



OnCUE

The Official Journal of the Computer Users of Erie

Volume 23, Number 1

January 2004

New Year at CUE



January...the start of a New Year. It also means a new year of fun and excitement, as well as loss and departures.

One of the final departures of the old year was the ending of support for Windows ME by Microsoft, which became official on December 31, 2003.

Following shortly, in fact, one week from today (January 16, 2004), Microsoft will officially end technical support for its Windows 98 product line. While the updates are still available on the Windows Update site, these will probably be going away at some point. So, if you do not have your system fully updated, now is the time to do it. But, these are the updates already released; there will be no more updates or bug fixes to address new, unknown issues that may arise.

If ever there was a time to consider upgrading your system and OS, now would be the time. Or, if not, be sure to have a verified image of your drive and its current installation, in case disaster should strike.

While the next version of Windows is not due out for another year (at least), there are sure to be many new and interesting products appearing from other sources during the coming months. If you see or hear of anything new, why not share the news with your fellow members in these pages?

Have a safe and happy New Year!!

Editor's Notebook

CUE Classes are underway. The next class will again deal with Microsoft Word. The date for this session will be December 20. As usual, it will be held at the Blasco Memorial Library, in the Admiral Room, from 9 am to 12:30 pm.

We also have the schedule for the 2004 year. It is as follows:

January 10, 2004
 February 21, 2004
 March 13, 2004
 April 3, 2004
 May 15, 2004
 Sept. 11, 2004
 October 9, 2004
 Nov. 13, 2004
 Dec. 11, 2004

Please note that the classes in 2004 will run from 12 noon to 4:30 pm. This is a change from this past year, with the hopes that it will be more convenient for people to attend in the afternoon.

The CUE Class sessions scheduled for January and February will deal with Microsoft Access.

Please remember, if you change your email address, you MUST unsubscribe from the CUE List before doing so, and then re-subscribe to the list with your new email address. If you do not, this causes problems at the list server, and could delay messages.

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This Month's Meeting

The January CUE meeting will be a 'Show and Tell' type meeting, where users planning to attend are asked to bring their newest hi-tech toy, to show off to your fellow members.

Visit the CUE Website: www.cuerie.com

Computer Users of Erie

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Special Interest Groups

<u>Beginner's</u> Tom Kuklinski 897-1375 tomkuklinski@mac.com	3rd Tuesday of the month 3699 Dogleg Trail 7 pm
<u>Genealogy</u> Dave Howell 866-7308 dehowell@velocity.net	1st Tuesday of the month 3904 Myrtle 7 pm
<u>Macintosh SIG</u> Lou Cioccio 868-1320 lcioccio@mac.com	2nd Saturday of the month 1012 E. 28th (park behind school) 9 am
<u>Advanced Windows</u> Brian Little (Crawford County) 814-337-6724 blittle@zoominternet.net	<i>No regularly scheduled meeting for Crawford County</i>
Terry Lukas (Erie County) 835-4270 Terry_Lukas@hotmail.com	2nd Wednesday of the month 1406 Sumner Dr. 7 pm
<u>DOS</u> Don Grim goforit@velocity.net	<i>No regularly scheduled meeting</i>
<u>Internet/Telecommunications</u> <i>Looking for a coordinator</i>	<i>No regularly scheduled meetings</i>
<u>TI SIG</u> Norb Sitter 838-6281 norbsit@juno.com	<i>No regularly scheduled meetings</i>
<u>Microcontroller</u> <i>Looking for a coordinator</i>	<i>No regularly scheduled meetings</i>
<u>Programming</u> <i>Looking for a coordinator</i>	<i>No regularly scheduled meetings</i>
<u>LINUX</u> <i>Looking for a coordinator</i>	<i>No regularly scheduled meetings</i>

OnCUE

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Address Changes: Any recipient of OnCUE 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.

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.

Correspondence: General correspondence to CUE may be sent via US Mail to:

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Email: cue@cuerie.com

For fastest results, direct your email correspondence directly to the desired individual. (If no personal email address is found, direct your message to the CUE email address, and it will be forwarded. Please indicate the desired recipient).

Accessories for that new Digital Camera

By Ira Wilsker, APCUG Region 8 Advisor

Last month I wrote about the features to look for in a new digital camera. That column was most timely as many in the national media are predicting that digital camera sales will soar this holiday season. It is also common that many of us "accessorize" our gifts to others to enhance the enjoyment of the recipient. Appropriate accessories would include cases, memory, photo editing software, photo printers and paper, rechargeable batteries, and other useful items.

Cases for digital cameras are usually available from the camera makers as well as a broad assortment of third parties. The primary function of a case is to provide protection for the sensitive instrument. Other functions include a means of conveniently carrying the camera, and a place to store accessories. In shopping for a case, look for proper fit and good protection from harm, as this is the function of a case. This protection may be in the form of padding, water resistance, and a variety of other factors. Do not practice the fine art of "buying cheap" and trusting a several-hundred dollar camera to a five dollar case, unless that case can provide adequate protection and convenience, which will not be likely.

Additional camera memory may be one of the most valuable adjuncts to a new (or already owned) camera. Almost all new cameras come with integral memory which can only store a very limited number of images before it must be downloaded to a computer, or the images in memory must be deleted to make room for more. While some cameras, such as several of the Sony models, use a floppy disk or mini-CD-R disc to store images directly to a universal media, almost all other digital cameras use some type of nonvolatile memory card or stick to store images. These cards or sticks are inserted directly into the camera, and provide additional storage for images. In shopping for camera memory be absolutely sure that the proper type is selected for the camera, as there is often little interchangeability between the types. Common types of memory are "CF" compact flash, smart memory, multimedia cards (MMC), "SD" secure digital cards (sometimes interchangeable with MMC), tiny "xD" cards, memory sticks, and several other formats. Normally, "more is better" applies to memory capacity, but price must also be balanced with capacity. If photos are taken at full resolution (not normally a best practice), a 2 megapixel camera uses about 900k for a single JPEG format image, so a 32meg memory card will hold about 35 images, while a 128meg card will hold about 142 images. Other resolutions and amounts of memory will be somewhat proportional. A 4 megapixel camera uses about 2 megs of memory for each image at maximum resolution. Another factor which varies among different models of memory is the speed (faster is better) and power consumption (less is better). Along with a new memory card, an external reader, typically with a USB connector, is a great convenience which enables photos to be transferred without the camera.

Almost all digital cameras come with a "lite" or limited functionality photo editing software. The included software may be adequate for normal snapshots, but often we want to do more to enhance or improve our photos. Near the top of the price range of popular photo editing software is the Adobe PhotoShop at around \$600, and its lesser brothers from

Adobe including PhotoShop Elements (about \$90). One of the other powerful photo editing and enhancement utilities is JASC's PaintShop Pro 8, available locally for around \$60. I especially like PaintShop's "One Step Photo Fix" that can automatically perfect almost any reasonable digital image. For the bargain hunters who want a powerful editing and enhancement utility, without paying big bucks is the very popular Irfan Viewer, which is available for free download from www.irfanview.com. Personally, I use both Irfan and Paint Shop Pro about equally. Other editing software is available from other publishers.

Most color printers on the market today can print plausible color images using stock inks and decent quality paper. Some printers offer enhanced photo printing capability for a moderate price, while there are also dedicated photo printers on the market. Good photo grade paper is a necessity to produce quality prints. Some printers on the market print directly to Polaroid film, giving real photos from a digital camera. Many users prefer both the quality and economy of having their local photo finisher print digital prints, a service which most now provide, often at prices less than "do it yourself".

My digital camera eats batteries. Using AA alkaline batteries would be a major expense, if it were not for the now common NiMh or Lithium rechargeable batteries. Many cameras utilize the common AA size, and as an added advantage, the better NiMh rechargeable batteries typically offer many times the photos of disposable alkalines, at a far lower cost per picture. Spare batteries, especially if fully charged, can be a godsend.

Other popular accessories for digital cameras may appeal more to the advanced user than the amateur. These include tripods, accessory lenses, external flash devices, and other items. Just be sure that the accessories are compatible with the user's camera.

Ira Wilsker is the Advisor for Region 8, APCUG Representative & Bylaws Chair for the Golden Triangle PC Club, a columnist for The Examiner in Beaumont, Texas, and has two radio shows. He also graciously shares his articles with the APCUG editors.

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COMPUTER USERS OF ERIE General Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2003

1. Called to order by Sam Fletcher, president, at 7:15 pm
2. General announcements were made by the president. In particular he pointed out that the January meeting would feature a "Show and Tell" session following the brief business meeting.
3. Reports on the BUG (Beginners Users Group) and Windows SIGS were made by Terry Lukas.
4. Lou Cioccio reported on the MAC Sig.
5. The president noted that the minutes of the November meeting and the treasurer's report had been published in the December edition of the club's newsletter, making it unnecessary to read those items at the meeting.
6. The president requested a motion to adjourn which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Hillert Vitt, Secretary

Gene Meeks was the lucky winner of \$10.50 in the 50/50 drawing.

Following the formal proceedings, the assembled members enjoyed delicious refreshments as well as the selection and swapping of mystery gifts.

COMPUTER USERS OF ERIE FINANCIAL REPORT

November 20, 2003

Not available at Press Time

SIG News

Beginner's SIG

The Beginner User Group will be meeting at a new location.

Directions to: 3699 Dogleg Trail, Erie, Pa 16510

Located in Harbor Ridge Golf Course on Depot Road in Harborcreek.

Take I-90 to exit 35. This exit also has the TA Center and is Depot Road. Go North (left turn) for approximately 3/4 mile. Turn left onto Harbor Ridge Trail. Follow it to almost the end. I am the last house before you exit. I am located on the corners of Harbor Ridge Trail and Dogleg Trail.

If you want to avoid I-90 then follow Buffalo Road to Depot Road. Turn south onto Depot Road. Turn just after Fred Clark Elementary School onto Harbor Ridge Trail into Harbor Ridge Golf course. I am the first house you will see on the corners of Harbor Ridge Trail and Dogleg Trail.

Please RSVP so I will know how many will be attending.

Ed. Note: This is the new residence of Tom Kuklinski, SIG Coordinator for the Beginner's SIG.

Due for Renewal??

Please be sure to check the mailing label on the outside of this issue for your renewal date. It is printed in **RED** to the right of your name.

Prompt payment of your renewal will ensure uninterrupted benefits of your CUE membership!

New Year's Computing Resolutions

By Ira Wilsker, APCUG Region 8 Advisor

Good grief! I don't know about you, but I tend to keep new years' resolutions about as well as I can stay on a diet. These resolutions may make us feel good, and indicate our good intentions, but the likelihood of our keeping them is often remote. Hopefully, we can keep some resolutions about our computing, and implement them on a permanent basis, making our time spent with our computers more enjoyable and less aggravating.

"Backup Backup Backup" are the three most important words in computing. Murphy's First Law of Computing is "A properly backed up hard drive will never fail; but a hard drive that does not have a current backup will always fail at the most inopportune time". There have been several reviews of backup hardware and software in this column over the years, and all worked ok to some extent, but there is one irrefutable fact about backing up your hard drive. That is that you need a current backup, period. At least weekly, backup critical data files so that if your hard drive or computer fails, you can restore your programs from their original CDs, and then restore your data files from the backups. It would be even better to make a full backup (everything), and then periodic incremental backups (only those files new or changed since the last backup). Most backup software has this as a feature. Since almost all recent computers have a CD burner, and blank CDs are cheap, there is absolutely no excuse for being wiped out by a hard drive failure or a virus. The basic software that comes with CD burners or pre-installed on factory computers with CD burners is totally adequate to copy critical data files to a CD. Each blank CD holds over 600 megabytes of data, so it will only take a few to do a backup right now. If an external hard drive or DVD burner is available, there is no excuse for not having comprehensive backups. If Murphy is correct, and you do have current backups, then you have nothing to fear.

If you have been a regular reader of this column, you could already guess my next mandatory resolution for all computer users – keep your antivirus software updated on

at least a daily basis. Viruses, worms, and Trojans are getting nastier, more sophisticated, and capable of doing more damage than those in the past. Contemporary computer worms can easily steal your identity and send your highly personal information to unknown individuals with larceny in their hearts. Other viruses can destroy the critical data on your computer, hijack your internet connection and attack the national infrastructure, or commit other heinous acts. There is absolutely no reason not to have current antivirus software installed. Price can not be an issue, because there are still several freeware titles available from AVG (www.grisoft.com) and AVAST (www.avast.com). Recently Microsoft and Computer Associates (CA), announced that for a limited time the \$50 CA antivirus and firewall suite can be downloaded for free (for personal use) from www.my-trust.com/microsoft, and includes a year of daily updates. Other popular retail antivirus products, such as McAfee's VirusScan, and Symantec's Norton Antivirus, are currently available for nominal prices, after rebates; they may even be free (after rebates) when purchased as a bundle along with some of the major income tax software. Once installed be absolutely sure that the antivirus software is updated at least on a daily basis.

"Practice Safe Hex" is a comprehensive computing term meaning be careful on the internet, especially with email and while browsing. This includes never responding in any way (including "remove me" requests) from spammers, and instantly deleting any spam email. This also includes never opening any email of suspicious origin, or with suspicious attachments. This especially means be very suspicious of email attachments from acquaintances, as most modern viruses and worms hijack address books and send themselves out randomly selecting a "to" and "from" email address from the victim's address book, also meaning that such email did not really come from the apparent sender. This method of human engineering makes it attractive to open the infected email, as well as makes it difficult to track the real source. Be suspicious even if antivirus software is installed and updated, as many of these new viruses spread rapidly, often infecting computers faster than the antivirus publishers can post updates. Other forms of "safe hex" include killing spyware (Spybot Search and Destroy, free at www.safer-networking.org), and using a firewall to keep intruders out of your computer. Outpost (www.agnitum.com) and ZoneAlarm (www.zonelabs.com) are available free for personal use, and are excellent quality. It is also imperative that the operating system security patches are installed (windowsupdate.microsoft.com).

Another variant of safe hex that warrants a resolution is to stop forwarding hoaxes and urban legends. These can be harmful, so check out any interesting stories or reports at urbanlegends.about.com or www.snopes.com before forwarding them, even if they were sent to you by a repu-

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OR

Email bookworm@erie.net for current rates.

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table person.

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Lockergnome's Win XP Tips

by Chris Pirillo, Chief Lockergnome

Windows Update Transfer Details

Windows Update hasn't been faring too well lately; it's caused a few users some unnecessary headaches. It'll say something along the lines of: "Here, I think you need this patch." When, in fact, you don't. Mike Vigneau passed along an interesting tip for those of us who want to know what's happening when we're using this particular Microsoft tool.

This tweak has been confirmed with Windows XP and 2000 systems, although it may work in earlier versions of Windows as well. What we're going to do is set the transfer dialog to "debug" mode. This way, we can keep an eye on what's happening - at each stage in the process. Fire up the Registry editor and fly to HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \ SOFTWARE \ Microsoft \ Active Setup. Enter a new String Value and label it: "SteppingMode" (sans quotes).

Edit the String and give it a value of Y. The next time you use Windows Update, its actions should be a little more descriptive. If you ever wish to disable the verbosity, simply switch this value to N. If you want another way to grab these downloads, consider using the Corporate version of Windows Update (a quick search on Google will provide the appropriate URL).

Driver Queries and Wasted Space

What's the quickest way (in Windows XP) to get a list of the currently loaded drivers including module names and descriptions? Get out of the GUI; you're better off at the command line for this tip. Browse to your desktop folder for simplicity's sake usually found at C:\ Documents and Settings \ [Username] \ Desktop). Now, at the command line, enter: "driverquery /V > drivers.txt" (sans quotes). That /V provides a more "verbose" output. Other notable switches include /FO (which formats the output as a table, list, or comma separated values) and /SI (which provides details about any signed driver).

Open that freshly-created drivers.txt file and you'll be in business. On a more entertaining note, do you remember the music that played when you first started Windows XP? Ya know, the one that sounded like an Enigma tune? If you wanna hear it again, you can find it at C:\ WINDOWS \ system32 \ oobe images \ title.wma. Of course, if you want to free up 3 MB worth of space, you can delete it and the intro.wmv file sitting next to it.

Built-in Spell Checker

Quite honestly, there's no excuse for spelling errors anymore. Typos were frequent in the days of the typewriter; misspellings were common in the handwritten letter era. Though, there's virtually no quick way to spell check a word when you're in anything other than a "Microsoft Office Spell Checker" supported application.

Lockergnomie Tom Maenner had issues with the feature in Outlook Express after he upgraded to Windows XP. "I had to locate 'csapi3t1.dl_' on the Windows XP CD and expand it as 'csapi3t1.dll' in this directory: C:\ Program Files \ Common Files \ Microsoft Shared \ Proof. Worked like a charm."

I'm not certain if this will work on every machine, but it's worth trying if the tool isn't operational for you. If you dork up words every other minute, consider turning on the "Spell Check before Sending" feature in your default e-mail client. It's and its, than and then, their and they're, or any other homophone may slip through the cracks. Butt at least you won't look like a total fool--just a parshal one. Even online, credibility counts.

CompactFlash Formatting

Digital Media (the non-Lockergnome kind) is wonderful when it works. Most people use it in their digital camera or PDA (as do I). Transferring data from a portable de-

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Membership News

Current active CUE members: 49

Renewal received: Hillert Vitt Bob Huber

Renewals Due: Eran Swartzwelder Bob & Pat Raydo
Laura Willson

New Members: Lou Cannarozzi (rejoin)

Remember, a CUE Membership makes a nice Christmas present

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vice to the PC is relatively painless. Lockergnome Glen Fabian pointed out something recently posted to COMPACTFLASH.ORG (the CompactFlash Association): "By default, Windows XP will format any CompactFlash card of 64MB or more with FAT32 format. Digital cameras and other devices use the FAT (FAT16) format and can not operate with a FAT32 formatted card. Either format your CompactFlash card in your camera or select FAT format to format your CompactFlash card in a Windows XP PC."

Even if you don't use CF media or Windows XP, this is something to keep in mind. And do you need another reason to own a laptop? My Pocket PC is a Walkman of sorts; I put new MP3s on it every day. However, transferring them via any USB (1.1) connection is slow as molasses.

I picked up a PCMCIA CF adapter for under five bucks a few weeks ago (they're inexpensive to begin with). Trust me, that will speed up the process. Visit PCMCIA.ORG for more information.

Media Access Control

It's no secret that 802.11b networks are not very secure; we've discussed this point at length in the past. When you enable wireless connectivity through your access point, you should filter out non-registered MAC (Media Access Control) addresses if your WAP supports this feature. A MAC address is unique to every network card on the market. Any Wi-Fi device may see your wireless access point, but it won't be able to use the WAP unless its MAC address matches the (manually entered) filter. Nice, huh?

Okay, so how do you determine a network card's MAC address? Either use WINIPCFG or IPCONFIG. You're looking for a hexadecimal string - twelve digits long (six sections of two hex characters each). This is easy to find when you're on your own machine, but what about those connected to your network?

As your home network expands, this information will become increasingly important. You could use your router's DHCP table to view the addresses, or you could use Windows XP's GETMAC command line utility (also available as a free Windows 2000 Resource Kit download).

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has been recognized as the Bible of E-mail Publishing. Chris also hosts a daily TechTV and weekly radio show. He is the Windows columnist for Smart Computing's Computer Power User magazine and the content coordinator for the annual Gnomedex technology conference. Visit www.Lockergnome.com

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From the DealsGuy

By Bob Click, Greater Orlando Computer Users Group

My Webmaster abilities leave much to be desired, in fact, I barely get the job done, but at least my Web site does the job I wanted it to do for my readers and editors. In spite of my lack of expertise, I often get e-mail from readers and editors who visited my Web site and acknowledge the visit. Sometimes they even tell me they liked the way it is set up and that they think it is easy to navigate. That always makes my day considering my lack of ability and I'm happy it is doing the job satisfactorily. When I originally built it, the people I asked to critique it ripped it apart as I asked them to do, but said it would probably work, and after a few changes, it is doing that. My thanks to the readers and editors for living with my creation.

I also noticed a couple of newsletters that carried articles their editor downloaded from my Web site and even credited my Web site, which is unnecessary, but good. I was excited to see that because it tells me somebody is using some of the articles I posted and that at least I chose something that people liked. My thanks to all the authors (some actually told me they felt flattered) that I had asked for their article and for contributing for my readers.

***The Beginning Of The End**

I am just about ready to put the DealsGuy column to bed permanently because of the lack of new content availability. Lately, much of what I publish is taken from user group newsletters because vendors often ignore my requests and leave me with nothing for the column at deadline time. I may yet have a couple things that are not something you would buy, but mixing those with some other things from newsletters that I read will keep it going briefly. These will probably not be items suitable for many of my readers, but they may find them interesting anyway. Even with limited sales potential I liked them because they are unique.

Press any key... no, no, no, NOT THAT ONE!

(Continued from page 7)

On the other hand, I often get announcements for new products that are from unknown companies (several per month) and perhaps you would like to know about those. I assumed that most user groups have somebody who gets the same announcements and may, or may not, make it known to their members. Let me know since it would be something to write about rather than nothing.

***Interesting Trade Show**

I recently worked the "International Training and Simulator Association" trade show. This was a military show and mostly defense contractors had displays there. There was just about any type of simulator you could imagine, including training for a fire situation. In another booth I saw a concave mirror about five feet wide by three feet high (costing about \$12,000) that made me look larger but inverted when I looked at it. Everything also looked 3-D when I approached it. Another large mirror costing about \$7,000 was flatter and enlarged everything, even my money, but the numbers on it were still the same. Bummer! One of the uses was in a training simulator for mid-air refueling so the pilot could see the nozzle when trying to connect it to the fill tube, although I understand it is not necessary for the real experience.

Another interesting item was a visor you wear on your head that has lenses to look through attached. Above the lenses at a 90-degree angle were mini screens and you could feed TV or whatever you wanted into them. The lenses would not only let you see what was projected on the mini screens above them, but you could also see right through the lenses. It was an interesting item at about \$32,000. I'm not sure what its uses are.

Another interesting exhibit was a semi-transparent world globe about six feet in diameter on a pedestal that seemed to be illuminated and had lines projecting all around it that moved all the time. I wondered if it was for a tactical planning room. There were even tanks and some of the latest guns being shown in the show and I am not at liberty to talk about much of what I saw and asked questions about. After all, I was part of their security. The displays took about 500,000 square feet of exhibit space and attracted about 12,000 attendees. It was interesting that several people were caught during show hours

around the show floor trying to film the exhibits with hidden cameras. There was lots of security around the show.

***A Ho-Hum Column**

I was unable to get a couple of things to come together that I am working on by deadline time, but I'm still working on them. Most of you won't need them, but will like them. The holidays presented a problem for the people I am dealing with so I hope to have something next month, but for this month I have some items you may already know about.

***Dear IRS, Please take it easy on me - Yeah Right!**

I should have written about Tax Act last month, but it's still not too late. It's a free product to use for your personal income tax. You can go to [<http://www.taxact.com>] and do your taxes at no cost in two ways. If you have a dialup connection, you may like the method where you do not have to download anything, but instead, do your taxes right on their web site for free as you answer questions for the information. You can also download their free software and go ahead and fill it in at home. It interviews you as you go through it, asking you questions of all types trying to get your information and data for computing your income tax. It takes a bit of getting used to and I made mistakes last year that I had to go back and fix because of assumptions, but it does work.

I used it last year and was a bit agitated by its constantly bugging me to buy their better version. Actually, I did eventually purchase the \$9.95 upgrade, but mostly because it included one free electronic tax filing. Taking that into consideration, the upgrade also has some comparison features included among other things and would actually only cost me \$2.00 after doing the e-file since an e-file cost you \$7.95 using the free version. One shortcoming I felt it had was if you had any complicated stock transactions. I finished mine after a couple of e-mails back and forth with the tech people at Tax Act. They answered my questions the next day and didn't quite understand my question the first time. When I finally was satisfied and sent my e-filing, they responded by telling me it had been received and letting me know the approximate date my refund would be deposited to my account. They were correct; it took ten days. I sent them a complaint

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(Continued from page 8)

and they may have improved the stock transaction part. It's free so what could it hurt if you don't like it. Remember that my review for Tax Act on my Web site is a year old and I assume there are improvements by now.

*Free Antivirus Software

AVG antivirus software by Grisoft has a free version and I understand it is pretty good. I have seen it recommended in several user group newsletters, but I've not tried it myself. You can get it at [<http://www.grisoft.com>]. A word of warning though --- don't try to have more than one AV working at the same time because they often tend to clash.

*Print Your Screen, Or Any Part, OK?

PrintScreen by Gadwin lets you capture any part, or your entire screen for printing, copying to the clipboard or saving it into a file. This is a very handy utility and can be had at [<http://www.gadwin.com/download>]. You can choose from six different image formats and they can be resized. Their Web site says PrintScreen 2.0 is an easy-to-use FREEWARE utility.

That's it for this month. Meet me here again next month if your editor permits. This column is written to make user group members aware of special offers or freebies I have found or arranged, and my comments should not be interpreted to encourage, or discourage, the purchase of any products, no matter how enthused I might sound. Bob (The Cheapskate) Click [Bob-click@mindspring.com]. Visit my Web site at [<http://www.dealsguy.com>] for past columns and many interesting articles I have taken from various users group newsletters.

For the latest CUE news visit our website at
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Join the CUE email list. To do so, send an email to
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OnCUE Classifieds

Internal Iomega IDE ZIP Drive (250 meg type) with 3, 250 Meg Zip Disks.....\$20.00

External Iomega Zip Drive (250 meg type Parallel Port) with 3 250 Meg Zip Disks.....\$25.00

External Iomega USB "Predator" CD Burner (6X).....\$15.00

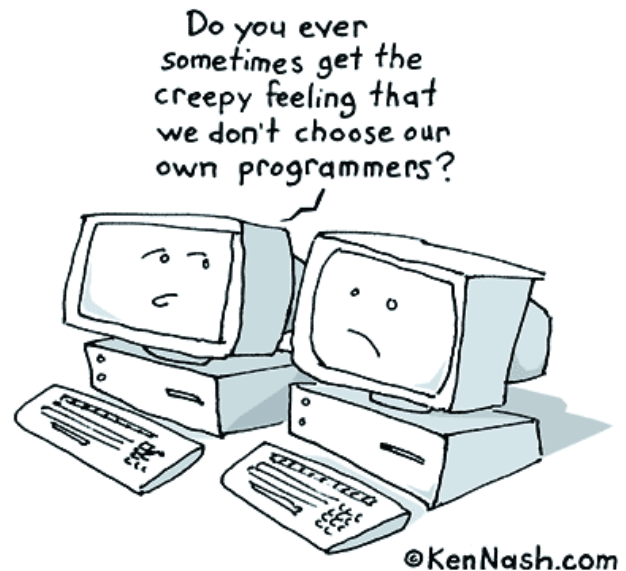
Altec Lansing (ACS52) Speakers System with Sub Woofer for your PC.....\$20.00

Thanks

Lou

PS I can be reached at 864-9554 or via e-mail at sqqr@ma.rr.com


Ed. Note: All items above are being offered by Lou Cannarozzi. He may be contacted by either method listed above.




Calendar of Events

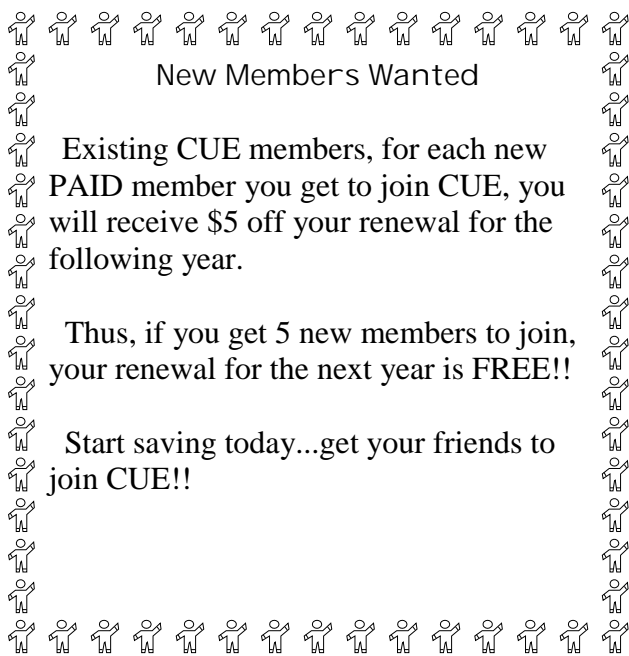
Note: Unforeseen circumstances may change a scheduled event. For up-to-the-minute news, please check the CUE List for details.

▶ January 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
						
4	5	6 Genealogy SIG	7	8	9	10 Macintosh SIG CUE Class
11	12	13	14 Advanced Windows SIG	15 CUE General Meeting	16	17
18	19	20 Beginner's SIG	21	22 CUE Board Meeting	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

▶ February 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Genealogy SIG	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Advanced Windows SIG	12	13	14 Macintosh SIG 
15	16	17 Beginner's SIG	18	19 CUE General Meeting	20	21 CUE Class
22	23	24	25	26 CUE Board Meeting	27	28
29						



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Existing CUE members, for each new PAID member you get to join CUE, you will receive \$5 off your renewal for the following year.

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Be sure to check on the MarketPro Website for the current coupon. They may or may not accept this one at the show. The website is at: www.marketpro.com

Computer Users of Erie Membership Application / Renewal Form

CUE operates as a non-profit organization, providing educational and other programs to our members and the community.

Join CUE today, and share in the fun and excitement that the ever-changing world of computers and computing present.

Membership dues: \$25 /yr standard membership
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(must have student ID)

Students are anyone age 25 or under who attend an educational facility full-time.

Please add \$5 to dues if you elect the USMail newsletter.

To join, fill out the form to the right, and either drop it off at our monthly meeting, or mail to:

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

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*The next CUE General meeting will be on **January 15, 2004**. The doors will open at 6:30 pm, and the meeting will start at 7 pm.*

Join **CUE** or Renew Your Membership Today!

Computer Users of Erie is an organization founded as a friendly and informal group for the purpose of helping each other to better understand the ever changing world of computers and computing.

Membership in CUE costs \$25.00 per year. Your membership includes our monthly newsletter via our web site, the ability to take part in all club activities and SIGs, benefit from club discounts and take part in any other special club activities or offers that come along. Most of all, you'll have fun learning from a great group of people!

To join CUE or to renew your membership, please fill out the application/renewal form found on page 11 of this newsletter, and either mail it (along with your dues) to the address shown at the bottom of the form, or bring it to one of our monthly meetings.