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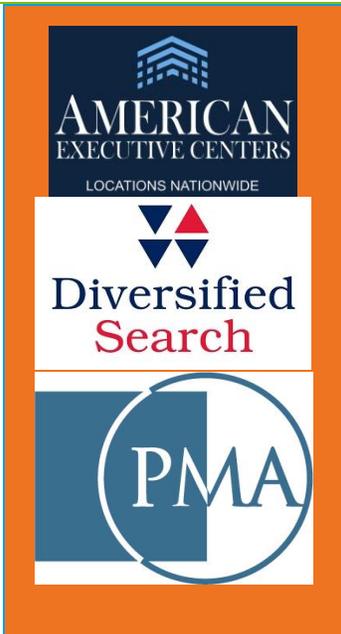
Dear Maureen,

All the news from GPSEG in less than 3 minutes!

Getting Ready to Think BIG

The GPSEG Board and a task force of additional, representative members are embarking on a Strategic Planning expedition to develop organizational goals and strategies for the upcoming three years. At the heart of the process will be a focus on how GPSEG can address the current and anticipated needs of members, allocate its resources and programs appropriately to achieve those goals, and create the structures and processes that keep our organization focused on member value, engagement, and interests. GPSEG Vice-Chair Bill Dowling is leading the task force, and GPSEG has engaged Marcia Steele to facilitate the group's process. Foundational to the planning process is the member input provided to Bailey Brand Consulting as part of the GPSEG branding project.

The team will be meeting for a 1 ½-day planning retreat in late August, and the resulting plan will then be communicated to the members of the MAC, comprised of all committee and subgroup leaders, who will then develop action plans to achieve the goals. The budget for 2017 and future years will support the allocation of resources to ensure support of the plan. In conjunction with the MAC, the Board will finalize and formally approve the Strategic Plan, share it with the members, and report regularly to members and member groups on progress achieved. Watch for future articles that detail the plan's development and for communications at various meetings and



events, including opportunities for ongoing member input and ways for members to get involved with new activities.

Barbara Taylor Dishes on Passions for Cooking, Animals and Avocations



In this edition of *ConnEx*, Marketing Committee Member Robert Hackman is *The Introspector*, exploring the "full of life" world of Barbara Taylor, CPCU. Barbara is a founding member and partner, with Jan Lowenstein, of JanBara Associates, an industry agnostic consulting and coaching firm. Barbara is also the co-lead for the GPSEG Membership Onboarding Team, which includes the Guide Program for new members. She has been a member of GPSEG since August 2009. We thought it would be

fun and interesting to get her take on a few important topics and so away we go.

What is one unique thing people may not know about you?

I have over 1,000 cookbooks and magazines. (She actually likes to read recipes more than cooking them.)

Please explain:

I enjoy reading recipes - how the ingredients are used to create the final product. BTW, you may think a recipe is a recipe is a recipe. They are not; some recipes are written well - while others are not.

What is a secret passion of yours?

I love to make homemade ice cream and lately I've gotten into macaroons. I have made 10 flavors of macaroons so far.

Tell me something you dream about at night.

A mystery and science fiction aficionado, I dream of writing mystery books about a gumshoe executive coach that solves business crimes.

How many siblings in your family?

I am one of five. The youngest of five, with four older brothers, a truly blended family.

If you could describe yourself in one word what would it be?

Enthusiastic! When I commit to something I am all in.

Who was your hero in grade school?

Mickey Mantle - I had my own baseball name - Babs Manicucci

Why?

I was a good athlete and a true "tomboy. I really didn't see a gender issue. I even went out on Halloween as a football player donned out in full pads.

What are some of the dream jobs you've thought about?

I have had several. To be a fashion designer is one. I've even had dreams where I've designed clothing. Another, when I was to be a dancer - more modern than ballet. And, a third is to be a photographer. I think I have a good "eye".

Tell me about your pets at home.

Big lover of animals, I am between large dogs at the moment, typically have Newfoundlands and Pyrenees. And, we have a number of animals on our two acre property - deer, chipmunks, rabbits, and coyotes. A number of fawn have been born on our property. My husband and I consider ourselves "Grandparents".

What's the craziest thing on your bucket list?

To eat breakfast with a giraffe. There's a place in Africa called "Giraffe House" where giraffes roam freely and may actually join you for a meal. How amazing is that!

What is your top priority in life?

To know that I made a difference with a person or organization! That someone/something is in a better place.

Well there we have it, GPSEG members. Now you know a little bit more about Barbara Taylor. Be sure to introduce yourself to her at the next Human Capital Management Sub-group meeting, which she co-chairs with Lori Rosenthal and David Wragg. Barbara, thanks for taking your time to be interviewed. You can reach reach her at btaylor@janbara.com.

Until the next time,
-The Introspector

Membership Campaign: We're in the Final Quarter

We are in the final quarter of the GPSEG Membership [Campaign](#), and so far 73 members have sponsored successful new members for GPSEG. Are you one of them? Ten members who have sponsored a minimum of two approved applications have earned a complimentary subgroup event registration. The Campaign's leader, **Bill Borton**, has earned complimentary membership for a year as well as complimentary registrations to subgroups and socials. Why is it important to sponsor new members? Because it is the best way to share the gift of networking and is the **ONLY** way that GPSEG's membership - and therefore the vital network that is our community - grows. If EACH member just reached out to ONE person, our membership would remain at a healthy level and ensure its vitality. Surely you know one person who would benefit from being introduced to the

premiere senior level networking organization in the Region! Reach out today.

Members in the News

Scott Sachs was recently interviewed by a local TV Station. Click [here](#) to view.

Have news to share? Please send it to maureen.waddington@gpseg.org for inclusion in the next newsletter.

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Please contact GPSEG Headquarters.

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