



EmpowerChangeNow Newsletter

Life Transformations, LLC. – *empowering change*

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Life Transformations was

founded in 2003 by Joanne Aaronson.



Joanne's mission is to foster empowerment in the individual to achieve his/her ideal life including relationships, career, and financial situation. Or for the executive, to achieve Enlightened Leadership to empower their best organization possible. The [Empower Change Now Newsletter](#) was started in 2007 to support this mission by sharing information about the underlying paradigm shift necessary to empower change in the individual for unlimited possibilities.

Dear Readers,

At the start of the year, it's always a good time to assess where we are, to be thankful, and to set the stage for prosperity. My articles this time deal with promoting the right energy to manage others and foster success.

As usual, I welcome your comments or experiences with this material.

Always in light, Joanne

Using an Ideal of Service to Manage Stakeholders

If you've been in the working world for awhile, whether public or private sector, you know how tricky managing the various stakeholders involved in your activities can be. For program/project managers, managing the key players that provide input to their projects is vital to their success. So what's the trick to it?

Over the years, I've had lots of different kinds of situations in which people both inside and outside the project had extreme influence. The formal methodology is to create a spreadsheet with:

- ◆ the name of the person, their role, the type of influence, and how best to manage them; that is, what type of information, communication, etc. will help them understand the project, your actions and thus be a better stakeholder to serve the project in the long run.

If you've been a reader of my newsletter then you know I bring in the right brain creative side whenever possible since a balanced brain situation normally produces the best result. In the case discussed, I believe one's intention of providing service to the particular stakeholders is the best approach. Using an ideal of service is the answer. An ideal is like putting on glasses since this belief colors all the actions and behaviors that you do or show.

Fostering an ideal of service means that you hold the individual's best interests at heart. There is no textbook answer for how to accomplish this; simply, engage your heart as well as your head and the answers will come to you.

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Lessons in Abundance for the New Year

Can you believe that another year has come and gone? At the beginning of a new year, it's a most auspicious time to reflect on what we've gained and perhaps lost over the last year and count our blessings. As is the custom in the Far East, at the time of the Chinese New Year, presents are given, sometimes stretching the family budget.

Sound familiar? What I've also noticed, and someone please correct me if I've got it wrong, is that the Asian community is into giving away items at a very low price that would otherwise be sold at a higher price.

A case in point is some pendants that I purchased over the weekend on e-bay for my new jewelry making hobby. I not only was quite fortunate in that others did not bid, giving me the advantage of winning the items, but they were priced very low at the start. Some of the items had free shipping.... from China! At first, I was exhilarated to have won the items. Then I realized that the shops were selling the pieces at a loss on purpose in honor of the Chinese New Year. I don't know for sure, but it would make sense that in their culture, it's good luck to give gifts... even to strangers.

Of course, there may be another more practical reason for the low prices and that's to simply get rid of merchandise prior to the end of the year inventory. I prefer to believe that this situation, which I saw repeatedly was done on purpose to honor their holiday and to act in prosperity in order to prepare for a prosperous year.

It's a basic law of the universe that what we give out comes back to us multiplied. Thus by acting in abundance, we create the energy of abundance for ourselves.

I really like this custom, not only because I benefited from it, but because I believe in the philosophy behind it. Translated into western thought, give to charity, give to your clients, be of service and see what comes back to you. Use a service mentality to be just a bit kinder to your clients and then stand aside for all the good things coming your way. I certainly found this to be true when I was selling telephone systems back in the early days of divestiture. I provided as much information as I could, way beyond what was related to the specific sale, all in the interest of helping my prospective clients. In their minds, "if she's this nice to us before the sale, how will she be afterwards!" My clients called for me years after I left the business. Using a service attitude is being in abundance and will attract wonderful clients as well as help you to attain the prosperity you desire.

Use this time of year not only for reflection, but for action to create the energy that will help you be prosperous for the balance of the year. Start by giving out so that you can set up the energy to receive.



Remember:

- ◆ **Think abundance**
- ◆ **Give to charity**
- ◆ **Act in service**



Events and Happenings

For all the pet lovers out there, I'm letting you know that my darling fur baby Judas of almost 18 years crossed over this past week. A celebration of life ceremony was held for her on Friday. She will always be remembered.

Balance Your Life Corner



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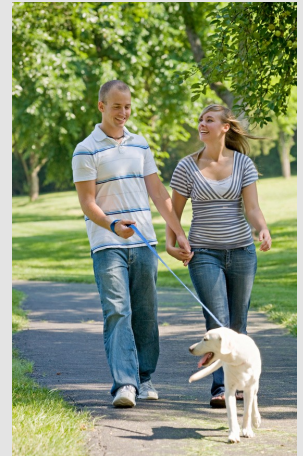
Want to know more?

We're on the web:

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Walking Promotes Memory

We know that walking is good exercise, but did also know that a stroll helps the brain to process memories. As we age, we can begin to have those senior moments. A University of Illinois study found that when otherwise sedentary adults started walking 40 minutes three times a week, a brain scan showed that the part of the brain used in memory formation was 2 percent larger. Bigger is better in this case! It's like subtracting two years from the mental aging process. Wow, I'm all for that! Let's get out there and take a brisk walk. (Source Venture Inward, the magazine the ARE)



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An ideal is like putting on glasses since this belief colors all the actions and behaviors that you do or show. Ideals include being of service, having an attitude of gratitude, etc. Fostering an ideal of service means that you hold the individual's best interests at heart. There is no textbook answer for how to accomplish this; simply, engage your heart as well as your head and the answers will come to you.

One example is when a stakeholder was causing a lot of trouble for a client at a very large government agency. I was called in to see how I could remedy the issues on the project and this stakeholder acting out during meetings was certainly one of the sticky items on the table for me to look at. After sitting in on a meeting or two, and personally witnessing this individual doing his best to disrupt the flow of the project session, I made the following suggestion to the project manager: Go talk to him and ask him point blank what he needs to feel comfortable in working with this project. You see, I felt that he needed to feel important. What he really wanted was to be heard. The project manager did as I suggested and the session went very well. The irritable stakeholder became a staunch supporter of the project. Problem solved.

Easy? Well, it sure seems that way when you use an ideal of service to manage your stakeholders.

