



# Bringing Tech Companies Downtown



**Peter Goldsmith – LISTnet, Moderator**

Peter Goldsmith worked for CBS Records as director of A&R Operations under the mentorship of Clive Davis. He then joined Grumman Data Systems from 1975-1995 and was director of Operations. In this capacity, he traveled around the country supporting the many Grumman-won Information Technology programs at NASA and other government sites. In 1995, he was put in charge of Project Long Island, and in the fall of 1997, a not for profit organization was formed called the Long Island Software and Technology Network or LISTnet.

Goldsmith was elected chairman and president of LISTnet, which in 16 years has grown to nearly 1,000 member companies with 80 corporate sponsors. Among LISTnet's major events are LISA (Long Island Software Awards), Tech MELT, BEST, Launch Your Stars, the Diamond Awards and the Technomic Awards. There are also 18 special interest groups (SIG's) and four councils for CEO's, CFO's, CIO's and the ECHO Group. The goal behind LISTnet is to promote our region as a Technology Center of Excellence, and help tech companies grow their business. The four legs of LISTnet are Software/IT, Healthcare/IT, Smart Energy and Wireless/Mobility. In 2012, the LI Tech COMETS program (Connected Organization Mentoring Exciting Tech Startups) was started and three Long Island startups were selected for a six month mentoring program.

The president has a BBA from CCNY and received a MBA with honors from St. John's University in 1978. He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and is an adjunct professor at Hofstra University. He sits on the Stony Brook Universities' Computer Science Advisory Board and their College of Engineering & Applied Sciences Dean's Council, the Board of Energeia, the Board of Governors for Touro Law School and the Secretary and Board member of LI Angel Network. Goldsmith was also awarded an honorary doctorate from Briarcliffe College in May 2001, received the "Have a Heart" Award in 2004 from the American Heart Association, the Touro Law School's "Friend of Justice" award in 2006, and the Rough Rider Award in 2007 from the Boy Scouts of America.



**Richard Foster – Launchpad LI**

Richard Foster is a driven entrepreneur and angel investor with a passion for new business development. His entrepreneurial spirit has taken him down many roads. Foster holds seven U.S. patents for the creation of his line of sports-themed clocks, "TIME for SPORTS", which have been distributed in fifteen countries around the world. Foster has been named the "Youngest Entrepreneur" by the New York Times, in addition to appearing in a wide variety of radio, TV, and print nationwide. He has been selected to ring the closing bell at the world famous New York Stock Exchange.

Foster currently serves as president of Foster Management & Holdings, the holdings company for his numerous business investments and ventures. He also serves on the board and is actively involved in an executive capacity in several of his companies. Foster is a co-founder of LaunchPad LI and a board member of the Long Island Angel Network.



**Andrew Hazen – Launchpad LI**

Andrew Hazen is a successful entrepreneur, marketing expert, angel investor, attorney and admitted domain name addict. The full service digital marketing agency he founded and bootstrapped in 1998 twice made the Inc List of Fastest Growing Companies in 2007 and 2008. Hazen sold the business in 2007 to private equity investors and continued as CEO until the company was sold again in 2011 to a public traded company.

Hazen is currently the founder & CEO of Angel Dough Ventures, co-founder of LaunchPad LI and Of Counsel at Ruskin Moscou Faltischek. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Long Island Angel Network, LISTnet, the Digital Advisory Board at St Jude Hospital and the Eric Trump Foundation.



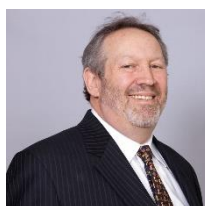
**Julie Marchesella – President**

Julie Marchesella is currently president of the Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce and previously held the positions of first and second vice president, as well as treasurer.

A past president of the Merrick Chamber of Commerce for seven years, she is the owner of Queen of Hearts, a full-figured formalwear boutique celebrating its 20th year in business. She was the coordinator of the Merrick Fall Festival from 1995-2004 and co-originator of the Spring Kid Fest which established their scholarship fund.

Marchesella is also a board member of the Elmont Chamber of Commerce and treasurer of the Elmont Coalition for Sustainable Development, working on the revitalization project along the Hempstead Turnpike corridor.

She is a graduate of the Willsey Institute of Art and Interior Design and studied Fashion Buying and Merchandising at Nassau Community College. Her diversified business background includes real estate management, gas stations, party rentals/planning, import/export and various forms of retail/service businesses.



**Jon Rudes – Cresa**

Selected as one of the top 50 dealmakers in New York City in 2005 by Real Estate Weekly, Jon Rudes is a senior vice president of Cresa Long Island. Involved in the commercial real estate industry since 1976, he was instrumental in the conceptualization and creation of the New York Information Technology Center in 1995, which many consider the lynch-pin for revitalizing downtown Manhattan.

After completing the lease-up of the New York Information Technology Center, Rudes went on to assist the New York City's Economic Development Corporation in creating the Plug 'N' Go Program. This program included 13 office buildings in the heart of what has become known as "Silicon Alley." This cooperative marketing program offered low cost, state of the art office space to over 750,000 square feet of emerging technology companies. The six Plug 'N' Go buildings Rudes oversaw account for more than 400,000 square feet of the program.

In 1987, Rudes represented The Securities Industry Automation Corporation in its acquisition of over 400,000 square feet in MetroTech. As the first tenant in the MetroTech complex it is credited as the factor that spurred the development of the 4 million square foot urban office park on the campus of the Polytechnic University in downtown Brooklyn.

In 1998, he worked with Halpern Real Estate to reposition Ardsley Park into a Science and Technology Center. The project provided a significant economic boost to Westchester County's technology sector.

Rudes graduated from Northeastern University. He is an adjunct professor of Real Estate at New York University, president of the Syosset Youth Athletic Council (SYAC) and a member of the Board of Directors of the Syosset Chamber of Commerce.

He spent 15 years at Wm. A. White Grubb & Ellis rising to the level of senior vice president. From 1997-1999, he was a senior managing director of Newmark & Co. Real Estate Inc. From 2001-2002, Rudes was executive vice president and COO of William B. May International, from 2002-2005 a senior vice president at Winoker Real Estate Company, and from 2005-2012 he was president of Delphi Real Estate Advisors.