

COMPUTER USERS OF ERIE

CUE Newsletter – May 2023 (Volume 40 Number 5)



May CUE Meeting

The next general meeting is on Thursday May 18th at 7:00 PM, by a Zoom link in your email, with a demo by John Fair, from CUE, about Artificial Intelligence (AI). 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)

Thursday May 18th at 7 PM

Thursday June 15th at 7 PM

Chromebook SIG Meetings

No current local meetings but weekly national meetings at techforsenior.com

Chromebook tips from APCUG at apcug2.org/chromebook-tips-and-tricks

Digital Photo SIG Meetings

No current local meetings for now

Genealogy SIG Meetings (typically 1st Tuesday of each month)

Tuesday May 2nd at 7 PM

Tuesday June 6th at 7 PM

MAC SIG Meetings

No current local meetings for now

Smartphone & Tablet SIG Meetings (typically 4th Monday of each month) (RSVP John Fair)

Monday May 22nd at 7 PM

Monday June 26th at 7 PM

Windows / Beginner's User Group (BUG) Meetings

No current local meetings for now

CUE Picnic

Sometime in September

CUE Christmas / Holiday Party

Sometime in December

Program for May 18th General Meeting: What's Going On With AI (Artificial Intelligence)?

CHATGPT

We have come to depend on AI in many apps we use every day and we have grown to accept AI as a necessary part of technology. So, what is the big fuss about something called ChatGPT? What makes it so different? How does it work and who is behind its development? How has the explosive growth of this AI made it a necessary part of search engines like Bing and Duck Duck Go, and many other applications? The program will show how far this leap into generative AI has taken us and its limitations.

That will be at 7 PM on Thursday May 18th!



AI Generated Woman

CUE Election Results

Election of officers and board members took place on the web. Congratulations to the chosen and the voters! The voting results are below. Those elected match the Slate earlier proposed for the 2023 to 2024 year. You can find contact information for these people, along with others, like SIG Leaders, near the back of this newsletter.

President: **Conrad Sobczak**
Vice President: **Paul Francis**
Secretary: **Susan Mueller**
Treasurer: **John Fair**

At-Large Board Members:

Lawrence Brown
Connie Edwards
Don Grim
Marcia Keller
Carl Zalewski

Alternate At-Large Board Members:

Hal Kelley
Suzanne Matthews



CUE Spring Break Pictures from John Szympruch's Camera



More 4/20/23 Spring Break Pictures from John's Camera



Thoughts From A Clicker (June 2021)

By Tiny Ruisch at Cajun Clicker Computer Club (www.clickers.org)

I would like to take a minute to give Facebook a big thank you for giving me a subject for the article for this newsletter.

I often have a problem deciding what to write about. Facebook made this one a “no-brainer.” With less than 50 friends, I am not a big user of the service. I usually log on only once a day for about 15-20 minutes. I don’t have any of the mobile apps installed, have never hit a “like” button and seldom post anything.

The only reason I haven’t closed my account is I have many relatives that keep me informed of what is happening. People that know are aware that I don’t answer my phone for any calls that are not in my contact list.

Facebook caused me to do some research on calls that have been rejected. From January 1 through April 5, there were exactly 7 of them. Things changed for a couple of weeks:

April Date	Rejected Calls
06	32
07	18
08	46
09	42
10	5
11	0
12	22

April Date	Rejected Calls
13	8
14	14
15	12
16	14
17	4
18	1

After a two-week onslaught of unwanted calls, they have finally started to taper off to around 3-5 per day.

It wasn’t hard to figure out what happened. In early April, more than half a billion phone numbers from Facebook accounts were posted on hacker forums. Of course, the company went into “Public Relations” mode and announced that they believed the data was “scraped” from accounts in 2019. We were assured that everything has been fixed.

Funny thing is, I don’t remember knowing that two years ago. If you’ve had an increase in spam calls and a Facebook account, you might know why. Once again, thanks Facebook. You’ve helped me prove what I have said for years. I don’t much care who has my phone number. I don’t pay much attention to it anyway. Facebook has also given credence to the fact that the “National Do Not Call Registry” doesn’t work well.

Thanks for reading.

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font.The Meta logo, featuring a blue infinity symbol followed by the word "Meta" in a dark blue, sans-serif font.

Genealogy Report for 4/4/23 SIG Meeting

Twelve members attended the Genealogy SIG on April 4th. There were several out-of-towners in attendance: Dave from New Hampshire, Charles from Arizona, and David from Maryland.

March 31st was World Backup Day. It's a reminder for all of us to back up our files including our genealogy records. Sue posted this cheat sheet on keeping our genealogy documents safe:

<https://genealogybargains.s3.amazonaws.com/CHEAT+SHEET+Backing+Up+Your+Genealogy+Data.pdf>

Sue also shared a video of Ancestry's Crista Cowan being interviewed at RootsTech by Connie Knox of Genealogy TV. Connie shared all the new and exciting tools that Ancestry is working on. If you couldn't attend the meeting, click below to see the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhPdIE3Ad84>

Pat was interested in Ancestry's tag tool, which was mentioned in the Crista Cowan interview. Connie demonstrated it for the group but said she hasn't found it particularly helpful for herself.

Paul has added many family members to his tree in the five years he has attended the CUE Genealogy SIG.

Some tips from Sue:

- If a photo is posted of a possible ancestor, look at the tree of the person who originally posted it to make sure it is a match for your family.
- It is often the same person who was the informant on a death certificate as the one who wrote the obituary so they may not validate the information. Keep digging.

Submitted by Connie Edwards



Ancestry's New & Future Updates with Crista Cowan

Smartphone & Tablet Report for 4/24/23 SIG Meeting

Apple released an update to mobile device operating systems the day of last month's meeting, so this was our first chance to review the update. iOS 16.4 and iPadOS 16.4 contained a number of security updates and bug fixes in addition to a variety of minor new or improved features. A short video clip touched on the more significant. The Tips app has become more useful over the years and now gives quick access to User Guides for both iPhone and iPad as well as associated connected devices like iPods and Apple Watch. A subsequent release of iOS 16.4.1 and iPadOS 16.4.1 patched two major security vulnerabilities that were being exploited in the wild. We viewed another video, described the critical nature of this update.

Apple's Safari is the most commonly used iPhone and iPad browser and it has a large number of settings that among other things affords the user a measure of privacy and security. A video of 15 Safari Settings to change described useful controls to change and the reasons for making the changes.

In the miscellaneous category, we viewed a video on 10 frustrating iPhone issues. This topic was inspired by my own frustration with texting my daughter about the death of her beloved pet. In attempting to emphasize with her situation, I recalled my own experience many years ago but the autocorrect kept changing the name of my pet. Of course, I only noticed

it after sending several texts. One of the 10 frustrations in the video is overriding autocorrect.

Last month I introduced the use of Shortcuts to make ChatGPT AI easy to summon on the iPhone. After only one month, several new Shortcuts for this function have been released that use paid (but low cost) access to Open AI's Application Programming Interface (API). One Shortcut is S-GPT which links to some iOS apps while the other, Super Siri, supports entertaining conversations with ChatGPT using Siri's vocalization but can't access iOS apps. Our members voted to see an entertaining video demonstrating Super Siri rather than the video on the more capable S-GPT. All enjoyed the video. I have both Shortcuts on my iPhone and iPads and I found them easy to install and very inexpensive to use.

We ended our meeting with discussion of the capabilities and uses of the Apple Watch. I did have a video on the functions of the two controls on the Watch but the folks who have Apple Watches had used them for years so there was no need for anyone but me, a new Watch owner, to see this video. We will continue to discuss Apple Watches at the end of our future meetings.

The next meeting of this SIG will be on Monday, May 22, 2023.

John Fair



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.

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
Connie Edwards	cme1000@yahoo.com	814-838-1369
Don Grim	grimcyber@yahoo.com	814-461-8289
Marcia Keller	dekmak43@gmail.com	814-449-4682
Carl Zalewski	carl.pat.z@gmail.com	814-520-1713

Alternate At-Large Board

Hal Kelley	hal_kelley@outlook.com	814-836-1803
Suzanne Matthews	pdxmatthews@aol.com	814-790-4185

Special Interest Groups

Chromebook	Don Grim	grimcyber@yahoo.com	814-461-8289
Digital Photo	Lawrence Brown	larrybrown0191@icloud.com	814-323-1067
Genealogy	Susan Mueller	suepasta@roadrunner.com	814-622-1262
MAC	Tom Kuklinski	tkuklinski@gmail.com	814-746-9165
Smartphone & Tablet	John Fair	johncfair@gmail.com	814-474-3055
Windows / BUG	Tom Kuklinski	tkuklinski@gmail.com	814-746-9165

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.

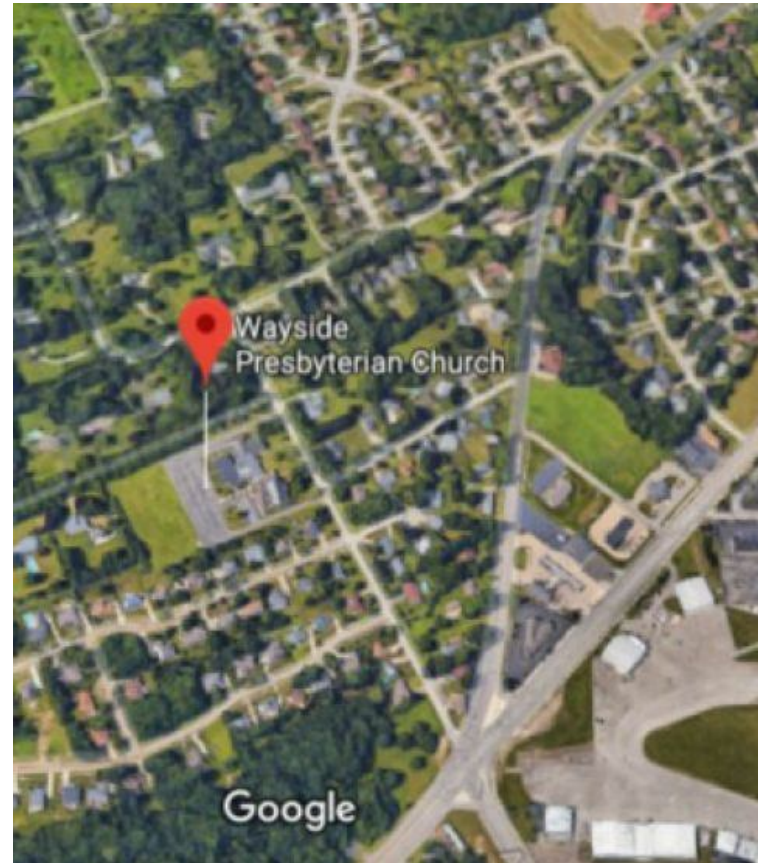
Directions to Wayside Presbyterian Church for CUE Meetings

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