



# *American Weekly Inspiration*

## **Thoughts for today and every day:**

“When we dream alone, it is only a dream. But when we dream together, it is the beginning of a new reality.” author unknown

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“No one has completed his education who has not learned to live with an insoluble problem.”

Edmund J. Kiefer

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“Money won’t buy happiness, but it will pay the salaries of a large research staff to study the problem.” William Vaughan (1915-1977)

columnist

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“Only through curiosity can we discover opportunities and only by gambling can we take advantage of them.” Clarence Birdseye (1886-1956) inventor and entrepreneur

## **American Update:**

We head into our first weekend of competition this week and look ahead to many outstanding competitions throughout the first few months of the year. Make sure to visit our web site for dates, locations and profiles on each event.

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

I just found out about a special 'portable roll out dance mat' for those solo tappers that come to contest and need a special tap surface to not damage the gym floors. They run about \$160 and are easy to carry and quick to set up. No more heavy plywood or parquet!!

## **Inspiration of the Week:**

# **The Death of Common Sense**

My parents told me about Mr. Common Sense early in my life and told me I would do well to call on him when making decisions. It seems he was always around in my early years but less and less as time passed by. Today, I read his obituary. Please join me in a moment of silence in remembrance, for Common Sense had served us all so well for so many generations.

Obituary

*Common Sense*

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old

he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, life isn't always fair, and maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not children are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job they themselves failed to do in disciplining their spoiled and self-important children. It declined

even further when schools were required to get written parental consent to administer Aspirin, sun lotion or a Band-Aid to students, but were restricted from informing parents when their child became pregnant and skipped class to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses, schools were forbidden to fail students who couldn't read and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense took a severe beating when home owners were forbidden from using force against an attacker in their own home but the burglar was legally allowed to sue a home owner if he was injured on their property during the commission of the crime.

Common Sense finally died after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was actually hot and, when spilled in her lap while she was trying to drink and drive at the same time, was burned and promptly awarded

a huge financial settlement in court.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by three stepbrothers; I Know my Rights, Someone Else is to Blame, and I'm a Victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

This weekly message is generated from:

**American Dance/Drill Team®**

**Celebrating our 50th Anniversary**

**1958-2008**

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