

**On the Docket for the
General Meeting**
Thursday, January 11, 2007

Vista Exposed

Presented by Constantine Kaniklidis
Microsoft Operating Systems Expert

Our January General Meeting will be a Joint Meeting with [NYACC](#), the New York Amateur Computer Club. The meeting will be at NYU on the Second Thursday of the month, not our usual date or location. The presentation will be by [Constantine Kaniklidis](#), who writes for PC Magazine.

Constantine Kaniklidis is a Microsoft Operating Systems Expert. His presentation will cover the new Windows Vista from Microsoft, including why and how to upgrade, a tour of best new features, upward compatibility issues and gotchas, and what to avoid. Topics include:

- A** Windows Vista Editions
- B** Upgrading: Hardware Requirements
- C** Aero, Glass, Sidebar and Powershell: The New User Interface
- D** IE 7: The Good, Bad and Ugly
- E** MP 11: Hot Functions, not so hot Digital Rights
- F** The New Backup and Restore Center
- G** Windows Mail
- H** Windows Vista Security
- I** Cautions: Vista Issues and gotchas

Like many of you I have been reading articles about Vista and wondering what I should install on the new machine I plan to buy in January. So here are some of my thoughts and questions. I am looking forward to January 11th for answers.

Ready or not, here comes Vista, Microsoft's new Windows operating sys-

tem. The corporate version has been released, and all new computers shipped after January 31 will have Vista. Many questions have arisen:

- ▶ Should you upgrade right away?
- ▶ Is your existing equipment Vista-ready?
- ▶ Will your existing printers, scanners, and other peripherals still work with the new OS?
- ▶ Which of the five versions of Vista will be best for your needs?
- ▶ How many bugs will be included, free of charge?
- ▶ If you are in the market for a new computer now, should you wait until February 1st so Vista will be included—or rush to place your order in January so that the new CPU will be shipped with Windows XP with its five-year track record?
- ▶ Will you get a free upgrade certificate for Vista, and how much trouble will it be for you to upgrade later?

Hmm ...lots of Hmm. The Vista interface has been reported to look really good. Mac users say it looks very familiar. So far, so good.

The Good

The new Google-like search feature is in a text box at the bottom of the *Start* menu. Type some key words or phrases, and Vista quickly finds every folder, file, or program that contains your phrase, including deeply nested folders. This may truly change the way you interact with your computer.

more...

Coming in February: Mini-Computer Classes at General Meeting

Want to learn something new? Want to keep your skills up to date? Attend NYPC's evening of mini-courses!

February's general meeting gives you the chance to meet the people who teach at NYPC. NYPC can offer classes

at below market prices, thanks to the generosity of skilled instructors willing to teach at a discounted rate. At this General Meeting you can meet many of these teachers, see how they present, and even ask them questions.

Inside NYPC



Volume 14 Issue 1
January 2007

General Meeting Info

- When:** Thursday, January 11, 2007
- Where:** NYU, Silver Building (Main Bldg) 32 Waverly Place, near NE corner of Washington Square Room 806
Photo ID required for NYU
- Schedule:** 7:00pm Presentation
- Subway:** 6 to Astor Place; N,R,W to W 8th; A,B,C,D,E,F,Q,V to W 4th St; 1,2 to Christopher St/Sheridan Square (*check with MTA or www.nyu.edu/about/travel.html*)
- Path:** Take 33rd St line to 9th St Sta
- Office:** (212) 643-7005
- Web site:** <http://www.nypc.org>

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, check our website at <http://www.nypc.org>.

Continued from page 1

There is a side bar with gadgets (Apple calls them widgets), small useful programs such as weather, stocks, photo gallery, and a DVD burner.

The Good and Some Bad

Security issues have been a big deal (thank goodness) with Microsoft's planning. However, not all is coming up roses here. It has always been true that the more security measures implemented, the more they get in the way of the user. Whenever you or a program wants to make a global change affecting the system, a dialog box pops up, stops everything else, and make you confirm the change. This sounds like a good safety feature, but many people will hate it and turn it off. Opps, you are back to skating on thin ice.

Controls are not where they used to be, but the *alt* key plus some other key will bring back the traditional menus. Some of the sidebar gadgets like Post-it Notes are useful, but if you close them, they are gone, gone, gone.

The Bad

Some favorite XP features have vanished. In his column David Pogue notes that "WordPad, the built-in word processor, can no longer open Microsoft Word files. That, evidently, is a ham-handed attempt to force you into buying Microsoft Office. (Let's hope the masses realize

that they have a free alternative at docs.google.com.)" (Editor's note: Some users of Open Office have reported that it runs fine under Vista...so there's another free alternative. Even if there are problems with OO, we can be assured that the OO community will update it promptly for use with Vista.)

Many legacy peripherals won't work or will need new drivers, and still may not work. Microsoft has tried to address this with a special web site, and you would be well advised to know what you are getting into.

More questions

What is the difference between Vista Ultimate, Premium, Business, Home Basic, Home Premium, and several other flavors? Which version will your old or new hardware support? These questions and many more will be discussed at our joint meeting on January 11th, 2007.

Our Speaker

Constantine Kaniklidis, a computer pro who writes for PC Magazine, will be our guide to Vista's new horizon. This is an opportunity to ask questions about a new operating system that will sooner or later affect us all.

Our thanks to Hank Kee and NYACC for organizing this meeting and inviting NYPC.

William Ginsberg, NYPC Program Chairman, program@NYPC.org

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streaming@earthlink.net

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

Web Sites

- Microsoft's Vista site: <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/>
- Independent Hardware Compatibility list: http://www.ixbeta.com/wiki/index.php/Windows_Vista_Build_5472_Hardware_Compatibility_List
- Which Vista: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2036157,00.asp>
- Pro & Con: http://www.itworld.com/Comp/2218/nls_windows_vista060501/index.html
- Anti-Vista Campaign: <http://www.pcpro.co.uk/news/100401/free-software-foundation-launches-antivista-campaign.html?searchString=vista>
- About the EULA: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/11/22/vista_eula_worries/
- EULA from Microsoft's Page: http://download.microsoft.com/documents/useterms/Windows_Vista_Business_English_e59f6893-6b14-4262-964c-993ed16d138a.pdf

Continued from page 2

The meeting will feature mini-classes, in which you will actually learn something.

Probable topics include:

- ▶ Getting Started with Open Office
- ▶ Artistic Effects with Photoshop/ Photoshop Elements
- ▶ Alternate Search Engines
- ▶ Excel: Spreadsheet Use in the Home
- ▶ Buying a Computer: Points to Consider
- ▶ Computer Protection Beyond Your Anti-Virus
- ▶ Upgrade Your Own Computer
- ▶ Backing Up Your Data Efficiently

NYPC Classes

To register or to request specific classes, phone 212 643-7005, x2, email classes@nypceducation.org, or register online at <http://www.nypceducation.org>.

For complete descriptions, click on class name at <http://www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings> or <http://www.nypceducation.org>.

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.

► 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 these many camera options to take better photos.

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

Choice of Two Wednesdays, January 10, 17, 9:30am-12:30pm
OR Two Thursdays, January 25, February 1, 1:30-4:30pm
Hands-on with your camera, \$59

► System/File Recovery with Knoppix

Your system has crashed and won't boot. You think it's only a boot problem, but how do you recover your data? How do you recover your system, if it's possible at all?

The answer may be Knoppix. You may know Knoppix as a live bootable CD, allowing you to boot your system into Linux without installing Linux onto your hard drive, and test drive, or even do real work with your booted Knoppix system.

But Knoppix can read your Windows drives and recover data. It can read the Windows registry, and can even repair corrupted Windows files. Want to know how? Register for this NYPC Knoppix class! Class includes an overview of Knoppix, some insight into how Linux works, and practical experience with using the Knoppix disc to access Windows on the hard drive.

\$69 price includes CD with Knoppix
Saturdays, January 20, 27, 1:00-4:00pm
Partially hands-on, \$69

► Photoshop for Digital Photographers: Getting Started

Learn the basics of Photoshop in this six-session hands-on course. The emphasis will be on manipulating photographs, but we may also look at art creation from scratch. You will learn how to enhance whole photographs, repair defects, use selections, and resize and scale images. Course includes: Working with layers; Understanding Color; Tonal adjustments with Levels and Curves; Simple and complex selections; Masking; Channels; Blend modes and styles. 6 sessions, Wednesdays and Mondays, January 17-31, February 5, 1:30-4:30pm
Hands-on, \$199

► Beyond Google: Advanced Internet Searching

Google is great, but sometimes it's overwhelming to get 100,000 hits! This course will look at alternatives to Google, meta search engines, clustering search engines, topic-specific searchers, and alternative ways to visualize results. We'll also look at directories (and when to use them), RSS feeds, and other ways to supplement search engines when you're seeking specific information on the web. Please bring some topics on which you'd like to search. Thursday, January 25th, 9:30-12:30pm
Hands-on, \$39

► Getting Started with Picasa - Anniversary Special

Picasa is a free downloadable application for the digital photographer. It has a superb photo organizer, used by some photographers who employ much more powerful image editing programs. It has an array of simple photoediting tools, which may be all that the casual photographer needs. This class will help you start using Picasa, from uploading photos from your camera, to enhancing and e-mailing them. Wednesday, January 31, 6:00-9:00pm
Hands-on, \$25

Classes "on Demand" at NYPC

NYPC offers a wide variety of computer courses, but we don't always offer what you want *when* you want it.

We're trying an experiment. In addition to the classes listed here, we're going to offer "classes on demand."

If there's a course you'd like to take that you don't see listed, please let us know via phone at 212-643-7005, x2 or e-mail at classes@nypceducation.org.

If we can find at least three students to take the course, and a teacher, we'll offer it.

Also, please complete the survey on page 9 and mail it in. This will greatly help our planning (This survey will soon be posted on <http://www.nypceducation.org>, as well.)

NYPC Meetings, Seminars/Classes & Other Events **January 2007**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2 NYPC Board	3 Visual Basic Palm	4 Enterprise Windows C++/Java GM	5	6
7 A+	8 TechTips Access	9 Genealogy ODK Exchange Excel	10 Alpha DIG CAMERA	11 NYPC Gen Meeting DeLUGE	12?	13
14 A+	15 Ventura	16 Perl Investment	17 Speech Recognition DIG CAMERA PHOTOSHOP	18 MetaStock	19	20 KNOPPIX
21 A+	22 PHOTOSHOP Java Projects Adv Tech & Tech	23 Wireless NYPC Board	24 PHOTOSHOP	25 ADV NET SEARCH DIG CAMERA	26	27 KNOPPIX
28 A+	29 PHOTOSHOP	30 Photog/Graph	31 PHOTOSHOP PICASA	1 DIG CAMERA Enterprise Windows C++/Java	2	3

Calendar Legend

Plain = SIG Meeting *Italic = Other Meetings*
 Bold = NYPC Class **Black background = General Meeting**

The calendar shows the events that were scheduled at press time. Sometimes there are last minute changes, so please check the online calendar at www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings. If the SIG meeting you want to attend is not listed, contact the SIG chair. **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
 MS Microsoft, 1290 6th Ave. (51st/52nd Str), 6th Fl
 PS41 116 West 11th Street, west of 6th Avenue

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 online Calendar at <http://www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings>, and clicking on the SIG of interest. Details appear in a pop-up. Updates, changes, cancellations, or topics to replace TBA, are announced here. If we have your e-mail address, we will also send you occasional meeting updates and 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.

In addition, be sure that your name is on the SIG Chair's attendee list.

AXS Access

Linda Ewen, LindaEwen@nyc.rr.com
Monday, January 8th, 6:30 PM
Location: MS
Topic TBA

ATT Advanced Technologies and Techniques

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

ADB Alpha Database

Barry Rochford, brochford1@comcast.net
Wednesday, January 10th, 6:00 PM
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

BEG Beginners SIG

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

CSG C++/Java: Gen'l Mtg

<http://www.cppsig.org>
<http://nycjava.org/certification>
See also our Yahoo group: [nycjava_org](http://nycjava.org)
Thursday, January 4th, 6:00 PM
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

CSG C++/Java: Java Projects

Dario LaVerde, dario@nycjava.net
Monday, January 22nd, 6:00 PM
Location: NYPC
Java Projects Study Group (hands-on coding on our open source projects)

ODK C++/JAVA: Object Data Knowledge Management

Carlos Jerome, cjinterf@panix.com
Tuesday, January 9th, 5:30 PM
Place/Topic TBA. Contact leader.

LUG DeLUGE (Desktop Linux Users Group for End Users)

<http://www.delugeny.org>
Mark Halegua, phantom21@mindspring.com
Thursday, January 11th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
GNUCash

EMB Embedded Systems

Lee Thalblum, lee_t@bigfoot.com
On hiatus. Contact leader

EWN Enterprise Windows

Stephen Goodwin, srg@winny.com; Tony Iams, tony@dhbrown.com; <http://nyewin.org/>
Thursday, January 4th, 6:00 PM
Location: MS
Topic TBA

EXC Excel

Al Vachris, Excel1Star@cs.com
Tuesday, January 9th, 6:00 PM
Location: MS
Excel in Office 2007 (tentative)

ART Microsoft Exchange

Ben Serebin, exchangeug@reefsolutions.com
<http://www.nyexug.com>
Tuesday, January 9th, 6:00 PM
Location: MS
Topic TBA

GFH Genealogy

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~metrony/>
David Kleiman, roots@heritagemuse.com
Tuesday, January 9th, 6:00 PM
Location: TBA (RSVP required)
David Kleiman: Cultural Clues to Genealogy
A multimedia evening, joint with Peter Minuet Chapter of the DAR

HRD Hardware

<http://www.smartgroups.com/groups/hugnypc>
Kevin Raguette, Rags6600@hotmail.com
Date/topic TBA

NET Internet

Mary Ginsburg, lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net;
Tony Holley, tholley@citytech.cuny.edu
On hiatus. Contact leader

INV Investment

Phyllis Pawlovsky, PGP106@cs.com. SIG follows the investment principles of the National Association of Investment Corp.
Tuesday, January 16th, 6:15
Location: MS
Investing for Life: BetterInvesting's Own Your Share of America

Check the Online Calendar!

Be sure to check the online calendar for updates. Many SIGs do not yet have their January topics, so check regularly at <http://www.calsplus.com/nypcmeetings>

MKT Marketing Committee!

Murray Strelitz, marketing@nypc.org
Date TBA
E-mail Murray for information

MTA MetaStock

Al Kinzinger, Jr, bigaljr@attglobal.net
Thursday, January 18th, 7:00 PM
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

BRD NYPC Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 23rd, 6:30 PM
Location: TBA
Members are welcome to attend, but please e-mail pres@nypc.org

GEN NYPC GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, January 11th, 7:00 PM
Location: NYU, Silver Building, 32 Waverly Place, near NE corner of Washington Square Room 806
VISTA Exposed

PDA Palm Pilot

<http://nypc.org/palm.htm>. Ted Cohn and Grace Lee, nypcpda@yahoo.com
Wednesday, January 3rd, June 7th
Location: NYPC
More music on your Palm with aacPlus

PRL Perl Seminar NY

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/perlsemny>
James E. Keenan, jkeen@verizon.net
Alex Gill, alexgill@nyc.rr.com
Tuesday, January 16th, 6:15
Location: NYPC
Topic TBA

PHT Photography & Graphics

Mary Ginsburg, lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net;
Tony Holley, tholley@citytech.cuny.edu
Tuesday, January 30th; 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Hands-on use of Blend Modes

PHO Photoshop

http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/photoshop_sig.html; Laura Balsam, nypc@hookbuilt.com
Dates/topics TBA

...SIG Directory, continued

STR Streaming Media Plus

Sonia Thompson, soniathp@verizon.net
On hiatus

PAS TechTips

Kathy Petruzzi, kathypetruzzi@hotmail.com;
Michael Ostrowe, mjostrowe@earthlink.net
Monday, January 8th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
General Discussion of PC Technology

VP1 Ventura

Allison Moore, amoore@nyc.rr.com
Monday, January 15th, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Frames and frame tags
Tentative: phone office or check online
calendar before coming

BAS Visual Basic

David Kulick, dgkulick@hotmail.com
Wednesday, January 3rd, 6:15 PM
Location: MS
Using Webparts to personalize ASP.Net
applications

WMM Web Design for the 21st Century

Melody Reed, Webdesign@melodyreed.com
Date/Topic TBA

WFI Wireless

Ted Cohn, TedCohn@earthlink.net
Tuesday, January 23rd, 6:30 PM
Location: NYPC
Managing your E-mail on your cell phone

XML XML/Web Services

Mahesh Chhatlani, nypcxml@hotmail.com
On hiatus. E-mail Mahesh if interested

Other Organizations

NPC Non-Profit Computing

John L. German, 212-759-2368
Includes:

JOB Career Development Group

Tuesday, January 9, 23, 5:00 PM
Church of St. Paul & St. Andrew, 263 West
86th Street at West End Avenue
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



Needed Equipment

If anyone knows of someone
wishing to donate the following
equipment—in working condi-
tion—to a nonprofit, please let
Len Ginsburg know at
LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net
or 212-643-7005.

- HP LaserJet 4+ Printer
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Payment: Check enclosed (payable to Gotham NYPC) Visa, Mastercard, Discover, AMEX
 Card number _____ Exp date _____
 Billing address (if different from above) _____
 Computing Interests: _____

If a gift: Name of giver: _____
 Send gift certificate to: Giver Recipient

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 a membership.



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516-205-4709; Mahesh@SoftwarePundits.com;
www.SoftwarePundits.com

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❖ INTERNET

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10024-1336; 212-787-0700;

DickJones@pia.net; <http://www.pia.net>

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Home Networking Annoyances

How to Fix the Most Annoying Things About Your Home Network

by Kathy Ivens (O'Reilly, 2005)

This delightful book is NOT a primer on setting up a home network. Rather, it is intended for those who have a home network and find that, in the author's words, "Network maintenance is an ongoing chore, like housework. And network maintenance is just as annoying and boring as housework."

The book contains a potpourri of valuable advice, including help with cabling and other hardware, details about router configuration, and such practical hints as "Drilling through tile requires special tools." O'Reilly's *The Annoyance/The Fix* format is excellent for this book, and the reader can either scan the table of contents or the index to find a particular problem and its answer. It is not a book to read from cover to cover, but a quick scan after purchase will help in finding answers when problems arise.

The book is well-written, with a dash of humor here and there. Ivens clearly explains such simple concepts as

how to recognize an ethernet port ("If it looks like a phone jack, it might be a phone jack.") and such complex topics as how to map a drive or ping the network. Most usefully, the book covers file and print sharing, printing over the network, both wired and wireless security, and backing up over the network. The "Troubleshooting Network Connectivity" subsection is excellent. An appendix tells how to expand your network and deals with compatibility issues.

Of course, much of the information in the book can also be fruitfully applied to small office networks. Having this book sitting on the shelf near your router can prevent many hours of frustration. (And the humor can take the edge off the annoyance!) *Mary Ginsburg, NYPC Treasurer, treasurer@nypceducation.org*

We're Annoyed!

And Tech Publisher [O'Reilly](#) has a host of remedies. The books in their [Annoyance Series](#) are useful, well-written, and engaging. Steve Bass's *PC Annoyances*, previously reviewed in *Inside NYPC*, had me laughing while I followed his expert advice.

I'm eagerly awaiting the day when O'Reilly veers from tech annoyances to tackle other areas of life: Office Relation Annoyances, Transit Rider Annoyances. (Is there a good way to tell the talker across the aisle that bus rules prohibit cell phone use?) In the meantime, however, the computer annoyance books continue to delight and inform.

Computer Privacy Annoyances

by Dan Tynan (O'Reilly, 2005)

One book that I would buy for every public library if I were wealthy is *Computer Privacy Annoyances* by Dan Tynan. This book is scary, even for the reader who has kept up, more or less, with the growth in threats to personal privacy. It details ways in which our most private personal data is being captured, sold, and used by what Tynan calls "The Data Industrial Complex." Happily, it also presents myriad ways to protect yourself—or at least limit the damage.

Not Just Computer Attacks

It does not limit itself to warnings about data collection and PHISHING schemes via computer, but details the ways in which we surrender personal facts on paper forms. Our personal data has been at risk for decades, but by aggregating data and enabling targeted searches, computers facilitate the misuse, theft, or even technically legitimate use of disparate personal data. Tynan points out that "We've all been trained to fork over our personal information since kindergarten, filling out form after form....The problem is that in the USA, once you give up your personal information it no longer belongs to you."

The book covers the risks inherent in the use of paper forms, online forms, wireless devices, phones, grocery store discount cards, credit cards....the list goes on and on. Depending on the laws of your state, your driving record, property ownership, gender, birthday, social security number, and/or height and weight may be accessed legally and easily by total strangers. It seems that money will buy any information—often from agencies we thought we could trust. Among Tynan's examples is the \$38,000 price for the names and addresses of all registered Republican voters (about 1.5 million) in North Carolina.

Tynan details loopholes and gaps in the laws, such as HIPPA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), that were intended to protect our privacy. He tells which government agencies have particularly poor security records. (The House Committee on Government Reform gave the Department of Homeland Security an F in 2003.) Employers and prospective employers often overstep the bounds of what is legal for them to ask; Tynan describes how to deal with this.



Fixing the Problems

The most valuable portions of this book are the Fixes. Of course, the book devotes many pages to computer privacy, including passwords, data encryption, spam, spyware, cookies, WiFi security, and more. In addition, Tynan offers advice on social-legal aspects of privacy protection, including what information you can decline to give, and when to do so. (A good rule of thumb is "Don't share your information with anyone who does not require it.") He gives websites where you can download "do not share my data" forms such as the "Patient Request for Non-Disclosure of Medical Records" published by the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons.

Eternal Vigilance

In an era when every week brings news of another major security breach somewhere in the country, the price of privacy is vigilance. Tynan gives detailed advice about guarding our own data, and tells how to link with organizations fighting against further erosion of our rights. Unlike the other Annoyance books, this has a strong political component, which seems essential. All the firewalls in the world cannot protect against a government agency that demands more information than it needs and then loses or sells it.

Read This Book!

One criticism of this book is its use of O'Reilly's usual Annoyance format. The author's writing style is so engaging and thorough that I felt somewhat "let down" when, after the first chapter, Tynan switched from typical narrative to the unique Annoyance format of Annoyance/Fix. This particular format, though very useful in other books, seemed to break the author's natural flow and humor.

Otherwise, I love this book. It is useful...indeed, vital. Every person, computer user or not, who values his/her privacy should buy and read it. *Mary Ginsburg, NYPC Treasurer, treasurer@nypceducation.org*

Discount for NYPC Members

O'Reilly offers a substantial discount to user group members. Get 30% off a single book or 35% off two or more books you purchase directly from O'Reilly. Use code DSUG when ordering online or by phone 800-998-9938. Free ground shipping on orders \$29.95 or more in the US.

What Classes Would You Like?

NYPC's Education Committee is committed to offering classes which fulfill the needs and desires of our members and friends. We ask for feedback about desired courses in our membership and renewal forms, but we'd like to know more. It would help if you would complete the form below and send it to NYPC, 481 8th Ave.-B25, New York, NY 10001.

(Optional) Name _____ E-mail _____

May we contact you when we schedule a class in which you've expressed an interest? Yes No

Classes For Beginners

- Getting started with computers
- E-mail: Getting started
- Basics of Using the Web

Hardware Understanding and Maintenance

- Building Your Own Computer
- Buying a Computer
- Maintaining computer hardware
- A+ Certification Class

Using Your Operating System

- Setting Up Your New Computer
- Understanding/Configuring Windows
- Degunking Windows
- File and Disk Management
- Linux: Getting Started
- Linux Shell Scripting
- System Recovery with Knoppix

Computer Security

- Backing Up
- The Anti-Course: Anti-viruses, anti-spam, etc.

Office Skills

- Networking: Wired & Wireless
- Adobe Acrobat: From PDFs to Multimedia

▷ Open Office:

- Word Processing
- Spreadsheet
- Effective Presentations with Impress
- Drawing
- Database

▷ MS Office:

- Word Basics
- Page Layout and Advanced Formatting
- Efficient Letters with Word
- Excel: for Beginners & Refreshers; Next Steps
- Advanced Excel/Special Topics
- Access Your Data with Access
- Manage Information with Outlook
- Effective Presentations with Powerpoint

The Internet: Effective Use

- Efficient Browsing: Boss Your Browser
- Effective Internet Searching: Basic to Advanced
- Topic-Specific Internet Research: Health, Business...
- EBay: Buying and Selling

The Internet: Web development

- Your Own Domain
- Your Own Simple Webpage HTML Basics
- Dreamweaver: Website Development
- Flash Coldfusion Programming

Digital Photography/Graphics

- Digital Cameras: Choosing/Using
- Photoshop Photoshop Elements
- Photo Organization/Enhancement with Simple Apps
- Digital Scrapbooking
- Making Your Own Greeting Cards
- Vector Drawing: Illustrator Xara
- Video Editing: Premiere/Premiere Elements

Desktop Publishing

- Corel Ventura Publisher
- Adobe InDesign

Mobile Computing

- Buying and Owning a Laptop
- Cell Phone Proficiency
- Your Personal Digital Assistant and You

Professional-level courses

- Programming in C#
- Getting Started with Visual Basic: VB.NET
- Perl with a Purpose Javascript
- Project Management for IT Professionals

Running Your Business

- QuickBooks Other Bookkeeping App
- Marketing on the Internet

Personal Enrichment

- Convert Your Old LPs & Cassettes to CDs!

Any Suggestions We've Omitted

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Featured SIGs

Try a new SIG this month!

Both of these SIGs meet at NYPC at 6:30 PM

Palm SIG, Wed., Jan. 3

There's a new audio format in town—aacPlus, which is far superior to mp3! It gives smaller music files AND superior fidelity. Now you can have more songs in the same memory footprint. Come see what the newest audio technology has to offer! Hearing is believing.

DeLUGE SIG, Thurs., Jan. 11

Come learn about GNUCash, an Open-Source (free) application for tracking your money—both personal and business.

Thanks to all our Volunteers:

To the many who helped with NYPC Outreach by Gift-Wrapping at Barnes & Noble, our heartfelt gratitude:

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Laura Miner
Phyllis Silver
Henry Schlakman
Kathleen Stolarski
Ruth Lowell
Len Lowell
Celia Wu
Jane Wu

coming attractions

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

Thurs., February 15

Mini-classes in computer topics

Let us know what you'd like to see!

Send an e-mail to Bill Ginsberg, wzg128@aol.com.

