Coconut Telegraph

July 2015 Volume 9 Issue #101

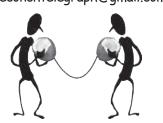
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Editorial: "You Catch More Flies With Honey Than Vinegar"

It's a simple metaphor. Flies represent anything you want to achieve. Honey (sweet) represents anything pleasant that wrote an unpleasant article you do to get what you want. Vinegar (sour) represents anything unpleasant that you do to get what you want. It tells you to use nice methods rather than unkind methods in dealing with other people.

When I worked for other newspapers as a highly paid salesperson collecting a salary, commission, full benefits including profit sharing, my job was to procure sales and chase down checks from delinguent accounts. When dealing with irate and hostile customers verbally attacking me and the newspaper I worked for, I had to handle it in a professional manner. I was thrown out of places

and walked through their doors again the next day. If the editorial "news" staff about one of my accounts I took the beating verbally and financially. That was my job.

Since I started The Coconut Telegraph 9 years ago I am not just the salesperson but the writer, circulation manager, photographer, office manager, etc. I sure have learned a lot! You find out who your friends are fast. For instance, there's one guy I used to see at a local bar every day dripping in gold yet always complaining about being broke as he chugged his top shelf whiskey. I visited him in the hospital and helped him and his kid out. I was a good friend to him. I wrote one story he didn't

agree with and now he tells everyone he hates me.

Lesson #1 - Most alcoholics do not make good friends or parents. Their only concern is their next drink.

Lesson #2. There is no time for bullshit. The phone is for business. Last month I had a really old lady call me and threaten to sue me because I wrote that my opinion is that butter is healthier than margarine. I said "Do your own research"

and disconnected. She called me back and left a message that if I would return her call and explain it to her she would call off the lawyers. I should have said...

"Tell them to ask for 'Blue Girl'." That's

right, Blue Girl... because I'll be holding my breath.

Lesson # 3. Not all customers are worth having. It is not my civic duty to run your press releases so you don't have to pay for an ad. We do not jump through hoops of fire and cut our price in half for a customer that buys one ad a year... no matter how surly your disposition is and how important you think you are. We are too busy helping nice people.



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Happy 2nd of July?!

From the Huffington Post: Author Kenneth C. Davis has revealed that the 2nd of July may actually be the more appropriate date to mark the nation's special day.

"The fact is that John Adams wrote home to Abigail on the 3rd that this day, July 2nd will go down in history," Davis said during an appearance on "CBS This Morning." "We'll celebrate it with

parades and pomp and bells ringing and fireworks, and it was because Congress actually ruled it in favor of independence on July 2. But it was two days later, of course, that Congress then accepted Jefferson's declaration, explaining the vote two days before that really got fixed in the America's imagination as our birthday. July 2nd should be Independence Day."

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