



SBC Ameritech Classroom

Dr. Karen Swan Joins the RCET Team

Karen Swan is moving her research agenda to Kent State University from the Learning Technologies Laboratory at the University at Albany in New York. The focus of her research has been on computers and education. She has published both nationally and internationally in the areas of programming and problem solving, computer assisted instruction, hypermedia design, technology and literacy, and online learning. Dr. Swan has taught online courses and has worked on a project which looks at the use of technology in middle school Language Arts classrooms. She is a valuable addition to our research team as she will be providing guidance and leadership to the research agenda. If you would like to contact Dr. Swan with suggestions for research from the perspective of a current or former SBC Ameritech Classroom teacher, her office is in 201 Moulton Hall. Her email address is kswan@kent.edu.



RCET Professor

36 Moulton Hall
Kent State University

Spring 2003



Meet

Dr. Margarete Juliana

Margarete was the technology specialist for the SBC Ameritech classroom for several years. During 2002 Margarete has made many changes in her life. She received her PhD, got married and moved to Toronto with her son. I know many of you worked with Margarete and will be celebrating her success with all of the RCET staff. Margarete is currently working closely with our teachers on action research projects where individuals examine their own practice. To communicate with Margarete via email:

mjuliana@kent.edu

Upcoming Events in the SBC Ameritech Classroom

Mark your calendar for the following workshops in the SBC Ameritech Classroom.

- At our regular **cohort meeting** on Saturday, February 1, 9AM- 12 Noon, we will be introduced to a lesson from Alan November on making your children technology literate. The lesson will be followed by a presentation on **planning for video** which will include instruction from Steve Mitchell (retired director channels 45/49) who is an expert on the subject. He is a seasoned presenter and will provide information that every technology-oriented teacher will want to have. All former, present and future SBC Ameritech Classroom Teachers are welcome. Please email Pat Mazzer with your intent to attend. Pamazzer@kent.edu or patmazzer@aol.com
- After school on Wednesday, March 12th from 6PM-8PM, there will be an opportunity to attend an **in-service on the new Alpha Smart called the DANA**. Due to the hands-on nature of the workshop, only 20 participants will be scheduled. Terry Hammon, the presenter, is the Central Education Manager for Alpha Smart and will travel to Kent from Texas to present this opportunity to our teachers. Again, all past, present and future SBC teachers may attend. Because of limited capacity, you must commit by sending an email to Pat Mazzer to confirm attendance.

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SBC Ameritech Students Write the History of Kent

In 1956, "The Kent Story" was written by students in Mrs. Bingham's third grade class at Depeyster School. That student work has been used by Kent City Schools in third grade classes in conjunction with their study of community for years. Mrs. Susan Louis's class of 22 students set as their goal while attending the SBC Ameritech Classroom the production of a CD-ROM history of the city, including pictures and stories while attending the SBC Ameritech classroom. In six weeks the new third grade version of Kent History emerged as, "Who lives in Range 9 Town 3?" While doing the research for the project, the students became familiar with the Kent historian, James Caccamo who visited their classroom and directed a field trip at the Kent Historical Museum. Unfortunately, Mr. Caccamo passed away shortly after the students' tour of the museum. The students decided to produce a dedication page honoring his work with Kent students. The students each received a CD version of the completed project and they will expand the audience for their work by taking it to other buildings throughout the district. All of you former SBC Ameritech teachers will appreciate this! With all the first day jitters that accompany this experience, Susan was faced with a Record Courier reporter, a lot of new technology she hadn't had a lot of time with and a bunch of excited wiggly third grade students. She survived the day with the skill and grace of the master teacher she is and soon found out, this is the NORM in the SBC Ameritech classroom.



The Kent Story by Mrs. Bingham's Third Grade Class 1956

How Does Change Impact the Student's World?

Julie Foley added a new dimension to the SBC Ameritech Classroom experience. Her students arrived following an invigorating walk from Walls School, after which they quickly became involved in classroom activities. *Is all change progress, and is all movement forward?* Students were encouraged to develop their own inquiry around this essential question. The results were an intense I-search where the students were in charge of the entire research process. One of the students focused on how schools have changed. This led to a field trip to Alice Getty Var;s one room school house where students learned how attending school was years ago. The contrast to the SBC electronic classroom at the Moulton Hall facility was drawn. The fifth graders experience was enriched by the variety of topics and experiences. A tour of the Kent Free Library allowed students to check out materials to enhance their presentation. Also, students explored claymation as a technology-rich experience. Mr. Karl Martin, The Walls Elementary School art teacher, arrived weekly to teach students how to use Adobe Photoshop to create black and white images of their photographs. These images will be transferred to a piece of glass, creating Andy Warhol-style pop-art images.



Meet Rod Chlysta

We are very fortunate at the SBC Ameritech Classroom to have engaged Mr. Rod Chlysta, a retired Ravenna science teacher, to substitute for Mark van 't Hooft our technology specialist, when he is attending conferences and engaged in research. Rod was a leader at Brown Middle School in the area of both science and technology. He introduced many colleagues to their first experiences involving technology and has continued to be on the "cutting edge" where technology is involved. He has skills in the area of photography which will add a professional touch to the documentation of the SBC Ameritech activities.



Easy Prompter Software: Turn your old TV monitor into a useful tool!

A recent purchase for the SBC Ameritech Classroom, Easy Prompter Software, allows students to have full professional prompting for their video presentations at a fraction of the cost of a real prompter. It allows students to capture the look of network anchors. Visit schooltv.com to see what \$99 will buy.