



Technically Speaking

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Social Networking for Good

By Carolyn Agenjo

Facebook, MySpace, Blogs, YouTube, instant messaging, online chat, podcasts. With so many new ways to network and communicate with other, how do we decide which one will best fit a specific need? On June 3, six speakers from different libraries shared their experiences at the South Country Library with an audience of more than 85 directors, librarians and tech staff.

Stephen Ingram, Northport Public Library, discussed the need to develop specific policies and procedures for social networking in a library setting. Jason Ladick, Connetquot Public Library, gave an amusing description of his experiences as a brand-new Facebook user (so new that he had just set up his first Facebook site the night before the meeting!) Arleen West, East Hampton Public Library, told about the things she had learned since creat-

ing her first page several months ago. For one thing, it's important to be careful how you title a page, because it may be with you for a long time!

Jennifer Fowler, West Islip Public Library, showed her Facebook page for the Teen patrons at her library, pointing out that she got much better response with it than she had seen with the

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Technically Speaking's Featured Quotation

"Whenever I acquire a new device, I want to know what *every* button does."

—Gurmeet Singh, Ekartha Corp., featured speaker at 2009 CATS annual meeting.

From the President

By Bob Johnson

It is with great excitement that I write this letter to the members of the CATS division. We have had an extremely busy past few months! From the Long Island Library Conference discussions, Technology Forum, Technical Services Forum and Cataloging Roundtable, to our most recent Social Media demonstration, we have really hit the ground running in the first half of 2010.

Many thanks must go out to our extremely dedicated Executive Board. Each member of our board brings a specific set of skills and a high level of talent that goes into

"We really have hit the ground running in the first half of 2010"

making the vision of the CATS division a reality. My personal thanks go out to each and every one of them for their continued hard work and dedication.

Looking forward, I can say with great certainty that we will be offering even more exciting programs, discussions, and demonstrations in an effort to bring you the most relevant and useful information to help you get the job done. I welcome new ideas and would love to hear any comments you may have.

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Teen Blog created a year before. The blog was a good way to post information, but a Facebook page is much more social, inviting interaction from the teen audience. She also reminded us not to set up such pages with our own personal accounts, because it can be hard to keep the sections separate.

Eric Cohen, John Jermain Memorial Library, spoke about Facebook and how the John Jermain Library has evolved with the Social Media technology. Eric presented several helpful links to the group.

Peter Ward, Director, Lindenhurst Public Library, showed his library's website with its many video and audio segments available to the public. He and his staff create podcasts of community members' recollections, and videocasts of local events such as parades and concerts.

There were many more ideas and experiences

shared, and most of us left the meeting eager to get back to our own library and try out some new ideas.●

Open-Source Applications For FREE!

By Carolyn Agenjo

With the session scheduled for the late afternoon at the Long Island Library Conference on May 6th and entitled "50 Must-Have Open Source Applications," I expected to find a half-empty room of computer techies. Instead there was a standing room only crowd of over 120 people – librarians, trustees, directors, techies and more. Everyone seemed to enjoy the fast-paced presentation as Bob Johnson and Ted Gutmann took turns explaining just what each of these recommended programs would do, and why you would want them!

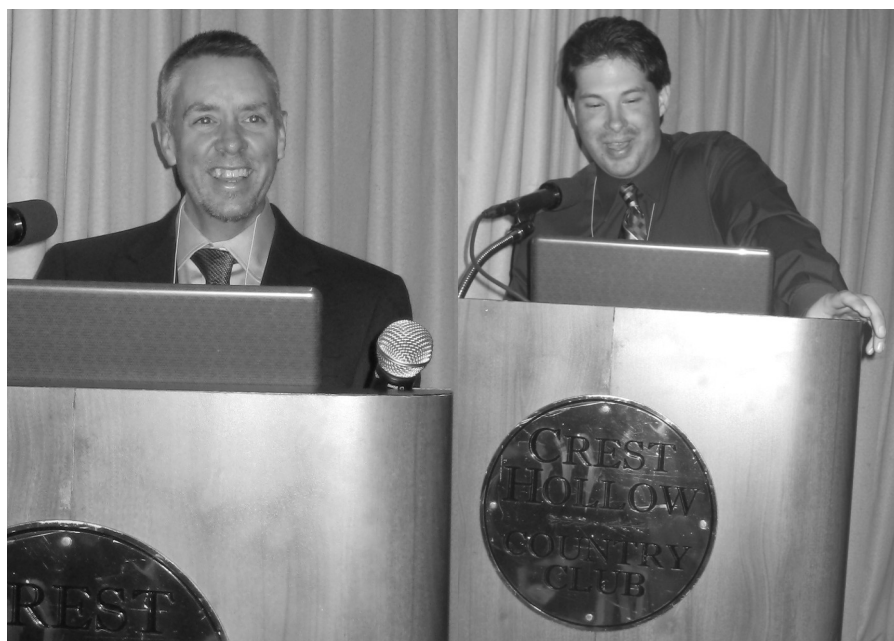
The principle behind open-source software is that these programs should be free, their source code available to anyone for modifications and improvements, and it should be freely redistributable. The Linux operating system, Open Office suite, Firefox web browser and Apache web server are

Editor's Note:
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powerful, popular examples of this philosophy. While most of the early programs were written for Linux users, today there are hundreds of open source titles available to Windows and MAC users.

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The titles in this presentation ranged from useful utilities like VLC video player, Network Stumbler, Audacity editor and PDF Creator to full versions of Open Office and Ubuntu Linux – and best of all – each attendee got a free CD with every program on it, as well as a multi-page document that explained each piece of software along with its location on the web. (This document can be found here <http://sclacats.wordpress.com>). Bob and Ted had prepared 150 CDs to give away and they all went! I can't wait to see what they do next year at LILC 2011!●



The CATS division played a prominent role at the 2010 Long Island Library Conference at Crest Hollow in Woodbury. Above: Laura Giuliani (left) and Susan Ketcham (right) at the CATS booth. Below: Ted Gutmann (left) and Bob Johnson (right) present “50 Must-Have Open Source Applications”

- Calendar**
- **Thursday, August 5th : Technology Information Forum (TIF), Suffolk Cooperative Library System**
 - **Tuesday, November 9th: Cataloging Roundtable, Ellwood Public Library**

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Board Members on the Power of Your CATS Membership:

"I believe as a Librarian, who has a technical background, CATS is an organization that is always re-inventing itself to meet the needs of its members at all skill levels to better serve our public audience. CATS is a unique association in that it embraces new technology, innovation and traditional media. CATS builds a bridge between the user and new ideas through workshops, meetings and networking."
 —Danielle Zubiller, Brentwood Public Library

"I've been a Board Member of CATS for 3 years and work full time at Sachem Public Library in Technical Services. My primary responsibility in the group is publicity. This position allows me to be creative while announcing all the great up-coming programs and events that CATS sponsors."
 —Dana Mottolla, Sachem Public Library

"I've been on the CATS Executive Board for two years now. Thus far it's been a wonderful learning experience and I hope to

help create useful and interesting programs with a wide appeal. I would like to see library employees from all areas come to our programs and get something out of them. Librarians, clerks, computer services, etc. can all benefit from learning about the latest trends in technology and applying it to their personal and professional lives."—Laura Giuliani, Huntington Public Library

2010: The Year of Cataloging Research! (For further information, see: <http://faculty.washington.edu/acarlyle/yocr/index.html>)