



American Inspiration

Thoughts for today and every day . . .

“All things in the world are two. In our minds, we are two—good and evil. With our eyes we see two things—things that are fair and things that are ugly. We have the right hand that strikes and makes for evil, and the left hand full of kindness, near the heart. One foot may lead us to an evil way, the other foot may lead us to a good. So are all things two, all two.” Eagle Chief

“Tolerance is the positive and cordial effort to understand another’s beliefs, practices, and habits, without necessarily sharing or accepting them.” Joshua Liebman

“Real happiness is cheap enough, yet how dearly we pay for its counterfeit.”
Hosea Ballou

“One of the key qualities that any successful person needs—a willingness to stretch yourself and go after goals that others think are too visionary, too hard, or too ambitious to accomplish.” Richard A. McGinn

American Update

Labor Day is around the corner and hopefully we will see cooler weather. We are still in triple digits here in Central Texas and continue to pray for rain. I hope that, along with the sunshine, that everyone is having a good summer. The first football game of the season will be hitting the gridiron this weekend along with the beautiful dance teams, bands, cheerleaders and fans. Time to sport the colors of your favorite team. Good luck to each of you and have a successful first performance!

Even though you likely all have your uniforms and accessories, it is never too early to think ahead for your ideas for contest costumes. Make sure to contact Cheri Eagan, with Curtain Call Costumes, to help you plan the theme and styles of your performance costumes. You can contact Cheri at ceagan@performgroupllc.com.

Inspiration of the Week

You know you're a dance/drill teamer if..

1. Your furniture in your room is arranged to create the largest open space as possible.
 2. You get upset when all you can find at Disneyworld is a CHEERLEADER Minnie.
 3. You pop out of your chair and start dancing to the theme songs of commercials.
 4. You critique the technique of dancers you see on TV or in other performances.
 5. Even if you are terrible at math, counting to eight is no problem for you.
 6. You are planning on, or have already bought stock in bobby pins.
 7. You have an entire drawer filled with old dance team t-shirts and practice clothes.
 8. If seated, you cannot listen to music without mentally choreographing a routine in your head.
 9. You can apply full performance make-up in five minutes (Bonus points if you can do it while seated in the back seat of a moving bus).
 10. Hallways are always a place to practice leaps.
 11. You own more dance tops than prom dresses.
 12. You can fix anything with safety pins.
 13. You look at street clothes and see possibilities for performance outfits.
 14. A broken toe is more than an inconvenience.
 15. Dance merchandise and costume catalogues are captivating reading material.
 16. Seeing someone do the splits does not send you into shock.
 17. Stretching is not just something you do for a few seconds when you roll out of bed in the morning.
 18. You do not think "Capezio" is an Italian pasta dish.
 19. "Dancing" is the one of the first items you write down when asked to list your hobbies.
 20. You have, at one point or another, found a pair of lyrical paws, tap screws, etc in your purse or wedged in the back seat of your car.
 21. Your parents/roommate yell at you to "Come watch this!" when SYTYCD is on TV.
 22. 9 out of 10 of your t-shirts are from dance/drill team events.
 23. You know exactly who *Gussie Nell Davis* is.
 24. You find yourself walking in step with people in school/work hallways.
 25. For you, the year is divided not by weather seasons, but by football/contest/spring show seasons.
 26. Kneepads are your friends.
 27. Rhinestones and glitter are among items in your closet.
 28. You have ever called your mom in tears begging her to bring suntan tights, bobby pins, or red lipstick.
 29. You wish college and professional football games showed the halftime performances.
 30. You say "5, 6, 7, 8" instead of "Ready, set, go!"
 31. You can pose for a picture in an instant.
 32. You have all your dance team music on your iPod.
 33. 95% of your pictures on Facebook or My Space are dance team snapshots.
- and . . .
34. Your mom has called you up to tell you she took up the carpet in the family room and found a thick layer of glitter under the carpet pad.

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This weekly message is generated from:

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