

Celebrating 25 Years
1984 - 2009



New York Oracle
Users Group, Inc.

NYOUG

Celebrates 25 years of Service to the NYC Area Oracle Community

www.nyoug.org

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Welcome!

- 2009 marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the New York Oracle Users Group (NYOUG).
- Formed in 1984 with the goal of exchanging ideas, providing assistance, and support to users of Oracle software products.
- The organization consists of volunteer users, consultants, and vendors of Oracle-related products and services.

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About NYOUG

- NYOUG is one of the oldest and largest Oracle user groups in North America.
- It is also one of the most visible, active, and popular user groups, attracting members from all over the United States and multiple foreign countries.



How did it start?

- In 1983, Moshe Tamir read about this new “Oracle database product.”
- Realizing that he had just glimpsed the future of databases, he quit his job writing microcode for telephone switches and searched for a job where he could work with this amazing new software product.
- He landed a position as both DBA and developer at Hebrew National Kosher Foods, one of the first Oracle customers in the New York City area.
- At that time, Hebrew National was running Oracle Version 3 on Data General computers.



Making Contact

- Looking to share his experiences with Oracle and learn from others using the software, Tamir asked Ken Jacobs (almost two decades before he earned the moniker “Dr. DBA” and then the Oracle employee responsible for sales on the entire East coast) if he could provide contact information for others who were using Oracle on Data General hardware.
- That contact information became the mailing list for the first Oracle Users’ Newsletter, and the stage was set for the founding of NYOUG.



NYOUG History - 1984

NYOUG

- Along with IT manager Ken Brown, Tamir organized the first official meeting of NYOUG, held in a conference room at the United Nations which attracted 10 attendees.
- Later meetings featured many speakers from “Belmont,” the location of Oracle’s headquarters at the time.
 - Mary Winslow told the group about the new 800 number they could use to reach her staff of 30 support technicians.

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11 years old



NYOUG History - 1985-6

NYOUG

- NYOUG meetings have been held at venues throughout New York City.
- The keynote speaker at an NYOUG meeting held at the Fashion Institute of Technology was Oracle's president, Ray Lane.
- NYOUG also met at Morgan Stanley, hosted by Charles E. Phillips, Jr. (or, as his toll free number and website referred to him - "Mr. Chuck")

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NYOUG History - Late 1980's

NYOUG

- New faces appeared on the NYOUG Steering Committee:
 - Michael LaMagna - Treasurer
 - Tony Ziemba was elected chairman
 - Carol Ann Greff, a founding member of the group became the first representative to the fledgling IOUG.
 - While no president was elected, Meir Feig was appointed to serve in that role.
- The NYOUG Newsletter, which disappeared after 1987, was revived in 1989, with Carmine Tedesco as editor and Anthony Ziemba as publisher.

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NYOUG Today - Expertise

- NYOUG's members and officers have authored numerous books on Oracle related topics, presented at Oracle conferences throughout the world, and even taught database systems and Oracle to university students. Among our membership are Oracle ACEs, members of the Oak Table Network and even an Oracle "DBA of the Year" (2003) and PL/SQL Developer of the Year (2007)."



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NYOUG History - Early 1990's

NYOUG

- Huge growth in user group activity on the East coast.
- Creation of the Oracle User Resource, Inc.
 - First East Coast Oracle conference, ECO '91 held in Washington D.C. in March
 - ECO thrived as a smaller, less expensive alternative to what had become Oracle's premier conference, "International Oracle Users Week" (IOUW)
 - For a decade, ECO consistently drew 500 attendees to what many felt was the best and most interactive technical conference the Oracle world had ever seen.

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NYOUG History - 1991-2

NYOUG

- Two new officers joined the NYOUG Steering Committee:
 - Carl Esposito from Merrill Lynch as Vice President
 - Michael Olin an independent consultant and Tamir protégé as Membership Coordinator.
- Moshe Tamir was given a title - Vendor Policy Chair
- Ziemba stepped down as chairman but remained in charge of communications
- Feig left and Esposito replaced him as president.
- The group went back to the New York Blood Center and recruited Jonathan Intner to serve as VP.

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DJIA = 3168





NYOUG History - 1993

NYOUG

- NYOUG restarted its own journal in 1993, with Tamir serving as editor.
- Dr. Paul Dorsey, a professor at Rider College joined the Steering Committee as secretary.
- At the end of that year, Guy Yasika took over as editor and Dorsey became VP.
- There was only one NYOUG SIG at the time, the DBA SIG, chaired by Shaul Ganel. The SIG added a programming coordinator, Steven Zanone

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NYOUG Today - Top Speakers

- NYOUG's general and SIG meetings attract some of the top speakers and leaders in the industry.
- While the regular general meetings routinely attract over 100 attendees, NYOUG's "Metro Area" events draw over 500.





NYOUG History - 1994-5

NYOUG

- Esposito invites Larry Ellison to speak
 - Invitations regularly declined.
 - 2 Oracle speakers didn't show up at June meeting, the fireworks began.
 - Esposito fired off an indignant letter to Ellison the next day, with copies to Oracle's New York office. A reporter for Computerworld ran a brief item about Oracle's snub of NYOUG.
 - Charles Wang, CEO of Computer Associates offered to speak
- NYOUG expanded SIG offerings by adding a CASE SIG
 - Rachel Carmichael took over the DBA SIG.
 - The following year, a Web SIG was added
 - Peter Koletzke joined as Marketing Director and managed the release of the first NYOUG DBA Utilities Disk.

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NYOUG History - Mid 1990's

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- ECO '96 on Broadway at Marriott Marquis hotel.
- NYOUG ran short on sponsors, Esposito approached Microsoft to sponsor a cruise meeting.
- Ray Lane fired off an angry letter expressing Oracle's "concern" about using Microsoft to sponsor NYOUG events.
 - Promised to appoint a local liaison, to ensure that Oracle would be appropriately "involved" in all user meetings
 - We've had a liaison ever since (even though we've made a couple of them cry).





NYOUG History - Late 1990's – 2000

NYOUG

- Dr. Paul Dorsey took over as President
 - Steve Zanone – VP
 - Moshe Tamir - Treasurer
 - Michael Medved – Secretary
 - Mike LaMagna – 1st Webmaster
 - Data Warehousing SIG was also added, with Rob Edwards as chair.
 - 2000 - Jeff Bernknopf - VP
 - Rob Edwards took over the newsletter from Guy Yasika

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NYOUG Today – Training Days

- NYOUG offers discounted training without any travel expenses!
- Training from the top Oracle experts:
 - Steven Feuerstein
 - Jonathan Lewis
 - Tanel Poder
 - Arup Nanda
 - Michael Abbey
 - ...and more to come





NYOUG History - 2001

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- College of Insurance, two blocks north of the World Trade Center had become the regular meeting location.
- NYOUG had scheduled its fall general meeting at that location for September 12, 2001.
 - Discussions since then about redesigning the NYOUG logo to remove the image of the World Trade Center towers.
 - Decision that towers should stay, as a reminder of who we are, and what we all lost on that day.





NYOUG History - 2002

NYOUG

- Fall 2001 meeting rescheduled for March 2002 - moved to Columbia University's Faculty house.
- Long Island SIG, with Jason Cohen as chair, was added to provide an opportunity for the growing membership in the suburbs to attend local events.
- Short-lived attempt was also made to create a local SIG for the northern suburbs, meeting in Westchester County and chaired by Arup Nanda.

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1984 - 2009



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NYOUG History - 2003

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- At the start of 2003, NYOUG returned downtown to the former College of Insurance site, which had become the Manhattan campus of St. John's University.
- Kim Marie Mancusi became the official NYOUG liaison to Oracle Corp. and we've had a mutually rewarding relationship ever since.





NYOUG Today - Great Resources

- NYOUG also offers its members exclusive training sessions and a Technical Journal full of useful white papers, tips and techniques from the meeting speakers and members.
- The entire archive of presentations from NYOUG meetings is available on the web (<http://www.nyoug.org>) and the group is exploring the possibility of podcasting meeting presentations.



NYOUG History - 2004-5

- The officer shuffle continued over the next few years.
 - Rachel Carmichael left IT completely when she began working towards becoming a veterinary technician.
 - Simay Alpoge, a longtime NYOUG member, took over the DBA SIG and later added the Long Island SIG to her portfolio.
 - Rob Edwards was elected Treasurer

- Melanie Caffrey took over responsibility for the growing newsletter, now the "NYOUG Technical Journal."
- John McKenna took over the Warehousing SIG for a year or so before it landed back with Edwards.
- Tom Petite joined the board as Secretary,
- Michael Medved became Venue Coordinator
- Sean Hull took over Bernknopf's responsibilities as Vendor Coordinator.
- Coleman Leviter became chair of the Web SIG.



NYOUG History - 2006-7

- Paul Dorsey finally succumbed to the demands of fatherhood. At the end of 2006, he declined nomination for another term as President and was replaced by Michael Olin.
- A few minor changes to the leadership of the group have occurred during Olin's (relatively) short tenure.
- Vikas Sawhney is now chair of the Data Warehousing SIG
- Irina Cotler joined the steering committee as Vendor Relations Chair
- Caryl Lee Fisher hired as Executive Director.

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NYOUG History - 2009

- NYOUG celebrates 25 years as the preeminent resource for Oracle users in the NYC metropolitan area

