# Gaining the Jaded Patina

Dr. Alan D. Lytle

University of Arkansas – Little Rock

October 26, 2011

### Want to guess what this is?



#### What is the "Jaded Patina"?

- "Jaded" made dull, apathetic, or cynical by experience (Merriam-Webster's Dictionary)
- "Patina" a surface appearance of something grown beautiful especially with age or use; an appearance or aura that is derived from association, habit, or established character (Merriam-Webster's Dictionary)
- Do these seem "at odds"?
- "Jaded patina" We'll come to this later.

# How does one gain the "Jaded Patina"?

- NOT by seeking it!
- It's a burden; it's a badge of honor; it can be a curse; it can be a blessing; it can give you strength; it can leach you of strength; it can enlighten you; it can also take you into the darkness. In essence, it is a bifurcated dichotomy that is ever-changing with time.

#### **Motivation Killers**

- Routine
- Fear
- Success
- Lack of Direction
- Failure
- Apathy
- Burnout
- Feeling unvalued<sup>1</sup>

### 10 Things to Stop Caring About

- Everyone's opinion of you
- Being politically correct
- Looking a certain way
- What everyone else wants for you
- Boundaries others set up

# 10 Things to Stop Caring About - continued

- What everyone else has
- Imaginary state of perfection
- Being right all the time
- Mistakes
- Things you cannot control<sup>2</sup>

# The Power of "Disconnectedness" – My experience

- No technology tethers +
- No communication =

• A TRUE VACATION and MENTAL RESET!

# Knowledge = Power . . . What I learned.

- Knowledge and Power go hand-inhand.
- · Ignorance and Bliss are partners, too.

 However, if Power and Ignorance cannot truly exist; can Knowledge and Bliss co-exist?

#### Quote 1

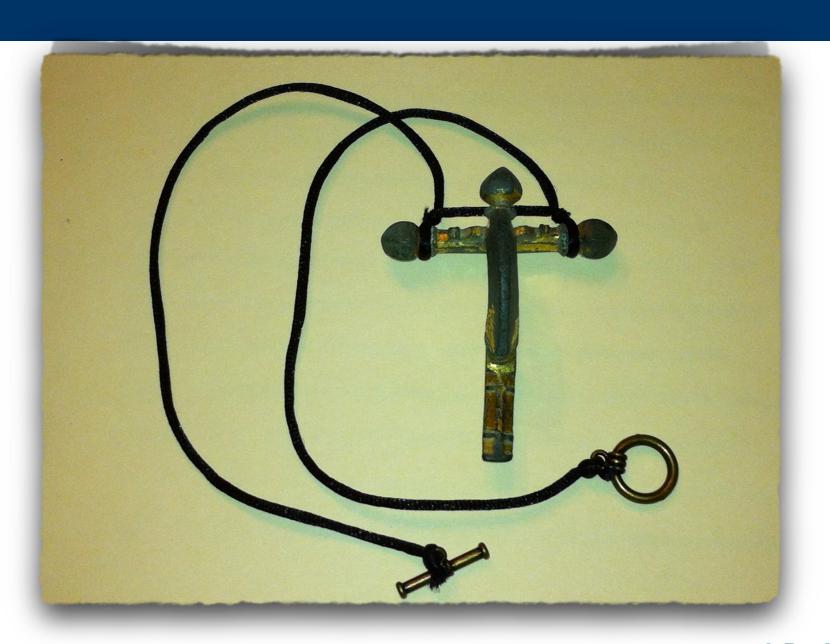
"Here's to the crazy ones, the misfits, the reels, the troublemakers, the round pegs in the square holes ... the ones who see things differently — they're not fond of rules ... You can quote them; disagree with them, glorify or vilify them, but the only thing you can't do is ignore them because they change things ... they push the human race forward, and while some may see them as the crazy ones, we see genius, because the ones who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world, are the ones who do."3

#### Quote 2

"You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something – your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. This approach has never let me down, and it as made all the difference in my life."

Steve Jobs – Stanford commencement speech 2005 <sup>4</sup>

## Want to guess again?



#### What is the "Jaded Patina??"

- As you can see, this isn't an easy question to answer.
  It's many things, but let's see if this sums it up:
- Having the jaded patina is knowing when to act without over-analysis; trusting your gut-feeling while less-experienced "others" tell you otherwise; having and knowing when to use an iron hand in a silk glove; knowing you have a vision without being able to completely articulate it; and, finally, and most importantly, being true to yourself, as you are the only one who can see inside the crystal ball that is your mind and soul.

#### Notes

- 1. <a href="http://www.ronedmondson.com/2011/09/8-killers-of-motivation-and-momentum.html">http://www.ronedmondson.com/2011/09/8-killers-of-motivation-and-momentum.html</a>
- http://www.marcandangel.com/2011/10/02/thingsto-stop-caring-about-today
- 3. <a href="http://uk.ibtimes.com/articles/226170/20111006/">http://uk.ibtimes.com/articles/226170/20111006/</a> steve-jobs-apple-co-founder.htm
- 4. <a href="http://www.gardian.co.uk/technology/2011/oct/06/steve-jobs-quotes/print">http://www.gardian.co.uk/technology/2011/oct/06/steve-jobs-quotes/print</a>

### One Last Thought

• If at first you don't succeed . . .

### One Last Thought (continued)

Skydiving isn't for you!

#### Contact Information

· adlytle@ualr.edu

OR

· dralandlytle@hotmail.com