

LVP Communicator

A Monthly Newsletter of the Lehigh Valley Professionals

December, 2009 Vol. 1, No. 3



Calendar

December 4: Meeting
10 a.m.—12 noon
Location CHANGE:
First Presbyterian Church
of Bethlehem
“Volunteering as a Job
Search Strategy”
Speaker: Jim Palmquist
and Panelists from the
Lehigh Valley

New Member Training
12:15 — 12:45 p.m.

December 11: Meeting
10 a.m.—12 noon
“Effective Use of Cover
Letters; Networking;
Responding to Ads;
Thank Yous and Follow Up”
Speaker: Denise Sawitsch,
SHRM Member and HR
Professional

December 17:
Holiday Gathering
10 a.m.—12 noon
Bring a favorite covered
dish to share with your
fellow LVP members and
take a moment to enjoy the
holidays together.
NOTE: This is a Thursday
event!

December 25:
No Meeting — Holiday
Building Closed

January 1, 2010:
No Meeting — Holiday

From the Chair

To Alumni & Active LVP members:

Though the news of the rate of unemployment continuing to rise has dominated the news, we have had some of our members land and others are getting interviews. The interest in companies to look at our members for hiring has increased. We hear that and see it. The effort and the training we are doing is making a difference and the conversations from those who have found their new career attests to that, over and over again.

During this holiday season, all our membership is remaining diligent to finding the right opportunity and continuing to build their networks. Our group leadership has continued to build on the work of those who have gone before us, making the group

more capable with each passing month. We are using technology better than ever before and our membership committee is contacting twice as many members each week than was ever done in the past. The word on the street is that we are all part of something great and the word is right. We make things happen because we can.

Throughout this holiday season, all members and alumni alike, please reach out to one another and foster the assistance and bonding that makes us all special. Continue to network. As I am often fond of saying, “This is your time, now go out there and take it.”

Regards,
Dave Newton
LVP Chair
dnewton7@verizon.net

Our Alumni Commitment

From all currently active members of LVP, we wish you Seasons Greetings and a healthy and prosperous new year.

These newsletters are primarily developed to keep you informed of our activities. As you can tell from the other articles, business is very good here. As you give thanks during this season, please include our job support group in your thoughts.

We will be having a Holiday Party on December 17 at CareerLink to thank one another for the support during the

past year. If you can work this into your schedule, please join us.

As we emphasize lifelong learning within the group, we always consider you to be partners with us. Additionally, if you feel that you can help the group in any way, please contact me or another newsletter contributor. We want to hear from you.

— Thomas Emmerth
Alumni Chair
temmerth@compuserve.com



How I Landed

In September I finally got serious about the Washington, DC area.

I went to northern Virginia on September 9 and went to three job fairs. At the Monster Job Fair in Vienna (September 10), a recruiter said that she'd be getting some orders that would be a good fit. She called the next Tuesday and setup an interview for Thursday, and I got an offer the next Tuesday. It was that quick!

I started at Creative Information Technology Inc. on October 21. I'm a Systems Requirements Analyst working at the Department of State in Rosslyn, VA. The job requires a Secret clearance, which delayed my start date a bit.

Jobs do seem to be more abundant in this area than in

Philadelphia and the Lehigh Valley, especially in IT.

As I've told many people, if you are unemployed and interested in the DC area, let me know. I'll do everything I can to help you out.

Being unemployed (except for some part-time work) for 23 months has changed my view on life. I kept thinking something was wrong with me, but it was largely the stinking economy.

I'm very thankful to be where I am even though the pay is lower than on my last job and there are added living expenses here. It is far better than the alternative.

— Steve Fluharty
stevefluharty@rcn.com



IT World

The IT Committee welcomes

Maryann Csaszar, Susan Schall and Kenneth Herr, who are volunteering their time and skills in Web development and programming!

It's hard to believe December's here already. We anticipated a new website by now, but that will have to be one of our 2010 New Year's resolutions.

Don't forget to submit photos of the Lehigh Valley we can use on the website!

Please email them to:

lvppng_IT@yahoo.com

Happy holidays to all!

— Pat Arberg
IT Chair
pata2@verizon.net

November Speaker Spotlight

This past month we welcomed Mike Scheerer from HRS/TND Associates who spoke about "Another Way to Source Jobs." He demonstrated via the internet ways to search for positions using SIC/NAICS codes through the use of government websites.

The second week of November, we had two speakers from the Social Security Administration office in Allentown, Irene Remmel and Nancy Bacak speaking about "Social Security: Facts & Myths" and answered questions from the membership. On the same day, Karen McAndrew-Bush demonstrated a more efficient way to utilize the Ca-

reerLink website more effectively to search for work.

The third and final speaker for the month was Tom Emmerth, an LVP Alumni, who spoke about "Job Search During the Holidays", an enlightening presentation to assist members with ideas and tips for continuing their networking during the holidays.

— Debby Mayberry
Program Committee Chair
Debbym1745@hotmail.com

New Member Corner

With the holidays just around the corner, it is the great time to reflect and count my blessings.

I am blessed this year to have found Lehigh Valley Professionals and thankful for all the great people I have met over the last year who have helped to fine tune my job searching skills. More importantly, I am grateful for the opportunities that have been presented through the LVP experience.

As the Membership Chair, LVP has pushed me to become a better speaker and leader, two things that needed improvement. It has also opened the doors for other great volunteering opportunities. Through the gift of volunteering, I have been able to see my

unemployment not as misfortune, but as a chance to reinvent myself and make a difference.

I urge all of you to volunteer whether it is for LVP, CareerLink, or in your community. It is not only good for your mental and spiritual health; it is a great way to expand your social network. Helping others will help you!

I wish everyone a peaceful holiday season and prosperous New Year filled with a consistent table full of donuts (preferably chocolate glazed).

— Chris Hirschman
Membership Chair
chirschman@msn.com

LVP Holiday Party

Our last LVP meeting for 2009 will be a Holiday Party on Thursday, December 17. Although the day is different, the time is the usual time — 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Thursday was selected, because other CareerLink celebrations are happening that week and the room is only available then. In fact, our party must end on time, so we can clean up and be out by 1 p.m. We will start cleanup around 11:30 a.m.

Danette Negri is leading a committee to organize a very nice event. Since LVP does not have a budget to pay for the party, everyone is asked to contribute some food and/or soft drinks. Please let Danette know what you will be contributing — email her at danettenegri@ptd.net.

The program will be informal to give everyone time to circulate, network among ourselves, and wish each other good cheer during the holidays. We will also be celebrating that the economy is improving and in 2010 we will be successfully employed and become LVP alumni.

Any LVP Alumni who would like to attend are invited. If you plan to join us, contact Danette so we know how many guests to expect.

Marketing Best Practices

Marketing — process associated with promoting services. A "social and managerial process by which individuals and groups obtain what they need and want through creating and exchanging values. It is an integrated process through which companies create value for customers and build strong customer relationships in order to capture value from customers in return.

Marketing is used to create the customer, to keep the customer and to satisfy the customer.

At the LVP Marketing Committee — this is our goal.

— Vince Gorman
Marketing Chair
vgorman@ptd.net

LVP Communicator is the monthly newsletter for the Lehigh Valley Professionals (LVP). It is distributed via the web at lvprofessionals.org and by e-mail at the beginning of each month.

LVP is a free recruitment resource for companies, organizations, and recruiters seeking high-caliber professionals and consultants of all disciplines, in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding areas.

LVP meets at the PA CareerLink® Lehigh Valley, located at 1601 Union Boulevard in Allentown. For additional information call, 610-437-5627, ext. 218

