



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



Board Bytes
By Donna Tucker

In the midst of all the learning and networking at the 14th annual conference, The NRWA board took time out for its annual face-to-face meeting. Attending were President Charlotte Weeks, First Vice President Kimberly Schneiderman, Second Vice President Ginger Korljan, Secretary Donna Tucker, and Treasurer Pat Criscito along with regional reps Suzette Jolly and Travis Wilson.

This board meeting was shorter than usual because of conference obligations but still gave members the opportunity to bond and brainstorm. During the session, the board reassessed the direction of the organization and concluded that we shall remain branded as the #1 industry organization for written career communications.

Since I don't often get to tell my own story when compiling the Board Bytes, I thought the brevity of this week's report would offer me an opportunity to share my conference highlights. We've been to some great places during the past 14 years, but Maine was so special, and so beautiful. I stayed over after the conference and did some sightseeing with Jean Raymond who lives in Wells, about 30 miles south of Portland. I used to vacation in Maine as a child, and Jean took me to all the old haunts in Ogunquit and Moody Beach and York. The smell of the ocean, the taste of the saltwater taffy, the feel of the sand between my toes, the sound of the gulls on Perkins Cove ... this was the best conference ever for me, thanks to The NRWA and Jean Raymond.

What's Happening in Region Four?

By Travis Wilson, Rochester, MN

Representative for Region Four: States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.



I'm sitting in my kitchen writing out this newsletter report and reminiscing about my time in Portland at the 2011 NRWA Conference. One week ago, I was dining at Street and Co., savoring some of the most succulent scallops I've ever had. One week ago, I was hugging friends and picking up a binder thick with well-prepared presentations. One week ago, the best in the résumé-writing industry came together to create the synergy that propels us throughout the year...until the next conference! I want to acknowledge all of the Region Four members who were able to attend:

Greg Bridgeman
Patricia Chapman
Sandra Ingemansen
Mary Jo King
Sue Montgomery
Joan Murrin
Faith Sheaffer-Polen
Heather Stith
Michelle Swanson
Charlotte Weeks
Larry Williams
Sharon Williams

Your presence and support mean a lot to a Regional Rep. Thank you for your enthusiasm and support of Region Four!

I would like to welcome John Yeska of Résumé Advisors, LLC, Saginaw, MI, to Region Four. Wonderful to have you join us, John!

And now...the news!

Sandra Ingemansen of Résumé Strategies, Matteson, IL, submitted four résumés for consideration for the 2011 Toast of the Resume Industry (TORI) awards and was nominated for two categories: Best International Résumé and Best Sales & Marketing Résumé!

Murray Mann of Global Diversity Solutions Group, LLC, Chicago, IL received the 2011 Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Chicago Association of Minority Recruiters.

Sean Parker of La Crescent, MN, received his Global Professional of Human Resources and is researching some positive applications for it in résumé writing. He continues to present "Interview Skills and Resume Don'ts" to the students at Globe University-La Crosse, WI, and most recently presented "What Gets You Hired, and What Gets You Fired." He is finishing credits for a résumé-writer certification and is looking at creating a full-service HR consultancy that includes professional imagery, résumé writing, editing, and forensic HR work. Finally, he continues to work on finishing his dissertation in communication studies from Northwestern University.

Faith Polen of CareerCurve, Cleveland, OH, not only attended a "stellar

conference," she is presenting at a northeastern Ohio networking group *Dialing for Dollars: Unleash the Power of Informational Interviews*, and in December, she will present *10 Easy Ways to Sabotage Your Job Search*. On September 30th, she is participating in a Junior Achievement job fair and speaking on coaching as a career and the benefits and hazards of working from home (such as a dog getting sick on her foot, which is precisely what happened to her recently!).

Charlotte Weeks, CPRW, NCRW of Weeks Career Services, Chicago, IL, recently went live with her secondary site/business MarketMyCareer.com! Also, she had a great time at the conference, catching up with friends and meeting many new ones!

Featured Article



Appreciate What You Have By Amanda Collins, The Grammar Doctors

Although I can't explain why, it seems that an "attitude of gratitude" has really taken off in recent months. There is at least one gratitude group on Facebook, and I've seen a number of friends and colleagues begin to log their daily words of appreciation via social media. It's a trend I really like, and I think that there is huge value in being grateful for

what you have.

The Benefits

One of the best reasons to practice regular gratitude is that it helps you to stay grounded. No matter how great your life might be, taking a moment to acknowledge what you have can keep you humble and help you to not take for granted the amazing things that happen in your life. A big head is not attractive, and being thankful can help you be a more genuine, nicer person.

Conversely, when it seems that life isn't going your way at all, you can be thankful that your car started, you have a roof over your head, and that the lights turned on when you flipped the switch. Even waking up each day can be something for which to be grateful, and focusing on the positive will help you feel better when "nothing is going right." You'll quickly notice that your mood is transformed, because you'll start seeing life from a more positive perspective rather than that pessimistic stance.

You will likely find that you'll become much happier as a nice side effect of your gratitude project, which is a fantastic benefit!

Get Started

Luckily, there are no expensive tools needed to begin practicing gratitude! All you need is a few moments each day to think. Some people do keep a gratitude journal, and that can be a wonderful visual tool to review when you're having a down day, but it's not a requirement. You may also choose to share your thoughts on a website or via social media.

You can also take the easier route (my personal choice). Just before I go to bed each night, I take a few moments to reflect on my day and express my gratitude for events that occurred. I've been sharing this practice with my five-year-old son for a while now, and I noticed that it has helped him be more centered.

You're never too young or too old to start changing your attitude and focus on the good things. And the best part is that, once you do, you'll see you have more for which to be thankful each day.

Do you have suggestions for a topic in an upcoming featured article? Please send your ideas to newsletter@thenrwa.com.

Affiliate Spotlight

This week, we spotlight Southworth

You may think that Southworth is a paper company, and you're correct. But they're much more than that. They're a leading consumer retail brand offering indispensable solutions for business and personal communications. For professionals, Southworth's high-quality specialty papers provide essential usage choices and business panache. For personal use, their résumé paper and invitations allow individuals to express their unique style. No other brand offers as wide a selection as they do, nor is any other brand as readily available.



You may wonder: with pervasive electronic correspondence these days, what is the future of paper? And what of the so-called "paperless office?" Good questions. Fact is, the need for suitable paper is in great demand for the burgeoning small-office/home-office market. And for the decision-driving communications at individual, entrepreneurial, and corporate levels, the need for the best paper is flourishing as much as it always has. And, well, so are they.

Southworth is the #1 résumé paper resource, providing distinctive colors, textures, and cotton quality. Matching folders, envelopes, and other accessories lend job seekers sophistication across the board. Tell your clients: "Be prepared at your next interview. Bring résumés printed on Southworth watermarked paper."

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

Quote of the Week

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."
~ William Arthur Ward ~

Thanks for reading this issue of The NRWA Connection!

Sincerely,

The NRWA Board
