

SeniorNet

Bringing Wisdom to the Information Age
Learning Center at FSL, L.I.

Where every worker is a volunteer.

Summer 2010

Volume 11, Issue 3

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SeniorNet at FSL, L.I.

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To Volunteer

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September is Back to School with SeniorNet

As summer draws to an end, kids begin thinking of school. We find young kids planning their hunt for that perfect backpack and college kids sifting through yet needed courses for an ideal class schedule. However, this massive seasonal shift to indoors

and school is not just for the young. School is for old kids too.

SeniorNet offers mature kids, those 50 years old or greater, the choice of many great beginning through advanced computer courses. Offered for the first time will be a course for job-seekers and one about the wildly popular Facebook. In addition, beginner students will have the opportunity to enroll in a new 5-course study plan leading to a Certificate.

So "kids" don't be left out. Please make plans to visit one of SeniorNet's open houses and join the smart crowd's return to school.

OPEN HOUSE AND RECEPTION: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

- **Tuesday, September 14 - 1490 William Floyd Parkway, Suite 108, East Yaphank**

Monday, September 20 - 790 Park Ave, Huntington, NY

The following article recently appeared on the www.SeniorNet.org website:

Huntington New York SeniorNet Center on Long Island: A Success Story



Co-coordinators: Bill Baker, Slava Vero, and Moss Rawn

At the core of SeniorNet's mission to provide seniors with computer and internet education are its nearly 75 locally run Learning Centers spread across the nation. And at the heart of those Learning Centers are the more than 3,000 volunteers—usually seniors themselves—who manage the Centers and teach the courses. When it comes to volunteers, one of SeniorNet's "brightest stars" is Slava Vero, the Co-Coordinator of the Huntington, New York SeniorNet Center on Long Island. Through her leadership and the support of other outstanding volunteers and stakeholders, the Huntington SeniorNet Center has become one of the organization's most successful centers.

"The Huntington SeniorNet Center is a true leader and innovator in bringing technology education and training to seniors in its area," said Leslie M. Smith, SeniorNet board chairman. SeniorNet's Huntington computer Learning Center, better known as "the Don Weidman computer Learning Center" has developed and implemented a number of innovative new outreach efforts and programs that have resulted in the Huntington Center receiving the SeniorNet Inaugural Chairman's Award for Excellence in 2007 and the

2007 and the Chairman's Award in 2009—the organization's top awards for a Learning Center.

One of Huntington's Learning Centers biggest and most successful programs to date has been the **East Yaphank Annex**, developed in order to provide seniors with computer education and training closer to their homes. "In talking to our seniors, it was clear that the overwhelming number of them were interested in a SeniorNet Learning Center closer to home," said Slava.

Another one of Huntington's innovations in computer education for seniors came in the form of the "**Homebound Remote Learning Project**." This project provides computer training for homebound seniors who otherwise would not be able to take advantage of SeniorNet's computer training courses. Its mission is to reach out to people with disabilities and homebound veterans. The project created a "virtual classroom" remote learning program whereby homebound seniors can take live interactive classes on their home computers. Instructors and coaches use special software to interact with homebound students through their computers via broadband internet connection.

"With Learning Centers like Huntington SeniorNet will continue to expand on its mission to bring technology education and access to seniors for years to come," said Smith.

Snug Meeting Previews

Our co-coordinator elect Bill Baker sent in the following previews of the coming **Snug Meetings**.

September 21st – Facebook – the most popular social networking site which, since its founding in 2004 has become one of the most popular sites on the web with over 500 million users. What may surprise you is that the fastest growing segment of users is people age 55+. This session will provide an overview of Facebook and show how to register to begin using this service.

October 19 – Windows Live - Enhancing Digital Photos using free Windows Live Software. At this meeting, you'll see a demonstration of several FREE Windows Live software packages that allow you to easily enhance digital photographs and create engage slide shows of your photos.

Can I Wear My Bi-Focals To The Interview?

Job-hunting is tough for the 50+ crowd. Weighed down by stereotypes, this group must tactfully convey that they are up to date, flexible and fit. They need to draft resumés carefully and be mindful of how they present themselves on interviews. Unemployed office workers have another enemy: technology's rapid advance. How can AARPers convince an interviewer they are prepared, when they lack familiarity with recent versions of Microsoft Office or Windows that are today's workplace essentials? Help is on the way.

Starting this fall awarding-winning SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. will offer a new 4-week, 8-session training course at its Huntington learning center to 50+ year olds with outdated computer knowledge. The course, called **21st Century Job Skills**, is centered around familiarizing job seekers with recent versions of Windows, MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook and then demonstrating how these programs can be used in the job search. Students will be introduced to valuable internet websites such as Monster.com and LinkedIn. They'll also draft age-appropriate resumés and cover letters. Throughout the course, the instructor will touch upon various job-seeking considerations in a supportive environment.

Benefits of taking any course at SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. are many. Here are some highlights:

- With its mission of helping adults 50 and over learn today's technologies, all-volunteer, not-for-profit SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. currently offers 30 courses and has taught 6,000+ students since its inception 10 years ago.
- Small classes (no more than 13 students) are taught by a caring team of volunteers – one



teacher plus four coaches as assistants. Each student has the use of a state-of-the-art computer for the entire lesson.

- Students

receive an easy to follow step-by-step tutorial manual for home practice. Classes are on weekdays during the daytime and are 2½ hours long.

- The cost is nominal.

For more information, call (631) 427-3700 Ext. 235 or 268, send an email to

svero@fsl-li.org, or visit our website at www.seniornethuntington.org or find us on Facebook.

SENIORNET at FSL, L.I. Suffolk County Office for the Aging Picnic August 4, 2010



For the seventh year in a row the SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. Road Runners participated at the Suffolk County Office for the Aging "Summer Senior Festival" (Picnic) in Yaphank.

The event was attended by close to 1,000 seniors residing in Suffolk County and more than 300 added their names to a long list of potential students. Participating SeniorNet volunteers were: Nina Saporito, Elvira Lubrano, Slava Vero, Roe Oetiker, Marge Becker, Bernie and Shirley Gershen, Claire and Newt Kerman, Sam Gerber, Susan Brozinsky and Ronnie Evans. Our special thanks go to Sam Gerber from our E. Yaphank Annex, who came armed with his camera. His pictures attest to his mastery of the camera.

We spoke to Steve Levy (who receives our newsletters), as well as 4th District Legislator Tom Muratore and Assemblyman Marc Alessi's representative.

A free Laptop computer was raffled off and the winner was Patrick McGow (featured with SeniorNet Road Runner Volunteers). Patrick proved to be a very happy winner; the raffle of the lap top computer proved to be an incentive for Patrick and his friends to come and visit the computer lab and are potential students. .

We would like to thank everyone for coming and thank all who helped make this event a success.



Where's the Gang?

People tend to migrate. At times when I was a kid, my friends seemed to evaporate. I'd walk to the usual hangout spots and find no one there. Then I'd bump into someone and ask, "Where's the gang?" Well it happened again. Over the

past few years, my volume of emails slowed to a trickle. I wondered, "Where's the gang?" and found the answer when I was asked to help create a Facebook page for my SeniorNet center.

Knowing nothing about Facebook except for negative newspaper stories, I decided to buy one of those *Dummy* books. What I read sounded interesting, and with maximum security settings safe, so I set up a personal Facebook page. To my surprise (omg!), I found everyone again and they were delighted to "see" me. I even made contact with long lost friends from my junior high school. It was exciting.

So now not only do I have a Facebook page but so does SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. The nice part is you can visit any Facebook page without being a card-carrying Facebook member, so drop by ours at www.Facebook.com/SeniorNetLI every now and then to see what's *doin'* at SeniorNet.

Nick Radesca



SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. Reaches out to the Huntington Community

As a show of appreciation for their ongoing support, SeniorNet offered evening workshops in June and July for employees of Family Service League and the Town of Huntington; in addition Legislators and Assemblymen aides and their staff participated in courses such as iPod taught by Bill Baker, Excel 2003 taught by Jean Hrbek and 2007 taught by Jim Burke. Because the program was so well received, we plan to offer additional training classes. We also expect to expand the program to provide classes at our East Yaphank Annex.

SeniorNet Announcements Fall 2010

- SeniorNet **HUNTINGTON** “OPEN HOUSE” and Reception FOR STUDENT REGISTRATION Is **Monday September 20, 2010** from 10 AM to 2 PM. Everybody is welcome.
- SeniorNet **EAST YAPHANK** “OPEN HOUSE” and Reception FOR STUDENT REGISTRATION Is **Tuesday September 14, 2010** from 10 AM to 2 PM. Everybody is welcome.
- SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. Fall Classes start September 27th 2010
- 21st Century Job Skills Classes start October 12th, 2010 3:30 PM – 6:00 PM.
- Huntington Fall Festival:
17th Annual Long Island Huntington Festival
Saturday, October 9th, 2010
11: 00 AM – 6:00 PM.
All are welcome.
- Day Haven Adult Day Services
Thursday, October 21, 2010 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Villa Lombardi, Holbrook, NY 11741
- SeniorNet at FSL, L.I Annual Meeting
October 25, 2010 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Cinema Arts Centre
423 Park Avenue
Huntington, NY 11743

AT&T Conducts Cell Phone Workshop for SeniorNet at Family Service League in Huntington

SeniorNet, Headquarters partnered with AT&T to educate seniors on wireless technology and SeniorNet at Family Service League took the lead by hosting the first of a series of AT&T workshops that are to be conducted nationally. The cell-phone workshop, held on July 14, 2010 at the Huntington Learning Center included one-on-one coaching of SeniorNet volunteers, students and Family Service League staff. The

AT&T representatives who participated were: Dave Santiago, Scott Sohn, Joe Tanzi, Kathy West and Tori Drach. Ed Bergstraesser was the AT&T coordinator and Bill Baker was the SeniorNet site coordinator. The AT&T staff was



especially dedicated and showed sensitivity to our volunteers and students. Nearly 50 seniors attended the workshop that was well received and the results far exceeded our hope for success. SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. hopes to repeat this workshop again in October when the initiative goes national.



Check Scheduled Events Calendar and remember to volunteer and/or attend. Remember Snug Meeting 3rd Tuesday of every month at 3:30PM! Except December.

Next Snug Meeting September 21, subject: Facebook, presented by Jeri Usbay. October Snug Meeting October 19th, subject: "Windows Live," presented by Fran Schwarz

**COMPUTER CLASSES FOR SENIORS
Fall 2010 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

SENIORNET AT FSL, L.I., ONCE AGAIN ANNOUNCES ITS REGISTRATION FOR EXCITING COMPUTER COURSES AND WORKSHOPS FOR SENIORS. HUNTINGTON and EAST YAPHANK FALL CLASSES BEGIN MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 2010.

SENIORS TEACHING SENIORS" IS OUR MOTTO. COME JOIN OTHER SENIORS AS LEARNING TAKES PLACE IN A RELAXED, FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE FEATURING SMALL CLASSES AND VERY LOW COST.

CLASSES FILL UP PRETTY QUICKLY SO TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT REGISTER EARLY.

Next Newsletter deadline, December 1st, 2010

Funding for this newsletter provided by the Huntington Town Board

Supervisor Frank P. Petrone, Councilwomen Susan Berland and Glenda Jackson, Councilmen Mark Mayoka and Mark Cuthbertson