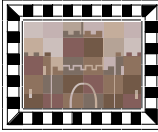


# ORGANIZATION MATTERS eNEWSLETTER: Apr. 2010



PATTY MCPHERSON, ORGANIZER/REDESIGNER/HOME STAGER

Orderly Manor

www.orderlymanor.com

774.269.6519

Here's this month's edition with organizing and redesign ideas.

Past eNewsletters are

available on

[www.OrderlyManor.com](http://www.OrderlyManor.com)



If you are having any problems or issues with paper or time management, clutter, organizational systems or interior redesign, let me know!

### POWER OF THE PAST

From an article "Rid Your House of Memory Clutter" by Peter Walsh

Objects have power, and those that are linked to important events and people from our past have more power than most. Some of us unconsciously fear that if we dispose of these possessions, we also will lose the memories that we associate with them. These could include memories of grown children... deceased relatives... or long-ago accomplishments.



Occasionally, we keep objects from our past not because they are linked to our memories but because they are linked to our dreams. Getting rid of such things can feel like we are surrendering these dreams.

**Example:** A man in his 50s still has all of his college textbooks and term papers. He studied English in college and hoped to become a novelist but instead ended up in real estate. The college course work is all he has to connect himself to the world of writing. Throwing it away would mean confronting the fact that he never will be a writer.

Objects inherited from people important to us often are saved even when these objects are

unloved and unused. Heirs feel that they have been entrusted with inherited possessions and that disposing of them would represent a violation of this trust.



**I**f there is one thing I've learned being an Organizer, it's that we as a society have too much STUFF. Whether it's expensive antiques or a bunch of junk in a basement, people just have a lot of things. These things fill up homes, backyards, sheds, attics, cars and minds. There's something to be said for the minimalist mindset, the Spartan room, or the aversion to a materialistic society.

**I**t can be very liberating, like a weight lifted or a fog cleared away, to have clutter removed. And don't forget that clutter can be 'stuff' in your head, thoughts, extra things you're remembering or negative feelings about stuff. Life's too short to have so much baggage, either literally or figuratively. Pick a spot and declutter now!



"I am not disorganized! - I know exactly where everything is! The newer stuff is on top and the older stuff is on the bottom."

Courtesy of Space Savers.com:

*Spring is here! And with the new season comes flowers, warm weather...and Spring Cleaning. But who wants to be inside cleaning the house when there is so much to do outside? We've got some tips to help you get your clean-*

ing done with a little less stress.

**Tackle a job a little at a time.** Big jobs are hard to tackle because just the thought of it makes you want to throw your hands in the air and give up. Who says you have to do the whole thing at once? Wipe down one shelf of the refrigerator a day. Just moved? Unpack one box at a time.

**Multi-Task.** I don't mean do the 50 things at once that wear you out in the first place. Try these tips: Clear off the bathroom counter while you're brushing your teeth or bathing the kids.

**Eliminate the clutter!** The more clutter you have in your home, the more difficult your cleaning will be. Get rid of everything you don't need. Better yet, donate them to your favorite charity.

Assemble all of your cleaning tools on a rolling cart or in a caddy. Remember the gloves, wipes and cleaners. You can easily move your supplies from room to room. This will save you time, energy and the frustration of not being able to find a tool you need.



**Baking Soda & White Vinegar.** Baking soda can be

used as a deodorizer, sprinkled on liquid carpet spills, added to your laundry, and sprinkled around the bathtub before cleaning. Use vinegar to clean your showerheads, tubs, faucets, countertops and more!

**Wear an apron with pockets** for brushes and other small cleaning tools. They will be easy to find and close at hand when you need them. Recycle old toothbrushes and use them for scrubbing small, hard-to-reach areas.

**Easy reaching.** If you don't have a long handled duster, use a broom or a mop with a soft cloth wrapped around it to get any spider webs & dust out of the ceiling corners.

**Work from top to bottom.** This keeps your freshly cleaned surfaces from collecting additional dust and dirt.

### New Product I Love



Flexible, so you can squeeze them under beds, into closets or onto shelves. Strong handles.

- PM

