

On the Docket for the  
**General Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 16, 2004**

## **Photoshop Elements 3: Enhance & Organize Your Photos**

*Plus: A Game of Tech Jeopardy*

**F**rom Illustrator to Photoshop to Premiere, Adobe covers the gamut of graphical applications for original graphics, photo enhancement, web development, and video editing. From its beginnings with Type Libraries/Manager and Illustrator, to the development of Premiere and Acrobat, Adobe spent its first decade supporting the endeavors of graphics professionals. With the development of PhotoDeluxe in 1996, Adobe began to extend its reach to amateurs in the graphics field, including photographers. Since its introduction in 2001, Photoshop Elements has become a popular graphics application for those who want a photo enhancement application but don't feel a need for the power of Photoshop.

### *Photoshop Elements: the upgrade*

The December NYPC General Meeting will feature version three of Adobe's Photoshop Elements. Mary Ginsburg will demonstrate how to use this powerful yet accessible program to organize and enhance your digital (or digitized) photographs. Whether you want simply to improve the contrast, brightness, and/or color in a photograph, to add painterly effects, or to combine elements of several photos into a montage, Photoshop Ele-

ments gives you the tools to accomplish your goals—and have fun while doing so.

This new version—a true upgrade—adds some important tools and features from Photoshop CS: the almost miraculous Shadows/Highlights, the restorative Healing Brush, and the color-enhancing Photo Filters. Emphasizing the new features, the presentation will show some of the delightful ways you can enhance your photos with Photoshop Elements.



Unedited



Enhanced using PE 3

To the left:  
Photo taken on  
the Photography  
& Digital Graph-  
ics SIG's field  
trip to Battery  
Park:

NYPC member  
Polly Bookhout  
with  
*The Immigrants*,  
a statue by  
Luis Sanguino

We will also look at the improved  
Browser and the new Photo Organizer.  
Together, these methods for managing

*more...*

# Inside NYPC



Volume 11 issue 11  
December 2004

### **General Meeting Info**

**When:** Thursday, December 16th, 2004

**Where:** PS 41, 116 W 11th Street,  
west of 6th Avenue

**Schedule:** 6:00pm Networking in Cafeteria  
Meet the Geek: Q&A  
6:45pm Announcements  
7:00pm Presentation

**Subway:** A,B,C,D,E,F,Q,V to West 4th St  
1,2,3,9,L to 14th St @ 7th Ave  
(*check with MTA*)

**Path:** Take 33rd St line to 9th St Sta

**Hotline:** 212-643-NYPC, code 111,  
code GEN

NYPC's General Meetings are free and open to the public. To check on the NYPC General Meeting or get up-to-the-minute details on speakers, call our *Hotline* (212) 643-NYPC and enter the code 111, then the code GEN. *Note:* You may interrupt any speech at any time by entering a 3-letter code.

### **Computer Jeopardy**

Fred Kahn has developed a Jeopardy-like game, with computer-related questions. We'll play this in segments interspersed with Photoshop Elements demonstrations. We invite you to come to the meeting and test your computer knowledge by participating in the game. Winners will receive prizes!

Fred needs more questions (and answers)! These can be as simple as "Cofounders of Microsoft" or as abstruse as "First owner of Paradox" (no, it's not Borland). Send your suggested questions with answers to Fred at [brooklynbridge@att.net](mailto:brooklynbridge@att.net).

*continued from page 1*

your digital photos have been adapted from Adobe's Photoshop Album.

### *Photoshop Elements or Photoshop CS—Which Upgrade?*

Already using Photoshop Elements and wondering whether to upgrade to version three? Or perhaps thinking about taking the next step, to Photoshop CS?

The improvements in version three make Photoshop Elements a very strong contender for your attention and affection. They also provide a strong case for rushing to upgrade from version one or two.

However, Photoshop still offers much more than does Elements for both photo enhancement and original graphics. The speaker, who teaches Photoshop Elements, but uses primarily

Photoshop CS, will show some of the tools found in Photoshop which make it worthy of your consideration (despite the higher price and the famously steep learning curve). She will share some thoughts and guidelines on when to stay with Elements and when to move to Photoshop.

Come for an enjoyable and informative evening.

(A two-part review of Photoshop CS appeared in the January and February, 2004, issues of *Inside NYPC*.

Photoshop Elements was reviewed by Theresa Feijo in the September 2002 issue. Next month's issue will feature a full review of PE 3.) *Mary Ginsburg*, [pres@nypc.org](mailto:pres@nypc.org)

## President's Column: User Groups, NYPC, and You

**A** user group is a community based on the concept of computer users helping each other. That help may be as basic as setting up a new machine for a beginner or as advanced as critiquing some C# code. It may be technical or it may be social/emotional...listening to someone who has lost a position, passing on tips about jobs or schools, or sharing thoughts about the economy.

### *Still Needed*

Although many experts, including Peter Norton, once predicted that user groups would become obsolete as computers became easier to use, I think that the need is greater than ever. With more complex operating systems and applications, a larger variety of hardware, and constant online threats such as viruses and spyware, where is the ease in computing? How long can it take to find help online, versus phoning a knowledgeable colleague? NYPC and other user groups still have an important role to play.

### *You Can Help*

However, just as NYPC provides direct help—and a conduit for technical help—NYPC needs *your* help. The organization is run by volunteers, and often there are

too few for the tasks at hand. This leads to late newsletters, renewal notices, and membership cards, and some tasks that never get done. If you would like to help, please contact Volunteer Chair Len Ginsburg at [LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net). If you have ideas of what you'd like to see done better, tell him.

NYPC also needs more members. A larger membership not only assures that we can continue to rent our conveniently located office, but also provides a wider base of skills and knowledge for sharing. If you could "adopt" a library or store by asking if you could bring our flyers there regularly, or if you have some ideas for promoting our organization, and are willing to help, please contact Membership Chair Kathy Petrucci, [Kathypetrucci@hotmail.com](mailto:Kathypetrucci@hotmail.com), or Marketing Chair Murray Strelitz, [Mstrelitz@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Mstrelitz@nyc.rr.com).

If you'd like to take an active role in running the organization, perhaps by serving on the Board, please let Bill Ginsburg, Nominating Committee Chair, know at [wzg128@aol.com](mailto:wzg128@aol.com).

We are grateful for your membership in, and support of, NYPC!

*Mary Ginsburg*, [pres@nypc.org](mailto:pres@nypc.org)

## NYPC Officers

**President**  
*Mary Ginsburg*  
[pres@nypc.org](mailto:pres@nypc.org)

**Vice-President**  
*Leftonred Atanycorner*  
[vp@nypc.org](mailto:vp@nypc.org)

**Corresponding Secretary**  
*Robert Behm*  
[nypcvolunteer@aol.com](mailto:nypcvolunteer@aol.com)

**Membership Secretary**  
*Kathy Petrucci*  
[members@nypc.org](mailto:members@nypc.org)

**Treasurer**  
*Roydel Howe*  
[roydel2@msn.com](mailto:roydel2@msn.com)

## Other NYPC Board Members & Volunteers

**Past President/  
Volunteer Coordinator**  
*Len Ginsburg*  
[leonardginsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:leonardginsburg@earthlink.net)

**Program Chair**  
*William Ginsberg*  
[wzg128@aol.com](mailto:wzg128@aol.com)

**Publications**  
*Inside NYPC - Kathy Petrucci*  
[Kathypetrucci@hotmail.com](mailto:Kathypetrucci@hotmail.com)

**Webmaster**  
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[nypc@nypc.org](mailto:nypc@nypc.org)

**Education**  
*Fred Kahn*  
[brooklynbridge@att.net](mailto:brooklynbridge@att.net)

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*Murray Strelitz*  
212-691-7788  
[Mstrelitz@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Mstrelitz@nyc.rr.com)

**Hotline Sysop**  
*Stan Silver*  
[ssilver@nyc.rr.com](mailto:ssilver@nyc.rr.com)

**SIG Chair Representatives**  
*Ashod Kassabian (Streaming Media)*  
[streaming@earthlink.net](mailto:streaming@earthlink.net)  
*Mike Ostrowe (Comp Passport)*  
[mjostrowe@earthlink.net](mailto:mjostrowe@earthlink.net)  
*Mahesh Chhatlani, (XML)*  
[nypcxml@hotmail.com](mailto:nypcxml@hotmail.com)  
*Laura Balsam (Photoshop)*  
[laura@hookbuilt.com](mailto:laura@hookbuilt.com)  
*Kevin Raguette (Hardware)*  
[Rags6600@hotmail.com](mailto:Rags6600@hotmail.com)

This newsletter produced in Ventura. Design by Allison Moore/Database recipes by Robert Leuze.

# NYPC Classes

To register or to request specific classes, phone 212 643-7005, x2 or e-mail [education@nypc.org](mailto:education@nypc.org).

For complete descriptions, click on class name at <http://www.calsplus.net/nypcmeetings>.

Unless otherwise specified, classes are hands-on. We welcome walk-ins for seminars, but please phone to confirm that the class is being held. One advantage of NYPC computer training is our flexibility. If there's a topic you want to learn, let us know. If we have at least three students, we'll try to tailor a class to your needs.

Prices below are for NYPC members; if you are not a member, please add registration fee of \$45; as a bonus, you will receive a one year membership.

## ⇒ Finding Medical Information on the Internet

There are millions of health-related sites on the Internet! How can you find the ones with the reliable information you need? In this seminar, we'll take a look at how to structure effective searches, how to separate the valuable information from the questionable, and what to do with the information you find. We'll also look at some excellent sites. Each person attending will receive a CD with hyperlinked resources.

Monday, December 6, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Seminar, \$29

## ⇒ Greeting Card Workshop

Have you been yearning to send greeting cards with your own photos but haven't been sure how to go about it? This workshop is for you! Create customized greeting cards using Photoshop Elements and Microsoft Word. In 6 fun-filled hours, you'll learn how to make basic enhancements to your photographs and print them on greeting card stock, plus add your own greeting inside and outside. Cost includes two cards with envelopes, plus a CD with a time-limited version of Photoshop Elements and some templates. (Note: if you have photos that need to be scanned, please phone to arrange this.)

Sunday, December 12, 10:30am-5:00pm. Hands-on, \$79

## ⇒ MS Word: Advanced Formatting and Page Layout

Learn how to use tables to format text. Automate document formatting with Styles and Templates. Your documents will look better and have a more consistent look.

Wednesday, December 8, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Hands-on, \$39

## ⇒ MS Word: Using WordArt and Inserting Graphics

Learn how to use WordArt, borders, and shading to enhance the appearance of your documents. Insert and format photos and clip art.

Wednesday, December 15, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Hands-on, \$39

## ⇒ MS Word: More Efficient Letters

Improve the appearance of your letters, and increase your efficiency! Learn how to use Mail Merge effectively. We'll also cover AutoText and AutoCorrect, Bullets and Numbering.

Tuesday, December 21, 6:00-9:00pm. 3 hours, hands-on, \$39

## ⇒ File and Disk Management

Have you ever saved a file, then forgotten where you put it? Or needed to copy several unrelated files to a diskette for a friend? File and Disk management in Windows is easy when you know how. Emphasis on Windows XP; let us know if you use a different version.

Monday, December 27, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Partially hands-on, \$29

## Coming in January

### ⇒ Access

Learning Access Intensive Weekend, plus Advanced Access: Saturday-Sunday, January 8-9; Saturday, January 15, 10:00am-5:00pm

Hands-on, \$99/day; \$175/2 days; \$260/3 days

Taught by Mahesh Chhatlani, dynamic leader of NYPC's XML SIG. Go to our online calendar and click on class name for detailed curriculum.

### Fundamentals of Access

For participants with minimal database knowledge

### Intermediate Access

The next step in developing Access databases

### ⇒ Getting Started with QUICKBOOKS

QuickBooks is perhaps the most popular bookkeeping application for small businesses. It has powerful capabilities, but effective use depends on proper set-up and getting to know the ins and outs of its forms and reports. In this class we'll help you get started, using a case-management approach. Trial versions of the program will be given out so you can practice.

Sunday, January 16, 10:30am-5:30pm, plus additional session TBA. Hands-on, \$99

### ⇒ C#

Watch for dates/details

### ⇒ A+

## Special Event: Experience More

### Microsoft Media Center 2005/Media Player 10

**What:** Learn how to enjoy music, video, photos using Microsoft's Media Center extenders

**When:** Tuesday, December 14, 6:30 PM

**Where:** NYPC Office

**Plus:** Prizes and Refreshments

## Volunteer Days!

Sun., Dec. 12, 11 AM - 5 PM

Sun., Dec. 19, 11 AM - 5 PM

Mon., Dec. 27, 5 PM - 9 PM

- A working social get-together in the NYPC Office.
- Help us get out some mailings, build some shelves, work on machines!
- Refreshments served

Just show up, or let us know you're coming by e-mail to [LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net)

**NYPC Meetings, Seminars/Classes & Other Events** **December 2004**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 28	29	30 SIG Chairs	1 Visual Basic Palm DeLUGE MetaStock Adv	2 Passport Java Cert	3 Linux Study Group: Beginners XML	4
5 Buying Computer PC Clinic	6 Access <b>Medical Searching</b>	7 NYPC Board Genealogy	8 Hanukah, 1st Day <b>Word: Formatting</b>	9 Java Cert MetaStock	10 Investment	11
12 <b>Greeting Card Workshop</b> Volunteer Day	13 Accounting Photo & Graphics	14 <i>MS Media 2005</i> Photoshop ODK Excel	15 Speech Recog <b>Word: WordArt</b>	16 NYPC General Mtg Java Cert	17 Macromedia Web LINUX Study Group: Beginners	18
19 Volunteer Day	20 ATT Hardware	21 Perl <b>Word: Letters</b>	22 Database/SQL Internet	23 Java Cert	24	25 Christmas
26	27 <b>File Management</b> Volunteer Night	28 Embedded Wireless	29	30	31	January 1 Happy New Year
2	3 Access	4 Genealogy	5 Visual Basic DeLUGE Palm MetaStock Adv	6 Passport Java Cert	7 Linux Study Group	8 ACCESS Intensive

**Calendar Legend**

Plain = SIG Meeting  
**Bold** = NYPC Class  
Black background = General Meeting  
*Italics* = Special Event

The calendar shows the events that were scheduled at press time. Our online calendar at [www.calsplus.net/nypcmeetings](http://www.calsplus.net/nypcmeetings) is also kept as up-to-date as possible. If the SIG meeting you want to attend is not listed, call the Hotline, contact the SIG chair, or check our web page, [www.nypc.org](http://www.nypc.org). **Always confirm meeting information by calling the Hotline and entering the 3-digit character code from the listing on the following pages or check the online calendar.** See page 3 for Seminars/Classes. See pages 5 and 6 for SIG meetings.

**Location Legend** PS41 116 West 11th Street, west of 6th Avenue MS Microsoft, 1290 6th Ave. (51st/52nd Str), 6th Floor  
 IBM IBM, 590 Madison Avenue NYPC NYPC Office, Hotel New Yorker, 481 8th Ave, Suite 1560

# SIG Directory

The calendar shows the events that were scheduled at press time. You can find detailed information about many SIG meetings by going to the Events Calendar via the NYPC website, [www.nypc.org](http://www.nypc.org), and clicking on the SIG of interest. Details will appear in a pop-up. Updates—changes, or cancellations, or specific topics to replace TBA—are announced here as well as on the hotline, 212-643-NYPC.

If we have your e-mail address, we will also send you occasional meeting updates and reminders.

## AXS Access

Claire Chase, (212)691-3577, M-F, 9am-5pm  
Monday, December 6th, 6:30 PM  
Location: MS  
Ivan Farkas: Solutions, Tips, Tricks and Help

## ACC Accounting (New SIG!)

Len Ginsburg, [LenGinsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:LenGinsburg@earthlink.net)  
Monday, December 13th, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Topic TBA

## ATT Advanced Technologies and Techniques

Jessie Shereff, [shereff@cs.nyu.edu](mailto:shereff@cs.nyu.edu)  
Monday, December 20th, 6:30 PM  
Location: MS  
General discussion of PC technology

## ADB Alpha Database

Barry Rochford, [brochford1@comcast.net](mailto:brochford1@comcast.net)  
Not meeting in December  
Join us on January 12th, 6:00 PM

## BEG Beginners SIG

On hiatus. Contact Mary Ginsburg,  
[lm\\_ginsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net), if interested

## CSG C++/Java: Gen'l Mtg

<http://www.cppsig.org>  
<http://www.nycjava.org/certification>  
See also our Yahoo group: [nycjava.org](http://nycjava.org)  
Dario Laverde, [dario@escape.com](mailto:dario@escape.com)  
Thursday, December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd,  
6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Study for the Sun Java Certification exam.  
During December, this study group replaces  
other meetings

## CSG C++/JAVA: Object Data Knowledge Management

Carlos Jerome, [cjinterf@panix.com](mailto:cjinterf@panix.com)  
E-mail Carlos to learn next meetings  
Continuing development of constituent  
directory & communication systems, using  
J2EE, LDAP, & CRM-focused unified process

## BJG C++/JAVA: Beginners' Java

Shera Katz, [sherak180@yahoo.com](mailto:sherak180@yahoo.com)  
Join us for Certification Study, above.  
Beginners' group resumes in new year

## CSG C++/Java: Advanced Java

Dario Laverde, [dario@escape.com](mailto:dario@escape.com)  
Join us for Certification Study, above

## PAS Computer Passport

Kathy Petrucci, [kathypetrucci@hotmail.com](mailto:kathypetrucci@hotmail.com);  
Michael Ostrowe, [mjostrowe@earthlink.net](mailto:mjostrowe@earthlink.net)  
Thursday, December 2nd, Jan. 6th, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
General Discussion of PC Technology

## SEQ Database/SQL

<http://www.thelinuxsociety.net/dbsig.html>  
Dario Castellanos, [jdcnyc@compuserve.com](mailto:jdcnyc@compuserve.com)  
Wednesday, December 22nd, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Connecting Open Office to a Database

## LUG DeLUGE (Desktop Linux UG)

<http://www.delugeny.org>. Mark Halegua,  
[phantom21@mindspring.com](mailto:phantom21@mindspring.com)  
Wednesday, December 1st, Jan. 5th, 6:30 PM  
Location: IBM. PLEASE RVSP to Mark to be  
placed on IBM's SECURITY list. You must  
register each month. Please also bring a  
picture ID.  
Skype: Voice-over IP for Linux or Windows

## PHT Digital Graphics & Photography

Mary Ginsburg, [lm\\_ginsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net);  
Tony Holley, [tholley@cititech.cuny.edu](mailto:tholley@cititech.cuny.edu)  
Monday, December 13th, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Efficient camera use: how to take better  
photos by using the various settings on our  
cameras. Bring your camera!

## EMB Embedded Systems

Lee Thalblum, [lee\\_t@bigfoot.com](mailto:lee_t@bigfoot.com)  
Tuesday, December 28th, 6:15 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Continuing with AVR hardware

## EWN Enterprise Windows

Bill Zack, [wzack@compuserve.com](mailto:wzack@compuserve.com); Tony  
Iams, [tony@dhbrown.com](mailto:tony@dhbrown.com)  
Not meeting in December  
Moves to 1st Thursday in January

## EXC Excel

Al Vachris, [Excel1Star@cs.com](mailto:Excel1Star@cs.com)  
Tuesday, December 14th, 6:00 PM  
Location: MS  
Topic TBA

## ART Fine Arts

Melody Reed, [Webdesign@melodyreed.com](mailto:Webdesign@melodyreed.com)  
On hiatus. E-mail Melody with your interest

## FLA Flash

Mary Ginsburg, [lm\\_ginsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net);  
Tony Holley, [holley@bridgepress.com](mailto:holley@bridgepress.com)  
Not meeting in December

## FPX Front Page

If you'd like to see this SIG continue, please  
let us know at [pres@nypc.org](mailto:pres@nypc.org).

## GFH Genealogy

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~metrony/>  
David Kleiman, [roots@heritagemuse.com](mailto:roots@heritagemuse.com)  
Tuesday, December 7th, Jan. 4th, 6:00 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Digital Dates: new calendar calculating  
software

## HRD Hardware

<http://www.smartgroups.com/groups/hugnypc>  
Kevin Raguette, [Rags6600@hotmail.com](mailto:Rags6600@hotmail.com)  
Monday, December 20th, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
PC architecture: BIOS. CAD software

## NET Internet

Tony Holley, [tholley@cititech.cuny.edu](mailto:tholley@cititech.cuny.edu);  
Laura Balsam, [nypc@hookbuilt.com](mailto:nypc@hookbuilt.com)  
Wednesday, December 22nd, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Cookies: Both the online and the edible  
varieties. Tony Holley will discuss: What are  
cookies? When should you accept them?  
When not? How to get rid of them...More.  
Plus refreshments in honor of the holiday.

## INV Investment

Phyllis Pawlovsky, [PGP106@cs.com](mailto:PGP106@cs.com). SIG  
follows the investment principles of the  
National Association of Investment Corp.  
Friday, December 10th, 6:15 PM  
Location: MS  
Potpourri: Bring your favorite stocks

## LNX LINUX

<http://www.thelinuxsociety.net> Dario  
Castellanos, [jdcnyc@compuserve.com](mailto:jdcnyc@compuserve.com)  
Tuesday, December 14th, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Topic TBA

## LNX LINUX Study Group: Beginners

Friday, December 3rd, 17th, 6:15 PM  
Location: NYPC  
Beginners' Linux Admin Study Group

## WMM Macromedia MX Studio

Melody Reed, [Webdesign@melodyreed.com](mailto:Webdesign@melodyreed.com)  
Friday, December 17th, 6:30 PM  
Location: NYPC  
More on CSS: Using two types of links on  
one page

**MTA MetaStock**

Barbara Scheiner, bscheiner@nyc.rr.com  
 Thursday, December 9th, 7:00 PM  
 Advanced: Wednesdays, December 1st,  
 January 5th, 7:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic: TBA

**BRD NYPC Board Meeting**

Tuesday, December 7th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Members are welcome to attend, but we'd  
 like to know ahead. Please e-mail Mary  
 Ginsburg at pres@nypc.org.

**GEN NYPC GENERAL MEETING**

Thursday, December 16th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: PS 41, 116 W. 11th St., W of 6th Ave  
 Photoshop Elements 3  
 Jeopardy Game

**PDA Palm Pilot**

<http://nypc.org/palm.htm>. Ted Cohn and  
 Grace Lee, nypcpda@yahoo.com  
 Wednesday, December 1st, Jan. 5th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic: TBA

**PRL Perl Seminar NY**

James E. Keenan, jkeen@verizon.net  
 Tuesday, December 21st, 6:15 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Primer on Coverage Analysis and Devel.:Cover  
 The Perl 5 Porters Mailing List

**PHO Photoshop**

[Http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/stsig.html](http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/stsig.html)  
 Laura Balsam, nypc@hookbuilt.com  
 Tuesday, December 14th, 1:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 The Pen Tool  
 Making Your Own Photo Albums

Join us at noon in the TickTock for socializing  
 prior to the meeting.

**SUG Smalltalk**

<http://www.ocit.com/stug>. Charles Monteiro,  
 charles@ocit.com  
 Check with leader

**SPR Speech Recognition**

<http://www.out-loud.com>. Laura Miner,  
 76233.3413@compuserve.com; Leftonred  
 Atanycorner, vp@nypc.org  
 Wednesday, December 15th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Spyware prevention & removal  
 Quick Switch for Dragon NaturallySpeaking

**STR Streaming Media**

Ashod Kassabian, stream-1@earthlink.net;  
 Edwin Woo, edwinwoo@consultant.com  
 Not meeting in December

**VPI Ventura**

Allison Moore, amoore@nyc.rr.com  
 Friday, December 17th, 7:00 PM  
 Holiday Dinner at Zuni's  
 E-mail Allison for details

**BAS Visual Basic**

David Kulick, dgkulick@hotmail.com  
 Wednesday, December 1st, Jan. 5th, 6:15 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Discussion of inheritance

**WFI Wireless — New SIG!**

Ted Cohn, TedCohn@earthlink.net;  
 Leftonred Atanycorner, vp@nypc.org  
 Tuesday, December 28th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic: TBA

**XML XML/Web Services**

Mahesh Chhatlani and Lori Mogol,  
 nypcxml@hotmail.com  
 Wednesday, December 3rd, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Web services education project, continued

*Other Organizations*

**NPC Non-Profit Computing**

John L. German, 212-759-2368  
 Includes:

**JOB Career Development Group**

Tuesday, December 14, 4:00 PM  
 West-Park Presbyterian Church, 86th &  
 Amsterdam  
 Facilitators include:  
 Susan Werbin, 212-799-6111  
 Mort Trachtenberg, 212-769-TRAC

**Thanks to  
 Our Hosts!**

The following companies provide  
 space for many of our meetings.

We would like to take this  
 opportunity to thank them.

**Microsoft  
 IBM**



*Continued from page 9*

The book would be improved, however, by adding the  
 chapter number to the title at the foot of each page. Since  
 Sammon often refers to other chapters by number, this  
 would help the reader to thumb back and forth.

*The CD*

The book has an added-value CD, which includes an  
 e-Book of about 100 additional photographs by the author.  
 Each is annotated with exposure, location, and other help-  
 ful hints.

There are also two video tutorials by Julieanne Kost:  
 Masking and Photoshop Shortcuts. Both provide excellent,  
 clear instruction. An interactive section on Studio Lighting  
 Lightcages affords considerable insight into placement of  
 lights and reflectors while photographing people or objects.

In addition, the CD contains some software, including  
 30-day demos of some terrific plug-ins for Photoshop and

other image-enhancing programs: Extensis PhotoFrame  
 and Alien Skin's Image Doctor and Xenoflex 2. It also  
 includes three full filters from nik multimedia Color Efex  
 Pro!

*In Summary*

The reader who thoughtfully reads this book and endeav-  
 ors to put some of the lessons into practice should become  
 a better photographer. At minimum, the book will increase  
 the enjoyment found in the art and craft of photography.

If you would like to look at the book, come to the Pho-  
 tography SIG on Monday, December 13. We'll have a copy  
 there, probably referring to it as we explore using our cam-  
 era controls to take better pictures. (The book lists for \$45.)

Mary Ginsburg, pres@nypc.org

## Directory of NYPC Supporters

Please support these merchants who have chosen to support NYPC! Dollar signs (\$) indicate supporters offering discounts or extras to NYPC members. Present your membership card (or newsletter with membership number) to exercise these discounts.

### CONSULTING SERVICES

#### ❖ ACCOUNTING

**LHG Consulting:** Leonard Ginsburg  
718-828-9547; [LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net)  
QuickBooks consulting: set-up, training, maintenance. Help with accounting-related problems in computerized bookkeeping. A QuickBooks ProAdvisor.

**Metis Group LLC Certified Public Accountants:** Steven Fromer, President  
14 Penn Plaza, Ste 1800, NYC 10122;  
212-643-0099, x137; fax: 646-304-6312;  
[SFromer@metisgroupllc.com](mailto:SFromer@metisgroupllc.com);

[www.metisgroupllc.com](http://www.metisgroupllc.com)

- keeping your taxes to a minimum
- satisfying recordkeeping requirements
- using financial reports for business decisions
- maximizing success in your business \$

#### ❖ ADVERTISING

**Murray Strelitz**  
212-691-7788; [MStrelitz@bigfoot.com](mailto:MStrelitz@bigfoot.com)  
Advertising agency financial management software ["Adman" consulting & training].  
Review of various vertical software packages. \$

#### ❖ COMPUTING SERVICES

**FarSight Data Systems:** Mark Halegua  
718-360-1712; [info@farsight-data.com](mailto:info@farsight-data.com)  
Providing general computer services for businesses and individuals including repair, network design & setup, hardware & software recommendations, malware eradication, and more.

**Fred Kahn**  
88-21 69th Rd.; Forest Hills, NY 11375;  
718-263-2041; [brooklynbridge@att.net](mailto:brooklynbridge@att.net);  
[www.FredKahn.com](http://www.FredKahn.com)

Consulting on computer purchasing, set-up, repairs. Ebay trading assistant. \$

#### ❖ DATABASE

**Software Pundits, Inc:** Mahesh Chhatlani  
516-205-4709; [Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com](mailto:Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com);  
[www.SoftwarePundits.com](http://www.SoftwarePundits.com)  
Over 20 years' experience helping businesses achieve success through technology. Clients range from small business owners to Fortune 500 companies. No-obligation consultation. \$

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[Claire-M@att.net](mailto:Claire-M@att.net)

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#### ❖ INTERNET

**Software Pundits, Inc:** Mahesh Chhatlani  
516-205-4709; [Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com](mailto:Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com);  
[www.SoftwarePundits.com](http://www.SoftwarePundits.com)  
Over 20 years' experience helping businesses—small to Fortune 500—achieve success through technology. No-obligation consultation. \$

#### ❖ ORGANIZATION

**Annika Ginsberg**  
646-645-1118; [Annika@chilitech.com](mailto:Annika@chilitech.com)  
Personal Assistant/Professional Organizer.  
Quicken set-up and maintenance, organization of workspace, home, and more.  
Available for long-term and per diem projects.

#### ❖ PROGRAMMING

**Software Pundits, Inc:** Mahesh Chhatlani  
516-205-4709; [Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com](mailto:Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com);  
[www.SoftwarePundits.com](http://www.SoftwarePundits.com)  
Over 20 years' experience helping businesses achieve success through technology. Clients range from small business owners to Fortune 500 companies. No-obligation consultation. \$

#### ❖ SOFTWARE

**Acctrack Computer Consultants:** Steven Fromer, President  
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[SFromer@acctrack.com](mailto:SFromer@acctrack.com); [www.acctrack.com](http://www.acctrack.com)  
Acctrack specializes in accounting software, specifically MAS90 and QuickBooks. We also have CPAs on staff for your accounting needs. \$

**Software Pundits, Inc:** Mahesh Chhatlani  
516-205-4709; [Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com](mailto:Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com);  
[www.SoftwarePundits.com](http://www.SoftwarePundits.com)  
Over 20 years' experience helping businesses—small to Fortune 500—achieve success through technology. Call for no-obligation consultation. \$

#### ❖ TAXES

**Tierney Associates**  
315 E. 72nd St., Apt. 5L, New York, NY 10021-4627; 212-535-0261; fax: 212-535-0331; [GTierney@nyc.rr.com](mailto:GTierney@nyc.rr.com)  
Taxes—Federal, State, City—Individual, Corporate. Review previous returns: \$15

#### ❖ TRAINING

**Mary Ginsburg**  
718-828-9547; [MaryGinsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:MaryGinsburg@earthlink.net)  
Patient training in computing basics. Training in Internet use, emphasizing effective searching. Help with advanced searching; specialty: medical/health topics. \$

### COMPUTER VENDORS

#### ❖ COMPUTER STORE

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718-267-6677; fax: 718-267-6678;  
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Friendly full-service computer store. Parts, service, all at competitive rates. From barebones to full-service, Stone Computer has it all.

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#### ❖ WEB DEVELOPMENT/SERVICES

**Progressive Internet Action**  
215 W. 91st St., Ste. 57, New York, NY 10024-1336; 212-787-0700; [Dick@pia.net](mailto:Dick@pia.net)  
[www.pia.net](http://www.pia.net)  
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### LOCAL MERCHANTS

#### ❖ RESTAURANTS

**Ben's Best Kosher Deli & Restaurant**  
96-40 Queens Blvd., Rego Park, NY 11374;  
718-897-1700; [www.bensbest.com](http://www.bensbest.com)  
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- An NYPC membership
- A listing in our directory



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Add'l Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send completed application with payment to **NYPC Membership, 481 Eighth Avenue - B25, New York, NY 10001**.  
 NYPC is a non-profit education organization run by volunteers. It may take up to six weeks to fully process a membership.

**A listing in our directory is a terrific gift!**

**Features**

- The directory is published in each issue of the NYPC monthly newsletter (11 times a year), giving repeated exposure to potential customers.
- Each listing includes:
  - full contact information
  - a description of products and/or services ( 20 words or less)
  - opportunity to offer discounts or extras to NYPC members.

The directory is indexed by category so potential customers can find listings quickly and easily.

**Price**

- The subscription fee for each listing is \$99 per category. This is for a one-year listing (eleven issues).
- Renewal notices will be sent annually.

To give this gift, send the recipient's name and address, with payment, plus your name as you want it to appear in the gift certificate, to: NYPC, Directory, 481 8th Ave.-B25, New York, NY 10001.

We will send the recipient a certificate with instructions for completing the listing.

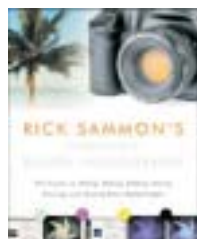
## Book Review: Complete Guide to Digital Photography

By Rick Sammon (New York: W. W. Norton, 2004)

In his wonderful book, *Complete Guide to Digital Photography*, Rick Sammon imparts his enthusiasm for photography and leads the reader into a deeper understanding of the art of both digital and film imaging. Rick's goal, which he accomplishes well, is not only to instruct in the techniques of photography, but also to inspire the reader to become a better photographer, whether in digital or film media. This is a book to help a photographer—amateur or budding professional—to improve his or her way of looking at the world and of creating images to convey a unique, personalized vision.

Except for approximately 200 pages (out of more than 500) devoted to Photoshop, most of the lessons can help those who have not yet switched to digital photography as well as those who have. In fact, I wish I had had this book years ago when I was experimenting with my first SLR camera, trying multiple variations of film speed, f-stops, and shutter speeds (all in black and white, so I could develop the film myself and see the results before I went to Kenya with my new camera).

### Well-Written, Helpful Lessons



In 107 concise, yet engaging lessons, Rick proceeds from “Camera Basics,” through lighting techniques and photo composition, to computer selection, camera choice, and use of Photoshop. He discusses how a camera works and includes tables to aid in the choice of a camera. Covering a wide range of photo-

graphic topics, he does not attempt an in-depth treatment of every topic, but gives enough information and inspiration for the reader to get started, and to go further.

Among the chapters relating to “people photography” are such thoughtful (and possibly unique) topics as “Get to Know Your Subject” and “Respect Your Subject”; “Picture a Person in a Scene”; and “Glamour Photography.” Such valuable information as “Making your own E-Book” may not be unusual among digital photography books, but chapters on “Turning Your Den into a Studio” and “Going Freelance” certainly are. Rick’s musings on “Taking versus Making Photographs” and advice on close-up photography are superb.

### Photographs to Instruct and Inspire

The book is well-written and richly illustrated with many photographs, each of which contributes to the instructional goals. Rick uses his own photographs to illustrate each lesson, often showing the same scene taken with different lenses, aperture and/or f-stop settings, or type of lighting. He shows variations in photo composition, invites readers to decide which is more effective, and discusses the whys

and hows of his choices. He is not afraid to publish some photos that have problems, and to discuss what he should have done differently.

Unlike many authors, he describes the context of each photograph, telling where it was taken, the circumstances, and his relationship with the subject(s). This gives the book a travelogue aspect, enhancing one’s enjoyment, even if a chapter is of less technical interest to a particular reader.

### Not a Photoshop Primer

Sammon’s book is not the text for starting to use Photoshop. Although I found the lessons in the Photoshop section to be very helpful, I suspect that they might disappoint someone hoping to use them to learn image enhancement for the first time. Many chapters here assume a basic familiarity with the interface, or at least sufficient experience with computer applications to figure it out. Many lessons seem too cursory for most novices.

This section shines, however, in showing what aspects of a photograph to enhance, and why. It casts new light on what Photoshop can do, using wonderful examples to show how to give a photograph that extra spark which turns it from *blah* to *good* or from *pretty good* to *great*. More than once, I experienced an “AHA!” moment, as I suddenly understood the real value of a tool I had tried previously. For example, Rick explained his approach to a photo of a monkey with her infant: “In animal photography, as well as in people photography, the eyes are the key to a good picture.... When we look at a picture of people or animals, we look at the eyes first.” His selective brightening of the eyes made a significant difference.

Most important, he guides the reader in how to see, and how to choose, illuminate, and frame a subject—in short, how to shoot the best possible photographs, before Photoshop enters the scene.

### A Stimulus to Creativity

The book is filled with creative ideas, serving both to give the reader specific new ideas and to stimulate the photographer’s own creativity. For example, the chapter on “Paper for Your Printer,” shows some terrific effects achieved on unusual paper, and gives some guidelines for using them. Sammon gives solid advice on shooting “when the weather turns bad.” His approach throughout is “Awaken the artist within you.”

Unlike many computer-instruction books, this gives many references, both books and websites. When Sammon refers to a vendor, software, or resource, he often gives a URL at the foot of the page, where it’s easily accessible. Helpful hints that don’t fit elsewhere are also inserted here.

more on page 6...

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Thurs., January 20

Getting Started with Digital Video

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