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*RiseZine*  
A Publication of PleaseRise.com

## WELCOME TO *RISEZINE* #4

Happy Vernal Equinox (Spring):

Welcome to *RISEZINE* my quarterly electronic mail magazine (ezine) that can help you solve problems in your business and your life. It is my desire to share with you my life experiences and those I gained from the twenty (20) years I spent as a Judge of the Denver County Court participating in the transformation of lives. I'm convinced that those experiences will heighten your knowledge, sensitivity and outlook on the issues you face in your business and your life. I am honored to share your precious time with you.

It's that time of year again when we breathe a sigh of relief; the birds are chirping, the trees are budding and the flowers are blooming. The beloved IRS knows who we are and what we have done over the last year. Do we? In my program, "The 5 Steps to Successful Leadership", the 1st step is to know who you are. I mentor young men at an area high school. I ask them "Who are you?" Their first answer is their name. I ask, "Is that all?" Then they tell me their class e.g., freshman or senior. I tell them the first step to achieving their goals and dreams is to know who they are; their values, personal and work habits and their character. Leadership skills are the tools necessary to the achievement of our hopes and dreams. They are valuable for students of any age.

One way to discover how our values and personal and work habits were formed is to look into our past and think about three periods of our life when something happened to set our behavioral course:

0-15 years old;

15-29 years old;

30+ years old.

Think of one important challenge strategic in your life that you remember facing when you were in each of those periods of your life. Now answer these questions about yourself during those periods of your life:

1. What did I want and how compelling was it?

2. What prevented me from getting or what got in my way?
3. How did I resolve it? Or did I submit to it or overcome it?
4. What lesson did I learn from it?

This personal inventory forms the basis for the values that are directing our life. How we survived the challenge and the lessons we learned affect our relationships and the type of leader we are. Our development as leaders is grounded in those things we discover about ourselves. What do we want? Are you the type that wants to get the experience over fast, and thus, you are likely to give in too quickly, or give away too much? Or, are you the type who wants to win, no matter what the cost? If so, you may become adversarial and damage the relationship. I am accustomed to working with lawyers, heck I'm a lawyer. If you want to talk about the desire to win, all you have to do is visit the adversarial setting of a courtroom. As a judge, I often used the gavel to bring order to the proceedings. What did you learn about yourself that has set your behavioral course? When you look at yourself through the periods, who do you see? Who are you today? Are you who you want to be? If not, then what will it take to develop that picture?

Kathryn Graham was the shy, insecure stay at home wife of the gregarious publisher Lawrence Graham. When Lawrence shot and killed himself she took over his publication, the Washington Post. Kathryn took that paper to heights never before recorded. Tragedy may be the jet that propels you to overcome your challenges and *RISE* to your goals, like Kathryn Graham. **PLEASE RISE!**

After a busy winter keynoting the Annual Meeting of the Municipal Technology Association of South Carolina; training Hospitality and Merchants in Customer Service for the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce; keynoting the Hilton Head Rotary Valentine's Fundraising Luncheon; keynoting the Native Island Business and Community Affairs Association's Business Awards Luncheon; coaching an individual to assume a leadership position in her organization; conducting half-day Leadership and Communication training for Companions, Nurses and Nannies referral service, while competing in the Toastmaster's International Speech Contest and becoming Club, Area and Division A Champion, I'm convinced leadership skills are needed in our organizations, associations and work environments.

When you or your organization can use a healthy infusion of inspiration, motivation or stimulation or training in Leadership, Communication or Customer service, let me provide a keynote, workshop or seminar tailored to your specific needs that will ignite your employees! Contact me at the address below or through my website.

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*PLEASE RISE!*

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