



NETWORK NEWS

AUGUST 2009

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Palmer Group
225-7000

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PRESIDENT'S NOTE

August is already here, the State Fair is gearing up, and the kids are getting ready to head back to school. I don't know about all of you, but summer sure seemed to fly this year and all the talk about the start of the football season gets me excited. As we near our first official meeting of the year, the board has continued to meet and we remain energized with all of the good things that we are working on.

I first want to thank those who took the time to complete the survey that was distributed. This information has proven to be very valuable in helping us plan sessions that you all want to be part of. If you have not completed the survey yet, I ask you again to take 5 minutes to do so. Here is a link to the survey ([SURVEY](#)). Again, we understand firsthand how valuable your time is, and your input into our network is definitely wanted and needed.

Speaking of the survey, an overwhelming number of responders were interested in an informal gathering prior to our first scheduled meeting on September 17th. One of the key things the board has been focusing on this year is increased ways for our members to network. This is one of the ways to do this. **We will be hosting a "happy hour" at Jimmy's American Café (8th Street in West Des Moines) for members and non-members alike on August 27th from 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM.** We not only want to get current members together to catch up from the summer, but we also want to use this event to introduce potential new members to the Des Moines Leadership Network and show them what we are about. An invitation preceded this newsletter that speaks further about this event. The Leadership Network will take care of paying for the appetizers, so come on over for good food, drinks, and company. Please plan to attend and invite at least one person to come with you!

One other thing in regards to networking that the board has been working on and talking about is making our club more exclusive in

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PRESIDENT'S NOTE CONTINUED

regards to industry. We want to attract members from diverse industries and in doing so, feel it could be in the best interest of our network and the people in our network to move this direction. We feel this will help with reciprocity and in building relationships. More details to come on this as we are just in the initial stages of discussion here. To be clear, if we currently have more than one member from the same industry, we will in no way exclude those individuals from renewing and we encourage them to remain members! If any of you have specific thoughts or questions regarding this, please contact me directly with questions.

Now on to the discussion of speakers. In looking at the survey results of those who completed it enjoy the people and networking aspect of our club followed up by excellent speakers. We continue to work on lining up speakers you all want to hear and Austin Palmer, President and Owner of Palmer Group will lead off our series of meetings in September. The market has been a tricky one over the past year and Austin will shed some light not only on the job market in today's economy, but in running a leading, successful business during these challenging times. A full bio for Austin follows this article. As a reminder, we continue to welcome suggestions for additional speakers throughout the year.

Hope to see you all in August!

Thank you,

David Leto

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Austin Palmers
Bio:



Austin Palmer, PHR
President, Palmer Group

I grew up in Urbandale and went to school at UNI. I graduated with an accounting degree and began my career in public accounting with Grant Thornton in Colorado Springs. After three years in public accounting and four years in banking I relocated back to Des Moines where I began my career in the employment industry with a large international firm. I started as a Search Consultant specializing in Accounting and held various management positions in my ten years with that firm.

I started Palmer Group eleven years ago with a vision to build the premier employment firm in central Iowa. We started out offering search services and gradually expanded to offer a continuum of employment services to our clients that include search, staffing, consulting, outplacement and assessment. I am very fortunate to have surrounded myself with many outstanding and committed people here as we have grown to a total staff of twenty nine. We provided our service to approximately 300 companies yearly and our company currently represents over seven thousand active candidates. I am very pleased with our progress after eleven years and even more excited about our potential in the years to come!

On a personal note...I am married with two great boys. Much of my free time is spent attending their activities. I've been a sports fan all of my life and enjoy following college football and basketball and the Chicago Cubs! I am an active member in the Contributors Breakfast Club and the Iowa Association of Staffing Professionals. I also enjoy golf and spend any extra time I have on the course!


TRANSITIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Please welcome new member **Abi Fangman**, an account executive with CED in Ankeny. Thank you to Tyler Brady for inviting Abi to join.

Marlena will make one final trip to the post office box to find any remaining renewal checks. A new membership directory will follow soon after!

**DON'T FORGET THE GET-TOGETHER
ON AUGUST 27TH!**





DES MOINES LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Preparing tomorrow's leadership team today

Meets 3rd Thursday of the month -- September to May
11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Des Moines Embassy Club
801 Grand Avenue, 40th Floor

dmLeadershipNetwork.org
desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com
515-286-4953

The Des Moines Leadership Network is an established networking group for professionals in Greater Des Moines.

Our Mission

To enhance the leadership experience, knowledge, growth, and commitment to ethical practices and professionalism of our members through program meetings and networking with one another.

CLIP AND SAVE MEETING REMINDER

New Member Application

Regular Member Annual Dues: \$95.00

Retirees may join for half price

Name _____

Title _____

Company or employer _____

Street address or postal address _____

City _____ ZIP Code _____

Email address _____

Phone _____ Mobile # _____

Professional certification _____

Company/employer Web address (for Leadership Network Web links)

MAIL TO:

Leadership Network P.O. Box 30128 Des Moines, IA 50310

