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August 2014

**UPCOMING SPEAKING PRESENTATIONS:**

Presented by Sue Crum

**FOCUS: The Power of a S.Y.S.T.E.M.**

Even though we are still in the throes of summer (Yippee!), it's always smart to look ahead and think how one can be more efficient and energized once fall rolls around. To me the New Year has always started in the fall; this is from a lifetime of going to school and being in schools. I know for many their New Year doesn't start until the ball drops on New Year's Eve but that hasn't been the case for me.

Summer has a different rhythm to it than the rest of the year, a somewhat slower pace with longer days and what seems like more minutes to each day. It's also the ideal time to do some strategic planning for September. If your household is full of youngsters of various ages and sizes, now is the time to go through those closets and cupboards and find out what still fits, what still works and what needs to be released to the universe (or at least to smaller relatives).

Parents, take a look at your children's bedrooms and see if they are set up for great nights of sleep once the school year begins. Inventory the supplies you have on hand to make that first week and first month back to school a most successful start.

For those of you without children in the home, think what systems you can put in place so easing out of summer will not be too painful. You do know what SYSTEM stands for, yes?

**Save Yourself Some Time Energy & Money**

Take a few minutes and think about what in your life could you systematize for greater efficiency and more energy. If you're not sure where to start, here are some examples: your morning routine, your evening ritual before turning out the lights, your clothes closet and drawers for faster dressing in the morning, your schedule / calendar / planner, your errands routine, your world of work, your route to work, your grocery shopping, your home office routines, your fitness schedule, your meal prep, your kitchen clean-up, etc.

Evaluate the above areas in your life and see if they could use



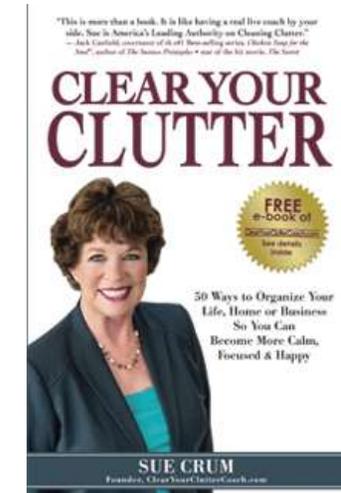
some tweaking before summer stops and autumn appears.

If you have no

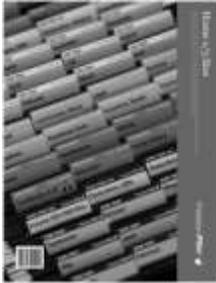


**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:**

My new book, *Clear Your Clutter: 50 Ways to Organize Your Life, Home, or Business so You Can Become More Calm, Focused, & Happy*, should be available VERY SOOOON!



planner/schedule/calendar system that is saving you time, energy and money, you might look at [www.plannerpads.com](http://www.plannerpads.com). These come in a small, personal size as well as a larger, letter size. One of the great things about these is they can start at different times of the year: July, October, January or April and are good for a **12 month period**. You don't have to wait until 2015 to get yourself organized! You can start NOW! These are not available in stores, so check out their website. If they ask how you heard about it, please tell them I sent you their way. And no, I am not affiliated with this company in any way but have found their planner pad perfect for greater efficiency and energy in my life!



Another place for a SYSTEM if you don't have one that is working well for you is getting an easy filing system. Check out [www.freedomfiler.com](http://www.freedomfiler.com) and watch the video of how this self-purging label system works. This ingenious product was invented by Seth Odam and is color-coded for ease and understanding. It retails for less than \$40, and is ideal for the person who says I need to get my papers into a system. I am a certified consultant with Freedom Filer so drop me an

email at [Sue@suecrum.com](mailto:Sue@suecrum.com) if you are interested in purchasing this, and I can email you a coupon code for a discount.

Remember – systems are all about efficiency and saving you time, energy and money! Don't wait until January 1 to get organized!

## **FUN, FAMILY & FRIENDS:**

### **Make August AWESOME!**

The days are still long. The sunsets are spectacular. This is the time to be out in nature and count our blessings, wherever you live.

Enjoy! And create wonderful memories that will live in your heart forever.

I love to hear from you. Please drop me a line and tell me how you are making AUGUST **AWESOME** with a S.Y.S.T.E.M. you have in place or that you have created this month to be more efficient and energized. Write me at [Sue@suecrum.com](mailto:Sue@suecrum.com) and perhaps your great idea will be in a future etips news!



*Sue Crum*

**Professional Organizing Coach and Speaker**  
Clearing Your Clutter to Set You Free

*I help busy people turn their house into a home,  
make better use of space and time, and get organized for good!*

## **FAVORITE QUOTES OF THE MONTH:**

**"Everything must be made as simple as possible. But not simpler."** – Albert Einstein

**"Organization isn't about perfection; it's about efficiency, reducing stress and clutter, saving time and money and improving your overall quality of life."** – Christina Scalise

**"The point of simple living for me has got to be: a soft place to land, a wide margin of error, room to breathe, lots of places to find baseline happiness in each and every day."** – Leo Babauta, author of *Focus*

**"He who does not get fun and enjoyment out of every day...needs to reorganize his life."** – George M. Adams