

# What's News

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### “What Did You Say”

*On multiple occasions complaints have been made that I don't listen. And in fact I have made the same complaint of my spouse, though not as often. Threats had been made that I would be taken (by force if necessary) to an audiologist for a hearing test.*

*Finally threats became reality. After several postponements the big day came when we were going to the audiologist for our tests. It appears little has changed since I was in second grade in the testing protocol. You sit in a little room with headphones on. The audiologist has instructed you to raise your hand when you hear a tone. I wasn't sure if I had heard a tone or not but raised my hand when I thought one had sounded and in a flash it was over.*

*I had actually gone second for the test, and Susan had gone first. While in the waiting room I had time to map out my strategy. I thought of all the times I had not heard what Susan, or for that matter others had said to me. I thought of multiple times in restaurants when I really struggled to catch what people were saying. I remembered how many times in classes in recent years I had ask participants to repeat themselves. Therefore, even though I was embarrassed that I was getting older and my hearing was failing, I was preparing for the bad news. I*

*would need a hearing aid. Of course on the bright side, my damaged hearing would let me off the hook for “not listening” I wouldn’t be a bad husband just damaged goods. Old equipment but with pure intent.*

*So I went in to get my test results and much to my chagrin my hearing is great! And not great for “my age”. But really good. Though thank goodness, I’m not buying a hearing aid, I have lost my excuse for not hearing. So marriages aside I am now thinking, “if my hearing is so good how come I can’t hear in a crowded restaurant?” The audiologist then explains that restaurants are now designed to be noisy so you can’t sit and talk, a direct attempt to churn the tables faster. I was appalled! A couple of my favorite chains are on the list designed for no conversation. No wonder I can’t hear, they don’t want me to hear. He went on to explain that with age comes “processing problems” where you technically hear the sounds but don’t translate it into concepts as quickly or as well.*

*So I am choosing my restaurants a little differently. I am only getting takeout from the noisy ones with good food.*

*I am trying to focus and not use my aging processor as an excuse. Fortunately we had a kid with auditory processing issues. If I stop and think I know what to do: make sure you have the person’s full-undivided attention, before you launch, never confuse they aren’t talking with they are listening to you, make the effort, slow down and focus. I really can’t do two things at once any more.*

*Let us know what you think and your experiences with this issue.*

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### **Training For Change Agents and Change Agent Trainers**

This workshop is scheduled for November 1-4, 2005 and January 10-13, 2006. Its purpose is to prepare you to be a skilled **Change Agent** for your company as well as a better presenter and trainer. If you are interested in attending the prerequisite is attendance at one other SVVCI workshop. Both John and Susan lead this workshop together and it is 4 days long.

### **Achieving Commitment**

November 8-10, 2005 are the only dates scheduled for this workshop for 2005/2006.

This workshop explores what you are committed to in your life. But it also helps you gain commitment from those who work for you or with you or above you.

Many project managers and team leaders have found this workshop important to their continued success in their roles.

### **Productive Relationships**

How to build relationships that are productive is the main purpose of this workshop. You will build your skill base and develop better relationships out of which you will reach goals.

This workshop is scheduled for November 29-December 1, 2005 and March 7-9, 2006.

### **Women Moving Forward**

Two are scheduled for 2006; February 28-March 2 and June 6-8.

This means there are only 24 spaces available in this workshop for all of 2006.

If you think you or someone you know may be right for this workshop give us a call and we will be happy to discuss it with you and them.

#### **How to enroll in our workshops:**

You can call us at our office and register by phone,

You can e-mail us and register via e-mail, or

You can register via our website.

To hold one of our workshops at your company call us. We'd be happy to discuss it with you.

If you don't see a workshop listed for 2005/06 that you want to attend or send someone to let us know and we'll get back to you.

#### **Movie Recommendation**

We think the movie **An Unfinished Life** with Morgan Freeman, Robert Redford and Jennifer Lopez is a wonderful movie about incompleteness in one's life and taking the opportunity for completion.

#### **Book Recommendation**

**Children of the Self-Absorbed, a Grownups Guide to Getting Over Narcissistic Parents** by Nina W. Brown, Ed.D., L.P.C.

This book is a wonderful handbook for those of you whose parents or grandparents acted as if the world revolved around them not you. There are great suggestions for how to deal with relatives who are still alive and for how you can minimize the cost to you and your children from this kind of parent.

## ***Congratulations Are In Order .....***

To Marty Aiken on his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and successfully climbing Mount Fuji in Japan

To Isabel Greaves and family on their new baby. Isabel is just back to work at P & G Latin America after maternity leave.

# PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

## 2005 Courses

TRAINING FOR CHANGE AGENTS & CHANGE AGENT TRAINERS	November 1-4	Lonetree, CO	\$4,500
PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIPS	Nov. 29, 30-Dec. 1	Lonetree, CO	\$3,000

## 2006 Courses

TRAINING FOR CHANGE AGENTS & CHANGE AGENT TRAINERS	January 10-13	Lonetree, CO	\$4,500
WOMEN MOVING FORWARD	Feb 28 – Mar 2	Lonetree, CO	\$3,000
PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIPS	March 7-9	Lonetree, CO	\$3,000
WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP RETREAT	May 8-10	Edwards, CO	\$4,200
WOMEN MOVING FORWARD	June 6-8	Lonetree, CO	\$3,000

***To register for any course, retreat, or conference, contact our office.  
We also accept MasterCard & Visa***

*There is a \$500 discount when two or more people attend the same  
\$3,000+ workshop from The same company and location.*

***You must register together and attend together***

***All prices are subject to change. No refunds are given.***