



Only 5 more months to May! 😊

Thank you to the top 'contributors' in our online community within Yahoo Groups due to their participation in polls, responding to questions and sharing job leads.



Brian Farrell
Colette Verdun
Pauline Haley

You can always find us, join us, follow us, like us, and connect with us however you choose.

<http://www.sundancegp.com/jobclub.html>



Well, it's been a bit of stretch since the last newsletter went out. Luckily my commitment to providing such was designated 'irregular' some time ago. There is always the intention to do so on a quarterly basis, but excuses—excuses—excuses. What is in the development stage for everyone to enjoy (we hope) is a blog. The title is still being determined but the content planned is around many of the same issues we've addressed in our meetings, as well as from the perspective of those decision makers who may shed some light for us. Career-conversational, so-to-speak.

Reflections...

We will be addressing this question during our December meeting: "What might you do different next year, based on your experiences this year" — and we've already gotten some feedback to share.

From Joanne: I would have considered moving out of my comfort zone; given more thought to what kind of job/experience I would feel successful at that was different from my past experience; Gone on more informational meetings regarding jobs/companies; Sought out a head hunter.

From Mary: Go by gut instinct when interviewing.

From Beverly: Never give up hope

▼ Industry Insights



Overcoming negative perceptions of unemployment: during a survey through 'CareerBuilder & Inavero' of more than 8,000 participants, it was noted that 37% of employers do in fact negatively view a resume with unemployment, but 34% said it really depends on the reasons.

The U.S. labor market is nearing a tipping point. The jobs outlook for Q4 is now more in line with recession forecasts as employers cast a greater vote of confidence in both permanent and seasonal hiring. Encouraging is that recruitment plans for small business with more than 50 employees are keeping pace with larger organizations.

New Beginnings

Nancy E.	John C.
Mary Kay H.	Pat D.
Kim R.	Brenda M.
Nancy F.	Beverly E.
Mary N.	Mary D.
Joanne L.	And if a name was missed, we apologize.
Bonnie P.	Congrats to each of you!
Laura N.	
Cathy R.	
Joyce G.	

Friends,

With a heavy heart, an aging family and a need to focus on the business that is mine – Sundance Group, I must announce that our regular monthly meetings in Palos Heights will cease as of this month. I am truly grateful for the appreciation expressed by so many of you – for the guidance, support, direction, encouragement and more. I am also grateful for the hospitality shown to all of us by the folks from the BBC and Trinity Christian College. Being in this environment, with such caring people and beautiful and peaceful surroundings (plus great coffee, etc.) has been a privilege.

Since this month in 2008, we've reached out to more than 300 individuals through their attendance at one or more meetings. Several people over this time have attended our LinkedIn workshops; others built new relationships – personally and professionally. Some have elected to subscribe as 'members' not only to receive discounts at meetings/events – but to have access to our 24/7 online community. This 'community' is not going away. Details are forthcoming. We've evolved and I hope – so have you, as an individual. Management of your 'career' is essential, at any age, in any industry.

Our meetings started in 2008 and were held on a weekly basis. By the Spring of 2009, we met twice monthly; and then in 2010, we decided that once per month was most suitable to our group. Our LinkedIn workshops have been retooled, to accommodate folks on a more regular basis. Our plan is already in place to offer private and semi-private sessions at my office in Mokena, alternating between afternoon and early evening.



In the past couple of years, we've noticed a resurgence of job opportunities through many industries. Still, the competition is tough, and the challenges many still face include that we're all just a few years older; that companies have adjusted and learned to work more with less; and the workplace and recruitment landscape keeps changing. It always will. People will always need some form of support or direction with regard to their career management, regardless at to what stage they may be at. We'll continue to provide support though maybe in a different capacity.

The Chicago Southland Job Hunters Network wasn't the first *job club* around town, and certainly won't be the last. It was my experience as a guest speaker in the past that motivated me to form a group of my own. A group that could benefit from real experience from the perspective of a corporate recruiter, with supplemental support in the form of occasional guest speakers. I am forever grateful to the speakers who have taken the time to join us; to those who helped with our mock interview sessions, and especially those who have helped me with the organization of our meetings over the past few years including Kathie Phelps, Pauline Haley, Gloria Patitucci, Joanne McAndrew and our very own etiquette expert Liane Birk. Please know that my efforts will continue, in a different format. Those who are 'current subscribed members' will continue have access to our online community, until the time it becomes either a burden for me, or insignificant to you. A new format will be disclosed early in the new year, but I can share this – it will likely take place in the Tinley Park/Mokena area, and in the early evening – so that we can support those currently employed as well, who may be seeking a career change, before a change seeks them first! This wider reach may prove to be mutually beneficial as networks crossover, and people connect with each other not just over job loss, but about job changes or even on-the-job issues. It's been my pleasure to get to know each of you!

And so it goes. I hope you stay tuned. I hope you find meaningful and regular work. I hope you stay healthy as I know that a number of people in our group and their families are experiencing serious health challenges of late. I hope that you have a wonderful holiday season and that the new year creates great opportunities for learning and growing, for meaningful work, for connecting, and possibly sharing your own knowledge with others.

