



The NRWA Connection

Linking Our Members ... Keeping Them Current

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Welcome!

Hello ,

Welcome to this week's edition of *The NRWA Connection*.

The intent of this newsletter is to keep you current about both our association and our industry. We hope you enjoy this membership benefit!

Executive Greeting

By Shauna Bryce, Esq.



This month, I have a simple suggestion: participate in The NRWA! This is a completely free way to invest in your business during the recession.

First, participation is a great way to network with other résumé writers. You can develop relationships with other writers with whom you can trade war stories, learn strategies to develop your business, build a referral-based business, and more.

Second, participation builds your credibility with the public. Several of my clients have cited my involvement with The NRWA as a factor in choosing me over another résumé writer.

Third, supporting The NRWA and helping it continually improve increases the value of The NRWA and, therefore, the value of your association with it.

There are lots of ways to get involved: some require certain expertise or skills, but many simply require enthusiasm! In addition to elected positions, The NRWA has committees in need of volunteers. Or consider giving a teleseminar or presentation at next year's conference. Contact your regional representative or a board member to find out more about these opportunities.

What's Happening in Region Two?

By Vandette Thomas-Anderson, CEO of Your Social Résumé

Representative for Region Two: States of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.



The frigid weather that descended upon the northeast has not thwarted the activities of Region Two members, who can be found just about everywhere: in books, behind microphones, and in front of live audiences. Looks like Region Two is ready for 2011!

Shauna C. Bryce, Esq., of Bryce Legal Career Counsel, Riva, MD, recently had the opportunity to speak to an "Introduction to Law" class at her alma mater, Johns Hopkins University. Shauna's presentation focused on how the students can maximize their law school experience in a way that will increase their attractiveness to legal employers. She also provided insight on the state of the legal market for new graduates.

Susan Geary, of 1st-Rate Résumés, Salem, VA, has stepped behind the mic. She began hosting a weekly radio talk show on [Fox Radio 910](#) out of Roanoke. The show, "Career Matters with Susan Geary," streams online live on Sunday mornings at 11 am EST. It features a weekly guest speaker, followed by quick tips for job seekers, and concludes with questions from listeners. Susan is currently working on episode 15 and is always looking for subject-matter experts for the guest-speaker segment. She welcomes press releases from interested NRWA members. Susan can be contacted at susan@FoxRadioRoanoke.com. Remember, because it's radio, guest speakers can be from remote locations. Susan is currently in the process of posting past guest interviews at susangeary.com.

Diane J. Irwin, of Dynamic Résumés, Cherry Hill, NJ, is excited to announce that a selection of her résumés has been published in Pat Crisito's newest book, *Résumés That POP!*

Lauren Malmon, of Career Innovations, Bethesda, MD, will be speaking January 31st at the Career Café in Bethesda on how to address complex job histories (e.g., gaps, multiple career changes, etc.). Lauren specializes in complex job histories and career changers----people who have a background that didn't take a linear path and need to focus their marketing materials on a particular occupation of interest. For more info. please see <http://tiny.cc/v43mu>.

Betty H. Williams, of BW Custom Résumés, Manakin-Sabot, VA, is witnessing an increasing confidence in a recovering economy as both former and new clients, who are currently employed, come to her for updates. She is finding that people are no longer afraid to take the risk to see if there's something better out there for them.

Angela Zimmer, of All-Write Résumés, Jackson, NJ, recently joined forces with The Learning Partner, where she will be working on specific projects to set up and narrate webinars for training in various aspects of job search and résumé writing.

As for me, I've been (in typical Gemini fashion) juggling a variety of roles. Much of my time is spent working with an auto dealership helping recently unemployed car owners avoid repossession by gaining employment within 30 days. I then spend the wee hours of the night providing job-search coaching to the spouses of expats in 43 countries. Navigating the time differences can be very interesting at times; I'm so

glad my sessions aren't video recorded!

And last, but certainly not least, I partner with Shape My Career in providing outplacement services to mid- and senior-level professionals. I am looking forward to serving you as Region Two Representative and to our journey together in 2011.

Seeking Affiliates for The NRWA

We're lucky to have so many fantastic affiliates who offer special deals for our members. (Check them [out!](#))

We're always on the lookout for others who can offer value to our members and gain exposure for themselves. If this is something you or someone you know would be interested in, email president@thenrwa.com. For details on the affiliate program, click [here](#).

Grammar Tips

Oh, No---Not Again.
By Donna Tucker

I have got some quick takes for you this week----about redundancy in writing.

Once you think about these common terms, you'll see how silly we are for using them. Résumé writers, especially, need to "write tight," don't we?

General consensus/consensus of opinion
Since a consensus is a generally held position, there is no need to add the extra words.

Close proximity
Proximity means "closeness, nearness."

Variety of different...
Variety implies different.

Up till/up until
Until means "up to the time of."

How about "free gift," "past history," or "future plans"? There's "military soldier," "hollow tube," and "old adage."

H.W. Fowler (1958-1933), known as "a lexicographical genius," said, "If you want to establish a voice, meaning a style of writing that is recognizable as your own, the first thing you must do is jettison whatever lots of other writers are doing. They are all copying each other because it's easier to be superficially appealing than to do the hard work of finding fresh ways to say what you mean."

Featured Article

Never Too Young
By Amanda Collins

I've had the great privilege to conduct regular presentations to local high-school students, where I'm able to share information about creating that all-important first résumé. And, although many of us don't write résumés for such young clients, it's never too early to get them on the right path for great career preparation.



Often, the executive-level candidates with whom I work spend a lot of time struggling to come up with accomplishments because they were taught to list what they've done at previous positions rather than to look at what they've achieved. It can be a daunting exercise to run through 10-15 years of work experience to find notable accomplishments for the first time. But wouldn't it be great if high-school and college students were better prepared from the get-go?

There are a number of ways to interact with a younger generation as a career-services professional. If you work in a college or high school, your options become easier; you're already there! However, if you don't have ready access to that population, you can reach out to your area schools and volunteer your services. Many schools are eager to have speakers come into their classrooms, especially if it rounds out their curriculum. Contact the career-services office at colleges or the principal of high schools to see if you can visit. You may also be able to review résumés during job fairs that are hosted regularly.

This is the time of year when graduating high-school seniors are preparing their college applications and college seniors are starting to look for a first job. This is an excellent time for them to launch themselves on the right trajectory----and you can be an integral part of that! It's also a great way to give back to the future generation and share with them your wealth of knowledge.

Affiliate Spotlight of the Week



This week, we spotlight JibberJobber

Jason Alba designed JibberJobber.com as a website to replace the job search spreadsheet. Since then, he has written *I'm on LinkedIn - Now What???* and developed the *LinkedIn for Job Seekers* DVD. All of these resources are available to you and your clients to enrich their career-management strategies.

To learn more, visit JibberJobber.com.

To check out a complete listing of our [Affiliate Partners](#) or for more information on becoming an Affiliate, [click here](#).

Quote of the Week

"If you light a lamp for somebody, it will also brighten your path."
~ Buddhist saying

Thanks for reading this issue of The NRWA Connection!

Sincerely,

