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This Week's Featured
Special Promotion From:

Todd Gouy

PostNet Owner - Woodinville, WA

Company Picnics
More Than Just
a Social Gathering

PAST ISSUES

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Food For Thought

"A clear vision, backed by definite plans, gives you a tremendous feeling of confidence and personal power."

Brian Tracy
Self-Help Author

visit Mark's profile at



Mark Palazzo
Publisher of
"Will Work For Food"
425.931.3440

YourCreativeMark.com

Will Work For Food

This week features a special promotion for all recipients of the "Will Work For Food" newsletter:

PostNet in Woodinville, WA will print up to **(10) ten color or (25) black and white, 8.5x11 copies** for **FREE**. Use this promotion to print your resume, real estate flier or family newsletter! PDF files can be sent via email, or can be dropped off on a CD to the the Woodinville store.

The Woodinville PostNet is co-owned and operated by one of my closest friends, Todd Gouy. PostNet services include printing and finishing, full and self-service copying, notary services; expert packaging; and worldwide shipping via FedEx, UPS, DHL and the U.S. Postal Service. They offer printing on promotional products, private mailbox rentals and office supplies.

Mention the "Will Work For Food" newsletter, and receive **25% off all other services.**

Stop by and meet Todd and take advantage of this special offer.

And feel free to share this offer with a friend.

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Company Picnics - More Than Just a Social Gathering

"The number of annual employee picnics has fallen in the last five years, mostly due to post-9/11 budget pressures," says Lisa Hurley, editor of Special Events Magazine, a trade publication for special event designers, producers and suppliers. "If companies do spend money on events," she says, "they are usually for clients, not staff."

Continues >>

I worked almost a decade for a medical device company that had about 75 employees. Each year we had a company picnic, which sometimes consisted of catered food, other times it featured a pot-luck theme. Some years, the picnic budget was tight and would only allow for an employee softball game, other years featured dunk-tanks and bounce-houses. Some years even had special drawings for incredible prizes. Having worked there for almost ten years, I can honestly say that each year was special, regardless of who brought what, or how much money was spent. The reason? It was about “the people” about leadership showing their appreciation for our work all year long.



T-shirt artwork, designed by Mark Palazzo

There’s no question that company events boost loyalty. When companies make that extra effort, employees respond. It is one small thing that can make the difference between a good company and a great company in the eyes of its employees.

I have assembled a quick collage of past company picnics that I had the pleasure of attending. Who knows you may see a familiar face or two. Click [here](#).

The Picnic Challenge - I Dare You

It can seem like a daunting and potentially expensive task to plan a picnic or similar event, but it doesn’t have to be.

You don’t have the money to spend on a picnic or party, you say? There are many public sites/parks where all it takes is a phone call to reserve a spot. And a pot-luck event is always a fun way to sample that cooking your cubicle neighbor is always bragging about!

What would we do once the food has been eaten? Well, potato-sack races and water balloon fights don’t cost more than the sacks and the balloons. Have an egg-toss competition, or have Accounting and Customer Service engage in tug-of-war battle --- there are endless, inexpensive possibilities. Coordination, whether taken on by your in-house events facilitator or your human resources department, will fall into place. You’ll find that once the suggestion has been put out there, many of your employees will respond enthusiastically and be willing to help in some big and small ways.

Picnics and company-sponsored events are great for morale and team-building too. They encourage employees to get to know each other in a more casual setting, and allow some departments to interact with co-workers they never see, but have had only contact with through email or telephone.

visit Mark’s profile at



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Social gatherings outside of work give employees a chance to develop deeper connections with each other helping them foster better, more cohesive working environments. More importantly, they offer a way to show employees that you care about them and their families, that you appreciate their hard work at making your business a success. And let’s face it-if they feel valued, you’re going to get the very best they have to offer. And your business is only as good as the effort your employees put into it!

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