

SeniorNet

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

Where every worker is a volunteer.

Winter 2010

Volume 11, Issue 4

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SeniorNet at FSL, L.I.

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To Volunteer

631 427-3700, Ext. 268

Newsletter Input

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SeniorNet's 11th Annual Meeting

A Year of Innovation and Leadership

On Monday, October 25, 2010, SeniorNet at Family Service League proudly celebrated its eleventh year of service at its Annual Meeting at The Cinema Arts Centre.

Overview

We are especially proud of the extraordinary achievements of Don Weidman Computer Training Center volunteers. As the local arm of an international organization, founded twenty five years ago in San Francisco, our SeniorNet facility has gained momentum these past 11 years blossoming into a thriving award winning organization that operates two centers – the main one in Huntington and an Annex just opened about 25 miles away in East Yaphank. With over 120 active volunteers who offer 30 computer courses annually while they and their predecessors taught an astounding 7,000+ students since inception.

A Year of Innovation and Leadership

The following volunteers presented their amazing ideas that were implemented with guidance of the leadership

- Karen Mura provided an overview of the idea she and Emily Sternhell had for a new training course called **21st Century Job Skills**
- Jeri Usbay led the audience through SeniorNet at FSL, L.I.'s new **Facebook Page** (www.Facebook.com/seniornetli) that she first suggested, then developed with Nick Radesca and with their involvement, SeniorNet National used the Huntington Facebook model to help launch it nationally and internationally.
- Nick Radesca explained his idea for a Study Plan called **Computer Essentials for Seniors (CES)**. Enrolled students who complete the 5 required courses within a 3-year period receive a **Certificate of Recognition** and a free course voucher. Several students who finished this study plan during the past 3 years were so honored.
- Otto Niebler provided an update and overview of his unique **Homebound Project** which can be explained as a



“virtual classroom.” Legislator Steve Stern, Suffolk County 16th District Legislator and Chairman of the Veterans and Seniors Committee was so impressed with this program that he invited SeniorNet to make a presentation to the full Suffolk County Legislature on November 8, 2010.

- Bill Baker talked about free SeniorNet User’s Group (SNUG) meetings that have been especially well attended and the popular AT&T workshop produced with the help of SeniorNet headquarters.

Award Presentations

- Don Stone presented graduating Computer Essential for Senior’s students Certificates of Recognition.
- In keeping with the Intergenerational Program, two local High School students were presented with SeniorNet’s Award for Special Achievement.
- The Phyllis Y. Haber award, bestowed annually to the person showing outstanding dedication and providing service to the senior community, was presented by Moss Rawn in the absence of last year winner Helen Morris to Jim Burke.

Guest List

The impressive guest list not only included our SeniorNet volunteers but also many

friends, government, business and community leaders as follows:

Government officials and their aides

- Andrew Raia, 9th District State Assemblyman and Barbara Hanna, Senior Aide
- Susan Berland, Huntington Town Board Councilwoman
- 16th District Legislator Steve Stern
- Bilal Malik Congressional Aide to US Representative Tim Bishop presented a Proclamation on behalf of Representative Tim Bishop
- Craig Sakowski Aide to US Representative Steve Israel
- Jillian Guthman-Avatom, Director of Human Resources, Town of Huntington
- Lynne Mouse, Director of Senior Services Town of Huntington
- Rhonda Shepardson, Town of Huntington Deputy Director of Human Services and Director of Women's Services

Family Service League

- FSL Board of Directors was represented by Barbara Page, Chairwoman Elect
- FSL Administration:
 - Karen Boorshtein, FSL President and Chief Executive Officer
 - Susan Edwards, FSL's VP of Development
 - Larry Daniels, FSL's Operation Director

Friends, business and community leaders

- Bob Keller, National Grid Foundation's Executive Director presented a \$9,000 grant check
- Jean Tesoriero National Grid Computer Donation Program Supervisor/Director in charge of the Santa's workshop
- Jim Zaniello, SeniorNet National Executive Director

- Carmela Azzarella, RSVP Volunteer Coordinator
- David Dickman, CEO Soft Baer
- Gisela Weidman, wife of Don Weidman founding co-coordinator

Unable to attend but send best wishes were:

- 1st District Assemblyman Marc Alessi
- 3rd District Legislator Kate Browning
- 5th District Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher
- 17th District Legislator Lou D'Amato
- 18th District Legislator Jon Cooper
- Brookhaven Town supervisor Marc Lesko

Photo Gallery



Barbara Page, FSL Chair Elect,; Leg. Steve Stern; Karen Boorshtein, FSL President and CEO; Susan Edward, FSL VP of Development, & Slava Vero



Audience



**Slava Vero and Karen Boorshtein, FSL
President and CEO**



**Barbara Page, FSL
Chairwoman Elect**



**Don Stone and CES
winner Dorothy Smith**



**Bill Baker and Susan Edward, FLS VP of
Development**



Don Stone and CES winner Zinna Etmon



**Jim Zaniello, SeniorNet National Executive
Director**



Slava Vero and Leg. Steve Stern



Moss Rawn and Jim Burke



Slava Vero and Councilwoman Susan Berland



Slava Vero and Bill Baker

Annual Holiday Luncheon December 3rd

Everyone was in a festive mood as they entered the restaurant for SeniorNet's annual holiday volunteer luncheon. The large Family Service League T.O.Y. Project receptacle overflowed into several plastic bags as attendees looked for somewhere to put their donated toys. Held on December 3, 2010 at the Olio Restaurant, 61 smiling volunteers chatted with each other before settling at long tables for their choice of soup or salad and 20 delicious pasta dishes plus wine and dessert. To oos and aahs, Otto Niebler announced his idea of creating a portable classroom. He explained that using recently donated laptop computers, an instructor/coach team would set up a SeniorNet classroom at a place containing seniors who cannot travel to our centers. Locations such as VA hospitals, Assisted Living Facilities, Senior Homes, etc. would qualify.

On behalf of SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. volunteers we would like to express our thanks to the Special Events Committee for organizing such an outstanding Holiday Party. The event went like clockwork, no glitches and everyone had a great time. We are all proud of this hardworking committee and look forward to future successful events. Thanks again for everything; no additional words can express our gratitude.

Photo Gallery



SeniorNet Welcomes New Marketing Team

On November 19, 2010 Jerry Leo hosted SeniorNet speaker's bureau in the recreation room at Leisure Glen, a 55+ residential development. The more than 60 residents who attended were treated to a presentation and seminar by Slava

Vero and Bill Baker, SeniorNet co-coordinators.

The presenters gave a PowerPoint presentation on the workings of SeniorNet, its

mission and the many courses, projects and events that are conducted by the not-for profit SeniorNet organization. The seminar consisted of examples of courses in Word, Excel, Power Point, Internet and E-Mail.

Jerry Leo and Mike Smoller are heading the marketing effort for our Yaphank Annex. As SeniorNet at FSL, L.I.'s new marketing team they embarked on a new and very aggressive campaign to promote and recruit senior students residing in the Town of Brookhaven. Our thanks go to Jerry and Mike for making it possible to recruit residents of Leisure Glen as possible students for our East Yaphank Annex.



National Grid Foundation 2010 Grant

At SeniorNet's 2010 Annual meeting, Bob Keller, National Grid Foundation's Executive Director, presented a check for \$9,000 grant for production of instruction manuals used at the Huntington and East Yaphank computer Learning Center. The manuals are an important teaching tool used by teachers, coaches and students. Our SeniorNet Roadrunners also displays these manuals at various community events they attend.



**National Grid Foundation Executive Director
Bob Keller presents a \$9,000 check
to Slava Vero, SeniorNet Co-Cordinator**

The National Grid Foundation's mission of "Education and Protection of the Environment" complements the work of SeniorNet volunteers, who provide seniors much needed computer education while the environment benefits through our joint Refurbishing/Donation Project, in which SeniorNet upgrades older National Grid computers for donation to not-for-profit groups. We would like to acknowledge the National Grid Foundation for their generosity.

SeniorNet Announcements Winter 2011

- ❖ SeniorNet **HUNTINGTON** "OPEN HOUSE" FOR STUDENT REGISTRATION IS **March 18th, 2011** from 10 AM to 2 PM. Everybody is welcome.

SeniorNet **EAST YAPHANK** "OPEN HOUSE" FOR STUDENT

REGISTRATION IS **March 11, 2011** from 10 AM to 2 PM. Everybody is welcome.

SeniorNet AT FSL, L.I. Winter Classes start January 4th, 2011

21st Century Job Skills Classes start **January 25th, 2011** Tuesdays 1PM – 3:30 PM.

SNUG Meetings and Seminars: every 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 3:30 PM.

Meetings take place in the Board room of Family Service League, 790 Park Avenue, NY 11743. (631) 427-3700 Ext. 268

Free to students, volunteers and guests, all are welcome.

Message from SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. Coordinators

Dear Friends,
Why is SeniorNet successful? It's a question worth considering. We believe it's because the name SeniorNet is identified with high quality and dedicated volunteers who consistently deliver the best in adult technology education. Since 1999, SeniorNet at FSL, L.I., has been at the forefront becoming the main Flagship Learning Center in the country, receiving numerous awards and nationwide recognition. Our model has been emulated by other Learning Centers and our initiatives have been copied by many. We dedicated 2010 as a Year of innovation and Leadership and it certainly was a banner year with following high points:

Initiatives:

- **21st Century Job Skills Course:** A new training course aimed at job-seeking seniors.
- **Facebook Page:** Developed by two of our volunteers who mentored other Learning Centers to establish similar pages;
- **Certificate Study Plan:** a 3-year program, when finished "graduates" receive a Certificate of Recognition

Recognition and a free course voucher

- **Homebound Project**: explained as a “virtual classroom” remote learning program became fully functional
- **SeniorNet User’s Group (SNUG)**: presented important topics such as how to protect against identity theft, special-use websites, Windows Live Movie Maker and more in monthly meetings that saw a 27% jump in attendance during 2010.
- **AT&T Workshop** Huntington Center launched the hugely popular cell phone workshop that is to be replicated at other SeniorNet centers.
- **Community Outreach** Our Roadrunners interacted with more than 5,000 seniors.
- **Speakers Bureau** Our volunteers spoke to more than 450 seniors at different venues.
- **East Yaphank Annex Grand Opening** was celebrated with many Town of Brookhaven elected officials, FSL Board members and staff as well as many SeniorNet volunteers.

In 2010, with our Yaphank annex growing in popularity, we saw class attendance increase 18% over 2009. Also new training course offerings jumped 44% over 2009.

As we come to the close of a fabulous year, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors, elected officials, foundations and especially our dedicated team of volunteers and look forward to another very successful and innovative 2011.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our friends a very Happy and Joyous Holiday Season.

Slava Vero
Moss I Rawn

Slava Vero and Moss Rawn

SeniorNet at FSL, L.I co-coordinators

The New SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. Web Site

Several months ago Jim Burke, Dan Wendol and Bill Baker formed a working group to redesign our web site. The site, which launched in September, was created using WordPress, the most popular Content Management System in use today. WordPress provides design templates and allows for easy updating of information, critical factors in its selection as our platform.

The screen shot below gives an overview of the breadth of information provided. The navigation tabs across the top of the page include information about us and our various courses. There is detailed information about each course offered in Huntington and East Yaphank for the upcoming semester. Visitors to the site can download and print a registration form. We also provide information for prospective volunteers.

The panel on the right side of the home page provides links to our Facebook page and to SeniorNet national headquarters. The panel on the left side of the home page provides a brief description of our organization and links to “hot” topics – in this case, information about our Open Houses (which were upcoming at the time this article was written) and the ability to purchase gift certificates for our courses.

We encourage you to visit us at seniornetli.org to see for yourself how our information is organized and presented. This is a great way for you to learn about the content of each course to see which ones are right for you.



Home About Us Winter Semester Homebound Program Register Volunteer Contact Us

Search this website... SEARCH

Welcome to SeniorNet at FSL

SeniorNet is an international, volunteer organization founded in 1986. It is one of the world's largest training organizations for adults 50 and over. SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. is recognized as one of the leading learning centers in the country. We offer a broad curriculum, with courses serving absolute beginners, sophisticated users, and everyone in between. We also offer courses over the Internet for home bound adults. Please explore our web site to learn more about our organization and the training we provide.

What's New at SeniorNetLI

- East Yaphank Open House – December 7, from 10:00 – 2:00
- Huntington Open House – December 10 and 13 from 10:00 – 2:00
- The holidays are coming. Give a SeniorNet gift certificate!

Join Us on Facebook

SeniorNetLI on Facebook

Check out SeniorNet National Headquarters

SeniorNet HQ

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 18th,

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR SENIORS

Winter 2011 ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIORNET AT FSL,L.I., ONCE AGAIN ANNOUNCES ITS REGISTRATION FOR EXCITING COMPUTER COURSES AND WORKSHOPS FOR SENIORS. HUNTINGTON AND E. YAPHANK FALL CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 2011.

NEW COURSES ARE ADDED EACH SEMESTER:

21ST CENTURY JOB SKILLS AND FACEBOOK.

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, February 28th, 2011

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