# Session 422: Technology Made Simple!

Moving Beyond Basic Computer Instruction



#### **OLA Conference**

Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012



### Technology Made Simple (TMS):

- Computer instruction + a whole lot more
- Hands-on experience with devices
- One-on-one and small group instruction
- Help for technology questions, no matter the question
- •Showing that the Library is a place for answers!



### A little background:

- Two-branch library system
- Two buildings under renovations/being rebuilt
- Creating a new spaces for all age groups including seniors





### Our Inspiration for our Program:

# Old Bridge Public Library, New Jersey Senior Spaces Initiative

**Seniors Fridays** 

http://ifla.queenslibrary.org/IV/ifla74/papers/072-Kleiman-en.pdf



#### **New Horizons for Seniors**

• "The New Horizons for Seniors Program is a federal Grants and Contributions program that supports projects led or inspired by seniors who make a difference in the lives of others and in their communities."

•\$25,000 per year





### **New Horizons for Seniors**

Capital Costs	\$9,510
Administrative Costs	\$5,460
Programming	\$2,200
Technical Support	In kind
Marketing	\$2,650
Other (refreshments, printing, etc.)	\$3,000



#### Our Goals:

- Unique in our community
- Provide an opportunity for socializing
- Promote communication between different generations
- Portable
- Outreach





### Our Advisory Groups

- Informal groups
- Technology petting zoo
- Surveys
- Talking one-on-one

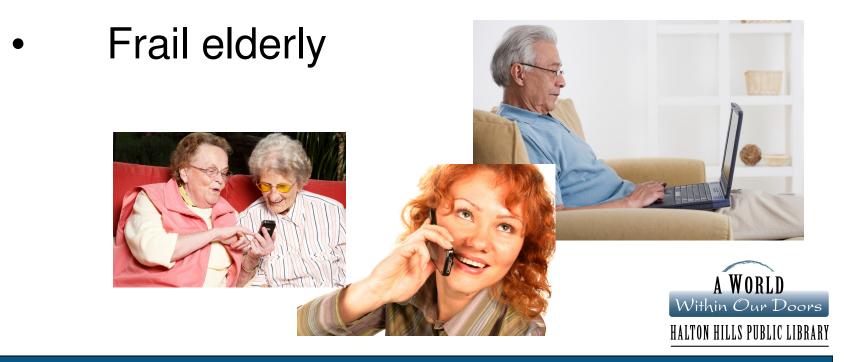




#### **Our Customers**

Are all seniors the same?

- Recently retired, Baby Boomers
- Older adults



### Reference Questions

- Setting up email accounts
- eBooks and eReaders
- Online databases

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# Our Equipment

- 8 Laptops
- 2 iPads
- 2 Camcorders
- 1 Digital Camera
- 1 iPod Touch
- 1 Playbook
- 5 eReaders





#### **Extras**

- Cleaning Cloths
- Storage bags
- Tote boxes and carts
- A brewing system, various coffee discs and cookies



Extension cords, power bars, adapters



### Schedule & Format

- 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of month topic presentation, followed by hands-on time relating to that topic
- •2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of month personalized assistance on any topic
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of month personalized assistance on any topic
- Drop-in anytime between 2 & 4
- All ages & questions welcome









### Format Challenges

People were confused by the two different formats

"I won't go because I'm not interested in that topic."



"I need help! During what month will you cover my topic?"



### **New Format**

#### Every program:

- Starts with a very short presentation on a particular topic (same topic at each branch during a given month)
- Finishes with help on any requested topic (may lead back to original topic)





### **Program Topics**

Facebook

The Library Online

eReaders

Skype



Twitter

Blogs

Genealogy Online

Digital Photography

Keep it Flexible



#### Outreach

 We have taken all of our equipment to outside venues







# Program Delivery

- Guest speakers
- Live demos
- Powerpoint presentations



Handouts



### **Guest Speakers**

- Genealogy Online
- Digital Photography

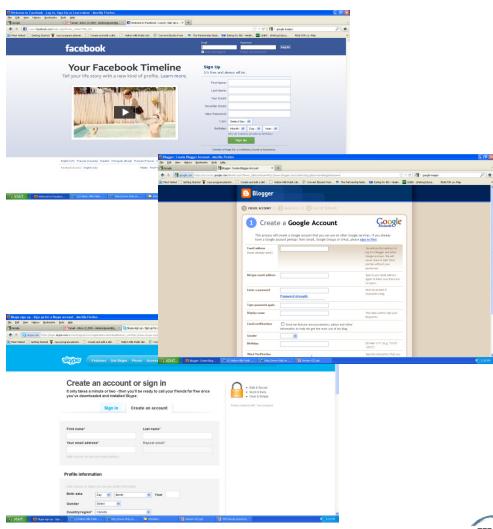






### Live Demos

- Facebook
- Skype
- Flickr
- Blogs
- Gmail





# **Powerpoint Presentations**



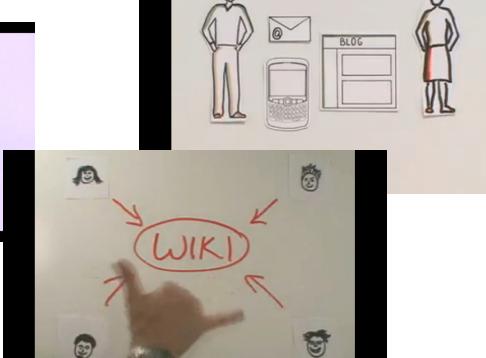




TM

#### **Social Media** In Plain English







### Hand-outs



### Consumer Information

Current articles and information about devices





### Becoming Techno Savvy

Played with the devices



Drew on personal experiences

Learned from each other & participants

Researched – books, online forums etc.



### Marketing

- Library Newsletter
- Newspaper Articles
- Community Calendars
- Library Website
- Posters & Brochures
- Community Events
- Digital Signage

# Technology Made Simple!



Halton Hills Public Library



### Success

- Attendance
- Volunteer Mentors
- Collections
- Programs
- Individual Stories











### Success - Attendance

Anticipated: 100 participants

- 90 Seniors
- 10 non-seniors

Actual: 416 participants

- 296 Seniors
- 120 non-seniors



### Success - Volunteer Mentors

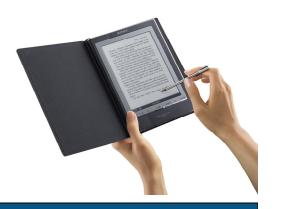




### **Success - Collections**

- eBook Circulation
  - 1 80% between Jan-Dec 2011
- eReader Lending Program
  - Launched July 2011, 4 eReaders
  - Added 6 eReaders in Nov 2011
  - 10 Kobos (classic, touch, vox)
  - Continuous circulation
  - 88 circs, 48 holds





# Success - Programs

• Business Services



### Success - Individual Stories

- Staying Connected in China
- Skyping Dad
- Home-bound service
- Neighbouring communities





#### **Future Directions**

- New format
- My PC Series
- Staff training

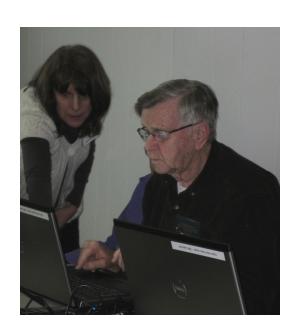




### Final Thoughts

- Latest Technology
- Grants
- Reference skills







Is there anything else you'd like to know?



#### Resources:

Seniors Fridays, Old Bridge Public Library, New Jersey

http://ifla.queenslibrary.org/IV/ifla74/papers/072-Kleiman-en.pdf

**New Horizons for Seniors** 

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/community\_partnerships/seniors/index.shtml

Halton Hills Public Library <a href="http://www.hhpl.on.ca">http://www.hhpl.on.ca</a> or email the TMS Team: askus@haltonhills.ca

