

MARCH MIDLIFE CAREER NEWSLETTER

Last week there was a little winter snow in the air, but the ground had warmed and nothing would stick. A few nights ago the wind was so strong, I couldn't figure out why birds weren't being flung through the air. Last night was filled with thunderstorms.

The signs that spring is arriving is different for every area, but the warming ground, the rash of storms are all signs for us in the Midwest. In other areas, the change of seasons may only take on the slightest difference.

When I lived in San Diego, I could tell by the slight change of the scent in the air, depending on the blooming flowers that a new season had begun. Nevertheless seasons were changing

Nature reinvents itself with every season. So can we.

The seasons neither stay forever, nor do we want them to. We are sure, positively, that each season can and will reinvent itself without fail. And even though, in the Midwest, spring comes in with the crash of noise and the resistance of winter, there is never a doubt that the elements that surround us are reinventing themselves once more.

The changeover to spring is almost here.

Not so easy for us to reinvent ourselves. The slightest resistance can hold us back or stop us dead in our tracks. Even though we are many-sided, with considerably more facets than just four seasons, change and reinventing ourselves can tangle up our very being.

In a coaching session, when I probe along with you to find out who you are, I am continually astounded, that there is so much more than that! No matter the height of present achievement and even if so much is obviously in place, for each one of you that I coach, I learn —

— that you, and you, and you are capable of so much more, and that your new season, the reinventing of a new facet of your life, is always right there, underneath the surface, just waiting to begin anew.

The advantage of today's world and the mindset of the new 21st Century is that there is longevity, health, resources, a new open-mindedness about changing courses – yes, more than any other century so far, you can reinvent yourself. You can change course; you can have more.

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**My Progress Report:** I am in process of writing an e-course for **Retire, Rewire, & Restart**. I will soon be able to give you the new web address and you can download a 6-session, e-course devoted to change ---free. I will include basics from rethinking your career to writing a resume with a very different approach.

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STATS, SITES & STUFF

Source: From Career Masters Institute, information compiled by **Kathy Bitschenauer of New Pathways Career Coaching in Puyallup, WA**
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~~~Stats~~~

Follow-up is critical to job search success

According to a survey of 150 hiring executives, recently conducted by Robert Half International, a whopping **82%** said job seekers should follow-up within two weeks of submitting application materials. Only **5%** said professionals should refrain from communicating once a resume has been sent.

Executives were asked, "How long should a job seeker wait to follow up with the hiring manager after submitting a resume?" Their responses:

- One week or less **37%**
- One to two weeks **45%**
- Two to three weeks **9%**
- Three weeks or more **3%**
- Don't follow up **5%**
- Don't know **1%**

Executives also were asked, "In your opinion, what is the best way for a job seeker to follow up with a hiring manager after submitting a resume?" The top three responses were via e-mail (38 percent), telephone (33 percent) and a handwritten note (23 percent). Bottom line? Executives expect you to follow-up. Don't fall into the trap of thinking you're being a pest by checking on the status of your application.

Source: Jobs and Moms Newsletter, March 1, 2006, published by Nancy Collamer

~~~Sites~~~

**MilitaryConnection.com** announced its launch as an employment site for military personnel transitioning into the private sector. The site is the product of a company that has been handling print recruitment advertising in military base newspapers for six years. It offers an online directory of employers, a virtual job fair, military pay conversion calculators, and other resources. MilitaryConnections.com also provides the employers that are its clients with a discount that it then encourages them to donate to charity, including military-related charitable organizations, which it lists on its site.

<http://www.militaryconnection.com/> Source: Weddle's Newsletter, March 2, 2006

~~~Stuff~~~

It is time for Girl Scout Cookies too.