

# American Inspiration

## Thoughts for today and every day . . .



√ "A little subtleness is better than a lot of force." African Proverb

√ "We turn not older with years, but newer every day." Emily Dickinson

√ "The best love is the kind that awakens the soul, and makes us reach for more, that plants a fire in our hearts and brings peace to our minds." Nicholas Sparks

√ "Listening, not imitation, may be the sincerest form of flattery." Dr. Joyce Brothers



## American Update

**Summer Dance Camps** are filling quickly and we already have closed registration for one of our Dallas camps, as it is already at capacity! Make sure to pre-register online, even if you have not had your tryouts, give us estimated numbers that will hold your space for camp. We have also sent out over fifty Private Camp bids and more requests coming in daily. Some of the prime weeks will fill quickly so make sure to schedule your private camp today! Visit our web site at [DanceADTS.com/summercamps.htm](http://DanceADTS.com/summercamps.htm)

It is never too early to start thinking about **Competitions for 2014**. We have now posted the dates for our 2014 contests on our web site. Plan a special contest destination by contacting ATS Tours and Travel, the 'dance team specialists,' and get a bid for your special trip and start fundraising early! ([ats@atstoursandtravel.com](mailto:ats@atstoursandtravel.com))

Mark your calendars! April 26<sup>th</sup>-May 5<sup>th</sup>, is **National Dance Week!** Make sure to plan fun activities for your dance classes and get them involved to know that dancing is fun fitness. Plan to participate in the Flash Mob on April 27<sup>th</sup> and wear the special yellow t-shirts, film their dance, and upload it to YouTube to share. Learn more at [NationalDanceWeek.org](http://NationalDanceWeek.org)



## Inspiration of the Week

# TRYOUT IDEA

by Joyce E. Pennington

April and May puts most teams in the midst of tryouts. The announcement of who makes the team is victorious for some and traumatic for others. To make the results a little more personal, make an

envelope for each team member with their name or number on the outside. The candidates that make the team will find a symbol (heart for Sweethearts, bell for Belles, boot for drill team, etc.) made out of construction paper that they can wear, pinned on their shirt, to school the next day, to symbolize they are part of the new team. When the candidates file into the gym or studio, hand out the envelopes and they can open them all at once.

For those that do not make it, you might include a personal letter of thanks and the following poem:

## **PRAYER**

by Helene Lewis Coffey

*Lord, you have taught me to accept defeat,  
To taste the bitter with the sweet,  
Knowing the longest night brings hopeful dawn,  
I gather up the pieces and go on.  
Now, let your Spirit tell me how to treat  
A child whose dreams lie broken at her feet;  
How to share the hard earned wisdom with the calm,  
The confidence, to be her sore heart's balm?  
She's tender, Lord. Her hurts hurt more than mine.  
She's young, and thinks the sun will never shine.  
Just yesterday, she laughed, and walked in clover.....  
Teach her tomorrow is for starting over.*

This weekly message is generated from:

*Joyce Pennington, Pres. CEO*

**American ★★★★★**  
**Dance/Drill Team ★★**  
**★★★★★★★★★**

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



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