ael0195

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# Chapter 1

# ael0195

## 1.1   Amiga Educator's List (AEL) Newsletter January 1995

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::::::::::::                                           ::            ::
:::::::::::: AMIGA EDUCATOR'S LIST (AEL) NEWSLETTER ::         /// ::
::::::::::::       Volume 2  No. 1 - Jan. 1995       ::         ///  ::
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::::::::::::::::::                                 ::::::: \\  ///    ::
::::::::::::::::: Copyright 1995  OWL Software :::::: \\///     ::
:::::::::::::::::     All rights reserved      ::::::  \XX/      ::
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## 1.2   AEL Newsletter Main Menu

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::::::::::::::::: AMIGA EDUCATOR'S LIST (AEL) NEWSLETTER ::::::::::::::::::
:::::::::::::::::       Volume 2  No. 1 - Jan. 1995      :::::::::::::::::
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::::: Editor: Lori Vinciguerra         owl@davinci.reading.ma.us :::::
::::: Consultant: Ralph L. Vinciguerra    rlv@davinci.reading.ma.us :::::
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                      Editor's Corner
                 New Products and Exciting News
                   Amiga Labs in Canada
                 List of Schools Using Amigas
                  How to get on the AEL
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## 1.3  Editor's Corner

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Editor's Corner            by Lori Vinciguerra
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Happy New Year everyone!  A warm thank you to everyone who has
supported my idea for an educator's newsletter.  I have received
letters and e-mail from all over the world telling me of Amiga labs and
teachers who are using our favorite machine.  It is encouraging
to know that there are so many Amigas being used for educational
purposes.  I hope that this newsletter is useful for all of you.

Well, here we are in 1995 and still there is no resolution to the
Commodore buyout situation.  Now more than ever it is important for
groups of Amigans to band together to support the machine and its
hardware and software developers.  There are many companies which will
inevitably move on to other platforms.  However, many companies are
sticking with the Amiga and waiting for the outcome of the proceedings.

As educators and people interested in education, our interests include
informing the new owners of the Amiga technology of the importance of
educational software products. The list of schools using Amigas for
education is growing and will be an important part of showing the new
owners that there is significant interest in this area.  Just imagine
the impact that placing Amigas in key school districts would have on
the attitudes of people who are making the decisions to purchase
computers.  Once the capability of the machine and its software is
demonstrated, and there is confidence in the viability of the new Amiga
manufacturers, people may no longer say, "What should we buy, a Mac or
a PC?".  But rather, "Let's make sure that we check out the Amiga!"  It
is clear that the Amiga is an excellent choice for educators.  Hardware
and software costs are low,the multimedia capability is excellent, the
machine is easy to use, and (hopefully) the people who make the Amiga
know that education is important.

I intend to include the new owners on my distribution list for this
newsletter.  Your stories on the successful integration of Amigas into
your school system would make excellent articles for all to read.  I
would encourage people to send in their stories for the April edition
by March 15, 1995.  You may email them to owl@davinci.reading.ma.us.
Hopefully by that point the Amiga should be back in production. Your
contributions to the AEL will help it be interesting and successful.

## 1.4  Editor

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***************************************************************************
                            EDITOR
***************************************************************************


                        Lori Vinciguerra

                email:  owl@davinci.reading.ma.us


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## 1.5   New Products and Exciting News

```
Making Music with Bertie Bunny    Music for young children
        Ensemble Verbes               Practice French verbs
            Analay                    Numerical analysis program
        Michaels Math Quiz            Learning math ages 6 and up
```

The products listed in this area have not been tested by OWL Software.  They
are listed for informational purposes.  Reviews of educational products are
welcome and can be sent to owl@davinci.reading.ma.us.

## 1.6   New Products and Exciting News / Making Music with Bertie Bunny

```
Product: Making Music with Bertie Bunny
Company: WindShadow Software
         77 McIntyre Court
         Newmarket, Ontario CANADA  L3Y 8B9
Email:   gordon.wilkes@canrem.com    (Internet)
         gordon wilkes (1:229/15)    (FidoNet)
         gordon wilkes ->CRS         (Relaynet(RIME))
Phone:   1-905-836-4400 (Voice)
         1-905-836-4400 (Fax)
Price:   $34.95 (US dollars) + $5.00 shipping & handling
         If you are willing to receive the product by email as an LHA archive,
         there is no charge for shipping and handling.

         A special offer has been mailed to many User Groups which provides
         discounts up to 50% when members combine their orders. If your
         group has not yet received the offer, please contact me as soon as
         possible.

         Payment may also be made in other currencies. Please inquire
         to get the latest prices. Note that the Canadian dollar price is
         discounted a little bit more.
```

At last there is a product for the Amiga computer where young children can
have fun learning about music! WindShadow Software has introduced "Making
Music with Bertie Bunny". This is a product that is only available for the
Commodore Amiga computer. It fully employs the multimedia capabilities of
the computer.

There are many features to enhance your enjoyment:

- Fun for children of all ages. Even a 2 year old can "Bang Keys"
  to control Bertie. Bertie Bunny will  automatically move from
  place to place on the display. The child can simply bang on the
  keys to cause Bertie to choose an  instrument or tune.

  Older children can use the mouse. This makes it quicker to make
  selections and helps them to develop fine motor skills.

– Learn to recognize the sound of various musical instruments.

– Learn to recognize various musical tunes from one or more of 4
  different parts: the melody, a counterpoint to the melody,
  an obbligato  accompaniment or a rhythmic accompaniment.

– Hear how different instruments sound in combination with each other.

– Use the computer keyboard as a musical instrument. You can
  select which instrument sounds are to be used and then play
  notes (up to 4 at a time will sound) and see the corresponding
  key-presses on a piano keyboard.

– Readily installs on a hard drive. Installation uses Commodore's
  Installer utility.  The Installer program is supplied
  under license from Commodore.

– Supports the NTSC and PAL video standards and 6 languages.

– Multitasks on the more powerful models of Amiga. Other
  software can run in the background at a low priority, for example,
  3D rendering, compiling large programs, or downloading batches of
  files.

– the manual is in AmigaGuide format. The AmigaGuide program
  is supplied under license from Commodore.

This product is unusual in that it is easy to use for children as young as
2 years old, while providing creative opportunities for older children to
explore.

WindShadow Software is a Canadian company providing products for the
Commodore Amiga which are sold world-wide.

Requirements:  AmigaDOS 2.0 or greater and 1 megabyte of RAM.


## 1.7  New Products and Exciting News / Ensemble Verbes

Product:  Ensemble Verbes
Company:  Peter Janes
          6868 Egremont Road, R.R.#8
          Watford, ON, CANADA  N0M 2S0
E-mail:   pejanes@descartes.uwaterloo.ca
Price:    CAN$25 for Ensemble Verbes shareware registration
          CAN$10 for The French Student's Dictionary & Guide
          CAN$30 for Ensemble Verbes *and* The French Student's Dictionary & Guide
          (All prices do not include shipping)
Demo:     Available on Aminet, directory misc/edu/Verbes1_2.lha


Ensemble Verbes is a program to help students practice and master
French verbs in the most common tenses of the language.  It is designed
to support classroom work, not to replace it.

Ensemble Verbes features:
  * Over 75 verbs, including -er, -ir, -re, reflexive and irregular

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      conjugations
    * Six tenses plus present participle (present, compound past,
      imperfect, future, conditional, subjunctive past)
    * Full online, context-sensitive help via AmigaGuide tm.
    * Close adherence to Amiga User Interface Style Guide
    * Sound support
    * Support for international keyboards
    * Locale support for English and French (including AmigaDOS 2.0)
(I will provide a free registration to the first person who submits
a catalog file for a language which is not already supported.  Please
contact me before starting, as I may have already received a catalog for
your language.)
```

Requirements: AmigaDOS 2.0 or greater, 512K of RAM

```
The French Student's Dictionary & Guide is a 150-page book featuring:
    * French/English and English/French sections
    * Most commonly used vocabulary, in context
    * Many easy-to-understand examples to help in selection of vocabulary
    * Many idiomatic expressions
    * Regular and irregular verb charts
    * Reference grammar guide
    * Over 5500 entries
Little previous knowledge of French is assumed.  The French Student's
Dictionary & Guide is practical as a study aid for both students and
parents, and complements school courses.
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A Spanish version (tentatively titled "Verbos Conjunto") is currently
under development.  Ensemble Verbes is also available for DOS-based
computers from Tralco Educational Services, Hamilton, ON.
```

## 1.8   New Products and Exciting News / Analay

```
Product: Analay, version 1.0
Author:  Marc Necker
Email:   Marc@buster.tynet.sub.org
Price:   Available on Aminet in directory /pub/aminet/misc/math.

         Shareware fee of 20US-$/30DM. See the documentation for
         further information. Some functions are disabled in the
         unregistered version, e.g. the print-function. The Analay
         Archive without key file can be distributed freely as long
         as all files are kept together. You also may place it on
         PD-collections or CDs.
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Analay is a new numerical analysis Program which provides all the standard
functions such a program needs. The special feature of this program is the
integrated DTP mode which allows you to lay out a page with full WYSIWYG!
The program is divided into two independent parts running at the same time
as separate tasks.
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The Math-Mode contains all functions for plotting and analyzing functon
graphs. It's no problem to derive functions or to calculate the zeros or
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the area between functions to name only three of the many facilities.
Moreover, the design of the graphs can be changed in many ways. You also
can place text, points, etc. in the windows or hatch an area. Tables, lists
and legends can be created as well.

The layout Mode contains a small but complete DTP Program with full WYSIWYG
and Intellifont support! It allows you to lay out a page with
function-graphs, tables, lists, legends, text blocks, etc. Moreover, it
knows formulas which no program apart form TeX was able to display or print
up to now! The page can be printed in highest printer resolution!

[Editor's note:  This version is currently available in German.  The next
version will be language-independent (including the documentation).  The
author plans to have this ready at the beginning of 1995.]

Requirements: AmigaOS 2.0 or higher and at least 1.5MByte RAM. More RAM and
a harddisk recommended.

To use all of the program's features AmigaOS 3.0 or higher is required
(e.g. color printout).


## 1.9   New Products and Exciting News / Michaels Math Quiz

```
Product:   Michaels Math Quiz
Company:   Black Tie Software
           4474 Valley Quail Blvd North
           Westerville, OH. 43081
Email:     ronn@btsoft.cmhnet.org
Phone:     614-891-3721 M-F 6-10PM EST, Sat&Sun 12-10PM
Price:     $25 (US funds), $20 (user group or educational discount)
           Add $4 for Shipping ($10 for Overseas shipping)
           Payment can be by Check, Money Order, or COD.  COD costs are
           passed on to customer.  Personal checks must clear before shipping.
           International Money order required for foriegn orders.
           Prices subject to change without notification.
```

Michaels Math Quiz (MMQ) is a game that sharpens the math skills of
children 6 years and older.  MMQ holds the child's interest with high
quality graphics, animations and digitized sounds.

MMQ is unique because it allows the child to pick a variety of games
regardless of the type of math problems they are practicing.  MMQ allows
the child to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
There are two levels of difficulty for each of the practice types.

MMQ includes four games.  The games are Racing, Picture Puzzle, Space
Shuttle, and Noah's Ark.

Requirements: OS1.3 or Later (2.1 Compatible), 1.8Meg free memory, 2 Floppy
Drives or Hard Disk Recommended. Arexx compatible.

## 1.10   Amiga Labs in Canada by Lori Vinciguerra

After sending out the first issue of the AEL newsletter, I received
e-mail from many educators in Canada.  Canadians seem to have
discovered the usefulness of the Amiga and have been able to introduce
it into their school systems.  For example, in Vancouver, British
Columbia, there is a school district (Alberni) which has Amigas in all
of their elementary classes. Over 150 machines are in operation!  They
also have Amigas in the secondary art rooms and in the media production
class at the Senior High.  Here they are doing animations and using the
Video Toaster.  Bob Herbison (bherbiso@cln.etc.bc.ca) helped organize
and run a group called AmUsEd (Amiga Using Educators of B.C.).  They
have hosted numerous summer workshops for educators over the years.
Our hats off to this group!

Also in Vancouver there is a report that the Emily Carr Institute of
Art and Design (ECAID) uses Amigas for its dedicated sound and video
digitizing stations.  There is also an Amiga 1000 dedicated to
character generation in the film and video department.

The Vancouver school board runs some Amiga courses, such as Intro to
AmigaDOS, Intro to Computer Graphics, and Desktop Video, as part of its
adult education program.  They have a lab of sixteen Amiga 2000's which
is sometimes used by daytime secondary teachers.

Now, on to Toronto!  Keith Stainton, former computer coordinator in his
school district is responsible for helping to place a few million
dollars worth of Amigas in their 25 schools.  One school has a lab of
34 Amigas!  At the secondary level, Amigas are used in art and
multimedia. In the intermediate grades, Amigas are used for
wordprocessing and DPaint.  Four of the five intermediate schools have
Amiga labs of at least 32 machines! Some of these are networked, while
some are stand-alone. At the elementary level, most classrooms have an
Amiga with various software titles.

Also in the Toronto area, Stephen Leacock Collegiate (Scarborouh,
Ontario) has a multimedia lab and a television studio run by their
technology department.  They are very enthusiastic about the Amiga.
Many of the students there make use of the Amigas to create multimedia
presentations, as well as interactive communications.  They also run a
school BBS called the Leacock Lions BBS (416-396-6153) on an A600HD
with ethernet connections to other Amigas on a LAN.

In Calgary there is the group AMUC (Amiga Users of Calgary). Their
meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at the Jenkins Theatre at
Mount Royal College.  They even have a BBS (403-282-5171/5137/5238/522)
that you can call for more information. This group has one of the
largest memberships in the world and just recently celebrated their
100th meeting.

I'm sure that there are many more instances of Amigas being used in the
Canadian school systems.  It is encouraging to know that it is possible
for the Amiga to make inroads at all levels of education.  I hope that
these examples give some of you the incentive to keep presenting the
Amiga as a possible platform.  Perhaps one of the Amiga advocates
mentioned in this article can even give you some clues to their success

in this area.

## 1.11  School List

Schools are using Amigas

The following is a list of schools with Amiga Labs.  If there are more of
you out there or if any of these no longer exists please let us know. We
will attempt to maintain an updated list and publish it in the AEL
newsletter on a regular basis. As you can see from the current list, we
are interested in all levels of schooling, from K-12 to college.  I have
received many inputs for the list this month.  I have also included the
list from "Famous Amiga Uses" compiled by David Tiberio and available on
Aminet.


School Name                                Departments

Alberni School District 70/Vancouver,BC    Art, Media
Arizona State University                   Education, Multimedia
Atlanta College of Art/Georgia             Graphics
Ball State University/Indiana              Video Information
Banting Memorial High School/Ontario       Video Toaster
Bishop P.F. Reding Secondary School        Video
Bridgerland Literacy Program               Reading
California Institute of the Arts           Animation, Video
California State University at Fresno       Media
Cameron University                         Physics, Communications
Carleton University/Ontario                ---
Centralia Community College                TV production
Charles Sturt University/Australia         Image analysis, Art
Colgate University                         Art & Art History
College of St. Rose                        Physics, Math
Capilano College/Vancouver                 Computer Graphics
Costano School/ E. Palo Alto, CA           ---
Drake University/Iowa                      TV
Emily Carr Inst. of Art & Design/Vancouver Film & Video
Ferris State University/Michigan           TV
Fresno Community College/CA                Video Information
Graphic School/Belgrade, Yugoslavia        Animation, Image processing
Grossmont College                          Multimedia
Institute for Biochemistry/ Austria        ---
Intermedia Arts/Minneapolis, Minnesota     Animation, video
Kent State                                 Telecommunications
Kentucky Educational Television            Physics, Satelite TV
Logan Middle School/Utah                   ---
Logan High School/Utah                     Industrial Arts
Loyalist College/Ontario                   TV
Maarstricht University Hospital/Netherlands ---
Marine Institute of Technology/Newfoundland Multimedia, Video Information
Massachusetts College of Art               Art
Massasoit Community College/Brockton,MA    Cable TV
Middleton High School/Wisconsin            Video Toasters
Minneapolic Community College (MCC)        Film & Video
Modesto Junior College/California          Art, Animation

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NY Institute of Technology                     Art, Animation
Nicholson Catholic College/Ontario             Media, Art
N Adeleide School of Art Edu./Australia        Art
Ohio State University                          Art
Olympia High School/WA                         Video
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine   ---
Reg. School #7/ Winsted, CT                    Math
Remsen Central School/New York                 Word Processing
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute               Electronic Arts
Rhode Island School of Design                  ---
Saint Francis de Sales School for the Deaf/NY  Media
Sherwood Secondary School/Hamilton, ONT        ---
Southwest Research Institute/Texas             ---
Space Telescope Science Institute/Maryland     Video information
SUNY Albany                                    Math
SUNY Oswego                                    Graphics
SUNY Stony Brook                               TV
Stephen Leacock Collegiate/Scarborough,ONT     Multimedia, TV Studio
Stevenson-Britannia School/Manitoba            Elementary school
Toronto K-12 School System                     Art, Wordprocessing
Tulane University                              Video & Television
Tulsa Junior College of Oklahoma               Video
University of Bergen, Norway                    ---
University of California/Santa Barbara          Video
University of California/Santa Cruz             ---
University of Florida                           ---
University of Georgia                           Fine Arts
University of Maryland                          Film & Video
University of Massachusetts/Lowell             Computer Science
University of Minnesota/Twin Cities            Video
University of North Texas                      Video Information, TV
University of Oulu/Finland                     Chem.,Computing,Geophysics,Math
University of South Florida                    Graphics
University of Tampa                            Animation
University of Toronto
University of Utah                             Video
University of Wisconsin Hospital               Medical Research
University of Wyoming                          TV
Utah State University                          Instructional Tech, Vieo, TV
Valencia Community College                     Physics
Walton High School/Georgia                     ---
Western Illinois University                    Broadcast, Weather
Western State College/Colorado                 Art, TV
Westford Academy (MA)                          Math
```

## 1.12   Getting on the Amiga Educator's List

To get on the Amiga Educator's List send e-mail to
owl@davinci.reading.ma.us. Please specify whether you will be reading
the newsletter on Aminet or whether you would prefer to have it emailed
to you. We are encouraging people to receive the AEL newsletter
digitally to keep our duplication and mailing costs down.  If you
received this copy via US mail and have an email address or the
capability to download it please send e-mail to OWL software at the

above address.  The version on Aminet (found in the directory
/docs/mags) runs with AmigaGuide or Multiview which provides a spiffy
hypertext presentation.  When requesting additions to the email list,
please specify the uuencoded or text version.  When no specification is
made, we will assume that you want the uuencoded lha file, which will
allow you to view the hypertext version.  A limited number of paper
copies will be mailed upon request.