

SummertimeGuard

Eelke Blok

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COLLABORATORS

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Chapter 1

SummertimeGuard

1.1 Summertime Guard documentation

Documentation for Summertime Guard

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1.2 Introduction

Introduction

What is Summertime Guard?

The utility that lies in front of you is yet another attempt to make AmigaOS a bit more user-friendly. Compared to packages like MUI, MagicWB, NewIcons, Scalos and Directory Opus - which have that same goal - , Summertime Guard is very, very simple. However, it does relief you from a task that returns twice every year: switching your Amigas clock from wintertime to summertime and back. Through a simple method, Summertime Guard keeps an eye on the time of your system and the regulations regarding the summertime that exist in your area.

When the time comes to change the systems time, the program does so and informs you of that change. Summertime Guard is based on an idea from the ['No Amiga To Waste' website](#).

I feel that Summertime Guard is such a simple, although very useful, little contraption, that it is not necessary for anyone to pay to use it. Therefore, I decided that Summertime Guard should be freeware. Have a look at the [legal section](#) to see what this means. Of course, I'm always happy to see any (E-)mail coming from you about whether you like or dislike the program or whether you have any suggestions. And, naturally, if you insist on sending me anything for my work (like a hundred quid, a shiny new PowerUp board or a really expensive car) I won't stop you. In any case, remember that freeware is not the same as public domain, so you can't do everything you like with it; I still own the copyright.

1.3 No Amiga To Waste

No Amiga To Waste

<http://thunderstorms.org/NATW/>

Summertime Guard is based on an idea from the 'No Amiga To Waste' website (<http://thunderstorms.org/NATW/>). This site is a meeting place for people that have ideas for Amiga-software or who need help with a certain development task and the people that have the skills and will to implement the idea or help the other person. The skills include not only programming, but also music composing and graphics work. It is a wonderful resource, both for developers seeking work and for those that need a certain task done they can't do themselves. Just think of a games-programmer who is not very handy with art packages. And, of course, it is also great that people that have a good idea for a piece of software can tell others, who may be able to realise the idea. So, let no Amiga go to waste!!

The idea for Summertime Guard can be found in the ideas tree at the NATW site, in Utilities/Time/DLST-handler. The idea is from Ragnar Fyri. He thought of it when he started a PC once, which informed him that the systems clock was adapted for summertime (or daylight saving time, hence his suggested name 'DLST-handler'). I, the programmer, picked up the idea and the result is this nice little utility.

1.4 System requirements

System Requirements

What you need to run Summertime Guard.

Realtime clock

Running Summertime Guard when you don't have a realtime clock doesn't make much sense. I briefly considered allowing the absence of a realtime clock for systems that run for large amounts of time in a row and don't have a clock, but I didn't think that there are a lot, if any systems like that which don't have a clock.

If you are not sure whether your Amiga has a realtime clock, you can use the following general rule of thumb: small, wedge shaped Amiga's (the A500, A600 and A1200) don't have a realtime clock as standard. However, for all these models, upgrade boards are available that provide the machine with a clock. If your small Amigas memory has been expanded and/or it has an accelerator installed, you probably also have a clock. 'Big Box' Amiga's, like the A2000, A3000 and A4000, do have a realtime clock.

To be sure, you can see whether the computer remembers time when it was switched off, or you can simply run Summertime Guard. If your system doesn't have a clock, you will be told and Summertime Guard will exit without doing anything.

AmigaOS 2.1+

Summertime Guard depends on the localization system of the OS versions 2.1 and above. This also means that your Locale-settings should be correct for Summertime Guard to work properly.

If you don't already have a recent OS version, do consider upgrading. It makes a world of difference. Check your computers manuals if you are not sure about the OS version. Summertime Guard has not been tested on anything but AmigaOS 3.1, so if you encounter any problems with another version (or the same) please tell me about it. Have a look in the [bugs](#) section to find out how to contact me.

1.5 Installation and usage

Installation and usage

How to get Summertime Guard up and running.

Before installing Summertime Guard, you need to make sure that your system complies to the [system requirements](#) and that your [area](#) is supported by the program. Also, you should check that your Locale-settings are actually set to the area you are in (i.e. country and timezone should be set correctly).

Note that setting the country doesn't automatically set the timezone as well, as

you might expect. After you checked all this, you may run the supplied Commodore Installer script. When the script is finished, you don't need to give any attention to the program anymore. Only when summertime starts or ends you will be reminded in a pleasant way that you don't need to alter your systems time by hand.

If you want to test Summertime Guard, you can set the system time back or forward to a part of the year where it should be wintertime if you currently are in summertime or vice versa. After that, run Summertime Guard and see whether it correctly changes your systems clock. When you're finished, don't forget to switch the date back. Do not put the clock to the right hour as well. If you do, Summertime Guard will set the clock one hour to far the next time it is ran. If you want the time to be correct right away, you can simply run Summertime Guard again.

Experienced users may choose not to copy Summertime Guard to the WBStartup drawer. If you choose to do that, you should make sure you provide another way for Summertime Guard to be ran at regular times. All Summertime Guard does is check the current time when it is started, adapt the time if necessary and then exit. To check summertime multiple times, you will have to run Summertime Guard multiple times; it doesn't stay resident in memory after it has been started.

1.6 Problems

Problems

If it doesn't work out.

The only problems I can imagine right now are related to areas that are not supported by Summertime Guard. If Summertime Guard detects that according to the Locale-settings your computer is in an area of which no data is available in the datafile, the program will tell you. If this happens, you should first make sure your Locale-settings are correct. If they are correct, you can refer to the **supported areas** table to find out whether your area is indeed not supported by your version of Summertime Guard.

If, despite the programs message, your area is listed and your Locale-settings are correct, I ask you to **contact me**.

If you have other trouble, I advise you to first thoroughly read this documentation once more. If you don't find a solution to your problem then either, I wholeheartedly invite you to **contact me**.

1.7 Supported areas

Supported areas

Where can Summertime Guard be used?

Summertime schemes tend to vary from country to country. As I wasn't aware of the exact nature of these differences, I made Summertime Guard as flexible as possible regarding the differences between various areas. Please have a look at the table below to find out whether your area is supported by Summertime Guard. If your area isn't listed and you have the data needed for me to support it, please [contact me](#) and tell me about it. I will then try to support your area in the next release of Summertime Guard. Do make sure that your country is supported by AmigaOS, since I can't support countries that aren't supported by the OS.

Areas are characterized by Summertime Guard by a country and a timezone. A lot of countries are in only one timezone, but there are also some large countries that are spread across various timezones. I may find out that the deviation in timezones is not necessary, because the summertime-schemes are the same everywhere in a given country. If that is the case, I might adapt Summertime Guard to only use the country as a classification for the area. However, it does no harm to check the timezone, and I always think you can better be save then sorry.

These areas are currently supported by Summertime Guard:

Country 1) Timezone Start of summertime 2) End of summertime 2)
(Minutes from GMT)

United Kingdom 0 (GMT) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Portugal 0 (GMT) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Deutschland -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Nederland -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Norge -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Sverige -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Danmark -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

België/Belgique -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

France -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Schweiz/Suisse/

Svizzera -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Österreich -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Italia -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

España -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

Australia -480 0 sun oct 2:00 1 sun mar 2:00

Australia -570 0 sun oct 2:00 1 sun mar 2:00
 Australia -600 0 sun oct 2:00 1 sun mar 2:00
 United States 660 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 United States 600 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 United States 540 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 United States 480 (Pacific T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 United States 420 (Mountain T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 United States 360 (Central T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 United States 300 (Eastern T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 Canada 480 (Pacific T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 Canada 420 (Mountain T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 Canada 360 (Central T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 Canada 300 (Eastern T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 Canada 240 (Atlantic T.) 1 sun apr 2:00 0 sun oct 2:00
 ĀeskĀ Republika -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00
 (Czech Republic)
 Yugoslavia -60 (CET) 0 sun mar 2:00 0 sun oct 3:00

- 1) The countries are listed as they appear in the locale preferences-editor.
- 2) The start and end-times are given in the following format, using English abbreviations:

<dayrank> <weekday> <month> <time>

<dayrank> : [0|1|2|3|4] for last, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.

<weekday> : [sun|mon|tue|wed|thu|fri|sat] for the weekdays sunday to saturday.

<month> : [jan|feb|mar|apr|may|jun|julaug|sep|oct|nov|dec] for the months january to december.

<time> : Time in 24-hour format.

1.8 Updates and information

Updates and information

Updates and other info on Summertime Guard, including supported areas for the latest version, can be found on its website, at
<http://home.student.utwente.nl/e.blok/sguard/>

New versions of the program can also be found on the Aminet, although usually with a little delay.

1.9 Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following people:

- * Ragnar Fyri, for his nice idea to make the Amiga even better.
- * The ATO, for providing a wonderful and free translation service to Amiga programmers.
- * The wonderful '[No Amiga To Waste](#)' website.
- * All the people that gave suggestions on the NATW site. Even when I didn't do what you suggested, I gave every suggestion a thorough consideration.
- * Gateway and Amiga (International), Inc., for providing a bit of hope again.

1.10 Bugs

Bugs

Pest-control, anyone?

Currently, I'm not aware of any bugs. I tested Summertime Guard thoroughly, but it is not impossible that there are some left nonetheless. If you find any malfunction (please read the manual thoroughly first before you assume it is a malfunction) please [contact me](#).

1.11 Contact

Contact

How to reach me?

For suggestions, bug-reports, questions, presents or whatever else, I can be reached on the following address:

Eelke Blok

Calslaan 30B-34

7522 MD Enschede

E-mail: e.blok@student.utwente.nl

Please don't use the '[No Amiga To Waste](#)' website for suggestions anymore.

I don't know whether the idea-description will remain available there, but I do know that I will not be checking there anymore myself. Of course, I will keep visiting the site itself to find some new programming ideas.

1.12 History

History

Past and present versions of Summertime Guard

1.03 (6.1.98)

Update release, containing the following extra's:

- New, optimized build
- YU and GB (for 3.1 AmigaOS) countrycodes added to datafile
- German catalog added
- Serbian catalog, installation and documentation added
- ATO.readme included in the archive

1.0 (20.10.98)

First public release of Summertime Guard, containing as many areas and translations I could get my hands on. The binary is technically identical to the 0.10 version.

0.10 (15.9.98)

Update of the pre-release. Same purpose as 0.9, but with a small bug removed.

0.9 (4.9.98)

First pre-release, for beta-testing and translation purposes.

0.1 (29.7.98)

Internal development version, that was used for every stage of the development, from an empty directory to a fully functioning program. Not released.

1.13 Legal issues

Legal issues

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1.14 disclaimer

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1.15 license

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