# SeniorNet LI's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Technology Portal for Older Adults

On Tuesday, November 1, 2016, award-winning SeniorNet LI at Family Service League proudly celebrated its seventeenth year of service to the senior community at its Annual Meeting at The Cinema Arts Centre.

#### Overview

While proud of our Center's achievements these past 17 years, SeniorNet National achieved an astonishing milestone of its own by celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016. In 1986, when it was founded in San Francisco, critics famously predicted its quick demise. They were wrong. The tech revolution proved to be bigger and longer lasting than they foresaw. On hand for this momentous occasion were SeniorNet National



Board Members: Vice-Chair Slava Vero, Treasurer Joseph Shaffery, and Public Relations Chair Paul Sladkus.

In keeping with the tradition of recognizing volunteers from different Learning Centers across the country, SeniorNet National Board members presented the prestigious President Award to three outstanding SeniorNet at FSL, L.I volunteers: Bill Baker, Sandie Baron and Nick Radesca for special services they provided to SeniorNet National. Earlier in 2016, a special award was given to this year's Curriculum Winners and participants - Diane Asser, Evelyn Mattal, Sandie Baron, Otto Niebler and Richie Levittan.

Here on Long Island, our SeniorNet facility gained momentum these past 17 years blossoming into a thriving organization that has continually expanded its approach to include new ways of providing tech education to seniors. Our comprehensive curriculum offers courses from Computer for beginners to advanced computer skills as well as all social media and "gadgets" such as the iPad, iPhone, Facebook, android phones and more.

## **Proceedings**

• After a short greet and meet with guests, SeniorNet LI Co-Coordinator, Pat McAsey, provided a quick overview of goings-on at our Learning Centers during 2016, followed by approval of 2015 minutes, the introduction of the next slate of officers nominated for 2017 – 2019.

• As required by SeniorNet at FSL, L.I by-laws, Slava Vero, SeniorNet Director provided an overview of grants received and how the money was used, a history of SeniorNet's mission of "Education, Protection of the Environment and Community Outreach.

Slava also mentioned new affiliations that SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. made in 2016 with:

- o Cinema Arts Centre
- o Fountaingate Gardens Independent Living facility
- o RSVP in locating suitable volunteers and refurbished computers
- The NAACP chapter in Huntington
- Slava then introduced invited guests, specifying their contributions and support for the year 2016. Recognized for their generous grants to SeniorNet and support of its mission were: nationalgrid Foundation, The Huntington Town Board, The Cindi and Slomo Silvian Foundation, The Pamela and Richard Rubinstein Foundation, Exxon/Mobil, Bank of America and for their volunteer hours donations. Also recognized were the Family Service League as the site sponsor that provides SeniorNet with infrastructure, Cinema Arts Centre, American Legion Eastport Post 1545, SeniorNet National as well as all SeniorNet volunteers, 50+ Senior Lifestyles and the administration of the Section 8 housing in Greenlawn.
- Moss Rawn, Education Committee Co-Chair, provided an overview of SeniorNet LI's operation, courses offered and those under development.

### Keynote

• Lane Filler, a columnist and editorial writer at Newsday provided his interesting views of today's media including the role it should be playing to dispel false stories proliferated through social media.



#### **Award Presentations**

- 12<sup>th</sup> District Assemblyman Andrew P. Raia presented SeniorNet with a Proclamation citing SeniorNet's contribution to the senior community.
- 18th District Legislator William "Doc" Spencer presented a Proclamation to SeniorNet at Family Service League and its volunteers. In addition, he presented Lane Filler with a proclamation for his contribution and writings to promote information and advice to seniors on Long Island.
- The Eric Vero technical award was presented to Lab Committee Co-Chair Jim Burke.

- The Phyllis Y. Haber Award was presented to Nick Radesca, Finance Committee Chair.
- A special recognition award was given to Katherine Cossi for the hours of free professional services compiling a comprehensive survey.
- In keeping with the Intergenerational Program, Northport HS students Patrick Gibbons and Nick Conrey and Nesconset HS student, Michael Inguanta were awarded Certificate of Achievements for the volunteer hours performed in the summer for 2016..

#### **Guest List**

Government officials and their aides:

- 12th District Assemblyman Andrew P. Raia and Barbara Hanna senior aide
- 16th District Legislator Steve Stern, Chairman of Veteran and Senior Affairs
- 18th District Legislator Dr. William Spencer
- Susan A. Berland, Huntington Town Board Councilwoman
- Tracey A. Edwards, Huntington Councilwoman, Town of Huntington
- Jillian Guthman -Abadom, Director of Human Resources, Town of Huntington
- Eugene Nally, representing 1st District Congressman Lee Zeldin

### Friends, business and community leaders

- Bob Keller, national grid Foundation's President
- Paul Sladkus, SeniorNet National Board of Directors
- Mary D'Agostino, Recreation Coordinator Section 8 housing
- Peggy Orsino, RSVP Executive Director
- Kathrine Cossi, Marketing Executive

## Family Service League

- FSL Board of Directors was represented by:
  - o Win Dookram, Judith Sonfield, Joe Shaffery, Slava Vero
- FSL President and CEO Karen Boorshtein
- FSL Administration
  - Larry Daniels, Grace Bary, IT Director, Maureen Crowley and Samantha Mohr

### **Picture Gallery**



Audience of 103 attendees



Slava Vero, Joe Shaffery and the 2016 National President's Award recipients Bill Baker, Sandie Baron and Nick Radesca



Eugene Nally, aide to 1st District Congressman Lee Zeldin



FSL President and CEO, Karen Boorshtein



12th District Assemblyman Andrew Raia, Slava Vero SeniorNet Director and Pat McAsey SeniorNet LI Coordinator



Bob Keller, national **grid** Foundation President



Susan Berland Huntington Town Board Councilwoman



Jillian Guthman-Abadom, Director of Human Resources Town of Huntington



Slava Vero and Huntington Town Board Councilwoman Tracey A. Edwards



Lane Filler receiving a Proclamation from 18th District Legislator William (Doc) Spencer



Claire Kerman presenting Nick Radesca with the Phyllis Y. Haber Award



Slava Vero presenting Jim Burke with the Eric Vero Award



Moss Rawn and Claire Kerman presenting election results



FSL Board Member Winston Dookram and Nick Radesca



Lane Filler being introduced by Bill Baker



Yvette Stone and Algretta Perett of the NAACP Huntington Chapter



Pat McAsey presenting a special recognition award to Katherine Cossi

