COMPUTER USERS OF ERIE

CUE Newsletter – April 2022 (Volume 39 Number 4)

April CUE Meeting

The next general meeting is on Thursday April 21st at 7:00 PM, by a Zoom link in your email, with a demo by Tom Kuklinski about TV Streaming. See the CUE Website Calendar for more about it.

CUE is a member of APCUG

Visit the CUE Website at:

www.cuerie.com

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 April 21st at 7 PM
>   Thursday May 19th 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 April 2nd at 9:30 AM
>   Saturday May 1st at 9:30 AM

Genealogy SIG Meetings (typically 1st Tuesday of each month)
>   Tuesday April 5th at 7 PM
>   Tuesday May 3rd at 7 PM

MAC SIG Meetings (typically 2nd Saturday of each month except June/July/August)
>   Saturday April 9th at 9:30 AM
>   Tuesday May 8th at 9:30 AM

Smartphone & Tablet SIG Meetings (typically 4th Monday of each month) (RSVP John Fair)
>   Monday April 25th at 7 PM
>   Monday May 23rd at 7 PM

Windows SIG Meetings (typically 2nd Saturday of each month except June/July/August)
>   Saturday April 9th at 1 PM
>   Saturday May 8th at 1 PM

CUE Picnic
>   Sometime in September

CUE Christmas / Holiday Party
>   Thursday December 8th

CUE Election

Election of officers and board members will take place on the web. You will receive details on how to vote. Be ready to vote and/or run for a position with CUE.

The following 2022-2023 Candidate Slate is proposed for CUE Officers. Be ready to vote for the following names, or for any write-in candidates that you choose.

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

At-Large Board Members:

Lawrence Brown
Don Grim
Marcia Keller
Hal Kelley
Suzanne Matthews
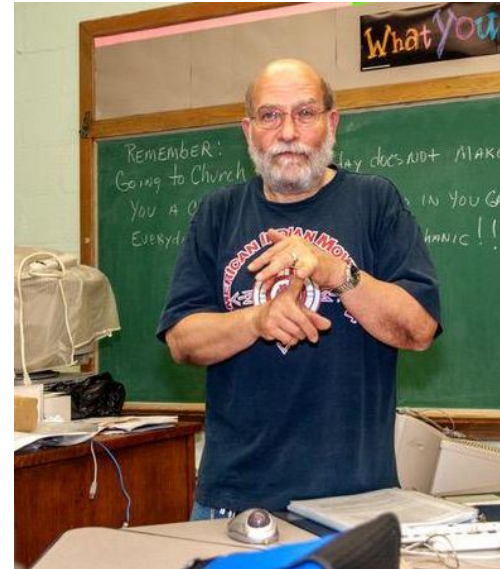
Alternate At-Large Board Members:

Louis Cioccio

Happy 40th Anniversary CUE!

Time flies and Technology flies! CUE has experienced constant technological changes during its 40 years as a community service. Erie television station WICU had John Last interview Don Grim from CUE on 3/9/2022. Don discussed various technologies, old and new, that CUE has experienced, along with the Special Interest Groups at CUE. CUE also provided pictures. John Last and his crew assembled all of it into a video, edited to under 3 minutes, about CUE, which was broadcast during the 6 PM television news on 3/11/2022. You can find a link to that video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkE0EGULcHU on the web. May CUE continue serving the community for 40 more years and beyond!

Tom Kuklinski, at left, is the CUE founder, historian, and webmaster. Lou Cioccio, at right, leads SIG's in Photo, Beginners, MAC, and Windows. Don Grim, at lower left, is the CUE editor. Also pictured is just a small sample of the many CUE members, officers, and additional SIG leaders that represent a wide interest in computers and technology. There is power in being a GROUP!

Way to go CUE!

The View from the End of the Year
By Greg Skalka at Under the Computer Hood User Group (www.uchug.org)

2021 was filled with ups and downs. Better in many ways than 2020, which introduced us to the COVID-19 pandemic, but also worse in some, this last year has been a deceiver. At this time last year, when COVID disrupted the holidays, there was hope that 2021 would be better. Things did improve with vaccinations and boosters, and restrictions were decreased, but new variants of the virus have demonstrated this battle may never be over.

When the pandemic first started, our group could pivot almost immediately into virtual meetings. In just two weeks, we went from Bob G's in-person security presentation in March 2020, our last meeting at Wesley Palms, to our group's first Zoom meeting (our March board meeting). This was not without issues, effort, and consternation. Still, we held our first virtual general meeting two weeks after that, on April 1st (April Fool's Day!), with an APCUG Speakers Bureau presentation on 5G from Ron Brown.

Those early days of the pandemic were tough on everyone. We all had to figure out the new rules and how to cope. Our board did very well in adapting to the new normal of virtual meetings, and we held many Zoom training sessions for members to practice. Most members quickly learned how to use Zoom, but a few were not interested in virtual meetings or using that software. Fortunately, we found the online meetings opened our group up to a broader geographic audience. We welcomed members of other APCUG groups to our meetings. The virtual format benefited one particular UCHUG member who had moved out of the area but wanted to continue attending; this was now possible. Virtual meetings made sense for members with concerns about driving at night. It saved me travel time to and from meetings and the effort of lugging equipment and materials for them.

This abrupt change could easily have resulted in the demise of our group, but instead, we merely continued the slow decline in membership we had seen previously.

UCHUG's continued existence is due to the dedication and determination of our board and the help we received from APCUG. UCHUG has been a member of APCUG, the Association of Personal Computer User Groups, for almost two decades. It is an international association of technology and computer user groups that has helped us in many ways over the years, providing presentation speakers, conferences, and organizational guidance. The help that APCUG and our Regional Advisor, Judy Taylour, provided in that first COVID year was instrumental in keeping us going. They offered the use of a paid Zoom account for our meetings, many virtual Speakers Bureau presentations, Virtual Tech Conferences, and other online workshops for our members to participate in and lots of good advice.

We held things together pretty well that first year and had a lot of participation in our meetings. The most regrettable part was that we could not hold our two annual parties, the June member picnic and our December Cheer party meeting in 2020. We just had regular Zoom meetings for both, but per our tradition, we gave away a

few electronic gift cards in a drawing for members attending the December meeting.

We continued the online formula of some Speakers Bureau presentations, some instructive videos suggested by members, and one or two homegrown presentations for our meetings in 2021. The Zoom process became routine. In March, Bob G. gave us his latest security presentation through Zoom and an update for National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October. As the vaccine became available, everyone hoped that, with enough uptake, restrictions on gatherings could be reduced, and some in-person meetings could be held. We first set our sights on the picnic.

State and local officials held us back on an in-person picnic in June. Still, restrictions on outdoor gatherings were loosened enough to allow it in July, which was better in Mission Bay weather. The group provided pizza and drinks, a few other board members brought items, and we had a good turnout. As even indoor restrictions were lifted for the fully vaccinated as case rates declined, we began planning for the possibility of an actual December meeting. Our contacts with the Seniors Group, which also met at Wesley Palms, indicated that our opportunity to meet there again may not come for a long time, if ever. Fortunately, our editor found his church in Poway would allow us to use one of their meeting rooms. On December 1, we were finally able to hold an in-person indoor meeting. It featured our member potluck and member prize giveaway, with an opportunity drawing for more prizes and an auction of

donated items to raise funds for the group. We had good attendance, did better than break-even, and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

Unfortunately, the church is far from our prior meeting site, likely causing some members to skip it. Due to age, some probably were now more concerned about driving at night than before the pandemic. Some were concerned about the new Omicron variant and the likelihood of restrictions soon being reimposed and so opted out. Not long after, the state and county clamped down again. Our January 2022 meeting will once again be on Zoom.

So, where does this leave us?

I believe that 2022 is going to be a lot like 2021. The battle between new variants and vaccinations/boosters will continue. New virus variants will continue to emerge, so we can all look forward to reacquainting ourselves with the Greek alphabet. However, hopefully, vaccination rates will increase, boosters will be accepted if recommended, and COVID testing will become easier to obtain and less costly. Many folks tried (unsuccessfully) to get tested the last week ahead of the Christmas weekend, so they could more safely gather. In addition to COVID, there appear to be colds and flu circulating right now. In my extended family group, I know of one person who tested positive for COVID, while two others had similar symptoms but tested negative (all in separate households).

In some respects, I'm not too disappointed that we will have to go back to Zoom meetings, as it reduces my setup and

The View Continued

travel time. The board has had some preliminary discussions about using the church meeting room for meetings in the future, which seems viable when health restrictions allow. The board is considering doing those as a hybrid meeting, where Zoom would be run on computers in the meeting room to broadcast to those that can't or won't travel in person. It will take some extra work to make sure the meeting works well for remote and local attendees, but it would give us the best of both worlds. We had a Zoom link set up at our last general meeting, and a couple of people watched for a bit, but the format of our December meeting doesn't lend itself to remote participation. A standard meeting with presentations could work well as a hybrid meeting.

Happy 2022!

P.S. Where are our flying cars, robot maids, and space travel for everyone? When I was young, I thought we'd have these by 2022. Unfortunately, COVID and global warming are a poor trade. No matter what happens in 2022, I believe everyone will agree that 2021 was a year we won't soon forget.

Genealogy Report for 3/1/22 SIG Meeting

The Genealogy SIG met via Zoom on March 1, 2022. Twelve members and one guest attended.

The group opened with a discussion on how to attach family member DNA tests to another individual who wants to manage the information.

Guest, Lynne VanVolkenburg, was interested in learning how to trace her Italian and Polish roots. She is still gathering her family documents and is just beginning her search. Sue Mueller suggested stevemorse.org as the best place to begin looking for immigrant information. Sue also used the Share Screen feature on Zoom and demonstrated how to find Erie obituaries through the Erie County Library and how to search on familysearch.org.

Liz Wisniewski suggested the website geneteka.genealodzy.pl for Polish ancestors.

Conrad Sobczak gave an overview of the Polish partitions and how the country was broken up and he suggested Google Translate as being helpful when looking for foreign records.

The Genealogy Special Interest Group meets the first Tuesday of most months at 7:00 via Zoom.

Submitted by Connie Edwards.

Smartphone & Tablet Report for 3/28/22 SIG Meeting

The meeting opened by addressing a number of interesting questions submitted ahead of time by several members. These answers apply to the iPad as well as the iPhone. Paul Francis wanted to know how to create a group distribution list within email on an iPhone. The short answer is that email groups are created in Contacts and then Mail is accessed by opening the group name in Contacts. We described the process and then viewed a video that walked through the process showing an iPhone screen.

Nancy Group had several questions. The first involved how to turn off the Live Photos feature. Since the feature is by default turned on when you open Camera, you need to open Camera, turn the feature off, then go to Settings/Camera/Preserve Settings and turn the Live Photos button to on. That preserves the new default for this feature. The second is how to stop the Memories feature in Photos. Apple has chosen to provide no way to disable Memories. You can reduce the number of Memories by going to Settings / Photos / Memories and turning off Show Holiday Events or by electing to feature a specific person less in future memories. We showed a video describing how to do that. We also reviewed the difference between turning off the screen and turning off the phone.

The latest mobile device operating systems are iOS 15.4 and iPadOS 15.4. The most important reason to update your device to 15.4 is that it patches 39 security issues, some of which are very serious. We showed a video touching on many of the new features of this OS and referred to a Forbes article that also describes 15.4 features.

A feature that only works on iOS 15.4 and not iPadOS 15.4 is Face ID with a Mask. This feature is limited to iPhone 12 and 13 models. (It would have been nice to have this capability earlier in the pandemic.) You can choose this option in Settings / Face ID and Passcode and then register your features. You do not have to wear a mask in the registration process. The scan then concentrates on features around your eyes to unlock the phone and access apps. We showed a video of how well it works while wearing a mask and gave an article for reference.

We showed a video on iPhone 13 and 13 Pro Camera Settings. A detailed and lengthy description of the abundant features of the iPhone Camera system was emphasized by outstanding iPhone pictures taken in the Italian Alps. Photo enthusiasts viewing this video might find reasons to trade in their older iPhones for the 13 or 13 Pro.

Finally we talked about the Ultra Wideband technology in the devices with a U1 chip. That chip enables the Find My app to use a crowd sourced network of Apple devices using Bluetooth wireless technology to find a lost or stolen phone even up to 24 hours after it is turned off. Signals in the Find My network are "end to end" encrypted and anonymous.

As an experiment this month I created a more detailed set of notes for the meeting. I generally have created notes in more of an outline form to guide the discussion during the meeting and to aid my memory
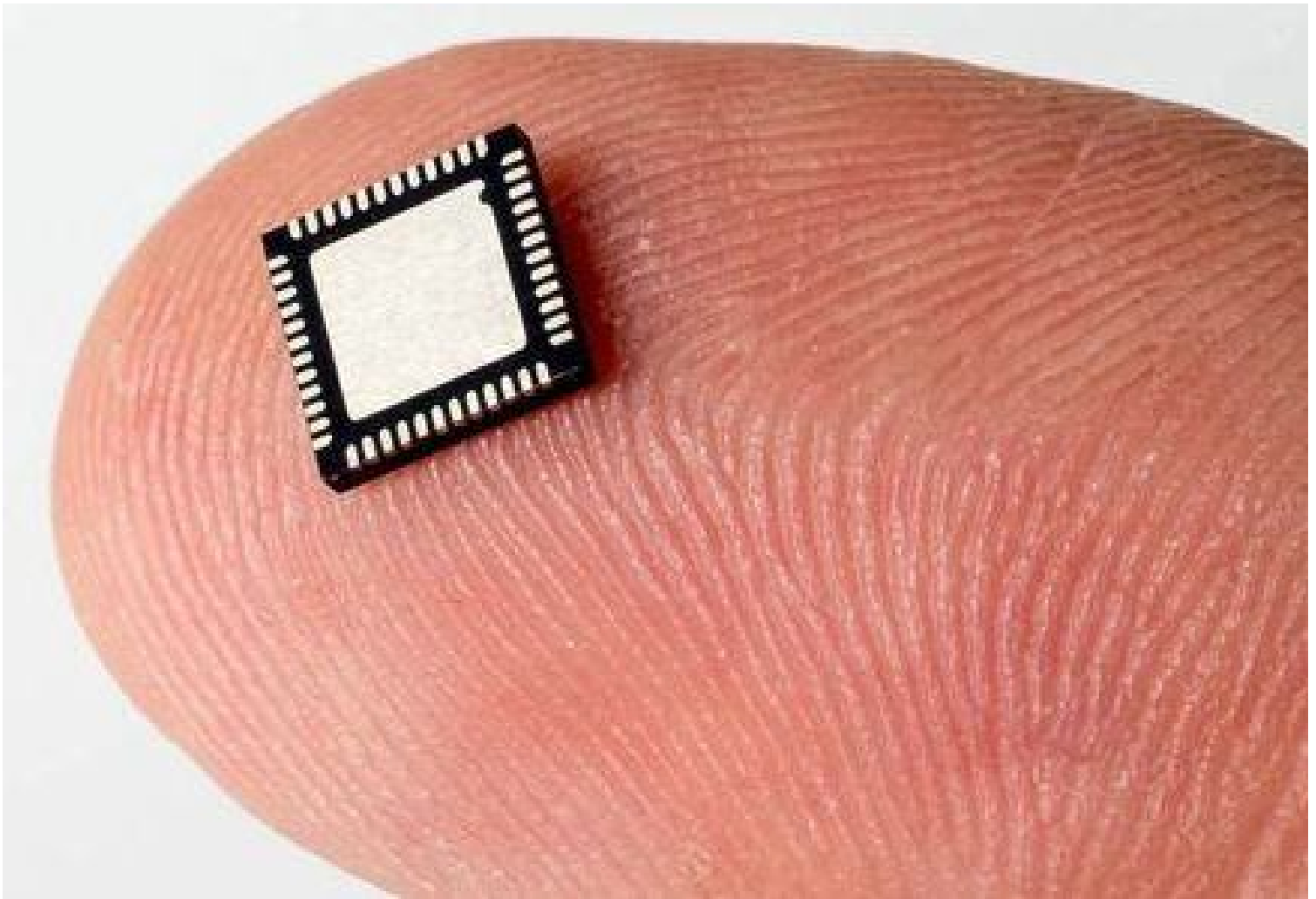
Smartphone & Tablet Report Continued

in writing the report for the newsletter. This month I sent out copies of my more detailed notes containing hyperlinks to the videos and articles I referenced. Of course the notes don't replace attending the discussion we had during the virtual meeting, but they are a reference and give those who missed the meeting a way to catch up. Anyone who would like a copy of my notes please contact me at johncfair@gmail.com.

The next virtual meeting of the Smartphone and Tablet SIG is at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 25.

John Fair

U1 Chip on a Fingertip!

Secretary's Report for 3/17/22 CUE Meeting

Business meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Conrad Sobczak.

Members Present: Conrad Sobczak, Larry Brown, John Fair, Paul Francis, Don Grim, Ed Group, Nancy Group, Bob Jaworski, Joanne Kleinhanz, Carol Korn, Pat Mickel, Sue Mueller, Anne Rosthauser, John Szympruch, Liz Wisniewski, and Carl Zalewski.

Guests: Rob Truman, speaker;

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 February 17, 2022 general meeting, published in the March 2022 newsletter, be approved as amended (add John Fair to attendees).

Reports:

Treasurer's Report, John Fair: Our current balance is $3410.61. Treasurer conducted review of our insurance policy and recommended that we not renew as it only covers our in-person meeting site. The policy should be renewed when we resume meeting in person again. Since the policy we had is no longer offered, this may mean a minimal increase in cost. Members present agreed not to renew the policy at this time. Upcoming expenditure will be the $100 deposit for the Elks Club (holiday party). The full treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Membership Report, John Fair: As a result of Don Grim's appearance on the

Last Word, we have one new member and a reported check in the mail for another new member. We currently have 76 members and 8 associate members.

Special Interest Groups:

• Genealogy: Meets first Tuesday of each month. Next meeting, April 5. Member Connie Edwards introduced her friend who is just beginning her family history research. Members offered suggestions for where to start and helped her find local records online.

• Smart Phones: Met February 28 and next meeting is March 28 (fourth Mondays of the month): Reviewed operating system updates and discussed iphone 13 and watched a related video.

• Mac, Windows: no report.

Special Committee

• Member survey and potential Zoom training, tabled.

Unfinished Business:

• Election of officers: Nominating committee consists of John Szympruch and Paul Francis, need one more member. Since there were no volunteers, Conrad agreed to serve.

New Business:

• The Last Word: Members all agreed that Don Grim did a great job and thanked him for his efforts. Website traffic has

Secretary's Report Continued

increased as a result of the interview. The interview on Youtube has had 134 views.

• Future Meeting Presentations: There was a discussion concerning the topics of interest. Those mentioned were browser settings, password manager, VPN (virtual private network).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25, and John Fair introduced speaker Rob Truman who spoke about cutting the cord and streaming services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan B Mueller

Susan B. 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.

Stay Safe!

Editorially Speaking, Don Grim

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 you 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

Janice Castro	jcastrocue@outlook.com	312-543-9128
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:

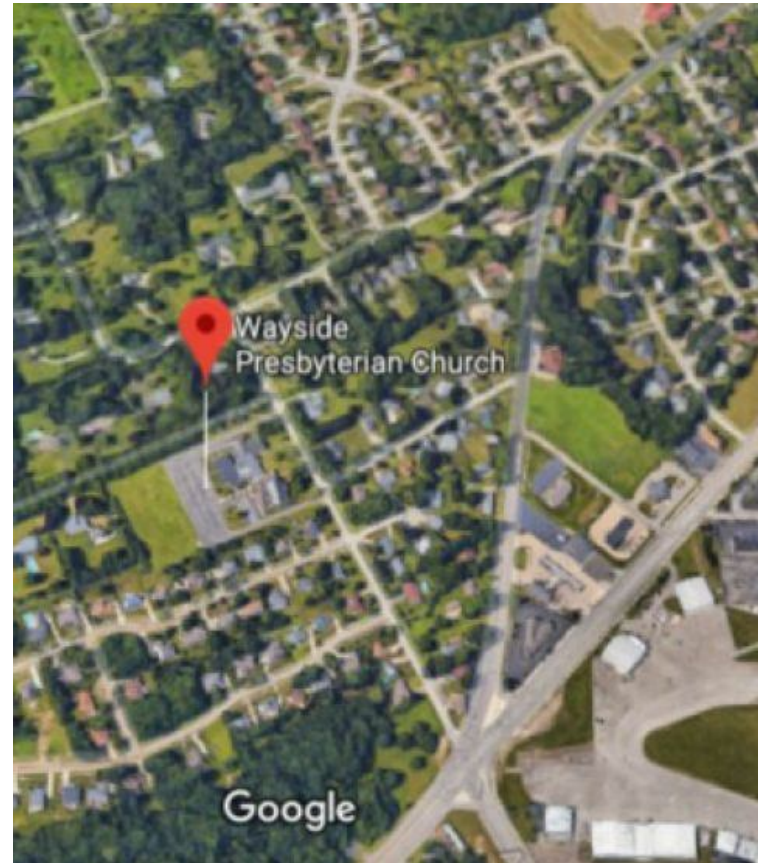|			
CUE Historian	Tom Kuklinski	tkuklinski@gmail.com	814-746-9165
Editor	Don Grim	grimcyber@yahoo.com	814-461-8289
Membership Chair	John Fair	johncfair@gmail.com	814-474-3055
Webmaster	Tom Kuklinski	tkuklinski@gmail.com	814-746-9165

CUE Disclaimer

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

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 @curerie

---

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

Postmaster:
Address Service Requested

Postage Here

Address label here

16