

Redfield

Report - Philadelphia Town Meeting

Guardians Consult

Good Morning. My name is Steve Redfield and on behalf of Philadelphia I'd like to report to you a great

event. It was 200 years ago ^{the area} north of Philadelphia that ^{Some of our} the founding father of this country

gathered together and gave birth to a new society, a society where all men ^{individually} equally could participate in

the decision making process. Well, on March 22nd of this year, once again there was ^{the} birth, a birth of

the ^{Congress} ~~Byron~~ meeting in Carpenter Hall, when men had a way of reawakening to what it means to again participate

in the decision making process of this society. We first gathered in the International Building of the

University ~~of~~ Pennsylvania and we had 250 people, 250 people ^{from the Philadelphia area} ~~from the Philadelphia area~~ ^{York} ~~York~~

^{we} got down to work and collected issues, issues that were of vital concern to us in our area, and talked

about them and worked on them, and then from ^{those} ~~those~~ issues addressed ourselves and came up ^{with} ~~with~~ proposals

proposals that deal with the issues, and through the day ^{we} ~~we~~ worked on developing these proposals relative

to the issues. Finally we wrote a song, a song about what it means to be a man, at this time in Philadelphia, to participate in a ~~Town Meeting~~. It was a great day but it wasn't over. That evening we went to Congress

Hall and had ~~model~~ ceremonies, and ~~the~~ Bicentennial Warbell was presented to the Town meeting to be used and we received the official permission to use the logo for the town meeting and the Bicentennial business.

There's many a solid result from this town meeting. We had the directors of the Bicentennial celebration

for the ~~the~~ city of Philadelphia participate in the town meeting, in fact, he was the one who got us congress

hall. When ~~the~~ program director said that he would like to attend this town meeting and we suggested

to him that he sponsor town meetings through out the town of Philadelphia as a way people could celebrate

the 200th anniversary of our nation, and once again discover what it means to work collectively together

in ~~participations~~ that would affect their everyday life and would affect how they related to and how

~~they came to~~ the society might work

He suggested that the thing ^{fitting place to start this,} that he suggested to inaugurate this would be where our nation was

inaugurated, in congress Hall, and he'd get it for us. We discovered a secret when he did that - advocacy.

That man could do what we had tried for months and were unable, just like that. The other day a gentlemen

came to me who was an independent engineer, he had developed a component for a computer, it was a very

innovative idea and had a lot of merit, and he'd been trying to interest my company in this device.

and he had ^{gotten to} seen half a dozen people and explained to them all, ^{about it} and ^{everybody was} gotten them excited about it. They thought

it had a lot of merit, but he couldn't get anywhere. I ^{was} suggested to him the name of one person, he went to

that person, and just like that his whole relationship to our company, all of a sudden ^{the device, everybody was} everybody was

about him, just that one key person. That's the principle of advocacy. Well, ~~was~~ ^{that} what we want to do in

society, In the social structures,

there's always a key individual who can do it for you, who can sponsor you, who can give you the authorization

who can okay you, in a sense, who can keep on okaying you and looking out for you, and making sure that the right doors are open, that the right individuals know about you, that you have the right credentials,

When you find that key individual, everything just worked, like the Bicentennial officials who got us that ^{Congress Hill}

result or that man in my company who opened the door for that inventor. The same Bicentennial ~~representative~~ ^{official} was

after the town meeting was approached by a lady from a small township outside Philadelphia and she asked him

what could her township do to celebrate the Bicentennial. The answer - go talk to the ICA about the Town

Meeting. ~~Our~~ ^{an} advocate.

Sometimes you have to think of it as not apathy in the higher positions in the social structure ^{the advocate does not have to be highly positioned} ~~or somewhat~~ ^{perhaps}

highly positioned in the social structure or somewhat non-approachable, but the advocate might be anybody

in a group ~~of~~ ^{or} organization who might catalyze or get a favor from the organization for you ^{could just} ~~of that~~ ^{the}. The other day

we were at a follow up meeting for the town meeting, and we had a person there who had gone to the town meeting,

who belonged to this group that we were pitching for town meeting ~~for~~ He pitched the town meeting, not us, and

he sold it. He was our advocate, and he is why that group is going to have a town meeting. ~~IT~~ doesn't have

to be a person who is perhaps highly placed in whatever social structures, you are pitching that town meeting

to or whatever ^{Government} organization or anything ^{country} it is, ~~W~~ it just has to be someone who is willing to give you his favor

or his organization and then to continue to see that you make it, or that you succeed in his organization.

That same follow up meeting that I went to after the Town Meeting, there was ~~always~~ lady there who worked for the

Pearl S. Buck Foundation, and she was involved in this airlift of orphans from Viet Nam to our country, and she

had an interesting story to tell. It seems that she was ⁱⁿ ^{visas} ~~in~~ trouble, ~~it seems~~ that she didn't know what to do,

~~but~~ then on the other side of town meeting she decided that she could really ~~be~~ ^{see} an alderman in the government

of our country, that she could fit in, she could accept, she could deal with the government, and she did that,

and he then turned around and made the right connections for her, and he did it and she got the visas, and

later she ran into more difficulty. This time she picked up the telephone and called the White House. She ~~was~~ ^{knew}

~~knex~~ the advocate she wanted. She got through and spoke to a deputy undersecretary, and once again things

happened and her problems were solved. This lady had learned ^{from} ~~from~~ the town meeting that she could ^{participate} ~~specifically~~

~~enter~~ the decision making process of our country. And she'd also discovered the ~~xxx~~ principle of advocacy.

I thank you for listening to my report.