-click for V1.3 and V2.0, both A3000 version and kickfile version for other Amigas. Binary only and ASCII patch. Author: Nic Wilson

NoErrors
A simple to use, Gadget driven program. Its main function is to hide physical hard errors from floppy disks or hard disks, so these disks can then be used without DOS showing read/write errors. Binary only. Author: Nic Wilson

CONTENTS OF DISK 502

AutoRev
A little utility to update program-headers ran from the CLI. Requires AmigaDos 2.0. This is Version 1.1r. Source included. Author: Jan van den Baard

CELLS
A cellular automata experimentation lab, based on the rules described in the Computer Recreations column of the Scientific American, January 1990. Version 1.3. Source included. Author: Davide Cervone

EternalRome
A historical strategy game, that in spite of its high complexity is fast and easy to play. Fully mouse controlled with a fine zoomable map of the Roman empire (overscan and interlaced options). The simulation delivers many historical insights because of its accuracy (may be used for educational purposes) and is a challenging and entertaining game for two or more players (also interesting for solitary studies). Version 1.0 (tryware). Binary only. Author: Sven Hartrumpf

ReturnCode
Two Short programs (LogRC and GetRC) to allow the "Return Code" left by a previous program to be saved in a form suitable for further (script) testing. GetRC allows the Return Code to be set or viewed as desired. Assembly source included. Author: Jim Butterfield

SysInfo
A program which reports interesting information about the configuration of your machine, including some speed comparisons with other configurations, versions of the OS software, etc. Version 2.22, an update to version 1.98 on disk 433. Binary only.
Author: Nic Wilson

TrackDOS
A program that allows easy transfer of data between DOS, memory and trackdisk.device. DOS means the data contained within a file, memory means the data contained anywhere within the memory map and trackdisk.device means data stored on a disk not accessable with DOS (eg. bootblocks special loader disks etc.). The transfer of data between these three areas is not normally easy or convenient. TrackDos was written to overcome this. This is version 1.08, an update to 1.04 on Fish disk 365. Binary only.
Author: Nic Wilson

CONTENTS OF DISK 503

NoFragLib
A library containing 6 routines for defragmenting memory. Extracted and updated from the "tool.library" on disk 475. Includes source.
Author: Jan van den Baard

PCQ
A freely redistributable, self compiling, Pascal compiler for the Amiga. This is version 1.2a, an update to version 1.1c on disk 339. It has many enhancements and improvments. It is bundled with the latest versions of A68K assembler, Blink linker, Debug, and Mon to give a complete develop- ment environment. Includes the compiler source and example programs.
Author: Patrick Quaid

CONTENTS OF DISK 504

PolySiliCon
A centralized Shell Command Interface with visible scrollable History and mouse access. Allows multiple shells to be controlled from a single command/history window. Commands can be re-executed with a mouse click. A group of commands for a project may be loaded into the history from a file for easy access. Compatible with both 1.3 and 2.0 AmigaDOS. ShareWare, binary only. Author: Pete Goodeve.

RoadRoute
A program that determines from a user modifiable data base, the shortest and fastest routes between two cities. Includes a coarse and a detailed data set and a program, RoadScan, for examining the contents of large RoadRoute data files. This is version 1.7. Includes source. Author: Jim Butterfield

ShuttleCock
Yet another animation from Eric Schwartz. Eric wanted to do an animation that required less than 1 MB to run. Released May 1991. Author: Eric Schwartz

View
A text displayer with many controls and features including searches, file requestors, jump to editor etc. This is version 1.0, a re-write that requires AmigaDos 2.0. Source is included. Author: Jan Van Den Baard

ViewDir
Allows reading the current directory by commanding VIEWDIR "". Displays a listing of the specified directory with the total bytes at the bottom and the description of the file types next to each file. Also includes a "version string" to allow a DOS 2.0 VERSION command to read. This is version 2.1 an update to the version on disk 358. Assembler source included. Author: Jim Butterfield

CONTENTS OF DISK 505

TheDatingGame
A greatanimation by Eric Schwartz. His biggest animation yet lasts nearly 4 minutes and requires 3 MB of RAM to run. Flip the Frog has all kinds of trouble getting to the house of his girlfriend, Clarisse Cat. This cartoon animation follows the style of theatrical cartoons of earlier days. The animation unpacks to two floppies. Shareware. Author: Eric Schwartz

CONTENTS OF DISK 506

NGTC
Release Two of a trivia game based on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" TV series. Part 1 is on this disk. Part 2 is on disk 507. You also need Release One from disks 404 and 405. Created with The Director Version 2. Binary only. Author: Gregory Epley

CONTENTS OF DISK 507

LHCon
A program that will convert Arc and Zoo formatted archives to LHArc format. This will save precious disk space. LHCon will do single files or entire directories. Also has the ability to preserve the comment field of the file for BBS programs that require it and for those who label their programs in that manner. Version 1.01. Binary only. Author: Steve Robbins and Bill Huff

NGTC
Release 2 of a trivia game based on "Star Trek: The Next Generation". Part 2 on this disk. Part 1 on disk 506. Also needs Release 1 from disks 404 & 405. Created with The Director Version 2. Binary only. Author: Gregory Epley

CONTENTS OF DISK 508

DirWork
A fast, small, simple, efficent, shareware DirUtility that gets directories off floppies in about half the normal time. Configurable options and buttons, as well as all the usual features. This is Version 1.30, an update to version 1.12 on disk 406. Shareware. Binary only.
Author: Chris Hames

HCC
Amiga port of Sozobon, Limited's C Compiler, version 2.0. Can completely compile itself, supports 32 bit ints, and optimizer can 'registerize' variables. Includes compiler, optimizer, tool for creating interface code for Amiga system calls, startup code, C library, include files, and library routines that work with Motorola FFP format. Uses assembler A68k, linker BLink, and provided run-time shared C library CClib.library. Includes source..
Author: Sozobon, Limited. Amiga port, bug fixes and enhancements by Detlef Wuerkner

CONTENTS OF DISK 509

Multi_Player
A music player that loads and plays a large variety of the "tracker" type sound modules. With an intuition interface, allows you to load formats like Intuitracker, NoisePlayer, Soundtracker, FutureComposer and 7 others including power- packed modules! Includes many sample modules in several of these formats. This is version 1.2. Includes source.
Author: Thomas Landspurg

PCKeyMap
This program uses an InputEventHandler to manipulate the backslash (\) and some other useful keys in order to better emulate an XT/AT keyboard on the German Amiga keyboard (which is missing the backslash and some other keys). This is version 1.0. Includes source.
Author: Peter Vorwerk

CONTENTS OF DISK 510

ATCopy
A program to copy files from the Amiga side of a system equipped with a PC/AT bridgeboard, to the PC side, using wildcards. Copies directly through the shared memory. Supports CLI and WorkBench usage. This is version 2.22, an update to version 2.2 on disk 458. With some final bug fixes, this will be the last non-commercial release. Shareware, binary only.
Author: Peter Vorwerk

SYNWORKS
A graphics oriented environment for design, training and test of neural networks. The enclosed version is public domain and supports only three network models. Not all options are available but this version provides the most important features to allow users to decide if neural networks are an appropriate solution for their problems. Binary only. Author: Michael Kaiser

VMK
A virus detector, this program no longer detects specific viri, instead it concentrates on checking system vectors and various parameters that viri typically modify in order to survive reboots. This is version 1.0, an update to version .27 on disk 328 listed under "Hames". Binary only. Author: Chris Hames

.....Read the P.D coloumn for proposed changes to the PD library setup.

Amiga User Group Phone Listings

Amiga Help-Network

The following is a list of AUG members who have volunteered to share their knowledge/experiences with others. If you also want to help and have your name listed here please contact Lester McClure - 803 5664. The names are not listed in any order or priority and the format may change in future listings. Please keep contacts to reasonable hours (6 to 9 pm unless otherwise mentioned) and remember one very important basis of this service- they are volunteers...

Neville Sleep	-	Amiga Basic (Beginner Level)	546 0633
Rudy Kohut	-	Amiga Basic (Intermediate) Introduction to the Amiga	807 3911
John Elston	-	Amiga Basic (Advanced)	375 4142
Alan Garner	-	Amiga Basic, A/C Basic	879 2683
Mal Woods	-	C(Introductory), Professional Page	888 8129
Andrew Gelme	-	C (Advanced)-AZTEC	645 1744
Eric Salter	-	C (Advanced)-LATTICE, TeX	853 8857
Norm Christian	-	Amiga Art, Music	798 6552
Neil Rutledge	-	Music, Audio Sampling, MIDI	597 0928
Russ Lowback	-	Beginners Help Line (after 9:30 pm)	756 6640
George Wahr	-	Superbase, Bridgeboard	376 6180
Bill Jordan	-	Amiga BASIC, A/C & AMOS BASIC	417 3521
Lester McClure	-	Lucas/Frances-A1000 32 bit processor system	803 5664
Joe Santamaria	-	Graphic Arts - DPaint, Sculpt, etc	383 3509

The following is a list of AUG members who have volunteered to help in the area of article writing for the *Workbench* Journal and are topic-specific helpers. You can also help by adding your name to this list.

Nikolai Kingsley	-	CLI & Shell Utilities, Programming	772 8472
Jim Berry	-	Genneral Interest Articles	807 7321
Norm Christian	-	Art and Music Articles	798 6552
Rob Pemberton	-	Beginner Level Articles	571 4579
Ben Barrows	-	Humorous Articles	888 8608
Rod Paterson	-	Scientific Interest Articles	889 2793
Daryl Hutchins	-	Will Retype Articles (10 am-3 pm)	870 6284

The Amiga Users Group Committee

When in real doubt, or you have an inquiry, ask a member of the Committee, obviously the most relevant one you can think of. If you want to see your name here you'll have to be nominated at the Annual General Meeting.

Co-ordinator	-	Eric Salter	853 8857
Ass. Coordinator	-	Lester McClure	803 5664
Meeting Chair	-	Arnold Robbins	808 0551
Secretary	-	Alan Garner	879 2683
Treasurer	-	Nevile Sleep	546 0633
Membership	-	Peter Barton	850 9250
Purchasing	-	Russell Porteous	585 0202
Book Library	-	Ross Johnson	824 7026
Disk Library	-	Mark Barnes	807 7036
Workbench comm.	-	Ashley Schwall-kearney	754 5445
Committee	-	Bob Laidlaw	359 3930
Committee	-	Hugh Leslie	489 1584
Committee	-	George Wahr	376 6180
Public Officer	-	Chris Tremelling	527 2594

NWAUG Committee (PO Box 25, Coburg 3058)

Co-ordinator	-	Kerrie Millar	484 5934
Ass. Coordinator	-	Tony Prowse	379 7960
Meeting Chair	-	George Wahr	376 6180
Treasurer/Mem	-	Paul Pritsis	350 3601
General	-	Hugh Leslie	489 1584
General	-	Greg Rowburg	484 3909
General	-	Simon Shead	383 4905
BBS SysOp	-	Gary Gajic	376 4378
PD Library	-	Alan Cheng	380 5588
Book Library	-	Darrel Butcher	439 6283

PUBLIC DOMAIN SOFTWARE ORDER FORM

Mail to: Amiga Users Group, PO Box 684E, Melbourne 3001, Victoria

Disk Numbers										

Dont forget to specify collection name i.e., FISH, AMIGAN, AMICUS etc.

Disks supplied by the Amiga Users Group @ $6 each		**$**
Disks supplied by member @ $2 each		**$**
Club Use Only:	**Total:**	**$**
Member's Name:	**Membership #**	
Address:		
	Postcode:	

NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUE ORDER FORM

Mail to: Amiga Users Group, PO Box 684E, Melbourne 3001, Victoria

Issue Numbers										

Be Patient, we may have to reprint some issues to fill your request.

Number of issues ordered @ $2 each		**$**
Club Use Only	**Total:**	**$**
Members Name:	**Membership #**	
Address:		
	Postcode:	

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE AMIGA USERS GROUP INC.

Membership Is $25 per year. Send your cheque to: Amiga Users Group Inc., PO Box 684E, Melbourne 3001

Surname: _____

First Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone Number _____ STD Code: _____

Where did you hear about AUG: _____

_____

_____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Details on this side are optional

Year of birth: _____ Which Model Amiga _____

Occupation: _____

Interests: _____

_____

_____

Which group do you attend Mostly _____

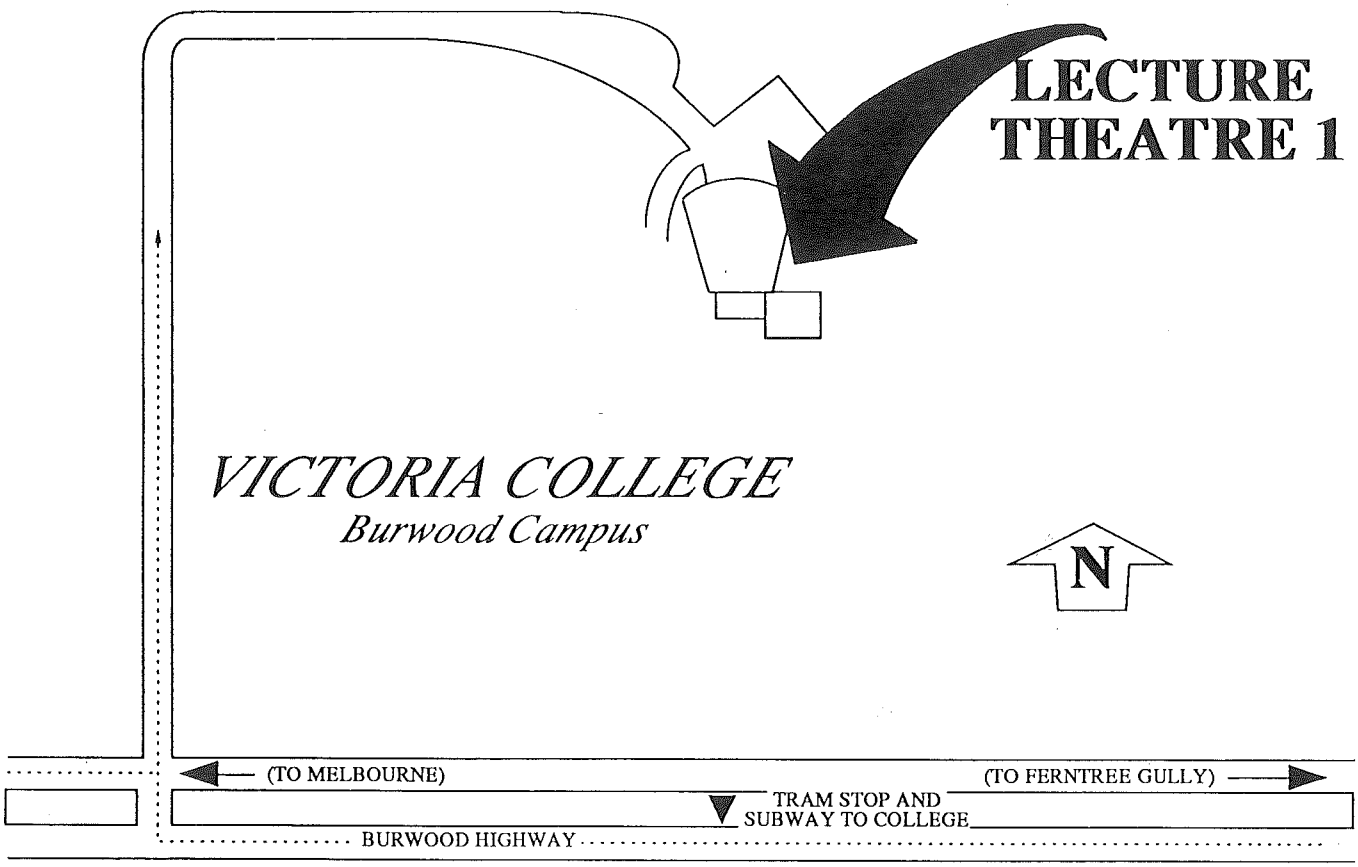
i.e., Burwood , NWAUG etc., _____

_____

If admitted as a member, I agree to abide by the rules of the Association for the time being in force

Club Use Only	Date	Paid	Rcpt #	Memb #	Card Sent

AUG meets on the third Sunday of each month



Where is Victoria College, Burwood Campus?

Melways Map 61 reference B5.

People often have difficulty locating our meeting place the first few times. Victoria College is on the North side of Burwood Highway, Burwood, just East of Elgar road. Coming from the city along Burwood Highway, turn left at the first set of traffic lights after Elgar road. Follow the road around past the football oval , over five traffic bumps to the car parking area near the netball courts. Further up the road you'll find Lecture Theatre 1. The meeting entrance fee is only $1.00.