

Introduction to CUGG

Computer Users Group of Greeley
December 20, 2011

The purpose of CUGG is to raise the computer skill levels of members of our community.

Some of our group are skilled professionals who enjoy talking about computers and helping others. Some are beginners who are initially confused by much of what we say and do, but want to learn more. Others are intermediate, know-enough-to-be-dangerous users who find they learn something useful at every meeting.

Name Badges

To facilitate our informal conversations with each other, each person rates himself/herself “Beginner”, “Intermediate”, or “Advanced”. Your name badge will have a star in a color reflecting your rating. This tells everyone how technical you want people to get when talking to you. According to your self-rating, your badge will have either a:

Gold star (Advanced),
Red star (Intermediate), or
Green star (Beginner).

Website

CUGG’s website is www.cugg.org. (CUGG is a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups, “APCUG”, so you see their logo on our website.) The home page has the dates and times of the next meeting of the board of directors and the next general meeting. The agendas of past and upcoming general meeting are also available under the “Meetings” link.

Random Access is our monthly newsletter, published by CUGGer Don Wiegel. It is part of the website, accessed by clicking on the “Newsletter” link at the top of the CUGG home page.

Only the “Sustaining Members” and governance sections are password-protected. The Members link takes you to a list of members' email addresses. We password-protect it to keep bad guys from copying the addresses. (The addresses are encoded in such a way as to not look like an email address, so that robots roaming the Internet for email addresses won’t pick ours up.) If you prefer that you not be listed, please contact the webmaster, Eric Moore, by e-mail at moore.e.s@att.net or by phone at (970) 352-5435.

The governance section contains links to the minutes of the board of directors. Here you may keep up with what our finances, working agendas for upcoming meetings, changes to the website, and the latest news on CUGG's relations with software vendors.

Getting Help

There are several ways to get help from others with your computer questions and problems:

- Email your question to the full CUGG list. Address your email to members@cugg.org. It will go to everyone on the list. You have to be on the list or you can not send to it. You get on the list by being a Sustaining Member or a registered guest. (*Tip: When you “Reply” to a message you receive from this list, your reply goes to everyone on the list. To reply to just one person, send him or her a new message.*)
- Email your question to a particular person you think might help. CUGGers' email addresses are listed under the Sustaining Members section.
- Ask your question during the Q&A session of a monthly meeting. (Others benefit from hearing your question and the answer too.)

- Some CUGG attendees are IT professionals who will make house calls for a fee. They don't promote themselves through CUGG, but most any red or gold star badges could name them for you.

Sustaining Members

Sustaining Members contribute \$30 per year, collected in January and good through December. They make our meetings possible, including Internet access at the Greeley Senior Activity Center. Later in the year, new contributions to become a Sustaining Member are prorated \$2.50 times the number of months left through December. (For example, if you join in the month of March, you only pay \$25 for the first year.) You are welcome to attend our meetings whether you contribute or not.

The greeters at the general meetings can take your dues as can our Treasurer, Eric Moore, or any CUGG board member or old-timer, for that matter.

Projector Rental

CUGG makes its projectors, screen and audio equipment available for rent:

	Sustaining Member	Others
Screen	\$10.00	\$20.00
Projector (newest, 1024x768 res)	\$25.00	\$50.00
Projector (older, 1024x768 res)	\$10.00	\$20.00
Projector (older, 800x600 res)	\$5.00	\$10.00
Audio equipment	\$15.00	N/A

To schedule this equipment for your use, call Frank Whiteley, (970) 330-2020. All renters must sign a rental agreement. Non-members must also leave a deposit.

Board of Directors

CUGG is steered by a volunteer board of directors which meets once a month to plan the meeting presentations and handle other business, such as how best to use your dues. The latest minutes of the board are published under the Governance section of the CUGG website. The board and its officers are elected each February for a one-year term.

We hope all who attend our meetings learn something, share something, and enjoy it.

With best wishes,

CUGG Board of Directors