

On the Docket for the  
**General Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 18, 2008**  
**Learn a New Language**  
*with Rosetta Stone*

**W**ant to learn French, Spanish, or Italian...or even Hebrew, Arabic, or Russian? Perhaps you're planning a stay in Italy...or you realize that your career might advance with facility in Spanish. Or maybe you just want to pick up German where you left it years ago.

At NYPC's September General Meeting we'll learn about a powerful computer-based training option.

### *Teaching by Total Immersion*

Try [Rosetta Stone](#) computer-based language training! Using Rosetta Stone's Dynamic Immersion® techniques, you learn in the way you acquired your first language, by viewing pictures while hearing, seeing, and speaking the relevant words. The method is interactive and intuitive, and reviewers state that it is engaging and successful.

The software comes with a headset and demands input from the listener. Feedback on pronunciation and language comprehension is instantaneous, not late in the process via tests. The user can actually have fun as he/she starts to acquire facility with the language early in the process. The software's training integrates all aspects of language acquisition: hearing with understanding, speaking, reading, and writing.

### *Preserving Endangered Languages*

Interestingly, through its Endangered Language Program, the software company is partnering with communities whose languages are endangered to preserve and promulgate the native tongues. Thus Rosetta Stone has developed customized software for such indigenous peoples as the Kahnawake community of Mohawks in Quebec, the Inupiaq of northwest Alaska, and the Chitimacha tribe of Louisiana. The distribution and sales rights remain with the communities. The story of the recovery of the Sitimaxa language of the Chitimachas is fascinating and worth reading at

<http://www.imaginelouisiana.com/coverissues/languagefound.html>

### *System Requirements*

Rosetta Stone is available for 31 languages. It works on both MAC OS X 10.4/5 and 32-bit Windows. It is also available online by subscription.

Representatives from Rosetta Stone will demonstrate this exciting program at NYPC's September General Meeting.

Come to this FREE meeting to learn more about this useful application!  
Mary Ginsburg, [nypc@nypceducation.org](mailto:nypc@nypceducation.org)

# Inside NYPC



Volume 15 Issue 8  
September 2008

## General Meeting Info

**When:** Thursday, September 18, 2008

**Where:** PS 41, 116 W 11th Street  
West of 6th Avenue

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

**Subway:** A,B,C,D,E,F,Q,V to West 4th St  
1,2,3,9,L to 14th St @7th Ave  
(check with MTA)

**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>.

NYPC holds great General Meetings—and they're Free. This is truly one of New York's Best Bargains.

### **Join NYPC in Macy's Shop for a Cause Day, Sat., Sept. 20!**

Your participation benefits *both you and* NYPC. (Details, p. 7)

Enjoy a terrific day of shopping—and fun—at Macy's (or [macys.com](http://macys.com)), with:

- Discounts on most items: See Shop for a Cause pass for details
- Special drawing, events, and entertainment in Macy's stores
- Open House & Flea Market at NYPC: Stop before or after Macy's shopping
  - ▶ Refreshments
  - ▶ CD with freeware utilities
  - ▶ Free tech advice from some of our gurus

NYPC keeps the entire proceeds from sale of passes. This enables us to continue to provide a community of computer users who help each other.



<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-etail, 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 OSes. 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**

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[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. \$

## NYPC Officers

### President

Leftonred Atanycorner  
[vp@nypc.org](mailto:vp@nypc.org)

### Vice-President

### Corresponding Secretary

Ted Cohn  
[correspond@nypc.org](mailto:correspond@nypc.org)

### Membership Secretary

Kathy Petrucci  
Michael Horowitz  
[members@nypc.org](mailto:members@nypc.org)

### Treasurer

Len Ginsburg  
[treasurer@nypceducation.org](mailto:treasurer@nypceducation.org)

## Other NYPC Board Members & Volunteers

### Past President

Leftonred Atanycorner  
[vp@nypc.org](mailto:vp@nypc.org)

### Volunteer Coordinator

Len Ginsburg  
[treasurer@nypceducation.org](mailto:treasurer@nypceducation.org)

### Program Chair

William Ginsberg  
[programs@nypc.org](mailto:programs@nypc.org)

### Publications

Inside NYPC  
[nypc@nypceducation.org](mailto:nypc@nypceducation.org)

### Webmaster

Michael Horowitz  
[Michael@nypc.org](mailto:Michael@nypc.org)

### Education

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### Marketing

Murray Strelitz  
Grace Lee  
[marketing@nypc.org](mailto:marketing@nypc.org)

### SIG Chair Representatives

Laura Balsam(Photoshop)  
[laura@hookbuilt.com](mailto:laura@hookbuilt.com)

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

## A decade ago in the tech magazines

- ▶ Why buy Windows 98
- ▶ \$3899 would get you a 266MHz Pentium II with a 4GB HD, 64 MB RAM, 20x CD-ROM drive, 56 K modem, Windows 95...plus a 13.3" display and stereo speakers

- ▶ Two 1-megapixel cameras received good reviews: HP PhotoSmart C20 at \$699 and Konica Q-M100 at \$799.95

- ▶ In the Letters section:

"We need an operating system that manages our hardware and software, not a video arcade. We need to spend less time playing with our OS so we can get on with real work."

## NYPC Classes

To register or to request specific classes, e-mail [classes@nypceducation.org](mailto:classes@nypceducation.org), phone 212-643-7005, x2, or go to <http://www.nypceducation.org>, where you can find complete descriptions under Courses.

Prices below are for NYPC members; if you are not a member, please add registration fee of \$10.

### ⇒ What to do with All Those Vacation Photos

You have a new digital camera, and you're enjoying taking snapshots the new way. They look great in the camera screen. *Now what?* You don't want to learn Photoshop—or even Elements—but you want to tweak and manage your new photos. This course will help! We'll show how to get your photos onto the computer, try out some easy-to-use photo management and enhancement tools, and help you find the one that's best for you. Then we'll discuss ways to print them. (Bring your camera to class.)  
2 Tuesday mornings, September 9, 16, 10:00am-1:00pm  
Hands-on, \$59

### ⇒ EBay All Day

*A comprehensive workshop on using eBay*  
Online auctions have become the hot pastime of millions of Americans and millions more all around the world. While there are other internet auction sites to choose from, eBay remains the top choice by far for those who want to experience the greatest successes. This course will introduce you to the world of eBay, explaining the history and basic operations, how to register with eBay and Paypal, how to create descriptions that sell, how to photograph your items and upload your listings as well as shipping tips. Particular emphasis will be placed on safety and security, protecting your identity, and what to do when things do go wrong. The instructor, Fred Kahn, is a long-time NYPC member, eBay Power Seller, Trading Assistant and eBay Instructor, trained by eBay.  
Sunday, September 14, 10am-5:00pm with a break for lunch  
FREE for NYPC members, plus \$10 registration fee  
\$55 for nonmembers...includes 1-year NYPC membership  
Materials fee: \$10 cash payment to the instructor for a book by Ebay education

### ⇒ 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 sessions, Fridays, September 5, 12, 1:00-4:00pm  
Hands-on with your camera, \$59

### ⇒ Getting Started with Linux

Have you been thinking about using Linux but hesitate to "take the plunge"? Does it seem too geeky for you? With a Windows-like GUI (graphical user interface), and more preloaded applications, Linux has become much easier to use than in the past. This course will help you get started, from choosing a distribution to loading, configuring, and using it. We will probably use Ubuntu.

2 sessions, Tuesdays, September 16, 23, 6:00-9:00pm  
Mostly hands-on, \$79

### ⇒ Getting Started with Excel

Microsoft Excel can help you manage and analyze your data. In this course, you will learn how to enter data into an Excel worksheet and modify and format it, perform calculations, develop a work-

book, create reports, and more. We plan to use Excel 2003, but please tell registrar if you use a different version.  
4 Wednesdays & Mondays, September 17-29, 10:00am-1:00pm  
Hands-on, \$129

### ⇒ 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.

4 Thursdays, September 11, 18, 25, October 2, 10:00-1:00pm **OR**  
3 Sundays, September 28, October 5, 12, 12:30-5:00pm (incl. breaks)  
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 Thursdays, September 11, 18, 25, 2:00-5:00pm  
Hands-on, \$99

### ⇒ 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.

**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 engines, topic-specific searchers, and exciting new ways to visualize results...also directories, RSS feeds, and more.

Wednesday afternoons, September 10, 17, 2:00-5:00pm  
Price per hands-on session, \$35 for 1; \$30 each for more than one

### ⇒ Using TECH Sites to Solve Computer Problems

Of course, the best resource for tech help is NYPC, but where do you go at 2 AM? There's a wealth of helpful, specific information on the web, but finding the most useful sites often depends on knowing how to structure your search and choose the best sites. This session will show you how!

Monday, September 15, 2:00-5:00pm  
Hands-on, \$35

### ⇒ 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, September 24, 3:30-5:30pm  
Anniversary Special: 1 session, only \$25

# NYPC Meetings, Seminars/Classes & Other Events September 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2 Premiere Class (4)	3 Visual Basic PDA/ Phones/Wireless	4 Enterprise Windows Java GM	5 <b>DIG CAMERA</b> Marketing Comm	6
	8 Photoshop (D) Access MAC	9 <b>Vacation PHOTOS (1)</b> Genealogy Exchange Excel	10 <b>NET SEARCH: Google</b> Alpha	11 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (1)</b> <b>POWERPOINT (1)</b> DeLUGE	12 <b>DIG CAMERA</b> QuickBooks	13
14 <b>eBay All Day</b>	15 <b>TECH HELP ON WEB</b> Ventura	16 <b>Vacation PHOTOS (2)</b> Web Dev <b>Investment</b> <b>LINUX (1)</b>	17 <b>EXCEL (1)</b> <b>NET SEARCH: Adv</b> Speech Recognition	18 General Meeting <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (2)</b> <b>POWERPOINT (2)</b>	19	20 <b>Macy's Shop for a Cause with NYPC Open House</b>
21 <b>PC Clinic</b>	22 <b>EXCEL (2)</b> QuickBooks (D) Photog/Graph Adv Tech & Tech	23 Photoshop (D) <b>LINUX (2)</b>	24 <b>EXCEL (3)</b> <b>Intro to TREO</b> Web Lounge	25 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (3)</b> <b>POWERPOINT (3)</b> TechTips	26 Social Networking	27
28 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (1)</b>	29 <b>EXCEL (4)</b>	30 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	October 1 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	October 2 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (4)</b> Enterprise Windows Java GM	October 3	October 4
5 <b>P'SHOP ELEMENTS (2)</b>	6 Access	7 Web Dev Genealogy	8	9 <i>Yom Kippur</i>	10	11

**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](http://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 send you occasional meeting updates and reminders. See Location Legend at 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)  
 Monday, September 8th, Oct. 6th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Topic TBA

### ATT Advanced Technologies and Techniques

Jessie Shereff, [jshereff@gmail.com](mailto:jshereff@gmail.com)  
 Monday, September 22nd, 6:30 PM  
 Location: MS  
 General discussion of PC technology.

### ADB Alpha Database

Barry Rochford, [brochford1@comcast.net](mailto:brochford1@comcast.net)  
 Wednesday, September 10th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Dr. Peter Wayne: Scanning documents into MySQL through ALPHA

### LUG DeLUGE (Desktop Linux Users Group for End Users)

<http://www.delugeny.org>  
 Mark Halegua, [phantom21@mindspring.com](mailto:phantom21@mindspring.com)  
 Thursday, September 11th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

### EWN Enterprise Windows

<http://nyewin.org/>  
 Edwin Wu, [nyewin@live.com](mailto:nyewin@live.com)  
 Thursday, September 4th, Oct. 2nd, 6:00 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Topic TBA

### EXC Excel

Al Vachris, [Alfred.Vachris@gmail.com](mailto:Alfred.Vachris@gmail.com)  
 Tuesday, September 9th, October 14th, 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, September 9th, October 14th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: MS  
 9/9: Intro to PowerShell for Exchange 2007

### GFH Genealogy

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~metrony/>  
 David Kleiman, [roots@heritagemuse.com](mailto:roots@heritagemuse.com)  
 Tuesday, September 9th, Oct. 7th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

### HRD Hardware

Kevin Raguette, [Rags6600@hotmail.com](mailto:Rags6600@hotmail.com)  
 Date/topic TBA  
 Hands-on hardware

### INV Investment

Phyllis Pawlovsky, [PGP106@cs.com](mailto:PGP106@cs.com). SIG follows the investment principles of the National Association of Investment Corp.  
 Tuesday, September 16th, 6:15 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Topic TBA

### CSG Java: Gen'l Mtg

<http://www.nycjava.net>  
 See also our Yahoo group: [nycjava.org](http://nycjava.org)  
 Dario LaVerde, [dario@nycjava.net](mailto:dario@nycjava.net)  
 Thursday, September 4th, Oct. 2nd, 6:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

### CSG Java Study Group(s)

Dario LaVerde, [dario@nycjava.net](mailto:dario@nycjava.net)  
 Dates TBA  
 Location: NYPC  
 For more information and dates, e-mail Dario

### ODK JAVA: Object Data Knowledge Management

Carlos Jerome, [cjinterf@panix.com](mailto:cjinterf@panix.com)  
 Dates TBA  
 Place/Topic TBA. Contact leader.

### LNK LINUX

We hope to resume this SIG soon.  
 If interested, e-mail [nypc@nypceducation.org](mailto:nypc@nypceducation.org)

### MKT Marketing Committee

Murray Strelitz, Grace Lee,  
[marketing@nypc.org](mailto:marketing@nypc.org)  
 Friday, September 5th, 6:30 PM  
 E-mail Murray for information

### BRD NYPC Board Meeting

Date TBA  
 Members are welcome to attend, but please e-mail [correspond@nypc.org](mailto:correspond@nypc.org) for information

### GEN NYPC GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, September 18th, 6:00 PM  
 Location: PS 41  
 Learn a Language with Rosetta Stone

### PDA Palm/Treo/Centro/Wireless

<http://nypc.org/palm.php>. Ted Cohn and Grace Lee, [nypcpalmpilot@gmail.com](mailto:nypcpalmpilot@gmail.com)  
 Wednesday, September 3rd, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

### PRL Perl Seminar NY

[www.techgroups.yahoo.com/group/perlseminy/](http://www.techgroups.yahoo.com/group/perlseminy/)  
 James E. Keenan, [jkeen@verizon.net](mailto:jkeen@verizon.net)  
 Alex Gill, [ag@tkwx.us](mailto:ag@tkwx.us)  
 Next meeting: Tuesday, October 21st

### PHI Photography & Graphics

Mary Ginsburg, [lm\\_ginsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:lm_ginsburg@earthlink.net);  
 Tony Holley, [tholley@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:tholley@citytech.cuny.edu)  
 Monday, September 22nd, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 More online photo enhancers, including Adobe Photoshop Express & Picnik.com

### PHO Photoshop

[http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/photoshop\\_sig.html](http://www.hookbuilt.com/nypc/photoshop_sig.html); Laura Balsam, [nypc@hookbuilt.com](mailto:nypc@hookbuilt.com)  
 Monday, September 8th, Tuesday, September 23, 1:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 9/8: Photoshop CS3 HDR & The Bridge  
 9/23: Photoshop CS3 New Selection Options & HDR Videos and Discussion  
 Join us at 11:45 AM in the TickTock for socializing prior to the meeting.

### QBB QuickBooks

Len Ginsburg, [LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net](mailto:LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net)  
 Friday, September 12th, 6:30 PM;  
 Monday, September 22nd, 2:00 PM (Day)  
 QB Reports: Choosing and Using

### SNT Social Networking

Leftonred Atanycorner, [vp@nypc.org](mailto:vp@nypc.org)  
 Friday, September 26th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Social Networking is more than FaceBook. This SIG will explore many sites & features  
 Topic TBA

### SPR Speech Recognition

<http://www.out-loud.com>. Laura Miner, 76233.3413@compuserve.com; Leftonred Atanycorner, [vp@nypc.org](mailto:vp@nypc.org)  
 Wednesday, September 17th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 New Products, New Releases

### PAS TechTips

Michael Ostrowe, [mjostrowe@verizon.net](mailto:mjostrowe@verizon.net)  
 Thursday, September 25th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Wireless computing: how to do a basic setup, including configuration of a router

...SIG Directory, continued

**VPI Ventura**

Allison Moore, amoore@nyc.rr.com  
 Monday, September 15th, 7:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

**BAS Visual Basic**

David Kulick, dgkulick@hotmail.com  
<http://nypcvb.org>  
 Wednesday, September 3rd, 6:15 PM  
 Location: MS  
 Creating an Outlook add-in using Visual Studio 2008

**WMM Web Design with Dreamweaver**

John Milisenda, jmilisenda@aaahawk.com  
 Tuesday, September 16th, October 7th, 2:00 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Exploration of Macromedia Dreamweaver as a web development tool. Oriented towards beginners, but all are welcome

**WFI Web Lounge - NEW SIG!**

Ted Cohn, TedCohn@earthlink.net  
 Wednesday, September 24th, 6:30 PM  
 Location: NYPC  
 Topic TBA

**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**



**SIGs on hiatus:**

Contact leader with interest

**BEG Beginners SIG**

Mary Ginsburg, lm\_ginsburg@earthlink.net

**EMB Embedded Systems**

Lee Thalblum, lee\_t@bigfoot.com

**FLA Flash**

Jeff Frankel, webjff1967@aol.com

**NET Internet**

Tony Holley, tholley@citytech.cuny.edu;  
 Mary Ginsburg, lm\_ginsburg@earthlink.net

**MTA MetaStock**

Al Kinzinger, Jr., Metastockug@yahoo.com

**XML XML/Web Services**

Mahesh Chhatlani, nypcxml@hotmail.com



**I Want to Join NYPC**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (eve) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership:  One Year - \$45     Two Years - \$80     Three Years - \$120     Student - \$35

Family     One Year - \$60     Two Years - \$105     Three Years - \$160

Add'l Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

New membership     Renewal - Member number \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

NYPC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible  
 Please indicate whether this donation is in memory of Stan Silver (or anyone else).

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.



## NYPC participates in Macy's Shop for a Cause Day

Saturday, September 20th, 2008  
9:00 am to 10:00 pm

Any Macy's Store...but we encourage you to shop at Macy's Herald Square and then drop in to visit the NYPC office.

### What is Shop for a Cause?

This one-day shopping event is another way for Macy's to give back to our community through support of local non-profit organizations. On *Shop for a Cause Day*, customers have an opportunity to support NYPC while receiving special discounts as they shop. How does this benefit NYPC?

We are selling \$5 shopping passes to the event. NYPC keeps every penny of the proceeds from every shopping pass that we sell, thus enhancing our ability to serve computer users and learners.

Your purchase of a shopping pass supports NYPC while entitling you to such extraordinary discounts as:

- ▶ 20% off regular, sale and clearance items in most departments
- ▶ 10% off regular, sale and clearance furniture, mattresses and rugs

You may purchase shopping passes for you and your friends at a SIG or at the NYPC Office. (Call first: 212-643-7005.) Or purchase via PayPal by going to our special Macy's Shop for a Cause webpage, <http://www.nypceducation.org/Shop>. Or use form on page 8. We'll then mail you the passes.



<http://www.nypc.org>

**NYPC participates in  
Macy's Shop for a Cause Day**

Support NYPC!

Purchase a pass for \$5 which entitles you to special discounts throughout any Macy's store (or online).

**Order Your Shop for a Cause Pass(es),  
usable all day at Macy's, Saturday, September 20**

For a \$5 donation, you receive a pass for substantial discounts off most purchases and a chance to win a \$500 shopping spree. NYPC keeps 100% of proceeds from the \$5 shopping passes. Purchase some as gifts, as well as for yourself.

To receive pass(es) by mail, use this form or purchase online at [www.nypceducation.org/Shop.html](http://www.nypceducation.org/Shop.html) with PayPal or credit card. Please allow enough time for us to mail them to you.

Or purchase at a SIG, in the NYPC office, or via phone at 212-643-7005.

Or order via mail using this form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of passes ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment:  Check  Visa, Mastercard, Discover, AMEX  
 Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form with payment to **NYPC, 481 Eighth Avenue-B25, New York, NY 10001**

**NYPC Open House on September 20**

**10:30 AM - 9:00 PM**

Stop in the NYPC Office before or after your shopping  
 Just one block from Macy's

Room 550 in the New Yorker Hotel, 481 8th Avenue (between 34th & 35th Streets)

- ☆ Free tech support:  
Ask your computer questions...one of our tech gurus will try to help
- ☆ Enjoy refreshments
- ☆ Check your e-mail
- ☆ Pick up a CD with useful freeware utilities

## Book Review: *Privacy in Peril* by James B. Rule (New York: Oxford Univ Press, 2007)

This is an important and sobering book. In fact, it's downright scary!

Several books on privacy protection have been published in recent years. We reviewed one of them, the highly practical *Computer Privacy Annoyances* by Dan Tynan (O'Reilly, 2005) in January, 2007. Most of these books, however, concentrate on precautions to take against identity thieves, online or in paper-based transactions.

In *Privacy in Peril*, author James Rule goes beyond advice for keeping your personal information out of the hands of unauthorized persons. He discusses the philosophical contradictions inherent in our often-opposing desires for privacy and for efficiency in commerce, the various ways different nations try to protect—or exploit—the personal information of their citizens, and the diverse entities, from government to corporations, seeking access to our data. Much of the difficulty, according to him, stems from the fact that “there is no natural line of separation between the realm of the private and personal matters of legitimate interest to others.”

This book looks at the large picture: the societal pressures pushing us to less and less privacy (more and more sharing of personal information) and the attitudes of governments, corporations, and individuals, which lead to less privacy and, ultimately, less freedom. To quote Rule, “The issues involved are ultimately ethical and political, not technological.” Assaults on our privacy long predate the modern-day ability to aggregate diverse personal data on each individual. It is relatively easy to implement firewalls and anti-spyware to keep data on our computers safe; it is much harder—and vastly more important—to prevent the gradual erosion of privacy in nearly every transaction of daily life.

### *Perspective from Other Nations*

One of the most interesting sections of the book is Rule's in-depth comparison of privacy protection in various countries, particularly Australia, Britain, Canada, France, and the United States. Some nations protect better against governmental intrusion, others against commercial, and evolving privacy codes vary from nation to nation. Every major democracy has tried to institute “some limits to the marketing of personal data.” The United States has done the least, and, in fact, has subverted the restrictions of other governments through trade agreements.

Among the common themes of governmental protection of privacy are: the requirement that information be collected only with knowledge and consent of the person concerned, the security and integrity of any system of personal records, responsibility for safeguarding privacy interests residing with an identified person, and redress for inaccuracies and inappropriate use of personal data. Of particular interest is the recommendation that “Information collected for one purpose should not be used or released for other purposes, except under legal requirement or with permission of the individual.”

Such codes have had some definite positive effects: they encourage openness and due process for access by individu-

als to their data files and delay expansion of surveillance. The latter is particularly important, for as the author warns, it is far easier to forestall extensions of surveillance than to dismantle them. However, all five governments have participated in an erosion of privacy in recent years. They—and other nations—are accessing more kinds of information and developing more checkpoints for the collection of information.

### *Efficiency versus Privacy*

Governmental guidelines recommend a role for individuals in determining how their data is used. At the same time, however, they accept the right of institutions to gather and use such data. They do not “address the central ethical issue implicated in the extension of surveillance: the tension between an essentially utilitarian logic of efficiency and a Kantian logic of rights.”

Much of the spread of surveillance, Rule states, has evolved, often rapidly, in the pursuit of efficiency, convenience, and safety. There is, Rule contends, no natural limit to this, and thus limitations depend on concerned citizens and their governments for implementation.

A wide range of interests, both governmental and corporate, seek access to our data. The trend is toward wider disclosure of a broader range of data to more “interested parties.” The credit reporting industry gathers and distributes data, thus exerting influence on many aspects of our lives. From supermarket discount cards to credit cards to newspaper and magazine subscriptions, to surveys and warranties, data is harvested, collated, and sold.

As Americans evaluate the steps taken by government and the marketplace to increase the amount of data gathered—and the points at which these intersect—all too often they make only short-term calculations about the effects. Expansion of government surveillance, Rule admits, does bestow benefits. “But the overall increase in government access to our lives, and the shrinking individual choice in the matter, clearly raises questions not easily dismissed. Above all, where will these trends end?”

Rule grimly envisions an Orwellian world where “every social juncture generates its own bureaucratically actionable record....where cell phones would be on all the time and everyone was required to have one...where police and other forces of order had on-line, real time records of the whereabouts of every citizen and resident....this could be the safe, orderly, compliant, and efficient world...But it would certainly not be a private one.” All too seldom is the public aware of these erosive steps, and even less often does protest arise.

### *A Book Worth Reading*

This well-written book performs the invaluable function of raising awareness of the perils and their causes. The book is replete with useful footnotes and references. Every thoughtful citizen should study and ponder the issues and their implications set forth in its pages. *Mary Ginsburg,* [nypc@nypceducation.org](mailto:nypc@nypceducation.org)

Inside  
**NYPC**

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Personal Computer Corp.  
481 Eighth Avenue, B25, Ste 550  
New York, New York 10001

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## First Class Mail

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September 2008

Note: General Meeting is back  
on 3rd Thurs., Sept. 18

### Donations in Memory of Stan Silver

NYPC gratefully acknowledges the following gifts:

- ▶ Phyllis Silver: \$200
- ▶ Anonymous: \$25

To donate, simply send contribution (tax-deductible)  
to NYPC and indicate that it's in memory of Stan.

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

*Sunday, September 21st, 10 AM - 3 PM*

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 instal-  
lation 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.

#### Back up data before you bring your computer.

- ▶ Reservations required
- ▶ For information or to reserve a spot:  
classes@nypceducation.org or 212-643-7005

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## coming attractions

*Some great general meetings coming up...*

Let us know what you'd like to see!  
E-mail Bill Ginsberg, programs@nypc.org



### Volunteer to Help NYPC

E-mail LeonardGinsburg@earthlink.net if you can help.

#### \*Gift-Wrap at W. 82nd St. Barnes & Noble

This is one of NYPC's most popular volunteer opportunities!  
In addition to helping NYPC by telling people about us,  
volunteers are able to:

- ▶ Make purchases at a 30% discount the day they wrap
- ▶ Get to know fellow wrappers—a nice chance to socialize
- ▶ Improve wrapping skills & learn about popular new books

Probable dates/times. Let Len know if you prefer other times.

- ▶ Sun., Nov. 28, 10 am-9 pm
- ▶ Sun., Dec. 14, 10 am-10 pm
- ▶ Sun., Dec. 7, 10 am-10 pm
- ▶ Wed., Dec. 17, 10 am-7 pm
- ▶ Wed., Dec. 10, 10 am-5:30 pm
- ▶ Fri., Dec. 19, 10 am-5:30 pm
- ▶ Fri., Dec. 12, 10 am-5:30 pm

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#### \*Support NYPC's Participation in Macy's Shop for a Cause Day

- ▶ Saturday, September 20: discount pass for \$5
- ▶ Buy some for yourself and gifts
- ▶ Sell some to friends and colleagues!
- ▶ Details: pages 7 & 8