

On the Docket for the

General Meeting

Thursday, July 21, 2005

Remote Control of a Computer

Michael Horowitz explains how

When NYPC was founded, hardly anyone had a computer. Nowadays many people have more than one television set, more than one radio, and more than one computer. One computer might be at work and another at home, or only in another room. Computers have become such useful commonplace tools that many of us want to extend their reach and utility. Business networks have been around for quite a while, but they require considerable care and maintenance—generally by pros.

Remote Access to Another Computer

So what about remote access and remote control? The good news is that this is available and it is not that difficult—well, not that difficult if you have an experienced guide.

Our guide will be Michael Horowitz. Michael has taught many courses at NYPC and Hunter College including Defensive Computing, Backing Up Your Computer, and Networking Fundamentals. These courses are explained in detail on Michael's website:

<http://www.michaelhorowitz.com/>

Giving Help Getting Help

Here are some examples of how remote computing is being used. A financial consultant uses his laptop to access his office computer so that he can work from home or at a client's home or office. A parent helps maintain a college student's computer, or the other way around. Tech support, or a technologically inclined friend, can make a "House Call" and watch as the client re-creates a problem. A picture, or a screen shot, may be worth a thousand words.

How often have you assisted a client, friend, or relative with his or her computer, over the phone? Have you thought that if you could *only* see the screen, you might avoid a lot of communication problems?

With a friendly "House Call," you can allow a trusted tech or family guru to connect with your computer and actually see and control everything on your computer as if he were sitting in front of your monitor. I said "friendly visitor" because you obviously don't want to let just anyone see or control your computer. So Michael will address the issue of keeping computers safe from evil doers or uninvited snoops during remote access.

Programs and Topics

A number of programs enable remote computing, including one built into Windows XP. Michael will cover this XP-based remote assistance. Other topics include:

- what remote control is and why you might use it
- classic remote control vs. web-based control
- firewall issues

Some of the programs to be discussed include: LogMeIn.com, MyWebExPC, and VNC. There will also be a demo and discussion of NetMeeting and Microsoft Remote Desktop. Each program has its strengths and kinks.

There will be a drawing for some books, keyboard brushes, and more! *by Bill Ginsberg*

Inside NYPC



Volume 12 issue 7
July/August 2005

General Meeting Info

When: Thursday, July 21st, 2005
Where: Fordham University
140 West 62nd Street
Room 205
Schedule: 6:00pm Q&A/Random Access
6:45pm Presentation
Subway: 1, 9, A, C, B, or D to 59th
Street/Columbus Circle (check
with MTA)
Path: N/A
Hotline: 212-643-NYPC
Phone: 212-643-7005

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, go to our website, www.nypc.org, or call our *Hotline* (212) 643-NYPC.

NYPC holds great General Meetings—and they're Free. This is truly one of New York's Best Bargains.

Always Wanted Your Own Website? Learn how with NYPC!

➤ **Building Websites with Dreamweaver** starts July 18! *Details, p. 3*

New NYPC Offices!

Because of a widespread space reallocation in the New Yorker Hotel, NYPC is moving to new offices: same building—new quarters. Our new space will be on the fifth floor, rooms 550 and 551. The total square footage is somewhat smaller than our current suite, but it is more efficient, without the large columns that now limit seating. The storage space should also be more efficient.

Of course, a move is never pleasant, but this one offers NYPC several advantages and opportunities.

- One big advantage is that our rent is lower, which will relieve some of the considerable financial strain on our organization. This is due in part to the fact that we no longer have “a room with a view.” The windows face a courtyard of machinery, which is not a problem for our group which needs a darkened room for projection of code and graphics.
- Having learned our lesson with rugs (easily stained and prone to static electricity in the winter), we’ll have tile floors.
- Starting with an empty room—a “blank slate,” so to speak—we’ll be able to plan the most efficient furniture arrangements for both SIGs and classes.
- This also gives us the impetus to dispose of the old, outdated equipment we have hidden away in closets. Responses to our recent e-mail have enabled us to give away several small monitors. Please be sure we have your e-mail address, if you’d like to keep informed of our clean-up giveaways.

Help Will Be Needed

Of course, we’ll need volunteers during the move. We’ll try to make a party of it.

In addition to plain moving, we’ll need help setting up the computers in their new space, checking the wiring, and so forth.



Please let Len Ginsburg know at LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net if you’d like to help. (E-mailing him does not obligate you if the [still unknown] dates aren’t good for you.) We’d appreciate a way to reach you on relatively short notice.

We’ll Accept Donations, Too!

Unfortunately, even with a great team of volunteers, moving does incur extra expenses. We’ll need additional funds to prepare the space and to be sure that the new offices are ready for our fall SIGs and classes.

Because our heavy use of computers means that we have to ask for installation of extra wiring, this was fairly expensive when we first moved into our current offices. We anticipate that this will happen again this time.

If you would like to donate toward our moving into bright new quarters, please send any contributions to: NYPC, Attn: Moving Fund
481 Eighth Avenue, B25
New York, NY 10001.
Thanks for being an NYPC member!
Mary Ginsburg,
treasurer@nypceducation.org

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Leftonred Atanycorner
pres@nypc.org

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SIG Chair Representatives

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Dario Castellanos (Linux)
jdcnyc@compuserve.com

Ashod Kassabian (Stream Media)
streaming@earthlink.net

Melody Reed (Web Design)
Webdesign@melodyreed.com

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

BUG, n: An aspect of a computer program which exists because the programmer was thinking about Jumbo Jacks or stock options when s/he wrote the program.

From *Not Your Average Dictionary*

NYPC Classes

To register or to request specific classes, phone 212 643-7005, x2 or e-mail classes@nypceducation.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 \$10.

⇒ Building Websites with Dreamweaver

This is a hands-on course on how to build a webpage with Dreamweaver MX 2004. If you always wanted a website and didn't know where to start or have tried but still need a lot of guidance, this course is for you. Among the many topics to be covered are:

- Dreamweaver Basics
- HTML
- Elements of Page Design
- Working with Graphics
- Creating Links
- Tables
- Rollovers
- Image Maps
- Efficient Site Management
- Cascading Style Sheets
- Making your site work with different Browsers
- Publishing your site

We will be using the excellent book, *Macromedia Dreamweaver MX 2004: Training from the Source* (3rd Edition) by Kristine AnnwnPage.

Taught by terrific web guru Jeff Frankel. Jeff is an outstanding instructor, with a very clear presentation style. He regularly gives Flash and Web Seminars at NYPC. You can contact Jeff at 718-332-1365 or email him at webjjf1967@aol.com if you have any questions or concerns.

6 Hands-on Sessions: Mondays and Wednesdays, July 18, 20, 25, 27, August 1, 3, 6:00 PM – 9:00PM

Only \$199

Extra materials fee of \$31.27 for the book or you can order it directly from amazon.com or any other source you feel comfortable with (Late registrants may have to pay as much as \$44.99 + tax to get the book on time). If you want to purchase web space or get a domain name with Jeff's guidance, a credit card is needed.

⇒ Selecting and Using a Tripod

The first of two seminars on using your camera better, taught by professional photographer Fred Kahn, this will discuss the following aspects of steadying your camera:

- Why do you need a tripod
- What tripod is best for you? (Also monopods, clamps, etc.—any method of holding your camera steady)
- Carrying your tripod
- Using your tripod efficiently
- Steadying your camera when you can't use a tripod

This information-filled seminar costs a mere \$29. Sign up for both it and the "Close-up Photography" class for only \$50.

Tuesday, August 9, 6:30-8:30PM

⇒ Secrets of Close-Up Digital Photography

This seminar, taught by professional photographer Fred Kahn, will discuss the following aspects of Close-Up Photography:

- Lenses
- Lighting
- Understanding and Controlling Depth of Field
- Shooting Detailed Images for eBay and Websites

This information-filled seminar costs a mere \$39. Sign up for both it and the "Using a Tripod" class for only \$50.

Tuesday, August 16, 6:30-8:30 PM

⇒ Photo Enhancement with Photoshop Elements

Though far less expensive and easier than Photoshop, Photoshop Elements offers considerable power in enhancing and distributing digital images. Like all graphics applications, it is also very enjoyable. In this "Getting Started" course, we'll learn by doing: how to use "whole image" adjustments, simple selections, and layers, and how to share images via printing, web, or e-mail. The emphasis is on improving your photographs in a "natural" manner. Each student receives a CD with a trial (time-limited) version of Photoshop Elements, practice photos for homework and class use, and hyperlinked web resources. Bring your own photos for advice.

Three Wednesdays, August 10, 17, 24, 6:00-9:00 PM

9 hours, hands-on, \$89

⇒ Effective Internet Searching

Enhance your Internet Searching Skills!

In the first session, we'll learn ways to use search engines more effectively. The emphasis will be on Google and its syntax and features, but we'll also try some alternate search sites and discuss when to use them.

In the second session we'll look at directories, learn how they differ from search engines, and discuss when to use a directory and when to use a search engine. We'll also show how to use RSS feeds to get regular updates on topics that interest you.

Please bring some topics on which you'd like to search.

Two Tuesdays, August 23, 30, 6:00-9:00 PM

2 3-hour sessions, mostly hands-on, \$69

⇒ COMING in the Fall

We'll have a new comprehensive course catalogue, filled with exciting classes. Our plan is to cover September through November in one publication.

⇒ We want your ideas!

Now is the time to let the Education Chair know what you'd like to learn! Please e-mail her at Chair@nypceducation.org with any requests and ideas.

We'd also love to have your help, either on the Education Committee or in distributing the course catalogue. Let Marge know what you can do: Chair@nypceducation.org.

Keep in mind that our terrific classes not only provide a great source of training but also help support the organization and contribute to paying the rent.

NYPC Meetings, Seminars/Classes & Other Events

July/August 2005

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------|--|---|---|--|--------|----------|
| July 10 | 11 | 12 Photoshop Exchange LINUX | 13 Alpha Java Cert SG | 14 Beg Java MetaStock | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 DREAMWEAVER Ventura | 19 Embedded | 20 DREAMWEAVER Speech Recog | 21 NYPC General Mtg Database C++/Adv Java | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 DREAMWEAVER ODK Adv Tech & Tech Java Cert SG | 26 Photog & Graphics Wireless | 27 DREAMWEAVER Hardware | 28 DeLUGE Java Cert SG | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | August 1 DREAMWEAVER Java Cert SG | 2 NYPC Board | 3 DREAMWEAVER Palm Visual Basic | 4 C++/Java Gen TechTips | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 Java Cert SG Photog & Graphics | 9 TRIPODS Linux Exchange | 10 Alpha PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS | 11 Java Beg MetaStock | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 Ventura Hardware | 16 CLOSE-UP PHOTOG Embedded | 17 Speech Recognition PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS | 18 C++/Adv Java Database | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 ODK Adv Tech & Tech | 23 Photoshop INTERNET SEARCH Wireless | 24 Flash PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS | 25 Java Cert SG | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 INTERNET SEARCH | 31 | September 1 Tech Tips C++/Java | 2 | 3 |

Calendar Legend

Plain = SIG Meeting *Italic* = Other Meetings
Bold = NYPC Class *Italics* = Special Event

Black background = General Meeting

The calendar shows the events that were scheduled at press time. Sometimes there are last minute changes, so please check our online calendar at www.calsplus.net/nypcmeetings, which is also kept as up-to-date as possible. 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
 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, 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. If the SIG meeting you want to attend is not listed, contact the SIG chair, or check our web page, www.nypc.org.

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
Not meeting this summer

ACC Accounting (New SIG!)

On hiatus. Contact Len Ginsburg if interested: LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net

ATT Advanced Technologies and Techniques

Jessie Shereff, shereff@cs.nyu.edu
Monday, July 25th, August 22nd, 6:30 PM
Location: MS
General discussion of PC technology

ADB Alpha Database

Barry Rochford, brochford1@comcast.net
Wednesday, July 13th, August 10th, 6:00 PM
Location: NYPC
7/13: QC Issues using an Alpha Application
8/10: TBA

BEG Beginners SIG

Mary Ginsburg, lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net
On hiatus. Contact Mary if interested.

CSG C++/Java Gen'l Mtg

<http://www.cppsig.org>. Dario Laverde, dario@escape.com
Thursday, August 4th, September 1st
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

JSG JAVA Certification Study Group

<http://nycjava.s43.eatj.com/JSPWiki/>
Dario Laverde, dario@escape.com
July 13th, 25th, 28th; August 1st, 8th, 25th
Location: NYPC
For list of topics see website, above

BJG C++/JAVA: Beginners' Java

Shera Katz, sherak180@yahoo.com
Thursday, July 14th, August 11th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
We are studying Murach's new book on Beginning Java 5

ODK C++/JAVA: Object Data Knowledge Management

Carlos Jerome, cjinterf@panix.com
Tuesday, July 12th, 6:00 PM: Ottendorf. BL
Monday, July 25th, 5:30 PM, NY Pub
Library, Seward Park Branch
Contact Carlos for August Meetings
Continuing development of constituent directory & communication systems, using J2EE, LDAP, & CRM-focused unified process

CSG C++/Java: Advanced Java

Dario Laverde, dario@escape.com
Thursday, July 21st, August 18th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Advanced Java topics. See <http://nycjava.org>
Also join us at our yahoo group: nycjava

PAS Computer Passport

See Tech Tips (NEW NAME)

SEQ Database/SQL

<http://www.thelinuxsociety.net/dbsig.html>
Dario Castellanos, jdcnyc@compuserve.com
Thursday, July 21st, August 18th, 6:30 PM
(But Check with Dario about August)
Location: NYPC
Uniting Open Office and a Datasource

LUG DeLUGE (Desktop Linux UG)

<http://www.delugeny.org>. Mark Halegua, phantom21@mindspring.com
Thursday, July 28th, 6:30 PM
No August meeting
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

EMB Embedded Systems

Lee Thalblum, lee_t@bigfoot.com
Tuesday, July 19th, August 16th, 6:15 PM
Location: NYPC
Timer Interrupts on the AVR

EWN Enterprise Windows

Bill Zack, wzack@compuserve.com; Tony Iams, tony@dhbrown.com
Thursday, July 7th
No August meeting
Location: MS
Tony Iams: Embracing the Virtualization Era

EXC Excel

Al Vachris, Excel1Star@cs.com
Not meeting this summer

EXG Microsoft Exchange—New SIG

Ben Serebin, exchangeug@reefsolutions.com
Tuesday, July 12th, August 9th, 6:00 PM
Location: MS
7/12: ISA Server 2004 and Exchange Server Clustering by Donnie Hamlett of Microsoft
8/9: Disaster Recovery for Rebuilding an Exchange Server

FLA Flash

Jeff Frankel, webjff1967@aol.com
Mary Ginsburg, lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net
Wednesday, August 24th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Further lessons in Flash with Jeff Frankel

GFH Genealogy

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~metrony/>
David Kleiman, roots@heritagemuse.com
Not meeting this summer

HRD Hardware

<http://www.smartgroups.com/groups/hugnypc>
Kevin Raguette, Rags6600@hotmail.com
Wednesday, July 27th, Monday, August 15th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Assembler code use on Expendable PCs

NET Internet

Tony Holley, tholley@citytech.cuny.edu;
Mary Ginsburg, lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net
Not meeting this summer

INV Investment

Phyllis Pawlovsky, PGP106@cs.com. SIG follows the investment principles of the National Association of Investment Corp.
Friday, July 8th, 6:15 PM
No August meeting
Location: MS
Potpourri: Analysis of three stocks in an industry of interest

LNK LINUX

<http://www.thelinuxsociety.net> Dario Castellanos, jdcnyc@compuserve.com
Tuesday, July 12th, August 9th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

LNK LINUX Study Group: Beginners

Resumes in September

MTA MetaStock

Barbara Scheiner, bscheiner@nyc.rr.com
Thursday, July 14th, August 11th, 7:00 PM
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

BRD NYPC Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 12th, August 2nd, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Members are welcome to attend, but we'd like to know ahead. Please e-mail pres@nypc.org.

GEN NYPC GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, July 21st, 6:30 PM
Location: Fordham Law School, 140 W. 62nd
Remote Access/Control of a Distant Computer

PDA Palm Pilot

<http://nypc.org/palm.htm>. Ted Cohn and Grace Lee, nypcpda@yahoo.com
 Wednesday, July 6th, August 3rd, 6:30 PM
 Location: NYPC
 General Q&A and Networking

PRL Perl Seminar NY

James E. Keenan, jkeen@verizon.net; Alex Gill, alexgill@nyc.rr.com
 Not meeting this summer

PHT Photography and Digital Graphics

Mary Ginsburg, lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net; Tony Holley, tholley@citytech.cuny.edu
 Tuesday, July 26th, Monday, August 8th, 6:30 PM
 Location: NYPC
 7/26: Sharing of information/inspiration from NECCC Conference; field trip scheduling
 8/8: Photo sharing and advice

PHO Photoshop

<http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/stsig.html>
 Laura Balsam, nypc@hookbuilt.com
 Tuesday, July 12th, August 23rd, 1:00 PM
 Location: NYPC
 7/12: Screen Saver Creation
 Table-top photography
 8/23: Photographing Events Digitally
 Selling Your Art Online Using PayPal
 Join us at 11:45 AM in the Tick Tock Diner for socializing prior to the meeting.

SPR Speech Recognition

<http://www.out-loud.com>. Laura Miner, 76233.3413@compuserve.com; Leftonred Atanycorner, nypc@nypc.org
 Wednesday, July 20th, August 17th, 6:30 PM
 Location: NYPC
 7/20: Jonathan Klausner: New Wireless Combination Telephone/Computer Speech Recognition Headset
 8/17: TBA

STR Streaming Media +

Sonia Thompson, soniathp@verizon.net
 Not meeting this summer

PAS Tech Tips

Kathy Petruzzi, kathypetruzzi@hotmail.com; Michael Ostrowe, mjostrowe@earthlink.net
 Thursday, July 7th, August 4th, 6:30 PM
 Location: NYPC
 7/7: Data and application transfer to new computer
 8/4: TBA

VPI Ventura

Allison Moore, amoore@nyc.rr.com
 Monday, July 18th, August 15th, 7:00 PM
 Location: NYPC
 7/18: Using color in newsletters
 8/15: TBA

BAS Visual Basic

David Kulick, dgkulick@hotmail.com
 Wednesday, July 6th, August 3rd, 6:15 PM
 Location: MS
 7/6: VB.NET version 2005
 8/3: TBA

WMM Web Design (Macromedia Studio and more)

Melody Reed, Webdesign@melodyreed.com
 Not meeting this summer

WFI Wireless — New SIG!

Ted Cohn, TedCohn@earthlink.net; Leftonred Atanycorner, vp@nypc.org
 Tuesday, July 26th, August 23rd, 6:30 PM
 Location: NYPC
 Topic TBA

XML XML/Web Services

Mahesh Chhatlani, nypcxml@hotmail.com
 Check SmartGroups or e-mail Mahesh regarding summer meetings

Thanks to Our Hosts!

The following company provides space for many of our meetings.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank them.

Microsoft



Thanks to All Our Volunteers!

NYPC's recent outreach efforts have been a great success, due to our many volunteers. We've wrapped and "rapped" at Barnes & Noble, told IT professionals at C3 about our organization, and shared the excitement of our web and graphics-related SIGs and classes with persons attending the Flashforward Conference.

We'd like to thank all of the terrific volunteers who helped:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Laura Balsam | Bill Ginsberg | Mark Miller |
| Robert Behm | Len Ginsburg | Kathy Petruzzi |
| Polly Bookhout | Ed Greene | Kevin Raguette |
| Mary Fanelli | Robin Greene | Fran Wetzstein |
| | Ashod Kassabian | |

Special thanks go to Jeff Frankel, Chair of the Flash SIG and teacher of our web development classes, for making the arrangements for NYPC to have a table at the Flashforward Conference.

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.

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LHG Consulting: Leonard Ginsburg
718-828-9547; 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
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212-643-0099x137; fax: 646-304-6312;
SFromer@metisgroupllc.com;
www.metisgroupllc.com

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

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Review of various vertical software packages. \$

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718-360-1712; 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;
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;
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. \$

❖ EDITING/PROOFING

Professional Editing Services
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Claire-M@att.net

Are your letters, websites, and business materials free of grammar and spelling mistakes? Let us make **you** look good. \$

❖ INTERNET

Software Pundits, Inc: Mahesh Chhatlani
516-205-4709; Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com;
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
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;
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
14 Penn Plaza, Suite 1800, New York, NY 10122; 212-695-8585; fax: 646-304-6312;
SFromer@acctrack.com; 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;
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
Taxes—Federal, State, City—Individual, Corporate. Review previous returns: \$15

❖ TRAINING

Mary Ginsburg
718-828-9547; 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

Stone Computer
62-01 Northern Blvd., Woodside, NY 11377;
718-267-6677; fax: 718-267-6678;
Jimmy@stonepc.com; www.stonepc.com
Friendly full-service computer store. Parts, service, all at competitive rates. From barebones to full-service, Stone Computer has it all.

❖ REMOTE ACCESS

Guardian Gateway
718-296-5737; info@a1flexus.com
www.a1flexus.com/gateways.html
SSL alternative to VPNs. Securely connect to corporate resources from anywhere! Users work from home or on the road, safely and securely. Call for online demo.

❖ WEB DEVELOPMENT/SERVICES

Progressive Internet Action
215 W. 91st St., Ste. 57, New York, NY 10024-1336; 212-787-0700; Dick@pia.net
www.pia.net
Full-service web company: consulting, site design, content development, web hosting, e-commerce, search submission and optimization. Affordable rates. First-class service. \$

LOCAL MERCHANTS

❖ RESTAURANTS

Ben's Best Kosher Deli & Restaurant
96-40 Queens Blvd., Rego Park, NY 11374;
718-897-1700; www.bensbest.com
Ben's Best Gourmet Kosher Deli & Restaurant, a Rego Park tradition for 60 years!
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Continued from page 9

Your Own Online Calendar

NYPC uses Calendars Net (Calsnet), a free online calendar hosting service. It has been online since 1998, does not have advertising, and is easy to use. (It is supported by sale of its premium software and services.)

Calsnet hosts the calendars for many individuals and organizations, including several user groups. It offers four

levels of security, so that different persons can do varied tasks. Configuration options are many and include full customization of colors used. If you'd like to try it for yourself, go to <http://www.calendars.net/>. *Mary Ginsburg, NYPC Treasurer and Calendar Administrator, treasurer@nypceducation.org*

Special Thanks to Our Registrar!

NYPC is very fortunate to have a new volunteer on the Education Committee who is serving as class registrar.

Phyllis Silver started handling the registrations for NYPC courses about two months ago, and the process runs so much more smoothly than it did before, when it was more or less distributed among several people! She handles e-mails and phone calls from members and nonmembers who want to register for classes and follows up with those who have expressed in interest without making a commitment. She also corresponds with the instructors and keeps them informed about the progress of the class registration. She does all this with clarity and cheer.

Phyllis's husband Stan has been an NYPC member and volunteer for many, many years, and was on the original Education Committee in the late 1980s or early 1990s. We are grateful that his interest "infected" her.

A Non-NYPC Volunteer Opportunity

If you like pets and would like to help some elderly person(s), you might be interested in volunteering for the PETS Project of the Jewish Association for the Aged (JASA). This project teams volunteers with senior pet owners who need help with dog walking, litter box cleaning, transportation to a Vet, or other pet-related services.

To volunteer, contact:
Keith Koblick, Project Coordinator,
212-273-5217 or kkoblick@jasa.org

Thanks to Murray Strelitz for telling us about this project.



I Want to Join NYPC

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____ E-mail: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (eve) _____

Individual: One Year - \$45 Two Years - \$80 Three Years - \$120 Student - \$35

Family: One Year - \$60 Two Years - \$105 Three Years - \$160

Add'l Name: _____ E-mail: _____

New membership Renewal - Member number _____

Payment: Check enclosed (payable to Gotham NYPC) Visa, Mastercard, Discover, AMEX

Card number _____ Exp date _____

Billing address (if different from above) _____

Computing Interests: _____

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 your membership.

NYPC's Online Calendar: Views and News

Many NYPC members—and nonmembers—use our online calendar at <http://www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings>. They access it, look at it, and print it. They phone when it's not updated or when a favorite SIG is not listed, and check for last-minute updates before leaving for a meeting. Some nonmembers have even found our meeting and class listings through online searches for specific topics.

Despite this popularity, however, many features are unknown and unused. Let's look at a few ways to extend its utility.

View Different Months

Most users view the NYPC calendar in its default format: a block calendar for the current month. In this view, the details for a meeting are generally available in a popup (second window) accessed by clicking on the name of the meeting. The popup contains more information



than we could ever print in the newsletter, including not only the date, topic, and SIG leader (or class teacher), but also extensive detail about the meeting, live URLs for related links, and other useful information, such as how to register for a class. The popup window can be resized by clicking

and pulling on a corner, to view the entire text.

You are not, however, limited to the current month! Clicking on the name of another month at the top of the calendar brings that month into view. Thus it is possible, for example, to check what the Perl SIG discussed in March. Depending on the arrangement of days in the month, it may be possible to click on the next month at the bottom of the current calendar, as well. Typically, forthcoming months are sparsely populated with events.

We try to keep most previous events online for at least the calendar year. Exceptions include meetings with TBA (to be announced) and repetitive study groups. (Years prior to 2005 were deleted when the Calsnet service moved the calendars to a new server.)

View a List/View a Week

The monthly block calendar is not the only available viewing format. At the foot of the calendar on the left side are other possibilities, each accessed by clicking on the choice. These views include LIST, which presents meetings in a linear list, including the detail seen in the popups. This can be useful if you want to view details for many meetings at once, without needing to click on each one.

Both block and list calendars can be viewed by the year, month (default), week, or day. (I use the week list view in compiling the (almost) weekly updates sent via e-mail to members.)

The default view (called Abs for Absolute) begins at the first week of the month, but this can be changed. If you want, for example, to begin your view two weeks from now, click on the word *Slide* at the foot of the calendar. This changes the navigation choices at the top of the calendar, so that you can open the calendar with a different week, month, or year. (The viewing format of Sunday through Saturday is set by the administrator.)

Searching the Calendar

The calendar provides a useful searching facility. Suppose you want to view only the Access SIG information for the year. You can do so, by using the Search button at the lower right of the calendar. Click on *Search* to access a dialogue box in which you can specify text, type of meeting (SIG, class, etc.), date range for search, and preferred viewing format. After entering your search terms, press Enter. Be patient; the Search is somewhat slow, but it gives useful information. You will get a list, enabling you to view all the details for all Access SIGs during the first half of 2005.



Slide: Leaving the search box blank and selecting a category will display only events of the selected category.

If you use the same parameters, but select Class instead of SIG as the category, you find detail on the Access Classes NYPC has scheduled in the past year:



Slide: Leaving the search box blank and entering a category will display only events of the selected category.



Other Information

At the top of the calendar is a link to NYPC's home page. The *Date Updated* gives some idea of how current the calendar is. (Unfortunately, as the last item to be entered during an update session, this is sometimes neglected.)

The footer includes addresses of current meeting places and the color legend used to indicate types of meeting. Note that when there is a last-minute change, this is indicated by white on red. If at all possible, when a SIG leader or instructor makes a change to a meeting, this is posted as an announcement. (Of course, this depends on the SIG leader's getting the information to the calendar administrator as soon as possible.)

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Inside
NYPC

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Sign up for Newsletter in PDF Format

Thanks to all of you who have signed up for the e-mailed PDF version of the newsletter *in lieu* of the print version. We'd like to encourage more of you to do so.

Reminder: Everyone who is on our PDF-only list as of our July 21 General Meeting will be entered into a drawing for one of several small but useful prizes, donated by a Board member: \$25 Gift Certificates to: Computer Works Bookstore (2), Zabar's Gourmet Foods (2), B&H (1).

To sign up, please send an e-mail, with "PDF" in the subject line, to NYPC_PDF@earthlink.net. If you have difficulty reading or printing the PDF, please send e-mail to same address.

It's Summer, and Meetings Can Change!

Summer means that some SIGs take a vacation, and others try to have extra sessions.

NYPC also tries to arrange a special summer gathering for a social get-together.

This means that you need to check the online calendar more often, to see what's happening, and what might have changed. Our impending move (see page 2) makes this even more important.

If you're on our e-mail list, you'll receive notices of changes via e-mail, as well.

In any event, have a great summer!!

coming attractions

We've got some great general meetings coming up...

Thursday, October 20 Adaptive Technology
Speech Recognition and more



Let us know what you'd like to see!
Send an e-mail to Bill Ginsberg, wzg128@aol.com.

Please renew before you're asked

Please check your membership expiration date just above your address in the mailing label. If your membership is about to expire, please use the form inside to renew.

This really helps NYPC!