

## No Counting !!

No it is not about inventory, but rather potentially some sage advice to guide you about relationships. Change is definitely happening everywhere as the economy struggles and sputters along. With change comes new definitions in roles, responsibilities and accountability.

Many years ago while attending a sermon our priest commented that a secret to maintaining a good relationship is to instill the “**no counting**” rule. He expanded that in many relationships couples will exert a considerable amount of energy counting ... “I made the bed yesterday so it is your turn today” or “ I cooked dinner so it is your turn to do the dishes”.

While many businesses are restructuring to survive, tasks and assignments are being changed at an alarming rate. Employees are being asked to step up and assume more tasks, assignments in many cases without a change in compensation. It is important to remember the traditional rules of yesterday exist no longer ... a new landscape is being created. It becomes easy to begin counting as you start to compare your work load to others within your organization. What is important that the organization bond as a team and work together on agreed priorities to insure success.

Taking on new assignments or expanding your scope can be exciting as you get to learn new skills and become more engaged in the success of your organization. Of course, you should never take on assignments or adopt change that is unethical or could jeopardize your Health & Safety.

Of course, applying the ‘**No Counting**’ rule in your personal relationship will be a significant contributor to harmony in your relationship. It is amazing how many times we mention to each other “you’ re counting” and the game stops instantly. This is why I am sharing this simple rule with you this week because last night I was caught counting ...

Another thought to remember is that **Anger is the Highest state of Commitment**. Many years ago a colleague and I were discussing management traits. He observed that he could survive a day at work without getting angry. He was constantly managing conflicts finding compromises and solutions but he then observed that once he got home it seemed that within seconds his children could escalate his mental state into anger mode. Later both of attended a leadership training course. During one of The sessions our instructor made us aware of how anger is the highest state of commitment. If we don’t care about something or someone we show no emotion versus if we are emotionally attached it becomes almost a natural state to express our emotions through anger when we get upset about change.

So look at your angry employees as also potentially your Committed employees.

Where Lean Thoughts can become Reality

*“Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow.”*

Ronald. E. Osborn

## How many zeros in a billion???

The next time you hear a politician use the word 'billion' in a casual manner, think about whether you want the 'politicians' spending YOUR tax money. A billion is a difficult number to comprehend, but one advertising agency did a good job of putting that figure into some perspective in one of its releases.

A..

A billion seconds ago it was 1959.

B.

A billion minutes ago Jesus was alive.

C.

A billion hours ago our ancestors were living in the Stone Age.

D.

A billion days ago no-one walked on the earth on two feet.

E.

A billion dollars ago was only 8 hours and 20 minutes, at the rate our government is spending it.

*While this thought is still fresh in our brain... let's take a look at New Orleans .*

*It's amazing what you can learn with some simple division.*

Louisiana Senator, Mary Landrieu (D) is presently asking Congress for 250 BILLION DOLLARS to rebuild New Orleans .. Interesting number...

what does it mean?

A.

Well... if you are one of the 484,674 residents of New Orleans (every man, woman, and child) you each get \$516,528.

B.

Or... if you have one of the 188,251 homes in New Orleans , your home gets \$1,329,787.

C..

Or... if you are a family of four... your family gets \$2,066,012.

Imagine, now \$700 billion bailing out banks in the US. That's enough to fund complete medical care for every man, woman and child currently alive in the US for 11 years!!

### The Economic Fix?

This was an article from the St. Petersburg Times Newspaper . The Business Section asked readers for ideas on "How Would You Fix the Economy?"

I think this guy nailed it!

Dear Mr.President,

Patriotic retirement:

There are about 40 million people over 50 in the work force; pay them \$1 million a piece severance with stipulations:

- 1) They leave their jobs. Forty million job openings - Unemployment fixed.
- 2) They buy NEW American cars. Forty million cars ordered - Auto Industry fixed.
- 3) They either buy a house or pay off their mortgage- Housing Crisis fixed.

All this and it's still cheaper than the "bailout".

Lean Thoughts