



March 3, 2010

## **Time for Points to Ponder**

### ***The Habits of Mind of Professional Behavior\****

... **This can bring up** many different habits -- think before speaking, don't cuss or use inappropriate words, keep an open mind ..... and these may have a direct influence on your success. Dr. George Walker of Cleveland State University has done research on effective executive leadership. The three habits he found that have been most helpful are:

- Learn to Learn --- and to Lead
- Passion to Learn --- and to Lead
- Confidence to Learn --- and to Lead\*

This last one struck me, ties into your ['caveman' brain](#) and into several of these [past newsletters](#).

- How willing are you to get outside your comfort arena? Do you eagerly jump out, or do you turn your back to the 'barrier'?
- How secure are you in your leadership abilities, and reputation, to fail?
- How open are you to why you failed ... or did not accomplish what you wanted to accomplish?
- When do you admit you don't know how to resolve a situation, especially when you have been trained in that area and consider that your expertise?

**What action can you take** to answer 'very' and 'yes' to the above?

- You become more 'human' by not being perfect in every situation. This gives others permission to make mistakes and recover as professionally as you have done.
- Explain your thinking rationale --- and your thinking process. This allows your assumptions to be stated, and any discrepancies or oversights can be verbalized.
- Don't dwell on your missteps or inaccuracies. Understand why they happened, apologize if necessary, and move on. Don't hang on to the past and let it defeat you. Your team will suffer.
- Create a culture where your ideas can be challenged. And train your mind to not take offense when you are challenged. How else do you expect to grow, and to train your replacement if you yourself are not continually learning?

Remember, you are a role model for your staff. They watch what you do and easily adopt your attitude, your perspective and your integrity. They will follow your lead. Captain Al Haynes was an excellent example of this ... [Request my White Paper on the](#)

## [UA 232 Accident](#)

\*Walker, George E, Cleveland State University, February 2010

### **Stay connected...More communication for you**

A related blog entry, [Poor Performance = Bad Behavior?](#) is available on my website. The left side has our library of complimentary communications [Articles](#), the right side, under Newsletters, has back issues of these communiques.

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