



## Stanford eCorner

### How Do You Meet Really Great People?

Fern Mandelbaum, *Monitor Venture Partners*

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Video URL: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu/videos/854/How-Do-You-Meet-Really-Great-People>

Mandelbaum suggests that one should surround themselves with really great people in order to bolster their chances of success. But how can we meet these people? She explains that you can meet people anywhere, from Border's to the supermarket. You never know where a valuable relationship might develop, she adds.



#### Transcript

I was doing market research at a bicycle store when I was at second year of business school and I met the CEO of MEDCAL and that's how I ended up with that company. Tina actually has examples of being in line at Safeway and starting to talk to the person in front of her. I don't do that. I highly recommend it. Unless I have my son with me who's just such a cutie that they start talking to him and then I start talking. It sounds hokey but you can meet people everywhere, I mean great people. Certainly around here and I'm not from around here. It's not like I think this is the panacea but there are great people, just everywhere standing at borders, everyone reading the magazines. I think just talk, whatever. There are lots of organizations you can go to.

I'm not a really big conference person. I think that if you're doing something you love, in my case sports, you have the best conversations with people and then you connect on a different level and then the next thing you know you're talking about work or whatever it is, what you're interested in. I'm not a big golfer. I just can't imagine walking around for five hours or going around the little cart but a lot of people, a lot of discussion occur on the golf course. I think the business school even has a course now on golf, so there's a reason to go to business school.