

President's Corner: April, 2015
Faster Internet at the Senior Center
By Eric Moore

Late last year, the board announced to members that dues would be raised to \$36.00 a year. The primary motive for doing so was to raise additional funds that would allow CUGG to upgrade the Internet speed at the Senior Center. CUGG currently pays \$35.99 a month to CenturyLink for the DSL circuit at the Senior Center, as well \$200.00 a year to GreeleyNet for the ISP charge. The speed has generally been adequate, though at times the bandwidth has been slowed enough to cause problems for presentations that require Internet access. Our former president, Jamie Leben, first contacted Comcast to see what deal they could give us on Internet service. As CUGG is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we stand to benefit from a discount on the usual monthly charge. The only delay was that we had been unable to locate a copy of CUGG's letter of determination, certifying that CUGG is registered with the IRS as a non-profit organization. I took up the responsibility of applying to the IRS to arrange for a copy to be sent to me. I mailed the request last fall and—by the IRS's estimate—I expected to receive the copy by November 20, 2014. The date came and went, but the document did not arrive.

The document finally arrived on April 2, 2015. Now that we have the document, the Board of Directors will move forward to see what deal we can get for Comcast Internet at the Senior Center. The speed increase will cost more, so I ask for members' understanding as to why we raised the dues for the first time in more than ten years. Ideally, we would like to increase income by additional means, such as signing up more members and the raising funds through sponsored advertising on CUGG's website.

We appreciate any support that members can provide. As we are a non-profit, any donations you make to CUGG are tax-deductible. We do also appreciate your support in non-monetary ways by telling your friends, relative, neighbors, and colleagues about CUGG. CUGG's mission continues to be to educate members of the community, not to raise money for its own sake. We appreciate your support and encourage everyone to get the word out as to what CUGG has to offer and why you feel compelled to continue attending our monthly meetings and supporting us through your yearly membership dues.