



# ENHANCING THE CLUB EXPERIENCE.....

## INSPIRATION AND MORE

### Start With Yourself

When I was young and free and my imagination had no limits, I dreamed of changing the world. As I grew older and wiser, I discovered the world would not change, so I shortened my sights somewhat and decided to change only my country.

But, it too, seemed immovable.

As I grew into my twilight years, in one last desperate attempt, I settled for changing only my family, those closest to me, but alas, they would have none of it.

And now as I lie on my deathbed, I suddenly realize: If I had only changed myself first, then by example I would have changed my family.

From their inspiration and encouragement, I would then have been able to better my country and, who knows, I may have even changed the world.



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### Set Yourself Free

Set yourself free from anything that might hinder you in becoming the person you want to be. Free yourself from the uncertainties about your abilities or the worth of your dreams, from the fears that you may not be able to achieve them or that they won't be what you wanted.

Set yourself free from the past. The good things from yesterday are still yours in memory; the things you want to forget you will, for tomorrow is only a sunrise away. Free yourself from regret or guilt, and promise to live this day as fully as you can.

Set yourself free from the expectations of others, and never feel guilty or embarrassed if you do not live up to their standards. You are most important to yourself; live by what you feel is best and right for you. Others will come to respect your integrity and honesty.

Set yourself free to simply be yourself, and you will soar higher than you've ever dreamed.

*~By Edmund O'Neill*



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### Be Thankful!

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Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.  
If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something,  
for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times.  
During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations,  
because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge,  
because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes.  
They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary,  
because it means you've made a difference.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things.  
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who  
are also thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.  
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles,  
and they can become your blessings.

*-Author Unknown*



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### Perspectives

One day a father and his rich family took his young son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose to show him how poor people can be. They spent a day and a night in the farm of a very poor family. When they got back from their trip the father asked his son,

“How was the trip?”

“Very good, Dad!”

“Did you see how poor people can be?” the father asked.

“Yeah!”

“And what did you learn?”

The son answered, “I saw that we have a dog at home, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of the garden, they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lamps in the garden, they have the stars. Our patio reaches to the front yard, they have a whole horizon.”

When the little boy was finishing, his father was speechless.

His son added, “Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are!”

Isn't it true that it all depends on the way you look at things? If you have love, friends, family, health, good humor and a positive attitude toward life, you've got everything!

You can't buy any of these things. You can have all the material possessions you can imagine, provisions for the future, etc., but if you are poor of spirit, you have nothing!



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### Steps To Happiness

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#### **Everybody should know:**

- You can't be all things to all people.
- You can't do all everything at once.
- You can't do all things equally well.
- You can't do everything better than everyone else you're human, just like everyone else.

#### **So:**

- You have to find out who you are and be that.
- You have to decide what comes first and do that.
- You have to discover your strengths and use them.
- You have to learn not to compete with others because no one else is in the business of being you.

#### **Then:**

- You will have learned to accept your own uniqueness.
- You will have learned to set priorities and make decisions.
- You will have learned to live with your limitations.
- You will have learned to give yourself the respect that is due and you will be on the road to being the best "you" that you can be.

#### **Dare to believe:**

- That you are a wonderfully unique person.
- That you are the only one just like you in all of history.
- That it is more than a right, it is your duty to be who you are.
- That life is not a problem to solve, but a gift to cherish.
- You will be able to stay on top of what used to get you down and achieve the impossible.

*~Author unknown*



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### Winners Versus Losers

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A winner is always part of the answer.

A loser is always part of the problem.

A winner always has a plan.

A loser always has an excuse.

A winner says: "Let me do it for you."

A loser says: "That is not my job."

A winner sees an answer for any problem.

A loser sees a problem for any answer.

A winner sees a green near every sandtrap.

A loser sees two sandtraps near every green.

A winner says: "It may be difficult but it's possible."

A loser says: "It may be possible but it's too difficult."

*~Author Unknown*



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### The Cleaning Lady

During my second month of nursing school, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions, until I read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?" Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say 'Hello!'"

I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

*By Joanne C. Jones*



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### Nails In The Fence

There once was a little boy who had a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he must hammer a nail into the back of the fence.

The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as he learned to control his anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone.

The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there."

The little boy then understood how powerful his words were. He looked up at his father and said "I hope you can forgive me father for the holes I put in you."

"Of course I can," said the father.

So when you choose to say hurtful things in anger to others, remember the holes that you will leave behind!





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### Always Aim Higher

Always aim higher than you believe you can reach. So often, you'll discover that when your talents are set free by your imagination, you can achieve any goal.

If people offer their help or wisdom as you go through life, accept it gratefully. You can learn much from those who have gone before you. But never be afraid or hesitant to step off the accepted path and head off in your own direction if your heart tells you that it's the right way for you.

Always believe that you will ultimately succeed at whatever you do, and never forget the value of persistence, discipline, and determination.

You are meant to be whatever you dream of becoming.

*By Edmund O'Neill*