



Herbalife Distributor Testimonials

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Source: <http://www.complaintslist.com/websites/drugs-medicine/herbalife-com/>

From: John Bradley Esq.

Date: September 10, 2012

#1 - How about HerbalLif's "incomeathome" incomeathome.com what a scam

This has to be the biggest scam in the USA today, other than Obama of course.

I ordered the information package for \$9.95 and was told to return it within 15 days to get my money back and I would not be billed the \$39.95, but in fact after returning the information package I was still billed \$39.95! This happens to thousands of customers, no wonder they are making billions?complained about HerbalLife, who hide behind the name [www.incomeathome.com](http://www.incomeathome.com) If they were such an up company, why not use their own name. There probably thousands of garages in the USA full of unsold product from HerbalLife, but what do they care, its the poor sucker that bought it that should worry.

The stark truth is that it is just a multi-level operation, and more like a legal ponzi scheme. The fact that millions of emails go out to poor people trying to struggle through life in every town in the USA, and is not curious that the same woman pops up as having eaned \$8,000 more that month. If the FTC commission requested the names and addresses of these high earner, I am sure that IRS would be interested. and considering the thousands of small towns that exist in the USA, why would they need more people to sell their product. A lot of people have

I had a personal coach named Leonard Baldwin, of [theonlinebusinesssystem.com](http://theonlinebusinesssystem.com) whom I told weeks ago in early September that I was not interested in proceeding with Herbalife distribution work from home system proposed to me as I was quite unhappy with the fact that I sent them \$10.00 for them to send me a video, and I it contained were people saying how rich they are, and no indication of how they did it. He played an audio over the phone of herbalife and suggested another charge for setting up work from home. I told him then, quite clearly, that I was not interested in proceeding and he said he would call me in a month or so to see if things changed. Now there is a charge on my account in early October for \$39.95 from Leonard Baldwin of [theonlinebusinesssystems.com](http://theonlinebusinesssystems.com), which overdrew my account for a \$35.00 charge. Please help me get my \$75.00 refunded to my account and also tell me how to report this fraud to a government agency. Thank you

HerbaLife: Scam or Not?

Have you heard of HerbaLife, or do you even sell its products? If not, then let me tell you about the Herbalife scam.

If you walk around any major city, you'll probably see flyers posted on light and electrical poles saying things like "Work From Home", or "Lose 30 lbs Now, Ask Me How!" The ads may all be different, but what they all share in common is the same phone number. When you call that phone number, you obtain a company by the name of HerbaLife.

Back when I was unemployed, I toyed with the idea of joining HerbaLife. Little did I know the company history or the other questionable business practices of this firm. However, after doing some online research, here is what I found out:

HerbaLife was founded in 1980 by Mark Hughes, a guy who, at the young age of 44, was found dead due to a likely drug overdose. Still, HerbaLife continued on, and is now almost 30 years in business. As of this posting, the HerbaLife company states that it has over 1.8 million distributors in about 66 countries. The company is even on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: HLF). Annual gross sales for HerbaLife are roughly \$3.5 billion, though they may have taken a hit due to the recent recession.

HerbaLife sells all kinds of vitamins and other nutritional supplements. There are shakes, protein bars, weight loss products, herbs, even meals replacements.

Do you like what you hear so far? Would you like to buy some HerbaLife vitamins? Well, you can't. First, you need to become a distributor.

HerbaLife makes the big bucks not by selling nutritional supplements, but by recruiting folks to become distributors. These distributors buy up a certain lot amount of the company's products, sample them, and try to sell them. More importantly, though, the newly-minted distributors are "encouraged" to recruit their friends and family (and anyone else they know) to become distributors too. And when I say "encouraged", I mean that the company will pretty much twist your arm in order to have you find new recruits. Weekly meetings, HerbaLife newsletters, company-wide e-mails, etc., will all repeat the company core motto until it comes out of your ears: recruit, recruit, recruit!

Of course, there is an incentive to finding new distributors: a portion of their earnings on products gets kicked up to you. And likewise, part of your earnings get kicked up to whoever recruited you. And so it goes, until the very few people at the top of this pyramid scheme rake in the big bucks while you drive around in your car with big boxes of muscle-building protein powder. It's multi-level marketing (MLM), plain and simple.

What are the costs for this pyramid scheme? It takes around \$220 to enroll in the HerbaLife scam, er, I mean program. This money pays for your enrollment, your first pack of product, and also some samples for you (since distributors are highly encouraged to use the company's products as well as to sell them).

If HerbaLife would just stop here and allow you to just purchase and sell its products, I doubt you could call it a scam. However, the scamming really starts when you listen to what the company is trying to have you believe:

In its flyers, HerbaLife claims that you can make as much as \$1500 per week for part-time work. If you work full-time, you can make \$5500 per week. However, the statistics say otherwise. In

actuality, about 1% of HerbaLife distributors make 85% of the company's gross sales. These distributors are in the upper echelons of the company, and were around back when the company was still starting up in the early 80's. The remaining 99% of HerbaLife distributors, who joined the company after the mid-1980's, make the remaining 15% of the company's gross sales.

What does that mean math-wise? Let's crunch the numbers: 99% of all reported HerbaLife distributors comes out to 1,782,000 distributors (99% of 1.8 million). Meanwhile, 15% of \$3.5 billion comes out to \$525 million. Divide \$525 million by the 1,782,000 distributors and you obtain \$294 in annual sales per distributor!! And keep in mind that is not profit, but sales, so the actual take-home pay is even less.

Of course, not all distributors are alike. Some may have enormous selling potential, and lots of eager friends and family to whom they can sell HerbaLife products. But that's still a big chance to take when your initial investment in the company is almost the same amount of money that you are likely to make over the course of an entire year!

Another problem with HerbaLife is market over-saturation. It's not as if nutritional supplements, vitamins or protein shakes are in short supply; just look through your local grocery store, sports nutrition store or pharmacy. And those nutritional supplements, vitamins and protein shakes are also priced far below what HerbaLife charges for its comparable items. Granted, when HerbaLife first introduced its products, the market was way smaller, giving HerbaLife a major advantage over its nonexistent competition. But nowadays, when such products run the length of two or more store shelves and are often priced at discount, what's the point of paying top dollar for HerbaLife? It is little wonder why so many HerbaLife distributors have resorted to selling their remaining inventory on places like eBay and Craigslist.

So, in conclusion, should you invest in the HerbaLife scam? Only if you have extreme sales savvy, as well as lots of spare time on your hands. As for me, I think I'll pass. I can think of many other businesses that pay a lot more money for a lot less work.

[incomeathome.com](http://incomeathome.com)

Centurion Media Group

Source: <http://www.pinklighthouse.com/bb/index.php?topic=5246.0;wap2>

From: DeeBunker

Date: Unknown

DeeBunker:

By request, here is my first post regarding Herbalife. Since it is kind of late, I will have to add to this post later on, but I'll try to get the general stuff down as best as I can.

The cast of characters that starred in this bizarre reality TV show of mine are:

The Good and the Innocent: Myself and Elyse

The pure evil people: Judy H., my recruiter, Rick and Tammy A., Bob and Joan L., Bev and Arnie C., Dante Andre.

Evil and Weird: Steve and Barbara W.

Good, but just plain weird: Pam and Hudson (I can't remember their last name)

The cast of characters were assembled like this: Rick and Tammy A. were the head of the team and they were located in California. Judy's team consisted of myself, Elyse, Pam and Hudson. Steve and Barbara, Bob and Joan and Bev and Arnie were sidelined in a different group, but we were all under Rick and Tammy A.

Why I got into Herbalife: All of this started in June of 2002. I had the double whammy of having my 20 year class reunion and being a bridesmaid in my brother's wedding that year.

I had already been going to Curves for Women and working out. I commented to the woman next to me (Judy H.) about how hard it is to lose weight. She mentioned Herbalife. I said, "Is that still around? My mother took it and it made her sick!" Well, she convinced me that it was different than back then and I should give it a try.

So try it I did and I did lose weight. I was doing so well that naturally the next step was to make money while losing. So I joined up for \$54.95. I used to attend weekly meetings locally and a monthly meeting that was 1 1/2 hours away at a casino. Talk about gambling!

The format of these "training" sessions went something like this:

High powered and high energy music, then intro of the guest speaker, then product testimonials, then income testimonials. The guest speaker also "flashed" copies of checks during their income testimonials. Of course, none of the product testimonials or income testimonials is verified, a fact that I found out later.

In addition, I spent time at Judy's house being coached on what to say at these meetings and also to have a button response. I was one of those people who wore a button that said "I lost 40 pounds. Ask me how!" Or "work from home, ask me how".

I was dragged up in front of people to do an income testimonial at the local meeting. I didn't want to do it because I really didn't have any income so to speak, so I told people that I earned enough that month to pay off a small credit card debt (in actuality I did pay a credit card off, but I was also using another credit card to charge Herbalife stuff).

At these local meetings, Judy H, Bob and Joan L., Steve and Barbara and Bev and Arnie attended. Bob and Joan L.'s was always that they earned about \$4,000 a month and that he lost weight. Steve and Barb's story was that they earned \$3,000.00.

What I have learned that there is a great difference with these people between gross and net. I seriously don't truly believe that they were making that kind of money. At the time I was really impressed with those numbers, then I got out my calculator. \$48,000 a year isn't enough to live on a fancy golf course (where Bob and Joan lived), and \$36,000.00 isn't enough to live in a nice townhouse (which is where Steve and Barb lived). And I found out that Bev and Arnie lived in a trailer park (nothing against trailer parks, as my parents owned one. But is is a far cry from the white sandy beaches and mansions of typical MLM advertising).

And, BTW, I went to a picnic at Bob and Joan's place. Bob showed me what \$4,000 a month in inventory looks like. Somehow I was impressed with the boxes and boxes of stuff they had. Boy, they must really be doing well, I thought.

Some time was also spent at Judy's because she was the one in our group that subscribed to HTN, which is Herbalife Television Network. They would always feature the President's Club members (which is the same thing as Mary Kay NSDs. Herbalifers worship the ground the President's Club members walk on).

At one monthly training seminar, Dante Andre (who I later found out was involved in a Herbalife lawsuit. If I can find a link, I will post it) was the speaker. He was such a good and persuasive speaker that I was convinced I wanted to go to the next level up from distributor, which is called supervisor. Only I never supervised anybody. Elyse was with me at one of these training sessions when I felt the urge to go to the next level, which meant purchasing \$3,600 of inventory. Elyse partnered with me and I paid \$1,800.00 to go "supervisor". Dante and Doran (his brother) were widely known to frontload their team.

So I really kick my business into high gear. I put fliers on cars and in bus shelters (you couldn't mention Herbalife), I moderated a work from home board at Ivillage because you could put a link in your signature, burned my warm market (I nearly lost two friends while in the Herbal Haze),

warm chatted everyone wherever I went. You should have seen it when I went shopping -- you could actually see people fleeing me when they saw the button a mile away! It wasn't funny then, but it is really funny now!

I continued to spend more time at Judy's and less time with the "negative" people such as family and friends. Also, because I was now a "supervisor", I had "earned" a Millionaire Training weekend. I had actually caught Bob and Joan in a lie about their income at this meeting -- surprise, surprise (I never really did like Bob anyway). Of course, I had to pay all expenses for this weekend, but I was told in Herbalife that everything is a tax write off. Which isn't true, ask any tax professional!

It is now late 2002. Judy and I have a booth at a craft fair and were trolling for customers. We only got a few customers, but ended up meeting a troll for Melapuka called Angela, who later plays a part in "My Not-So Excellent Adventure in Excel Telecommunications".

But wait -- it gets weirder:

Fast forward to early spring 2003. I go to a party at Judy's house. She, Pam and Hudson get rip roaring drunk. I don't usually drink, and it was to my advantage this night, because Judy admitted that she was \$50,000.00 in debt from Herbalife when she recruited us! She called me the next day to apologize for the drunken behavior.

Some time goes by and Judy now confides in me that the products no longer work for her. She is also looking into another MLM company because her Herbalife team is crumbling around her. She tells me that she is now in Melapuka. Guess who is her recruiter? You guessed it -- the infamous Angela. Judy also goes on to be in Seasilver, and Primerica and tries to recruit me into those. I told her no to each opportunity.

But I still wasn't convinced that MLM was the problem and not me. I look into Arbonne, Quixand, Tahitian Noni, Melapuka, etc. I came across an invitation to a Christian Womens club luncheon. I meet Nancy, who is a rep for Excel, which leads into "My Not-So-Excellent Adventure".....

Michelle

DeeBunker: Folks, I swear that I wasn't smoking anything when I posted the above. However, it certainly seems like I was smoking something when I joined Herbalife.

I can't believe that I fell for all the lies that they told. The lies and deceit come directly from above. I don't think I was ever told the truth about how the founder, Mark Hughes, died. Here is the complete story: <http://www.rickross.com/groups/herbalife.html>.

Mark Hughes was elevated to a God-like status in Herbalife. Yuck.

It was only about a year or two ago that I realized just how cult-like Herbalife really is. It has been really hard to deal with that, but at least I know that I am not alone.

Michelle

whatwaslthinking: Michelle, so you're saying that Herbalife is bad?

:llmao: You really should write a book!!!! "My Adventures in MLM land"! I am laughing with you my dear! I could picture everything you said! :trky:

Gail52: Hi Michelle,

I saw the word Herbalife and had to read your story. So well put! I was in Herbalife for awhile and it was all hype, too. I really did like the flavor of the shakes. I lived in a upper class neighborhood in California at the time and couldn't sell a thing!

Went to a convention in Chicago, the "biggies" were there. They told their stories about how they became millionaires, how they travel, etc. I did feel like there was an air of "if you don't buy at the next level, you're a dummy". I agree it's cult-like and glad I was able to sell all my inventory back (I think I broke even).

Then I tried Melaleuca, Xango and then back in Mary Kay. I am now in the process of returning my inventory to MK after I make sure I get the 90% for items over 1 year old (been a consultant for almost 3 years). I bought way too much inventory, then would look at it and get depressed. I did have some good customers, but not enough to justify the \$200 wholesale purchase every 3 months.

Thank you for sharing all that you did about Herbalife. It helped me. I wonder is there any real true way to earn good money other than having a steady job? The hype seems to be the same in all these MLM's and the fact people are lying (even the so-called Christians which makes me cringe since I used to be a churchgoer, but still have my faith) is so awful. I wonder how people sleep at night! Are they drinking "the koolaid"?

Gail M.

Fernley, Nevada