

News from Debbie

December 2008

Happy Holidays!

Best wishes to you and yours this Holiday Season!

Be good to yourself, to family, to strangers, to colleagues, to neighbors, to friends, ...and to strangers....remember you never know when they will help you or you will be able to help them!

Merry Merry ~ Happy Happy ~ and Best Wishes for 2009!

Debbie

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Top 10 Holiday Tips For Career Success

Every year as the holidays approach, most jobseekers and career changers make the mistake of halting all their efforts. They believe there is no point in pursuing new opportunities during the holidays, and that nobody is making hiring decisions until late January, so "why bother?" Many decide to do absolutely nothing from mid-November to the second or third week in January!

Making these kinds of assumptions about the holidays is, again, a huge mistake! When it comes to the holidays, I suggest you become a "contrarian" - and do what all the other job seekers are not doing. Since most of them are taking an extended break, this opens up real opportunities for you!

The reality is that the holidays are an excellent time to develop and create new contacts for your job search or career transition. Many companies are completing their budget planning for the next fiscal year. This is often the best time to get in front of hiring managers to create a position for you next year. Many managers have to fill openings early in the year or they may lose the budget for that position. Also, once year-end bonuses are paid, a predictable percentage of employees will leave their jobs, creating new vacancies! Here are 10 career-savvy tips for the holidays:

1. IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS
2. TUNE IN TO THE NETWORK
3. SMALL TALK REAPS BIG BENEFITS
4. CONVERSATION STARTERS AND STOPPERS
5. VOLUNTEER
6. CALL PEOPLE
7. SEND HOLIDAY CARDS
8. 'TIS BETTER TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE
9. PLUG IN AND TURN ON
10. BECOME AN OPPORTUNITY MAGNET

If you're currently in career transition or looking to move-up at your organization, these strategies should give you a new perspective on the holidays! Instead of "taking a vacation" from your career development activities, take full advantage of this overlooked opportunity to make real progress in your quest. Then, you'll really have something to celebrate!

Email me if you want to further discuss these suggestions.

[email Debbie](#)

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