



February 2008 Newsletter

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Dear Friend of Discovering What's Next®,

Last week we announced the launch of DWN's **Campaign for Growth** and so many of you have responded! To those of you who have already donated to the Campaign, we thank you for this vote of confidence. For those of you who haven't as yet taken this step, please remember our mantra that it's *Never Too Late*. We've made it easy for you. With just one or two clicks you can make a tax-deductible contribution to help DWN take **its** next step - the hiring of a part time Executive Director. I thank you in advance.

As always there are many other things to announce. You can be assured that our focus on this Campaign for Growth has not diminished our commitment to offering our community the innovative programs and services you have grown to expect. So read on!

With great appreciation,

Carol Greenfield
President and Founder

Discover Work

Workforce50.com Publisher is speaker at DWN MeetingUp

Gene Burnard, publisher of the website Workforce50.com, spoke at a recent Meeting Up about his perspective on the keys to success in finding work after 50. The older job seeker must

- clearly and realistically identify what he or she can and wants to do;
- convey ideas in a positive and enthusiastic way; and
- keep moving, constantly generating and researching new prospects.

He offered tips on finding jobs on the Internet but acknowledged that the majority of jobs are found by conventional networking. While the web is an increasingly indispensable tool in the job search, job seekers still need to get in the door for an interview.

Participants mentioned feeling that "the shade goes down" when an older applicant, even one with the proper credentials, submits a resume or arrives for an interview. Burnard readily admits that age discrimination is alive and well. But he says effective packaging, a positive attitude and a sense of humor are essential to the process. Above all, he advocates finding companies that recognize the value of people with confidence and experience. His mission is to foster matches between older job seekers and employers who want them.

For more information about finding jobs on the Internet and favorite sites, read the full story about this event on the [DWN Discover Work website](#).

Discover Work - April 7th DWN Library Forum

Vocation Vacations: It's Never Too Late to Test-Drive Your Dream Job

Do you daydream about the "what if's" in your life and long for the chance to explore that road not taken? Perhaps you have had a successful career, but now you are looking for a new challenge that fits more with your current life stage and gives you an opportunity to explore your passions and interests.

Brian Kirth, founder of VocationVacations and author of *Test-Drive Your Dream Job* (Hachette Group, 2008), and **Roberta Taylor**, professional Life Coach and founder of Pathmaking for Life understand where you are coming from, and can help you get to where you want to go. Kurth and Taylor, along with "vocationers" over age 50 will be featured at the spring Forum of Discovering What's Next® on Monday, April 7, 2008 at 7 pm at the Newton Free Library.

Four years ago, Kurth founded VocationVacations, a one-of-a-kind company that offers its clients ("vocationers") a one- to-three day, hands-on opportunity to "test-drive" their dream job under the tutelage of expert mentors. As a dream-job expert, Kurth has appeared on the TODAY Show, CNN, NBC Nightly News and has been quoted in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Fortune Magazine, just to name a few. A book signing will follow the forum.

Discover Volunteer Service



Do you recognize any of these happy volunteers?

Back: Mike Richmond; Sam Bielak; Bruce Narasin; Bob Pill; Peter Goldberg

Front: Gerry Tishler, Mike Rosenberg; Fred Randall

Thanks to the DWN Men's Group for demonstrating the importance and the joy of giving back as they served Christmas Dinner at St. Francis House in Boston.

What Does Volunteering Mean for You?

Do you want to travel and help folks at the same time? Meet new people in your community? Find a child who needs you? These are examples of some of the possibilities that have come up as people discuss their volunteer interests with SOAR55 representative Nancy Bloom at the DWN HUB at Newton Free Library.

If you share the burgeoning interest in volunteering as a way to connect with community, learn new skills and make a difference, and would like to clarify your options, Nancy can help you sort out the many available opportunities and SOAR55 will make the connections that will ensure you a successful volunteer experience. Nancy is next available in the DWN HUB on Thursday morning February 28 and again on March 27. Call 617-796-1419 to let DWN know of your interest in an appointment with Nancy.

Of possible volunteer interest:

- **SOAR** is seeking volunteers for its Nonprofit Management Consulting Group. Receive valuation training and work on a team project to help nonprofits operate more effectively. Contact Jan Latorre-Stiller at 617-969-5906, ext. 120 or email at jlatorre-stiller@ncscweb.org.

- **Public libraries** are seeking volunteers in this age group to help educate our community in the area of retirement investment planning. Here are two timely opportunities:
 - The Boston Public Library is seeking volunteer discussion facilitators for its new investor education initiative entitled **How Can I Afford Retirement?** If you are interested in the financial aspects of retirement and can facilitate a small group, the project team would welcome your involvement. The program will begin in April with training held in late March. For more information, email affordretirement@bpl.org.
 - The Newton Free Library is seeking retired CPAs, bankers, accountants, and other financial professionals to serve as volunteer coaches for the Library's new grant-funded **Retirement Planning Club** for women. The volunteer coach cannot be a registered broker, registered investment counselor or registered financial advisor. For more information, contact Nancy Johnson, Reference Department, 617-796-1380.

DWN and New Art Center Collaboration Continues

Kick off event for the DWN - New Art Center Collaboration will take place on March 20th at 7 pm at the New Art Center located at 61 Washington Park, Newtonville, with a film screening of *Aging Artfully*. Filmmaker Amy Gorman will be on hand to discuss this delightful film which advocates for involvement with the creative arts in later years. Suggested donation of \$5.00. For more information about this event, call Kate at 617-964-3424.

Be sure to stop by the DWN HUB beginning February 13th for a new mini-exhibit by Newton artist Wendy Israelite. For more information on this exhibit and opportunities for future exhibits, contact Barbara Gordon at barbgordon@rcn.com

This DWN - New Art Center collaboration seeks to reinforce the importance of creative exploration that both organizations feel is so valuable to people at all life stages but of particular renewed interest after age 50.

DWN Calendar Items

Author Talk:

Karen Stabiner, Author, *The Empty Nest, What Happens When the Kids Leave Home?* to speak on **Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 7 pm** at the Newton Free Library, Druker Auditorium

DWN will host author Karen Stabiner telling stories featured in her recent book "Empty Nest" of nuclear families, single parents, step-parents, gay parents, old and young parents, telling the truth about relationships, love, and freedom after the kids fly the coop. This book has received rave reviews, including from **The Los Angeles Times** that praises the anthology as "a much-needed road map for those of us who will be making the same trip."

Transition Talks® are a great way to stay connected. They are wonderful opportunities to share and learn from others.

Schedule of Transition Talks®

Evenings: Tuesday, February 26th, 7 pm
Tuesday, March 25th, 7 pm

Afternoons: Monday, March 10th, 2:30 pm

Please check the [DWN website calendar](#) listing for further details.

That's all for now. Thanks again for your support



Carol Greenfield, President
Discovering What's Next®