

Dear WACUG member:

On Saturday, your Board of Directors approved changes to WACUG's membership benefits structure.

These changes will provide:

- a monthly PDF Cursor newsletter, with enhanced content.
- 3 periodic CDs at no additional charge, with freeware, shareware, and trialware.
- a better financial standing for the organization.

Beginning immediately, the term of membership in WACUG changes from a January to December calendar year basis to an annual basis. Henceforth, when a new member pays dues, their term of membership will be established by the Membership Chair to insure they receive 12 months of newsletters.

Examples:

- A new member pays dues at the March meeting. Her membership will run from April through March of the following year.
- A dues check is received early in March, with sufficient time for the Cursor editor to send a copy of the March newsletter to this member. This membership will run from March through February of the following year.

Membership dues will remain at \$25. Membership will include 12 issues of the Cursor, sent in PDF format via email. Additional content, beyond the 12 pages of the printed newsletter, will be included in the email PDF version of the Cursor, as well as clickable web links within articles. Membership will also include coupons redeemable for 3 WACUG software CDs of your choice, vs. 1 CD in the old membership plan.

We will continue to offer printed and mailed copies of the Cursor, for a surcharge of \$12.00 per 12 month membership. We will review the status of the printed newsletter annually, and inform members prior to January each year of any change. Our ultimate goal is phase out of the printed newsletter, because of the impact of ever-escalating printing and postage costs.

The impact of a printed newsletter on volunteer time is significant as well. Editor Chuck Roberts currently spends about six hours a month having the Cursor printed (drop off and pick up), and folding, labeling, stamping, and mailing the newsletter. This is in addition to the many hours spent in gathering articles, laying out, and producing a print master for reproduction.

We will drop our six month mid-year memberships (i.e. - members joining in the last half of the year). Trial memberships may be offered for promotional purposes, at reduced rates and terms, at the discretion of the Board. For example, we will offer a six month trial membership for \$15 at the Fall for Fairfax event at the Fairfax County Government Center on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

We will discuss these changes at the October meeting - see the web site <http://www.wacug.org/images/ruritanmap2.jpg> for a map to the Ruritan Club in Sterling. You may address immediate questions or concerns to: [president@wacug.org](mailto:president@wacug.org)

Paul Howard  
President, WACUG     September 19, 2006