

# PEER BULLETIN

*A Magazine for Peer Assistance, Mentorship, and Coaching*

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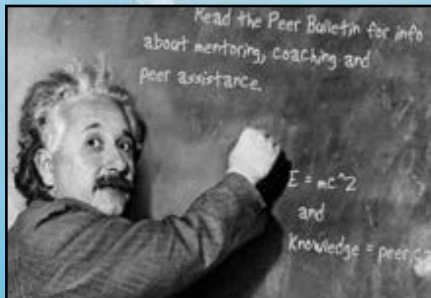
## **INTENTIONAL PEER SUPPORT AS A FACILITATOR OF SOCIAL CHANGE**

*By Shery Mead*



## **PEER COACHING CIRCLES: WHY WE USE THEM AND WHY WE LIKE THEM**

*By Marissa Tirona and Michelle Gislason*



## **NINE LESSONS FROM MY WORLD'S BEST MENTORS**

*By Chester Elton*



## **WHO REALLY SAID THAT?**

*By Corey Robin*

**PLUS A BOOK REVIEW, A TRIBUTE TO THREE MENTORS & THEIR LEGACY, CHAMPIONS, NEW STUFF, CONFERENCES, FUNDING, RESEARCH & MORE**

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# CULTURAL SOUP FOR THE COACHING SOUL

VIKKI BROCK



(Editor's Note: Vikki Brock has graciously prepared a number of brief stories from her book: *The Sourcebook of Coaching History*. Each month during 2013, the *Peer Bulletin* is privileged to include one of these stories. Note: Links typically are for current work of group or individual.)

While a majority of the world's first coaches were trained in the United States, and the field's first professional associations were formed there, coaching emerged in the rest of the world soon after it did in the United States—and in some cases, even before.

The issue of who was first to the field is somewhat pointless; far more important is the effect individual cultures had in shaping coaching's varied appearances around the world. [Melinda Sinclair](#) (2006, pers. com.) notes that while “every coaching approach is culturally influenced, [the] link between the cultural soup [coaches] are swimming in and what they are doing in coaching” is not always apparent. That the difference exists, however, seems unarguable.

[Werner Vogelauer](#), speaking of Europe, puts it this way: I think the development of coaching in Europe is also different enough. There's no

similarity between the new European countries [and] the central east European countries. There's a difference between these countries and also the German-speaking part, as well as the Nordic part, and as well as the rest of European part (Vogelauer, 2006, pers. com.).

Coaching evolved in continental Europe from the same origins as the United States, particularly in the unique command of assessment centers and development centers, and feedback to people forming assessment centers. In the European context, people are coming into coaching from counseling, psychotherapy, and psychology. This phenomenon is more pronounced in Europe than in the United States, while the United Kingdom sits between the two and is definitely much more strongly influenced by America than are Germany or France. There is a special relationship between the United Kingdom and the United States in that sense, yet the United Kingdom is also increasingly influenced by ideas and thinking from key business partners in continental Europe through its membership in the European Union.

**“Andrew Carnegie (1835–1919) commissioned Napoleon Hill in 1908 to research success achievement by interviewing over 500 successful men and women, which resulted in the book *Think and Grow Rich*.”**

~ Vikki Brock ~

Executive coach and coaching historian

[Biography](#)