

# **RiseZine**

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Welcome to **RiseZine** my quarterly electronic magazine (ezine) that can help you solve problems in your business and your life. It is my desire to bring you inspiration from the experiences I gained during the twenty (20) years I spent as a Judge of the Denver County Court participating in the transformation of lives. I'm convinced that those experiences will heighten your knowledge, sensitivity and outlook on the issues you face in your business and your life. I am honored to share your precious time with you.

### **Are you a VIP?**

When spring arrives I am asked by many subscribers for an update on the Young Men of Honor (YMOH). I am happy to say that most of last year's YMOH have gone on to middle school and a new group of young men has replaced them. Mrs. Jackson continues to provide the platform for positive modeling for them with her afternoon program. Last week when I met with the YMOH they asked me about those "reality" shows, especially the portrayals of the courtroom scene on the "judges" shows on television. (Notice the small "j") Now I confess that I watch "Dancing with the Stars"; anyone who really knows me understands how much I like to dance. I told the YMOH that I don't watch those "judges" shows because they don't represent what goes on in a courtroom; people aren't belittled in court like most of those shows portray them. I've had conversations with some of those television personalities, and they told me how important the audience ratings were for their show's survival and their pay. When the audience craves vitriol and human sacrifice, the "reality" courtroom programs provide the lowest common denominator for their viewing audience. We demand our "real"

court system to focus more on the principles of law delivered with fairness, compassion and integrity that our Founding Fathers established when they created this important third branch of government.

My mindset when preparing for meeting the Young Men of Honor is to give them something to counter the negativity of those “reality” television programs. They have a lot of ways to stretch their muscles to help them grow; I want them to stretch their mind so it will grow. After beginning my meeting with the obligatory



RAP, I use a mnemonic as a tool for them to cement the concept I want to share with them. This time I showed them my car key and asked them what it was. Of course they recognized it and knew its use. I told them just like the car key was a tool for starting my car so I can

drive to my destination, the mnemonic is a tool for memory that can open the door to their mind and drive them to their destination in life. To counter the negative portrayals that permeate our culture and so influence the minds of these young men, I chose **VIP** as the mnemonic for this meeting. A **VIP** is a person who receives special treatment or is of great importance, a **Very Important Person** in every language. In French, it is *personnalite' en vue*; in German, it is *prominente*; in Spanish, it is *persona muy importante*'. The ordinary meaning, “Very Important Person”, was insufficient to impart the esteem-building tool I wanted to cement in their mind. So the definition of **VIP** I chose as necessary for each Young Man of Honor to become a person of great importance was **Vision, Insight and Power**.

## **Vision**

It was easy for the students to answer my question, “What is the source of your vision?” They shouted in unison, my eyes! Aha, another tool for you and everyone “to see”. But what is the scope of your vision, I asked? Not such an easy question. I took my forty inch peacock feather and balanced it on my fingertip; then I let them attempt the same. They weren’t successful at first because they didn’t focus on the “eye” of the feather. When they focused their attention on the eye of the feather they were able to balance it on their fingertip. That uninterrupted vision is necessary for them to see beyond their present state and foretell what they can do in their future. Vision is more than what is immediately in sight; it is foresight. I asked them to imagine a train moving down the track from the North; now, imagine another train moving down same track from the South only one hundred yards away. Sight alone makes you a witness to the trains approaching each other; do you want to be more than a witness in life? How do you see yourself in the future, as a witness or a participant? It takes more than sight from two eyes. When you see yourself in stature beyond your current circumstance you have vision. Boundless, limitless achievement is the kind of positive vision you need to counteract the negative influences that may surround you; that’s **Vision**.

### **Insight**

I asked the students “how many eyes do you have?” They said two. I said they were wrong! What did I mean? In Taoism they describe the “third eye”. “What!” they said. Yes, ancient Chinese philosophy said all the senses and the mind working together as a larger, connected organ is the third eye, insight. “You Just Know”. It is grasping what is hidden, you know what you know. They needed an example so I took out my heavy rubber object and asked them what would happen if I dropped it? Of course, the students exclaim” it will fall to the ground.” Why? “Because of gravity”, they say. Next I show them my balloon, then ask them what will happen when I let go of the string attached. The dilemma, the balloon rises to the ceiling. Why didn’t it drop like the rubber object? Hands raised, students cry out, “Helium!” The lesson is that there are some things that are not subject to change, like the law of physics. You must act in accordance with certain principles in order to achieve your desires and act in your best

interest. Your insight let's you know that helium is lighter than air and will make the balloon rise. . Let's go back to the two trains approaching each other from the opposite directions on the same track. With insight, knowledge based on experience, the students know that without intervention those two trains will collide. I ask them are they satisfied with that insight. As expected, the students want to know how they can prevent the collision; that takes **Power**.

## **Power**

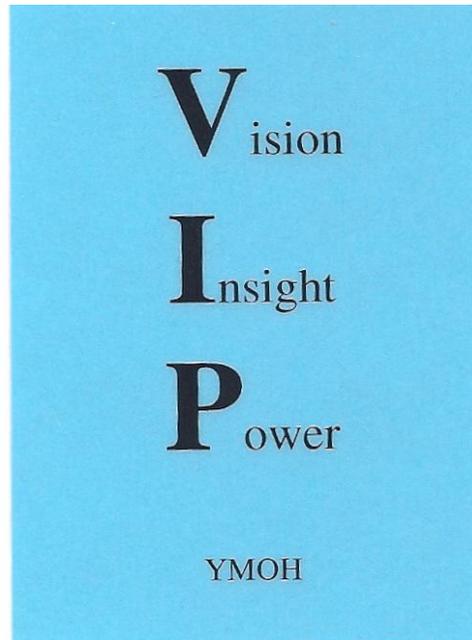
The ability to act on what you know or have seen is how I define power. First, you must exercise control over yourself. When I was first appointed a judge in Denver, I had to learn to exercise control over my emotions in light of the myriad of contentious relationships that were presented through the presentation of evidence in those criminal trials. You can't faint at the sight of blood-spattered homicide victim; or the pictures of the head that was bashed to the size of a nickel, and maintain control over the trial. For the YMOH, the lesson is that they must pay attention to their emotions in the relationships in their classroom, their homes and their neighborhoods. When someone else is influencing your negative behavior, they have the power over you. When you are controlling your emotions and resist their negative influence, you are exercising the power over your emotions and your environment, i.e. (your classroom, your neighborhood and your home). I took the YMOH back to the example of the two trains on the same track headed for a collision and ask what does it take to prevent that collision? They need the power of the train brakemen to throw the switch and change the track for one of those trains; that's **Power!** Don't you want that power? With power you can change the outcomes in your life.

I printed cards for the all the YMOH as a reminder to them and an illustration to the world that they are **VIP's**. When they question their vision, insight or power to achieve their highest goals, they can look at their cards.

**YMOH are VIP's!**

Are you a **VIP**? Do you need a card to remind you and to alert others that you have the **Vision** to foresee your path and beyond; the **Insight** to grasp the meaning of what you can be and do; and the **Power** to act in accordance with that knowledge to achieve your higher self?

Here is your card>>



**Yes, you're a VIP!**

Can't you or your organization use a healthy infusion of inspiration, motivation or training in Leadership, Decision-making, Communication, Ethics or Team-Building? I can provide a keynote, workshop, seminar or individual coaching tailored to meet your needs and help you and your team **RISE**. Email [Beau@PleaseRise.com](mailto:Beau@PleaseRise.com).

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***“Do just once what others say you can't do, and you will never pay attention to their limitations again.”*** James R. Cook.

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