

American Inspiration

Thoughts for today and every day . . .



√“Faith hears the inaudible, sees the invisible, believes the incredible, and receives the impossible.” Author unknown

√“Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out.” James Bryant Conant

√“Your conversation is your personal advertisement, for every time you open your mouth, you allow others to look into your mind.” John Schuerholz

√“Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.” Abraham Lincoln



American Update

This weekend will be the final weekend for an amazing competition season. We have had explosive growth in our contests this year and have seen some of the most amazing teams! This Friday and Saturday, watch events LIVE from all three venues at our Nationals and American Collegiate Championship. With over 120 teams participating, it is one of the largest dance team events in the country! On Sunday, we will have the Dallas Mavericks Dance Team competition with the two top teams performing at pre-game and halftime. What a great way to wrap up the 2013 season! See both schedules linked to our web site on the main page, as well as a link to the Live Stream from Nationals. www.DanceADTS.com

Summer Camps will be here before you know it! Our Summer Camp brochure should be in director's mailboxes this week. If you would like to download a copy, go to our Summer Camp page on our web site for a link. You will also be able to pre-register for Summer Camps online. Watch for a list of our exciting guest dance masters that will be at every managed camp location!



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 ★★
★★★★★★★★★★

Celebrating over 50 years

Established in 1958

800/462-5719 www.DanceADTS.com

“When God closes a door, He opens a window.”



Visit us on [Facebook.com/AmericanDanceDrillTeam](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanDanceDrillTeam)

*To be removed from the weekly American Inspiration (sent each Wednesday during the school year), simply reply to this e-mail with **Remove** in the subject line. To see past weekly inspirational messages, go to this page and link to archives page on The Line Online page on our web site.*