

Weekly Message Weekly Message



Greetings to all of our special friends,
What a fabulous National/International Championship we had last weekend! The teams from Japan, Australia and Hawaii, along with all of the teams around the continental US were simply fabulous! Make sure to visit our contest page and view the results of this great event.

Here are some thoughts for the day:

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**“Live simply that others may simply live.”**  
**Elizabeth Seton, educator and religious leader**  
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“Competition is easier to accept if you realize it is not an act of aggression or abrasion. Whatever you want in life, other people are going to want, too. Believe in yourself enough to accept the idea that you have an equal right to it.”
Diane Sawyer, television journalist
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**“Dreams are renewable. No matter what our age or condition, there are still untapped possibilities within us and new beauty waiting to be born.”**  
**Dale Turner, cleric**  
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“When you visualize yourself *in the present* as if you were already accomplishing one of your goals, make certain your visual image is as you would see it out of your own eyes, not *watching you do it* through the eyes of a spectator.”
Denis Waitley, writer and public speaker
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It is a common occurrence that we come across a penny on the ground, on the floor, or in the bottom of your bag. There is a powerful message with the simple penny, that is so plentiful, yet so small. I hope you enjoy the story below that my brother sent to me several years ago. It has a powerful message.

Have a fabulous week, and, as always, please *keep in touch!*



*Sincerely,*

*Joyce E. Pennington, Pres. CEO*

*American Dance/Drill Team*

*www.DanceADTS.com*

*800/462-5719*

## **The Penny**

**You always hear the usual stories of pennies on the sidewalk being good luck, gifts from angels, etc. This is the first time I've ever heard this twist on the story. Gives you something to think about.**

**Several years ago, a friend of mine, and her husband were invited to spend the weekend at the husband's employer's home. My friend, Arlene, was nervous about the weekend. The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the waterway, and cars costing more than her house.**

**The first day and evening went well, and Arlene was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live. The husband's employer was quite generous as a host, and took them to the finest restaurants. Arlene knew she would never have the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so was enjoying herself immensely.**

**As the three of them were about to enter an exclusive restaurant that evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of Arlene and her husband.**

**He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment.**

**Arlene wondered if she was supposed to pass him. There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped, and a few cigarette butts. Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny.**

**He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure. How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up?**

**Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at her. Finally, she could stand it**

no longer. She casually mentioned that her daughter once had a coin collection, and asked if the penny he had found had been of some value.

A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for her to see. She had seen many pennies before!

What was the point of this?

"Look at it." He said. "Read what it says." She read the words "United States of America."

"No, not that; read further."

"One cent?" "No, keep reading."

"In God we Trust?" "Yes!" "And?"

"And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin. Whenever I find a coin I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it! God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him? Who am I to pass it by? When I see a coin, I pray, I stop to see if my trust IS in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God; that I do trust in Him. For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Lucky for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful!

When I was out shopping today, I found a penny on the sidewalk. I stopped and picked it up, and realized that I had been worrying and fretting in my mind about things I cannot change. I read the words, "In God We Trust," and had to laugh. Yes, God, I get the message.

It seems that I have been finding an inordinate number of pennies in the last few months, but then, pennies are plentiful!

And, God is patient...

The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:

1 cross

3 nails

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4 given

