

***** Sense of a Goose - Advenire newsletter / 1st of april 2001 *****

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Your input, ideas, tips, articles and other contributions are welcome to:
feedback@advenire.com

***** The Quote

"Our dilemma is that we hate changes, at the same as we love them. What we wish for is that things should remain as they are, yet better" (Sydney Harris)

***** Tips in brief - The two goddesses!

At a meeting there are two "goddesses" that need to be worshiped. The Social goddess and the Task goddess. These both need attention and time. A meeting that only pays attention to the former, might be very nice and focused on the relations and emotions in the group, but not much actually gets done. If you only give the later one room, you probably get a lot done (at least it is perceived that way), but the participants might not feel like participants or that someone actually cares about them and their opinions. A few minutes at the start of each meeting to check in how everybody is doing and let them speak a bit about what they have been up to might create miracles.

One company solved it by creating two different rooms for meetings, painted in two different colors. One was used for meetings that required fast decision making and had a high task focus. The other was used when the group wanted to attend to relations and individuals within the group. (Source: Horizons Consulting Inc.)

***** A definition of a group!

Lars Svedberg, a Swedish psychologist, chose to define a group as follows in his book "Group Psychology" (ISBN 91-44-00328-5):

"In a group, the members (at least two) are interacting to reach a goal or perform a task"

***** Said about leadership - by Tao Te Ching

"A wise leader does not interfere when not necessary. The group knows the leader, but mostly it runs itself...The personal consciousness of the leader creates an open climate...Leaders that know when to listen, when to act and when to back off, work well with almost anybody...To know how other people behave takes intelligence, but to know oneself requires wisdom...To start with people become confused when they see how little a skilled leader actually does and how much that gets accomplished...strive for an open and honest group...It is more important to say the truth out straight, than to say something that sounds good."

***** Five on the Internet – As usual a variety served on your screen!

Anything (almost) you want to know about our dreams...

<http://www.dreamdoctor.com>

Images in full color of our brain...

<http://www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB/home.html>

A site for motivation och inspiration...

<http://www.joshhinds.com/welcome.htm>

More on inspiration from the chicken soup people...

<http://www.chickensoup.com/>

When you need a little break from work or a little laugh...

<http://www.humor.com>

***** Question of the month - Who owns who?!

Dalai Lama was once asked the question about owning material things in this world. He answered that "sure, I would also like to have a new and fancy sports car, but it will come to a situation where I will have trouble getting rid of my new and fancy sports car. So I believe we have to ask ourselves when it comes to material things; is it I who owns the car, or is it the car that owns me?"

***** The golden rules of life!

If you open it, close it.

If you turn it on, turn it off.

If you unlock it, lock it.

If you break it, admit it.

If you can not fix it, call for someone who can.

If you borrow it, return it.

If you value it, take care of it.

If you make a mess, clean it up.

If it belongs to somebody else and you wish to use it, ask first.

If you do not know how to use it, leave it be.

If it is non of you business, do not ask questions.

If it is not broken, do not fix it.

If it is going to make somebody happy, say it.

If it will stain the reputation of somebody, keep it to yourself.

(Author unknown)

***** News from Advenire!

Markus Eriksson, one of the facilitators of Advenire, has recently started a three year training in psychosynthesis, a broad system of methods and techniques for personal growth and inner leadership. These skills are, and will be, integrated into our leadership programs to offer even higher quality trainings.

***** Editorial and subscription

"Sense of a Goose" is distributed via email six times a year and is for free. Editor: Markus Eriksson (markus.eriksson@advenire.com)

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