CONNEXIONS

Our hands   To   Your home

Community Computer Connections Program
Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Suffolk
(631) 979-9490 ext. 13   ww.rsvpsuffolk.org/cccp

MESSAGE FROM CCCP PROGRAM COORDINATOR
Stan Meyers

I want to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year and to your families as well. Additionally I want to thank you all for your support and efforts in providing the vital services to all of our deserving clients, the needy, our wonderful veterans and Active Service personnel and their families.

The past couple of years we were faced with some very challenging problems:

- 2018 we were hit with a ransom attack on our server and thru the concerted efforts of several key personnel we fully recovered and remained operational.
- 2019 we were significantly financially challenged and again through a number of wonderful donations and winning the Suffolk County Veterans' Marathon Grant we have achieved financial stability. Again avoiding disaster.
- 2020 offers another significant challenge to our existence. The lack of our ability to adequately service our client's needs. In 2019 the number of total deliveries dropped to 376, the lowest in at least 5 years. Like the challenges of 2018 and 2019 I am confident that we will turn this situation around and again realize a growth. I am confident because of all of you and your marvelous efforts.

Among the reasons for the decline in deliveries is due to a serious reduction in the number of new clients, the lack of a sufficient supply of lap tops and lastly the lack of volunteers on the far eastern and western ends of Long Island. In many respects these may all be able to be solved by significantly increasing our visibility on Long Island. This should help us attract new clients, new VOLUNTEERS and new donors while also reminding prior donors and social/veteran agencies of our vital services. We will vigorously push our current agencies and pursue new agencies for clients. Joel Becker's recent email appealing to all of you for your support in this effort is another reminder.

Our next General Meetings is Thursday, February 6th. 6:45pm, at Plainview-Old Bethpage Library. We will also be holding a meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2020. We want your feedback on how can make these meetings' have a greater appeal to everyone. Please feel free to provide me or any of the members of the Advisory Group your input on this matter.

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RSVP
Pegi Orsino

Hey CCCP Volunteers,

A Happy and Healthy 2020 to you all! I'm waiting for the other shoe to drop and get my snow shovel out….we have been lucky with the weather until now. 2019 was a good year for CCCP –the program was lucky to have received generous donations (one anonymous angel that came thru with 10k in the 11th hour). Your total deliveries were 376 pc's (Laptops and towers included)which is just great and I thank you all for the work that you put into assisting the vets and low-income families that are now enjoying technology in their homes. I ask that you all take 2 computers /laptops on the "ready to be delivered" list and bring them to recipient's homes that are waiting patiently. For the past 2 years I have made some East End deliveries and those folks are just so grateful when you show up with their pc. So please consider cleaning up the wait list and let's go into 2020 with fewer deliveries just sitting there.

Next time I share with you I hope that the weather will have been kind to us and we will be getting ready to put away the snow melt and greet spring. Until that, thanks again and stay warm!

Regards,

Pegi

Get to know your fellow volunteers………..

Rich Romaneck

Education
M.S. Computer Science, SUNY Stony Brook, 1976.
B.S. Applied Physics, Adelphi University, 1972 - Magna cum Laude.
A.A.S. Electrical Technology, SUNY Farmingdale, 1963 - With Honors.

Starting in 1963, I spent 31 years with the Grumman Test & Evaluation Department. On retirement in 1995, I was managing all ground and flight test instrumentation Design, Operations and Manufacturing activities.

- Ground Test Instrumentation Operations 1963 -1973
- Advanced Manufacturing Systems 1973 - May '80
- Ground Test Systems Design May '80 - December '86
- Instrumentation Systems Design December '86 - December '90
- Manager Instrumentation Design December '90 – June '95

By 1995, Northrop had acquired Grumman and was shutting down most aircraft manufacturing and testing on Long Island. Continuing my career would have required a relocation which I was unwilling to do since my wife Ginny and I have adult children and grandchildren within a 15 minutes' drive. So I switched careers.

Taking a year off I became a Nurse (LPN) at Stony Brook University Hospital '96 – 2007

- Neurosurgery, Cardiac Overflow and Trauma (Floor 14 North '96 – '98):
- Operating Rooms Open Heart Surgery '98 – 2007):

I joined RSVP /CCCP as a Refurbisher in 2008 and continue refurbishing computers. I also have the responsibility for all computer related issues in the RSVP Smithtown Office. I repair all hardware and resolve software issues, maintain the network and file server, handle operating system and software upgrades, and setup and maintain backups of the file server and all workstation computers.

COMMUNITY COMPUTER CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

Bob Nielsen

Graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie-Mellon U.) and SUNY Stony brook.

I served two years in the US Army. Afterwards moved to Farmingville in 1969 and I'm still living still there.

I retired after 37+ years at Grumman (Northrop-Grumman). I joined CCCP in 2012 as a result of Newsday's very complimentary article on RSVP/CCCP in their 'Act 2' section (Rich Romaneck was on the cover of this section!).

Initially worked as a Refurbisher and Installer; after a relatively short time I was invited to be a member of the CCCP Advisory Council and eventually moved on to work for a year or two as the Repair Manager.

Following that I was tasked to be the Refurbish Manager, the Product Key Controller, the occasional reviewer/modifier of the CCCP Google Site and finally, upon Peter Harrington's decision to move to Florida, the pleasure of taking the annual Microsoft Registered Refurbisher Program's License Renewal Exam.

Let's have a con·test

noun
/ˈkänˌtest/
1. an event in which people compete for supremacy in a sport, activity, or particular quality.
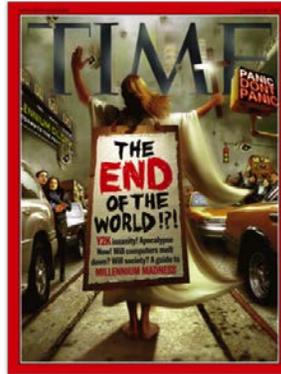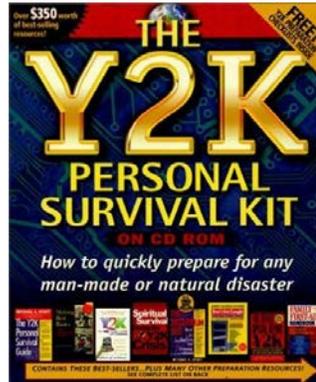
Two Weeks' Paid Vacation* will be awarded to the volunteer who installs, repairs or refurbishes the most computers in February.

TWO WEEKS PAID VACATION

This certificate is awarded to

NAME OF RECIPIENT

in recognition of valuable contributions to

COMMUNITY COMPUTER CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

Signature   Date

Signature   Date

*No CASH Value

20 YEARS AGO, Y2K HYSTERIA LED TO EMERGENCY BUNKERS AND COST THE U.S. $100 BILLION

Two decades ago, the world was sent into a panic over technology.

As 1999 came to a close, the U.S. government and programmers around the world were scrambling to finish fixing flawed computer software that some predicted would send civilization into chaos when the clock struck midnight on Jan. 1, 2000.

The "Millennium Bug," or Y2K as it is commonly known, arose when experts in the early days of computing cut the code that designated the year from four digits to two, which changed "1998" to "98," in order to save data space on hard drives, according to *National Geographic*. But with the new millennium approaching, experts realized that computers might not see "00" as the year "2000." Instead, they feared, it could be interpreted as "1900."

This presented a slew of problems for any computer-based system that depended on the date in calculations. Banks that issued interest rates on a daily basis could suddenly see a loan plummet to a rate for minus 100 years, the magazine explained. Flights, too, could be disrupted since airlines kept flight schedules and records on computers.

Then-President Bill Clinton, while addressing the Y2K problem in 1998, urged businesses to do their part to prepare and update their computer codes.

Now, this is not one of the summer movies where you can close your eyes during the scary parts," he said. "Every business, of every size, with eyes wide open, must face the future and act."