

Weekly Message Weekly Message



Greetings special friends,
Brrrrrrrrrrrr! It's cold outside! Ice, snow and sleet has hit a huge portion of the country. The only ones spared were in the southeast. Hope everyone is staying warm! It is hard to believe that next week will be the last week of school for most of you and then it is time for Christmas break.

Here are some thoughts for the day:

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**"The most important trip you take is meeting someone halfway."
Henry Boye**

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**"I think of the trees and how simply they let go, let fall the riches of a season, how without grief (it seems) they can let go and go deep into their roots for renewal and sleep. Imitate the trees. Learn to lose in order to recover, and remember that nothing stays the same for long, not even pain, psychic pain. Sit it out. Let it all pass. Let it go."
Mary Sarton, poet and writer**

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**"We can't do everything for everyone everywhere, but we can do something for someone somewhere."
Richard L. Evans (1906-1971) clergyman and radio personality**

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**"Old age is like everything else. To make a success of it, you have to start young."
Fred Astaire (1899-1987) dancer and entertainer**

Here is a great gift idea for your team and can be used as a small fundraiser as well. Take your team group photo and have it put on a computer mouse pad. You can give it to your team at the end of the year or sell to the parents and friends as a quick fundraiser. The mouse pads cost anywhere from \$2.20 to \$4.50, according to the size and number you purchase. Make sure to contact our friend, **Tom Redden at Tote Unlimited** (tom@toteunlimited.com) for the mouse pads and thousands of other personalized items.





I hope that each of you have considered helping someone else this **Christmas season**. For those teams that would like to send gifts to one of the teams affected by the hurricanes instead of exchanging gifts on your team, I have about 40+ teams that have been affected in a profound way that would be uplifted by a gesture of kindness. If your team would like to **'adopt' a team** from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi or Georgia, please write to me and let me know the number on your team and I will try to match you with a team of equal size. Even cards or letters of support would be greatly appreciated. You can always "do something for someone somewhere." (see the third thought of the day today).

Many of us go to God with our problems and troubles. God sometimes has answers that are different than what we think we need for ourselves. I came across the passage below that is a reminder that we need to be good listeners. I hope it is meaningful to you today.

Have a wonderful week, and we will count down the days until the holidays begin! *Keep in touch!*

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Sincerely,

Joyce E. Pennington, Pres. CEO

American Dance/Drill Team

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I asked God...

I asked God to take away my pain.

God said, It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said, Her spirit was whole, her body was only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said, Patience is a by-product of tribulations, it isn't granted, it is earned.

I asked God to give me happiness.

God said, I give you blessings, Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said, Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said, You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life.

God said, I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things.

I ask God to help me LOVE others, as much as he loves me.

God said... Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.