

COMPUTER USERS OF ERIE

CUE Newsletter – September 2022 (Volume 39 Number 9)



September CUE Meeting

The next meeting will be in person, instead of by Zoom, on Thursday September 15th at 5:00 PM. Instead of the regular general meeting, it will be the CUE picnic for CUE members! Look for incoming email messages, and check the CUE website (www.cuerie.com), for more information.



Visit the CUE
Website at:

www.cuerie.com

CUE is a member of APCUG



An International
Association of Technology
& Computer User Groups

CUE Calendar



Calendar events are subject to change. SIG stands for Special Interest Group.
(look for notices outside of the newsletter for delays or special news on meetings)

CUE Membership Meetings (typically 3rd Thursday of each month)
NO CUE Membership Meeting in September (other than CUE Picnic)
Thursday October 20th at 7 PM

Beginner's User Group (BUG) SIG Meetings
To Be Scheduled Upon Request

Digital Photo SIG Meetings (typically 1st Saturday of each month except June/July/August)
Saturday September 3rd at 9:30 AM
Saturday October 1st at 9:30 AM

Genealogy SIG Meetings (typically 1st Tuesday of each month)
Tuesday September 6th at 7 PM
Tuesday October 4th at 7 PM

MAC SIG Meetings (typically 2nd Saturday of each month except June/July/August)
Saturday September 10th at 9:30 AM
Saturday October 8th at 9:30 AM

Smartphone & Tablet SIG Meetings (typically 4th Monday of each month) (RSVP John Fair)
Monday September 26th at 7 PM
Monday October 24th at 7 PM

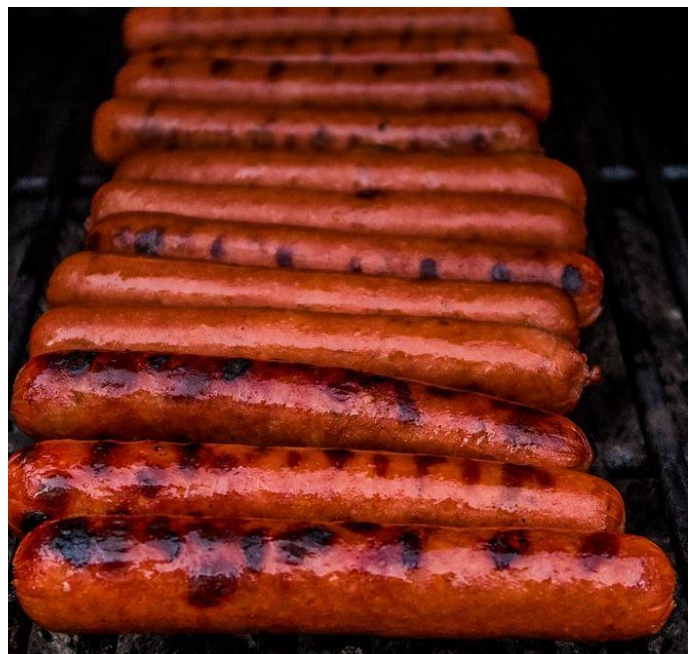
Windows SIG Meetings (typically 2nd Saturday of each month except June/July/August)
Saturday September 10th at 1 PM
Saturday October 8th at 1 PM

CUE Picnic
Thursday September 15th at 5 PM

CUE Christmas / Holiday Party
Thursday December 8th at 6 PM

Save That Date! Thursday September 15th 2022

The Erie Runner's Club pavilion at beach #1 is reserved for the CUE Picnic!
Try to keep that date open for a time of food and fellowship! (Eating starts at 5 PM)



Hackers, Thieves, and Creeps

The Bad Guys Are Working Hard to Get Your Money

By Kurt Jefferson at Central Kentucky Computer Society (www.ckcs.org)

If Cher ever decides to rework her major 1971 hit single, Gypsys, Tramps, and Thieves, she may want to rename it, Hackers, Thieves, and Creeps to reflect today's ongoing Internet security battles.

Hackers are infiltrating email accounts, and tricking folks into paying their hard-earned money, for all kinds of bogus ventures.

A few examples of recent emails and Internet threats:

You owe \$280 now to update that anti-virus software package (that you never even purchased.)

We've taken control of your Windows 10 PC. (You'll get it back only after you pay our ransom demands.)

Hey, click on this email link, and it will take you to a bogus website that looks real, seems real, and (is bogus as a Kentucky snowfall in August.)

You're using Safari on a Mac, and a box pops up that reads, "Alert! Suspicious Activity Might Have Been Detected. Major Security Issue. To fix it, please call Support for Apple +1 888-476-****(Toll-Free) immediately!" (Pop-ups such as this one are not legitimate. Apple doesn't notify anyone of a "major security issue" in this manner. Bogus to the max.)

When it comes to security breaches, "Unfortunately, most people do not understand the gravity of the problem until

it personally affects them through identity theft or other malicious activity.

Unsurprisingly, however, the rate of identity-related crime is exploding, and a recent study claims that there is a new victim of identity theft every 2 seconds in the United States alone," writes the security website, selfkey.org.

The Internet Theft Resource Center keeps track of the attempts to dig deep into your wallet. Unfortunately, things are not looking up. Reported data breaches grew by 17% from the start of 2021 to September of 2021 over the number of breaches reported in all of 2020. Yikes.

Security breaches (the ones we hear about) are now so pervasive that we can all view giant lists on the Web detailing the gory details. For example, Upguard lists "The 59 Biggest Data Breaches". The fact that dozens of well-known companies appear on this list (Yahoo!, Facebook, T-Mobile, Uber, Home Depot, Zoom) tells us that we're no longer in Kansas (so to speak.)

If you want to see even more names, take a deep breath and check out the selfkey.org list, which claims to show All Data Breaches in 2019-2021, An Alarming Timeline (These are breaches that have been made public.)

There's even a black-market invitation-only online shop where the bad guys go to buy login credentials, fingerprints to open phones and iPads, and stolen cookies.

Hackers Continued

In 2017, CBS News reported that “imposters, from fake IRS agents to faux tech support employees, have officially overtaken identity thieves to top the list of consumer fraud complaints...”

Okay. What about solutions? The Federal Trade Commission offers several tips:

Secure Your Internet Devices at Home. This includes your Wi-Fi router, PCs, Macs, Linux machines, iPads, smartphones, smartwatches, smart speakers (Hello, Alexa), home cameras, smart doorbells, and every other device connected to the Internet.

Learn When Your Voice Assistant Is Listening. Alexa, Google Assistant, Siri, Cortana might be listening when you're unaware. The FTC urges you to lock down your login, check your settings, and be aware of what's connected to your voice assistant.

Secure Your Router. As we mentioned earlier in this newsletter, you need to update your router's settings periodically. As the FTC writes, “Think of your router as home base for all your devices. The more

secure your router, the more secure your connected devices will be.”

Use a VPN. We've talked about this before at a CKCS Tech Night. Find a good, reliable, trustworthy virtual private network and use it on all your Internet-connected devices. A VPN is an app that you install. It sends your Internet signal into a tunnel so others cannot access your data. IPVanish writes, “A VPN Helps You Take Back Your Privacy and Protect You From Hackers.”

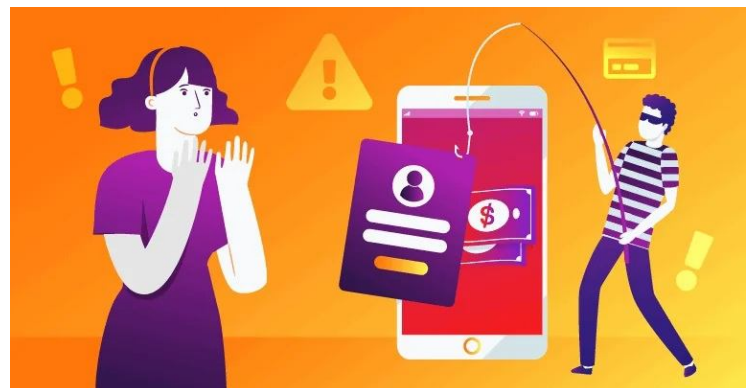
Avoid free VPNs. In this life, you get what you pay for. So, make online security a priority.

Finally, check out: The Ultimate Internet Safety Guide For Seniors:

www.safetydetectives.com/blog/the-ultimate-internet-safety-guide-for-seniors/

Even if you've used the Internet since the '90s, I promise you there is at least one tip on this website to benefit you.

Stay safe, Stay secure, Stay informed. Attend your computer club to learn all you can about Internet security.



Genealogy Report for 8/2/22 SIG Meeting

CUE's Genealogy SIG met August 2nd at 7:00 p.m. through Zoom. Led by Sue Mueller, there were eight in attendance.

Sue shared a chart listing when each state began issuing death certificates. Hawaii began in 1886 but Pennsylvania did not start until 1906. All states had them by 1914 but that doesn't mean it happened with any regularity for many years afterward. Many records are available at the county level but there is usually a fifty-year wait to receive non-family death records.

Sue also shared part of a video by Lisa Lisson on finding birthdates when no certificate can be found. To view the video go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhCBJEAdzkM>.

There was some discussion about getting a courthouse tour organized to help locate family documents. It is possible that ESGR will have one next year.

The group was reminded that familysearch.org's tree is a Wiki and can be changed by anyone at any time.

While home DNA testing is illegal in France, in America, pets can get DNA testing. Sue's dog is currently participating in an aging project test.

Submitted by Connie Edwards



Can't Find An Ancestor's Birth Record? 8 Places To Look!

Smartphone & Tablet Report for 8/22/22 SIG Meeting

Most of the meeting involved answering questions submitted ahead of time by SIG members.

Is there a way to save text messages from an iPhone? Not really, but you can either take screen shots to preserve the appearance or copy the content of the selected part of the conversation which then can be pasted into a text document without time stamps or format.

How do you attach a photograph to a message to a doctor within MyChart? When many hospital systems adopted Epic as their digital records system, MyChart became the patient portal system they use. One great feature of any patient portal is the ability to send and receive messages between patient and doctor. Once you navigate to non urgent medical advice in messages on MyChart, you can attach up to 3 photos in the usual way. This is a very handy way for a patient to communicate a skin condition to their dermatologist, for example. AHN and Cleveland Clinic use Epic and MyUPMC has similar capabilities in their digital records system.

Why do I get the message “Last line no longer available” when I try to make a call on my new iPhone? A bug in the code for newer iPhones with dual SIM's (11, 12, and 13) can result in this message in some, but not all, devices, however two options appear on the pop up message, Call or Cancel. Touch Call and your call goes through as normal. This is a bothersome but benign bug requiring an extra step in making a call, but does not interfere with the function of the phone.

How do I send a video by email that is larger than the attachment limit set by my email provider? Gmail, for example, will not allow attaching files larger than 25 GB and that is less than 12 seconds of a video at 1080p and 30 fps. While you can reduce video resolution or compress the video, the most straight forward way to send videos, that are not just very short clips, is to use the cloud. Save the video to your favorite cloud service (iCloud, OneDrive, Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.) and email a link to that file in the cloud. That way you don't have to decide on how much resolution to sacrifice or decide on parameters for compression. We viewed a YouTube video of a popular desktop compression software called Handbrake to understand the considerations involved in video compression.

Why can't I answer my home phone using my cell phone when I'm not home? Of course you can use call forwarding by dialing *72 from your landline and entering your 10 digit cell phone number and then turning off the service by dialing *73 on your landline. But Paul Francis wants to explore “simultaneous calling” on Spectrum. Primarily a business feature, simultaneous calling or simultaneous ringing allows you to configure up to 10 additional phone numbers to ring simultaneously each time your desk phone rings. The call can then be answered at any of the configured phones. Paul had not yet found out what Spectrum requires to set up this service but will report back to the SIG when he gets more information.

Can I retrieve notifications that appear on my Lock Screen once I have read them? Unfortunately there is no way to retrieve

Smartphone & Tablet Report Continued

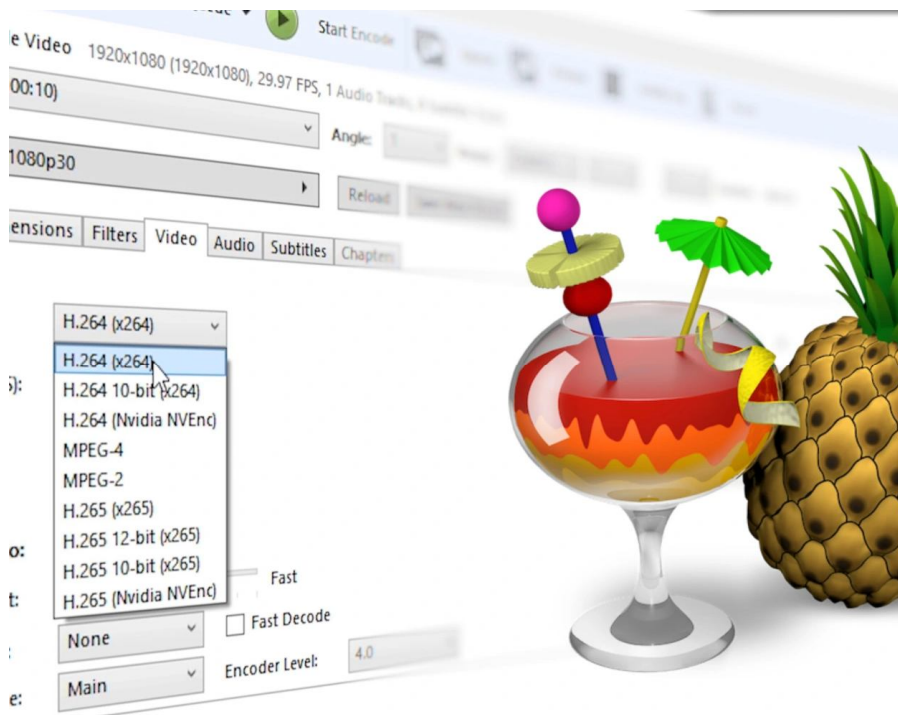
notifications once they have been deleted, opened or cleared.

Under the category of staying safe with your mobile device, we looked at a list of 7 apps that have questionable coding that could let a hacker execute remote commands from a central server to the app. Essentially they could take over your device. The security researcher that found the apps with this coding were traced to one group in China and he recommends deleting these apps from your iPhone and iPad. The apps are: PDF Reader for Adobe PDF Files, Word Writer Pro, Screen Recorder, Webcam Expert, Streaming Browser Video Player, PDF Editor for Adobe Files and PDF Reader. I could not find these apps in the Apple App Store so it may be that Apple has now removed them from the App Store.

We talked about the importance of updating to iOS 15.6.1 and iPadOS 15.6.1 which patch two significant vulnerabilities which have been exploited in the wild. They allow a hacker to take over your device so all iPhone and iPad users should update their operating systems if they are currently running any earlier version of iOS 15 or iPadOS 15. Finally, we looked at a YouTube video describing the progress of iOS 16, the new operating system that will be released in September. Note that iPadOS 16 will not be released until October and may actually be released as iPadOS 16.1.

The next virtual meeting of the Smartphone and Tablet SIG will be on Monday, September 26.

John Fair



Secretary's Report for 8/18/22 CUE Meeting

Business meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President Conrad Sobczak.

Members Present: Larry Brown, Kim Conti, Tim Donlin, John Fair, Paul Francis, Rick Godzwa, Ed and Nancy Group, Sue Mueller, Conrad Sobczak, and Carl Zalewski.

Quorum (at least 20% of members): The number of member attendees does not meet the quorum requirements (18). It was moved, seconded and approved by membership that the minutes of the July 2022, general meeting published in the August newsletter be approved

Reports:

Treasurer's Report, John Fair: Our current balance is \$3471.21. Transactions include \$409 received for dues and \$149.90 payment to John Fair for annual Zoom fee. Our HOA web host will have a new fee structure depending on number of members beginning next year (up from an annual cost of \$300). For 50-75 members the cost would be \$410.40, and for 76-125 members, \$496.80. Since the increased cost is less than \$250 this is something the board can approve. In the absence of a quorum at this meeting, this will be presented to the board to vote via e-mail.

Membership Report, John Fair: No new members. We currently have 79 members and 8 associate members. Members are reminded to update their information when there are changes (e-mail, phone, address). Also please add your cellphone number, as the organization has the ability to send group text reminders.

Special Interest Groups:

- Genealogy, Sue Mueller reporting: Meets first Tuesday of each month. Next meeting, September 6 via Zoom. In August we discussed death records and watched a video about extracting full information from death certificates. See full report in newsletter.
- Smart Phones, John Fair reporting: Meets fourth Mondays of the month; next meeting August 22. No meeting in July.
- Mac, Windows Help. No report.

Unfinished Business:

- September picnic: Runners Pavilion has been reserved (all day) on Thursday, September 15. Members will be asked to respond with numbers attending as well as what they will be bringing. Watch your e-mail

New Business:

- Meeting programs: Rick Godzwa volunteering to work with Paul to plan the doing your taxes online session.

The business meeting was adjourned, and members enjoyed a video on online privacy.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sue Mueller, Secretary

A Note from the Editor

As usual, feel free to contribute information for the CUE newsletter. Whether it is small, large, an article, a tip, information, or pictures, you can send it to me and I will plan to include it in the newsletter. You can reach me at grimcyber@yahoo.com.

Remember that you can find recent news at the CUE website (cuerie.com). At times, the website will have more recent news than the CUE newsletter since the website is updated continuously and the newsletter is updated monthly.

If you are looking for photos that are free to use, I have mentioned pixabay.com and unsplash.com in the past. There is also pexels.com, which was the source for the picture below.

Remember, you can save postage by paying your annual dues at the picnic.

Stay Safe!

Editorially Speaking, Don Grim



PLEASE PRINT

**COMPUTER USERS OF ERIE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Today's Date _____

Last Name	First Name
Address	
City, State	Zip
Home Phone	Cell Phone
Your Email	

The yearly dues are payable in August of each year. The dues are \$24 annual.

For NEW members only, when you join outside the annual cycle your initial dues are based upon the month you join. Follow the schedule below.

August \$24	September \$22	October \$20	November \$18
December \$16	January \$14	February \$12	March \$10
April \$8	May \$6	June \$4	July \$2

Information provided on this form will be placed into a CUE Membership Directory

What is your Computer or Device: (Circle)

Windows Mac Android iPhone iPad
Tablet Linux Other

What is your level of expertise? (Circle)

Novice I know some I want to learn more
Expert Geek

Send your completed application
to:

Computer Users of Erie

PO BOX 8941

Erie, Pa 16505-0941

What do you wish to gain by joining Computer Users of Erie?

Student membership is just \$15 per year (provide proof of student status)

CUE Officer Information

Officers

President	Conrad Sobczak	cjsob16511@hotmail.com	814-899-9699
Vice President	Paul Francis	pdfflyer@roadrunner.com	814-882-1175
Secretary	Susan Mueller	suepasta@roadrunner.com	814-622-1262
Treasurer	John Fair	johncfair@gmail.com	814-474-3055

At-Large Board

Lawrence Brown	larrybrown0191@icloud.com	814-323-1067
Don Grim	grimcyber@yahoo.com	814-461-8289
Marcia Keller	dekmak43@gmail.com	814-449-4682
Hal Kelley	hal_kelley@outlook.com	814-836-1803
Suzanne Matthews	pdxmatthews@aol.com	814-790-4185

Alternate At-Large Board

Lou Cioccio	lcioccio@mac.com	814-868-1320
-------------	--	--------------

Special Interest Groups

Beginner's (BUG)	Lou Cioccio	lcioccio@mac.com	814-868-1320
Digital Photo	Lou Cioccio	lcioccio@mac.com	814-868-1320
Genealogy	Susan Mueller	suepasta@roadrunner.com	814-622-1262
MAC	Lou Cioccio	lcioccio@mac.com	814-868-1320
Smartphone & Tablet	John Fair	johncfair@gmail.com	814-474-3055
Windows	Lou Cioccio	lcioccio@mac.com	814-868-1320

Other Resources:

CUE Historian	Tom Kuklinski	tkuklinski@gmail.com	814-746-9165
Editor	Don Grim	grimcyber@yahoo.com	814-461-8289
Membership Chair	John Fair	johncfair@gmail.com	814-474-3055
Webmaster	Tom Kuklinski	tkuklinski@gmail.com	814-746-9165

CUE Disclaimer

The Computer Users of Erie (CUE), a nonprofit affiliate of APCUG, is not connected with, nor does it represent the interests of such organizations as IBM, Apple, Texas Instruments, Microsoft, or any other manufacturer or vendor, nor can it assume responsibility for the accuracy or misrepresentation of materials or statements found in advertisements, articles, announcements, or presentations appearing in its newsletter or at CUE sponsored meetings. The members of the CUE Board of Directors, committees, and SIGs are volunteers giving of their time and energy to assist CUE members through education. CUE shall not be held liable in name or performance for the outcome of activities or agreements to provide services offered by any person in the name of CUE. CUE welcomes comments, letters, original articles and programs for its newsletter. Such materials may be submitted to: CUE Editor, P.O. Box 8941, Erie, PA, 16505-0941. Also you can email grimcyber@yahoo.com. Permission is hereby granted to other nonprofit computer user groups to reprint articles appearing herein, unless specifically restricted, provided credit is given to both its author, if known, and its original source.

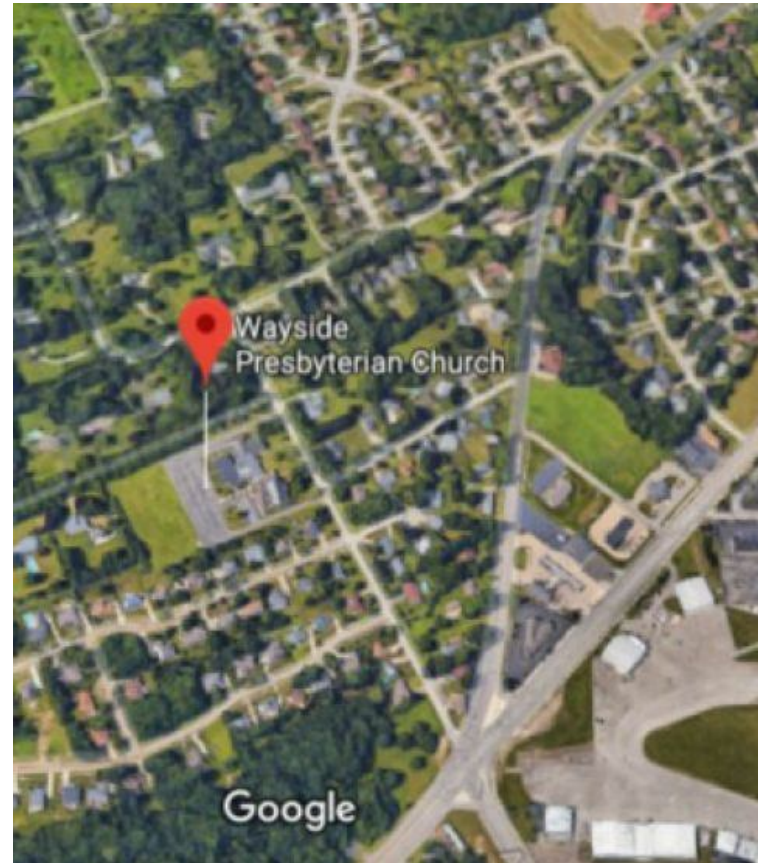
Directions to Wayside Presbyterian Church for CUE Meetings

Wayside Presbyterian Church, at 1208 Asbury Road, is approximately three blocks north of the intersection of Asbury Road and Route 5. This intersection is at the northwest corner of the Erie International Airport property. Following Asbury, turn left at the first marked driveway for the church. During the afternoon winter schedule (10:00 AM for the months of November, January, February and March), entry is through the two sets of blue double doors. Use the buzzer to gain entry if the doors are locked. During the normal evening schedule (7:00 PM the remaining months) use the double doors on the south side of the Christian Education wing. Signs are posted in the building to direct you to the meeting room.

From West of Erie International Airport: Follow Route 5 to the intersection of Asbury and Route 5. Turn hard left onto Asbury Road. Look for the church on the left approximately 3 blocks north of the intersection.

From South of Erie: Take Interstate 79 north to the 26th Street (Route 20) Exit. Bear left onto 26th Street (Route 20) west. Follow Route 20 about 3.4 miles west to Asbury Road. Turn right (at the Sheetz Gas Station) onto Asbury and follow it straight across Route 5. Look for the church on the left approximately 3 blocks north of the intersection.

From East of Erie International Airport: Follow 26th Street (Route 20) west to Asbury Road. Turn right onto Asbury and follow it straight across Route 5. Look for the church on the left approximately 3 blocks north of the intersection. OR, follow 12th Street (Route 5) west past the airport to Asbury Road. Turn right onto Asbury Road. Look for the church on the left approximately 3 blocks north of the intersection.



About the Newsletter

The CUE Newsletter is published monthly by the Computer Users of Erie (CUE), an independent nonprofit computer user group, dedicated to the education and support of our members. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors or the editor, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of CUE. This publication is Copyright © 2018 by the Computer Users of Erie. All rights reserved. Permission to reprint is hereby granted to any Nonprofit Organization, as long as proper credit is given, or not restricted by the original author or source. **Advertising:** Advertising is welcome from both our members and commercial sources. For current advertising rates, please send an email to the Editor requesting a copy of the Ad Rates file. **Address Changes:** Any recipient of the newsletter is urged to submit a change of address notification to the Editor, either via US Mail to the address shown below, or (preferably) via email, so we may keep our records accurate. **Newsletter Exchange:** CUE welcomes newsletters from other user groups. If you would like to exchange newsletters, either by US Mail or via electronic (Internet) delivery, please send your newsletter to the address listed below. We will add your name to our mailing list and send you our newsletter in return. **Submissions:** Submissions are always welcome from our members or outside sources. Submissions may be articles, images, cartoons, etc. For first time authors, please request a copy of our Submissions Guidelines from the Editor, prior to submitting any items. This will help to eliminate publication delays. Submissions are due by the 5th of each month. **Correspondence:** General correspondence to CUE may be sent via US Mail to: Computer Users of Erie, PO Box 8941, Erie, PA 16505-0941 USA. Email to: cuerie@gmail.com. Editor Email to: grimcyber@yahoo.com.

CUE Membership Benefits



As the largest computer users group in northwest Pennsylvania, CUE has served Erie and surrounding communities since 1982. CUE provides a forum for people to learn about computers and have fun doing so. The group meets the third Thursday each month, with the exception of the months of July and December. In July the group gathers for a picnic and December is the annual holiday party (dates vary). CUE meetings are at Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1205 Asbury Road, Erie. Meetings from April through October are at 7:00 p.m. From November through March, the meetings are at 10:00 AM in the morning, except it will stay at 7:00 p.m. during the Caronavirus Pandemic.

Our monthly meetings are open to the public regardless of age or ability. Many of our members are senior citizens who span a wide range of capabilities and interests but share a desire to know more about how to use computer related technology. Our role is to provide a forum for continuous learning from each other. CUE has a closed Google gmail group that is used to communicate with members and to post questions/problems to seek answers from the membership. Members pay an annual membership fee of \$24 to receive a membership directory, monthly newsletter, availability to monthly general meetings, and any of the Special Interest Group (SIGs) meetings, usually held in a member's home. Locations and times vary, so check the online EVENTS Calendar on the website for the latest information. SIG topics include:

- Digital photography [and photo safari]
- Genealogy
- Macintosh computers
- Computer troubleshooting
- Beginners users group (BUG)
- Handheld smartphones and tablets

CUE is a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG). APCUG is an International, platform-independent, volunteer-run, non-profit organization devoted to helping member User Groups offer enhanced services to their members. Some of the membership benefits include:

- Speakers bureau
- Free virtual technology conferences
- Regional conference
- Push newsletter articles
- Discounts and special offers from vendors
- User group newsletters online

Find us online at <http://www.cuerie.com/>. And Facebook @cuerie

Computer Users of Erie
PO Box 8941
Erie, PA 16505-0941

Postmaster:
Address Service Requested



Address label here