



American Weekly Inspiration

Thoughts for today and every day:

“Real maturity is the ability to imagine the humanity of every person as fully as you believe in your own humanity.”

Tobias Wolff, writer and educator

“If you are not generous with a meager income, you will never be generous with abundance.” Harold Nye

“Be able to overcome the adversity and obstacles that will come along. You’ve got to get u one more time than you fall down.”

Homer Drew, College baseball coach

“Between saying and doing is a long road.” Spanish proverb

“Two important things to teach a child: to do and to do without.” Marcelene Cox
(c. 1899-1998) writer

American Update:

We have had a glorious year of celebrating fifty years in the dance/drill team industry and have carried over the excitement to 2009. We have had our first competition and headed to our second in the Kansas City area and can’t wait to see the terrific teams there. Remember that you can view schedules of each of our events linked on our Contest Season page, along with results from this season, as well as back to 2000. Take a look at the award winners at each contest (see bottom of the contest page for links).

Make sure to visit the Dance/Drill Team Directors of America web site (www.DTDA.org) and learn more about the national convention in April as well as posting information on Job Fair if you are searching for or leaving a dance position.

College bound dancers can also visit the web site to see links and information for hundreds of colleges from around the country, including many that offer dance scholarships (www.DTDA.org).

Inspiration of the Week:

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE NUMBER ONE

by Vince Lombardi

Revised for dance/drill teams by Joyce E. Pennington

Winning is not a sometime thing; it's an all the time thing. You don't win once in a while. You don't do things right once in awhile. You do them right all the time.

Winning is a habit. Unfortunately, so is losing.

There is no room for second place. There is only one place in my mind and that is first place. In college football there is a second place bowl game. But it is a game for losers played by losers. It is, and always has been, an American seal to be first in anything we do and to win and to win and to win.

Every time a dancer goes to apply her talents, she's got to dance from the ground up and from the soles of her feet right up to her head. Every inch of her has to dance.

Some girls dance with their heads, and that's OK. You have got to be smart to be number one in any business, but more important, you've got to dance with your heart--with every fiber of your body. If you're lucky enough to find a dancer with a lot of brains and a lot of heart, she's never going to leave a competition in second place.

Running a dance/drill team is no different from running any other kind of organization --a football team, an army, a political party, a business. The principles are the same. The object is to win--to beat the other guy. Maybe that sounds hard or cruel. I don't think it is.

It's a reality of life that dancers are competitive and the most competitive contests draw the most competitive dancers. That's why they are there--to compete. They know the rules and objectives when they enter the "game". The objective is to win--fairly, squarely, decently, by the rules--but to win.

And, in truth, I've never known a dancer worth her salt who in the long run, deep down in her heart, didn't appreciate the grind, the discipline. There is something in good people that really yearns for, needs, discipline and the harsh reality of head to head combat.

This weekly message is generated from:

Joyce Pennington, Pres. CEO

American Dance/Drill Team®

www.DanceADTS.com