

**Subject: JULY 2012 - Elicit Your Greatness - Inspire Your World**



July 2012 "Elicit Your Greatness - Inspire Your World"  
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CHOOSE TO...

**Our Focus This Quarter - *Elicit Your Greatness***

As we move into our third quarter of the year, we are evolving the discussion from personal success and your success patterns to exploring your greatness and how to call it forth. Few of us set out to be "great" and

**Quotable Quotes**

*"There are countless ways of attaining greatness, but any road to reaching one's maximum potential must be built on a bedrock of respect for the individual, a commitment to excellence, and a rejection of mediocrity." ~ Buck Rodgers*

*"If there is no passion in your life, then have you really lived? Find your passion, whatever it may be. Become it, and let it become you and you will find great things happen FOR you, TO you and BECAUSE of you." ~ T. Alan Armstrong*

*"Greatness is a road leading towards the unknown." ~ Charles de Gaulle*

*"Greatness is so often a courteous synonym for great success." ~ Philip Guedalla*

Dear Jean,

yet we each have something so special to embrace in ourselves and share with others. You do inspire others - let's consider how we can do just that.

### Experiencing Greatness - What It Takes

*There are a few words and phrases that will surface time and again to challenge us on our unknown path to achieving greatness. Take a few minutes to consider how the forces below show up in your life daily. What do they propel you to? Just what does "greatness" look like when you are eliciting greatness in yourself and inspiring others to achieve their greatness?*

1. Change
2. Stretch
3. Motivation
4. Excellence
5. Passion
6. Power of Thought

### Elicit Your Greatness - Inspire Your World

"Eliciting Greatness" - a "calling forth" of your greatness is a phrase that is a share and a gift from a client. Responding to that phrase, she declares what action or choice she will make in that day or week to call out her greatness and inspire her world.



Reconnecting with this topic of eliciting greatness has allowed me to meander down memory lane.

Fourteen years ago I made a choice to enroll in a coaching program of study. For many reasons of convenience and accessibility, I chose to enroll in Coach University's program. For two+ years I spent a few evenings a week on a teleconference with an instructor and 20 other students. One change in my routine, a choice to embark on a "not so special" learning program ... or so I thought at the time. That choice and change rocked my world and has since touched and inspired (I hope) the lives of others.

Coach U's founder and leader, Thomas Leonard declared the ability to "elicit greatness" as the #3 Coaching Proficiency. The key distinction for this proficiency state is greatness vs. success. He spoke to greatness as being "... a natural state and anyone can enter this state and that greatness affords a lifetime of achievement." He offered some examples of how we can elicit this greatness in ourselves and others. A few of those examples are:

- Asking for higher standards
- Asking for "absence of" something (as in, "What would your life be like without those things that are holding you back?")
- Asking for a much bigger game

What is required to elicit greatness? The three examples are only a few things we can ask for - again of ourselves and others. One coach encourages us to ask the question: *"To be great in this situation, what change is called for?"*

Change? I can see the brows furrow for most of you as you read this. You may be a lover of change or a hater of change. The reality is that each new moment stretches us to breathe and move and consider

- [7. Strengths](#)
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something different and new. If we are to elicit greatness, achieve it and inspire others, then our world will reflect change, passion and small steps that may be perceived in the end to be rather large strides.

I still have reams of paper and forms from my coaching program, so I started sifting through the pile. I wanted to remember. Have I achieved some level of greatness in my personal world? Have I stretched? Am I continuing to stretch and grow and learn and develop into a human being worthy of greatness?

What I came across was a program I put myself through with my coach after I had completed my studies with Coach U. While Coach U promoted a "Personal Foundations" course in our training curriculum, I chose later to begin a "Professional Foundations" course authored by Dr. Lee Smith and Dr. Jeannine Sandstrom. The program's logo - *"Expanding the Ordinary to Achieve the Extraordinary."* The five chapters of the program - Self-knowledge, Personal Presence, Professional Excellence, Personal Organization and Extreme Self-care - were structured in such a way as to put the learner on a path of discovery and "elicit their strengths, dreams, principles, wisdom, and of course, new areas to grow and develop.

I mention this program only to point out the fact that 14 years ago, I chose a road with a few unknowns - being the owner of my own business and coaching. It was one road with many paths of diversions and even a few potholes along the way. I made a conscious, and constructive, choice to change my career and my life's work and focus and at all the age of 46. I entered into a profession that at that time was about 8 years young, a career that didn't exist when I was working toward my degree in elementary education in the '70s. What a road I have been on!

Would I do it again - choose to change with some significant steps? YES! And I think I actually have. Have I achieved greatness? Oh, my heavens NO, I don't believe so ... AND ... I attempt to call it forth every day. Do I inspire others? I have been told by some that I do and I can only hope that if I am not inspiring others that I am touching their lives in a positive way.

*Wishing you the strength to stretch and elicit your greatness to inspire your world.*

Jean



## **CHOOSE to...**

...announce a change in your world for today...declare your higher standard ... question what life could be like without the barrier(s)... ask what is stopping you...then design a bigger game...REFLECT... STRETCH...BREATHE...step into your path.

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## **Administrivia**

My Constructive Choices Audience...

- \* Professionals wanting to be at choice in their career and daily work,
- \* New Managers (and aspiring leaders) transitioning to establish a leadership role in their communities,
- \* Individuals wanting to sort through the choices, build a more fulfilling life, lift their voices, and...
- \* Coaches who choose to step out, show up, and say - *YES, it IS all about YOU!*

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