

On the Docket for the  
**General Meetings**  
**Thursday, May 15, 2008**

## **Assistive Technologies** **For Persons with Disabilities** **With Holly Cohen, Rusk Institute**

Computers have truly made a difference in the lives of persons with disabilities of all types. From access to information about dealing with disabilities and increased communication with others in similar circumstances, to devices to extend independent functioning at work and at home, computers have increased the quality of life for many.

This month we are exploring assistive devices for persons with disabilities with Holly Cohen, a clinical specialist in assistive technology at the NYU Medical Center's Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine. This meeting was the idea of our past president, Stan Silver, who had ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's Disease). The various services at Rusk Institute helped him cope with his disease and kept him active as long as possible. Unfortunately he did not live to see this meeting happen.

### *Assistive Technology*

Holly will cover the following topics:

- What is assisted technologies?
- The three areas that she services, with examples of each:  
Environmental Controls, Computer Access, Speech Generating Devices
- Service delivery of these areas
- Case Studies

The Outpatient Occupational Therapy Department at the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine offers a specialized therapy program for individuals requiring assistive technology to improve the quality of their lives.

As defined by the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, the term *Assistive Technology* refers to "any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional

capabilities of individuals with disabilities."

Examples of assistive technologies include: screen readers and magnifiers, closed captioning, alternate keyboards, environmental control units, and other special software and equipment that make information devices more accessible.

### *Approach*

Overall, the focus of Rusk's program is to recommend individualized assistive technology solutions that enhance abilities and meet the goals of our clients for their daily needs. Assistive technology can improve clients' performance with their functional activities, thus maximizing their level of independence and quality of life.

### *Services Provided*

This specialized assistive technology program offers recommendations for:

- Environmental control units and integration into power mobility devices
- Augmentative Communication to enhance an individual's ability to communicate in both leisure and work-related settings
- Adaptations to computer access technology including: Alternate keyboards, On-screen keyboards, Voice recognition, Encoding, Scanning, Alternatives to the standard mouse, Performance enhancers/word prediction technology
- Workspace technology and solutions for optimal function and ergonomic solutions
- Low vision adaptive technology

Once an individual is referred to the Assistive Technology Program, the occupational therapist provides the following services:

# Inside NYPC



Volume 15 Issue 5  
May, 2008

## **General Meeting Info**

**When:** Thursday, May 15, 2008

**Where:** Jewish Guild for the Blind  
15 West 65th Street  
(Near Lincoln Center)

**Schedule:** 6:00pm Doors open  
6:30pm Q&A/Announcements  
7:00pm Presentation

**Travel:** 1 to 66th St.  
1, A,B,C,D to 59th St  
(check with MTA)

**PATH:** N/A

**Web site:** <http://www.nypc.org>  
for details of this meeting

**Office:** (212) 643-7005

NYPC's General Meetings are free and open to the public.

To check on the NYPC General Meeting, find location, or get up-to-the-minute details on speakers, call our office or check our website.

more...

- Comprehensive Functional Evaluation
- Detailed report of recommendations
- Follow-up meetings with patient and family
- In-home assessment for set-up of assistive technology
- Identification of other specialized areas, including barrier-free design, vocational rehabilitation, and seating and mobility
- Assistance with investigating funding sources for accessing assistive technology

### Referral Process

Physician referral is required for an appointment. Your primary care physician can refer you to the Rusk Institute Outpatient Occupational Therapy Department for an Assistive Technology by faxing your prescription to 212.263.0113. Referrals for outpatients are accepted from all physicians licensed in New York State. For any questions concerning our program, please call 212.263.6016.

*Holly Cohen, Rusk Institute Outpatient Occupational Therapy Department*

### Editor's note:

I once accompanied Stan and Phyllis Silver during a visit to Rusk Institute. I was impressed by Holly Cohen's depth of knowledge and concern for individualizing and optimizing assistive devices. Back in Stan's and Phyllis's apartment, I learned how well some devices perform: a system to turn on lights via a voice command was one example. Others were quite frustrating: we never did get the voice-activated TV remote to switch channels well.

Many of these devices are based on embedded systems. Some appear simple; others remind one of StarTrek. The entire area of assistive devices, and their extension into home automation, is exciting, and the information presented here will be valuable both to persons with disabilities and to those interested in advances in computer technology.

*Our thanks to the Jewish Guild for the Blind for making this handicap accessible location available for this special meeting. For more information about the Guild go to: <http://www.jgb.org/>*

### Online Resources

The Internet serves as a resource for locating aids for mobility, communication, and more. It is also filled with support forums and listserves used by persons with various disabilities to communicate and share information with each other.

Rusk's website is: <http://www.med.nyu.edu/rusk/>

There are many other sites dealing with assistive technology and other aids to persons with disabilities of all types. A particularly good directory of links is at: <http://www.jan.vwu.edu/links/disres.htm>

### In Memoriam: Bob Siegel

NYPC has learned that long-time member and volunteer Bob Siegel died a few weeks ago.

For several years in the 1990s, Bob was chair of the Cold Fusion SIG. He also helped with the NYPC membership database.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

## NYPC Officers

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vp@nypc.org

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*Grace Lee*  
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### SIG Chair Representatives

*Laura Balsam(Photoshop)*  
laura@hookbuilt.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, email [classes@nypceducation.org](mailto:classes@nypceducation.org), or register online at <http://www.nypceducation.org>.

For complete descriptions and instructor information, click on class name at <http://www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings> or <http://www.nypceducation.org>. Check there for updates/new classes.

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.

## ⇒ EBay Power Selling: Up and Running in One Day

Get set-up and running as an eBay seller in one-day! Enjoy a full, fun day of interesting and informative instruction led by an eBay Education Specialist trained by eBay. The instructor, Fred Kahn, is an eBay power seller and trading assistant with a 100% positive feedback rating and years of eBay experience.

You will learn how to:

- Register with eBay and Paypal
- Find items to sell
- Decide how much to sell them for
- Photograph them and edit your images
- List your items
- Get paid
- Pack and ship

Sunday, May 18, 10:00am-5:00pm

Intensive workshop, \$75 plus \$10 material fee paid directly to the instructor for the eBay book *The Basics of Selling*.

## ⇒ Mastering Your Digital Camera Controls

With their wealth of controls and menu options, digital cameras can bewilder even the most experienced photographer. The user can change not only aperture and shutter speed, but also ISO, white balance, automatic program, and more. In this class we'll learn how to take advantage of the many camera options to take better photos.

- Please tell registrar your camera model when you register
- Plan to bring your manual to class

2 Thursday afternoons, May 22, 29, 2:00-5:00pm OR

2 Friday mornings, June 6, 13, 10:00am-1:00pm

Hands-on with your camera, \$59

## ⇒ Special Topics in Using Microsoft Word

For those who use Microsoft Word but want to go beyond the basics:

**Advanced Formatting:** Learn to use tables to format text with perfect alignment. Automate document formatting with Styles and Templates. Your documents will look better and be more consistent.

**Efficient Letters:** Learn how to use Mail Merge, AutoText and AutoCorrect, and simple Macros.

**Working with Long Documents:** Covers Master Documents and Subdocuments, Bookmarks and Cross-references, Table of Contents, Index; Collaborative writing/editing

Wednesdays, May 21 (*Formatting*), 28 (*Efficient*), June 4 (*Long*), 11:30am-2:30pm

Hands-on, \$39 each class (\$33 each if taking more than one)

## ⇒ Photo Enhancement with Photoshop Elements

Learn how to enhance your digital photos! Photoshop Elements is Adobe's "consumer level" digital imaging program. Though far less

expensive and easier than Photoshop, it offers considerable power in enhancing and distributing digital images. Like all graphics applications, it is also very enjoyable. In this hands-on course, we'll learn by doing, from using layers through tonal and color corrections, and more.

Students are encouraged to bring their own photos to class for advice.  
3 Sundays, June 1, 8, 15, 11:00am-3:45pm (45 min lunch break)  
12 hours, hands-on, \$129

## ⇒ Create Professional Presentations with PowerPoint

Learn how to use Microsoft PowerPoint to create effective presentations. This software tool enables you to present information and data as a slide show with consistent backgrounds, images, and fonts. In this course you will learn how to create, format, and edit informative slides, incorporating not only text and charts, but also images, sound effects, and video. In addition to the technical aspects of using the software, we will also offer some advice on arranging your information to increase slide effectiveness.

3 Thursday mornings, May 29, June 5, 12, 10:00am-1:00pm  
Hands-on, \$99

## ⇒ Smarter Surfing

A series of classes to help you make the most of your time on the World Wide Web:

**Boss Your Browser:** how to select the best Browser for your needs and use it more effectively

**Safer Surfing:** how to protect data and computer while going from site to site

**Saving Your Tracks:** how to save—or delete, if desired—the results of your online research

3 Friday afternoons, May 30, June 6, 13, 2:00-5:00pm

Hands-on, \$39 each (\$33 each if taking more than one)

## ⇒ Getting Started with the Treo Smart Phone

Have you bought a Treo Smart Phone, but are using it only as a phone? Or are you considering the purchase of one?

Then come to this class! Ted Cohn, chair of our Cell Phone and Palm SIGs, will guide you and answer your questions.

Wednesday, May 28, June 26, 3:30-5:30pm

Anniversary Special: 1 session, only \$25

## ⇒ Effective Internet Searching

Enhance your Internet Searching Skills! In each of the following courses we'll learn how to structure efficient and effective searches, and how to interpret and use your results. Take one or more. Please bring some topics on which you'd like to search.

**Better "Googling":** Though emphasizing Google's syntax and features, we'll also look at alternate search sites and when to use them.

**Beyond Google: Advanced Internet Searching:** Google is great, but sometimes it's overwhelming to get 100,000 hits! We'll look at alternatives to Google: meta search engines, clustering search engines, topic-specific searchers, and exciting new ways to visualize results... also directories (and when to use them), RSS feeds, and other ways to supplement search engines.

**Finding Health/Medical Information Online:** There are millions of health-related sites, but not all give valid information. How can you find the ones with the reliable information you need? We'll look at how to structure effective searches, how to separate valuable information from the questionable, and what to do with the information you find. We'll also look at some excellent sites.

Monday afternoons, June 2, 9, 16, 1:00am-4:00pm

Price per hands-on session, \$35 for 1; \$30 each for more than one



## NYPC Meetings, Seminars/Classes & Other Events May-Early June 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 27	April 28 <b>Desktop Pub w/Word</b> Ventura Access	29 NYPC Board	30 Phot/Dig Graph	May 1 JAVA Gen Mtg Enterprise Windows	2	3
4	5 TechTips Access	6 Web Design Genealogy	7 Visual Basic Palm Pilot	8 DeLUGE	9	10
11	12 <b>Desktop Pub w/Word</b> MAC	13 Exchange Excel	14	15 <b>General Meeting</b> JAVA: Cert SG	16	17
18 <b>EBay POWER SELLING</b>	19 Ventura ATT	20 Investment Perl	21 <b>WORD Format</b> Speech Recog	22 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (4)</b> <b>DIG CAM CONT (1)</b> QuickBooks	23	24
25	26 <i>Memorial Day</i>	27 Photoshop Photog/Graphics NYPC Board	28 <b>WORD: Efficient</b> <b>TREO Seminar</b> Cell Phones	29 <b>POWERPOINT (1)</b> <b>DIG CAM CONT (2)</b>	30 <b>Smart SURF: Browser</b>	31
1 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (1)</b>	2 <b>NET SEARCH: Google</b> Access	3 Web Design Genealogy	4 <b>WORD: Long Docs</b> Visual Basic Palm Pilot	5 <b>POWERPOINT (2)</b> JAVA Gen Mtg Enterprise Windows	6 <b>DIG CAM CONT (1)</b> <b>Smart SURF: Privacy</b>	7
8 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (2)</b>	9 <b>NET SEARCH: Advanced</b> MAC	10 Photoshop Exchange Excel	11 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (4)</b> Alpha DB	12 <b>POWERPOINT (3)</b> DeLUGE	13 <b>DIG CAM CONT (2)</b> <b>Smart SURF: Tracking</b>	14

**Calendar Legend**

Plain = SIG Meeting  
**Bold = NYPC Class**

*Italic = Other Meetings*  
**Black background = General Meeting**

The calendar shows the events that were scheduled at press time. **Confirm meeting information at our online calendar, <http://www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings>.** See page 3 for Seminars/Classes. See pages 5 and 6 for SIG meetings.

**Location Legend**

NYPC NYPC Office, Hotel New Yorker, 481 8th Ave, Suite 550  
 PS41 116 West 11th Street, west of 6th Avenue MS Microsoft, 1290 6th Ave. (51st/52nd Str), 6th Floor

# SIG Directory

This shows events scheduled at press time. Find detailed information about many meetings at [www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings](http://www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings); click on the SIG of interest to invoke a pop-up with details. Updates, changes, cancellations, or topics to replace TBA—are announced here. If we have your e-mail address, we will send you occasional meeting updates/reminders. See Location Legend bottom of page 4.

## Meetings at Microsoft

Security procedures at Microsoft have become tighter. As always, a photo ID is imperative. Also, be sure that your name is on the SIG Chair's security list.

### AXS Access

Linda Ewen, [LindaEwen@nyc.rr.com](mailto:LindaEwen@nyc.rr.com)  
 Mon., May 5th, June 2nd, 6:30 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Access to Quick Books link

### ATT Advanced Technologies and Techniques

Jessie Shereff, [jshereff@gmail.com](mailto:jshereff@gmail.com)  
 Monday, May 19th, June 23rd, 6:30 PM  
 Location: MS  
 General Discussion of PC technology

### ADB Alpha Database

Barry Rochford, [brochford1@comcast.net](mailto:brochford1@comcast.net)  
 Wednesday, June 11, 6:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC

### BEG Beginners SIG

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

### LUG Deluge (Desktop Linux Users Group)

<http://www.delugeny.org>. Mark Halegua, [phantom21@mindspring.com](mailto:phantom21@mindspring.com)  
 Thursday, May 8th, June 12th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 5/8: Open Source Graphics Apps; 6/12: TBA

### EMB Embedded Systems

Lee Thalblum, [lee\\_t@bigfoot.com](mailto:lee_t@bigfoot.com)  
 On hiatus. Contact leader

### EWN Enterprise Windows

Edwin Woo, [nyewin@live.com](mailto:nyewin@live.com)  
<http://nyewin.org/>  
 Thursday, May 1st, June 5th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: MS  
 5/1: Windows Server 2008 Features

### EXC Excel

Al Vachris, [alfred.vachris@gmail.com](mailto:alfred.vachris@gmail.com)  
 Tuesday, May 13th, June 10th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Topic TBA

### EXG Microsoft Exchange Server

Ben Serebin, [exchangeug@reefsolutions.com](mailto:exchangeug@reefsolutions.com)  
<http://www.nyexug.com>  
 Tuesday, May 13th, June 10th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Topics TBA

### GFH Genealogy

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~metrony/>  
 David Kleiman, [roots@heritagemuse.com](mailto:roots@heritagemuse.com)  
 Tuesday, May 6th, June 3rd, 6:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 5/6: Data cleanup; 6/3: Annual Experts Panel

### HRD Hardware

Kevin Raguette, [Rags6600@hotmail.com](mailto:Rags6600@hotmail.com)  
 Dates/Topics TBA

### NET Internet

Tony Holley, [tholley@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:tholley@citytech.cuny.edu)  
 Mary Ginsburg, [lm\\_ginsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net)  
 On hiatus. Contact leaders

### INV Investment

<http://www.better-investing.org/chapter/newyork> Phyllis Pawlovsky, [PGP106@cs.com](mailto:PGP106@cs.com)  
 Tuesday, May 20th, 6:15 PM  
 Location: MS  
 5/20: A Visit with Bonnie Reyes, BetterInvesting President and COO

### CSG Java Gen'l Mtg

<http://www.nycjava.net>  
 Gary Russo, [garyrusso@hotmail.com](mailto:garyrusso@hotmail.com)  
 Thursday, May 1st, June 5th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Check Yahoo group for topic

### CSG Java Study Group

Dario LaVerde, [dario@nycjava.net](mailto:dario@nycjava.net)  
 Thursday, May 15th, more TBA, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Check Yahoo group for information

### ODK C++/JAVA: ODK Management

Carlos Jerome, [cjinterf@panix.com](mailto:cjinterf@panix.com)  
 Call for location/date: 212-673-9187

### LNX LINUX

We're working to revive this important SIG

### MAC MAC SIG

Betty Henderson, [esqh@yahoo.com](mailto:esqh@yahoo.com) (temp)  
 Monday, May 12th, June 9th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 5/12: Pat McEvoy on free SW for the MAC

### MKT Marketing Committee!

Murray Strelitz/Grace Lee, [marketing@nypc.org](mailto:marketing@nypc.org)  
 E-mail Murray for information

### BRD NYPC Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 27th, 6:30 PM  
 Members are welcome to attend, but we'd like to know ahead. Please e-mail [correspond@nypc.org](mailto:correspond@nypc.org)

### GEN NYPC GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, May 15th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: Jewish Guild for the Blind, 15 West 65th St  
 5/15: Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities

### PDA Palm Pilot

<http://nypc.org/palm.php>. Ted Cohn, Grace Lee; [nypcpalmpilot@gmail.com](mailto:nypcpalmpilot@gmail.com)  
 Wednesday, June 4th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Q&A, sharing, and networking

### PRL Perl Seminar NY

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/perlsemny>  
 James E. Keenan, [jkeen@verizon.net](mailto:jkeen@verizon.net)  
 Alex Gill, [ag@tkwx.us](mailto:ag@tkwx.us)  
 Tuesday, May 20th, 6:15 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

### PHT Photography & Graphics

Mary Ginsburg, [lm\\_ginsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net); Tony Holley, [tholley@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:tholley@citytech.cuny.edu)  
 Tuesday, May 27th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Adobe online Photoshop Express vs Picnik.com

### PHO Photoshop

[http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/photoshop\\_sigs.html](http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/photoshop_sigs.html); Laura Balsam, [nypc@hookbuilt.com](mailto:nypc@hookbuilt.com)  
 Tuesday, May 27th, June 10th, 1:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 5/27: Lens Blur Filter; Creating a Portrait Background with Gradients  
 Geared toward intermediate to advanced Photoshop users, but all are welcome. Join us at 11:45 AM in the Tick Tock Diner for socializing prior to the 1 PM meeting.

### QBB QuickBooks

Len Ginsburg, [LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net)  
 Thursday, May 22nd, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 More on QuickBooks 2008

### SNT Social Networking NEW SIG!

Leftonred Atanycorner, [vp@nypc.org](mailto:vp@nypc.org)  
 Friday, May 30th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Social Networking is more than FaceBook. This SIG will explore many sites & features

**SIG Directory, continued**

**SPR Speech Recognition**

<http://www.out-loud.com>;  
<http://www.speechwiki.org/sr/nypcsrsig.html>  
 Leftonred Atanycorner, vp@nypc.org; Laura Miner, 76233.3413@compuserve.com  
 Wednesday, May 21st, June 18th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 5/21: Protecting the voice, body, and mind

**PAS Tech Tips**

Kathy Petruzzi, kathypetruzzi@hotmail.com;  
 Michael Ostrowe, mjoostrowe@earthlink.net  
 Monday, May 5th, Thursday, June 26th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topics TBA

**VPI Ventura**

Allison Moore, amoore@nyc.rr.com  
 Monday, May 19th, 7:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Cleaning & editing templates & tags

**BAS Visual Basic**

<http://www.nypcvb.org>  
 David Kulick, dgkulick@hotmail.com  
 Wednesday, May 7th, June 4th, 6:15 PM  
 Location: MS  
 New VB9 features

**WMM Web Design with Dreamweaver**

John Milisenda, jmilisenda@aaahawk.com  
 Tuesday, May 6th, June 3rd, 2:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Exploration of Macromedia Dreamweaver as a web development tool. Oriented towards beginners, but all are welcome

**WLS Cell Phones (formerly Wireless)**

Ted Cohn, TedCohn@earthlink.net  
 Wednesday, May 28th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

**Other Organizations**

**NPC Non-Profit Computing**

John L. German, 212-759-2368

Includes:

**JOB Career Development Group**

Wednesdays, May 7, 28, 5:00 PM  
 Location: West-Park Presbyterian Church at 86th and Amsterdam  
 Facilitators include:  
 Susan Werbin, 212-799-6111  
 Mort Trachtenberg, 212-769-TRAC

**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**



<http://www.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, CPA  
 14 Penn Plaza, Ste 1800, NYC 10122;  
 212-643-0099x137; 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 \$

**❖ 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.

**mister-retail, eBay Education Specialist:**

Fred Kahn  
[misteretail@yahoo.com](mailto:misteretail@yahoo.com); 718 263-2041  
 eBay Trading Assistant trained by eBay. I sell for you or teach you how to do it. Together we can set up your eBay Store. Digital Imaging Specialist: I teach photography too\$

**Middle Earth Media:** Leftonred Atanycorner  
 631-793-0930; [middleearthmedia@yahoo.com](mailto:middleearthmedia@yahoo.com)  
 •Computer Service & Training  
 •Wired & Wireless Networks  
 •Spyware & Virus Removal  
 •Data Backup & Recovery  
 Windows, Mac & All Other OS's. Serving large & small businesses & individuals. \$

**❖ 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. \$

**❖ INTERNET**

**Progressive Internet Action,** "The Ben & Jerry's of Internet Services"  
 215 W 91st Street, Suite 57, New York, NY 10024-1336; 212-787-0700;  
[DickJones@pia.net](mailto:DickJones@pia.net); <http://www.pia.net>  
 Full service web solutions. Affordable rates. First-class service. Site design & development, web hosting & e-commerce. Web marketing strategy, Search Engine Marketing, content development. Discounts for Non-profits. \$

**❖ PROOFREADING/EDITING**

**Professional Editing Services**  
 631-422-6804; fax: 631-422-1170;  
[Claire-M@att.net](mailto:Claire-M@att.net)  
 Are your Web sites and print materials compromised by poor grammar and spelling errors? Let me make your work successful. Call today for free estimate. \$

**❖ TRAINING**

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

# The Legacy of Our NYPC President

by Phyllis Silver

A number of months ago, an article from an ALS/MDA (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis/Muscular Dystrophy Association) national magazine was reprinted in the NYPC newsletter. It was by Stan Silver, your NYPC President who passed away recently. In this article, Stan recounted our experiences in trying to find out the cause of his back problem and the frustrating 14 months of searching before a diagnosis was finally made—ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, otherwise known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease). It is a horrific disease which atrophies the muscles of the body and leaves the mind intact to witness its progression.

Throughout the 2 years and one month between Stan’s diagnosis on December 22, 2005, to his death on January 30, 2008, Stan maintained a positive attitude on life and adapted to the changes in his body that were taking place at a rapid pace. He attended NYPC meetings when he could, and board meetings were held in our apartment to accommodate his wheelchair.

## A Love of the World of Computers

Yet, our time spent learning about ALS and dealing with it was so very difficult. What kept Stan occupied during many days at home (before he got his motorized wheelchair) was his PC and the connections it provided to the outside world, his friends at NYPC, and information from Googling well into the early hours of the morning.

Stan’s love of the world of computers started when he was a young man working on mainframes. Upon the birth of the PC, Stan was consumed by what it could do and its endless potential. Our move to New York City from Michigan and his first purchase of a PC led him to NYPC, and he was connected forever. A lot of you may not have known Stan directly. He was quiet and participated on the Education Committee for years as well as holding other positions on the Board. But in whatever capacity he served, he did it in the same way, quietly, with dignity and constructive suggestions. He made good friends at NYPC and thoroughly enjoyed what he learned, the ideas exchanged, and the forum to allow questions and provide help in solving his computer problems.

When he was elected NYPC President in April, 2007, he was elated, but he worried about fulfilling his responsibilities in his condition. That actually opened his eyes as his view from the wheelchair became his platform for interest in others in a

similar situation or with other limitations. Again, he approached this concern in his usual way, quietly but with conviction of what NYPC could offer to meet the needs of the disabled.

## Help from Rusk

In his association with the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation here in NYC, he worked with a number of therapists in different areas. He also met Holly Cohen, a clinical specialist in assistive technology at the NYU Medical Center’s Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, who did much to help Stan with his love of the PC and the adaptations necessary to use it, as well as tools that gave him more independence in daily living.

NYPC has always been sensitive to those whose limitations yet love of computers should always form a connection. Stan wanted more people to be aware of the needs of people with disabilities. Thanks to Holly at Rusk and such groups as the Speech Recognition SIG, the tools, software, and advice are available to help those with disabilities.

Everyone who met Stan remembers his ability to live life—just differently—his quiet dry humor, his warm smile. These inspire me to continue his fight to find a cure for ALS and bring awareness of the disease to others. That is my legacy.

## Remembering Stan’s Legacy

Stan’s commitment to NYPC and the purpose it serves need to be remembered. He was so proud of everything NYPC offered, and that should inspire you to continue his legacy to keep NYPC alive, active, and vital. Stan was so excited that 2007-8 was the 25th Anniversary of this fine organization that meant so much to him. Please do your part to ensure that NYPC will be celebrating many more years. Give of your expertise, your time, to help the dedicated core of board members plan for now and the future. Give a donation to NYPC in memory of Stan Silver. It will be put to good use to make things happen.



### Walk to Defeat ALS

The ALS Association/Greater New York Chapter is sponsoring several walks to support the fight against ALS.

Find information at [www.alswalks.org](http://www.alswalks.org)

Two of the walks are:

Saturday, May 17  
Hudson River Park’s Pier 46  
Manhattan

Sunday, June 29  
Tibbets Brook Park  
Yonkers, NY

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## First Class Mail

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### Renewing membership without a form

We did not have Space for the Membership Form this month...but you don't really need it.

Renew your membership, request a membership for a friend (in our 2 for 1 Offer), or donate to NYPC, which is a nonprofit organization, by simply mailing the information, with a check or credit card number, to

NYPC  
481 8th Ave., B25, New York 10001

**Wednesday, May 14, 6 PM**

### Tune and Teach: PC Upgrade & Repair Clinic

Unlike other repair facilities, our experts use the teaching opportunity to explain what they're doing!  
Bring your ill computer to NYPC for evaluation and installation of freeware antivirus and firewall.

A donation of \$50 (per computer) goes to help NYPC. Diagnosis only; any parts cost extra, and are installed later.

We cannot guarantee that we can restore your PC to function, but if not, we'll explain your options.

### Back up any data before you bring your computer to the clinic.

*Tell your friends and colleagues! Many computers have been restored to health by our experts!*

- Reservations required
- For information or to reserve a spot: [classes@nypceducation.org](mailto:classes@nypceducation.org) or 212-643-7005

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### coming attractions

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

Let us know what you'd like to see! Tell us on the evaluation forms we pass out at the General Meeting, or send an e-mail to [Bill Ginsberg](mailto:Bill.Ginsberg@nypc.org), [programs@nypc.org](mailto:programs@nypc.org).

