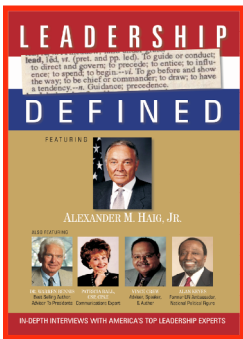




## Vince Crew

- Speaker • Author • Columnist
- Media Resource to FOX, CNN, PBS, CNBC, print, and Internet outlets

*Trusted and Nationally Recognized Thought Leader dedicated to helping Owners and Executives REACH Their Goals... Ethically*



Available at:  
[www.REACHdevelopment.com](http://www.REACHdevelopment.com)

These perspectives are no substitute for tailored counsel or designed for your particular situation. Contact us to discuss your specific needs.

### HOW I SEE IT.

#### The Origin of Thanksgiving

Americans will celebrate Thanksgiving either as a day to gorge, watch TV, and prepare for super sales frenzy – or - as a day of family, prayer, and reflection. We hope you take time to consider the origins of this uniquely American event.

The Pilgrims left Plymouth, England, on September 6, 1620, in search of *The New World* - a world of uncertainty but one that would offer both civil and religious freedom. After over two months, the 102 passengers braving the harsh storm-tossed sea and with determination and a reliance on Divine Providence, the cry of "Land!" was heard.

Arriving in Massachusetts in late November, the Pilgrims sought a suitable landing place. On December 11, just before disembarking at Plymouth Rock, they signed the "Mayflower Compact" - America's first document of civil government and the first to introduce self-government.

The grateful Pilgrims declared a three-day feast, starting on December 13, 1621, to thank God and to celebrate with their Indian friends. While this was not the first Thanksgiving in America (thanksgiving services were held in Virginia as early as 1607), it was America's first Thanksgiving Festival.

In 1789, following a proclamation issued by President George Washington, America celebrated its first Day of Thanksgiving to God under its new constitution.

Much of the credit for the adoption of a later *annual* national Thanksgiving Day may be attributed to Mrs. Sarah Joseph Hale, the editor of *Godey's Lady's Book*. For thirty years, she promoted the idea of a national Thanksgiving Day, contacting President after President until President Abraham Lincoln responded in 1863 by setting aside the last Thursday of November as a national Day of Thanksgiving. Subsequent Presidents followed Lincoln's precedent, annually declaring a national Thanksgiving Day. Then, in 1941, Congress *permanently* established the fourth Thursday of each November as a national holiday.

Unfortunately much of today's progressive thought and policy-making centers on eliminating, outlawing, and otherwise repudiating as much faith-based thinking and activity as possible. However, as you celebrate Thanksgiving this year, remember those courageous Pilgrims as well as the concepts of a hard-work ethic, self-reliant communities, and a devout heritage of faith and freedom.

Since Mrs. Crew and I began this business in 1997 we have been constantly inspired by many and chastised by others due to our unabashed acknowledgement that *one of the first signs of mature leadership is to recognize there are things greater than self*. These include God. It also includes those who depend on your correct and timely decisions. And it includes the mission of the firm you lead. Leadership is less about the leader and more about his or her regard for those who have chosen to follow.

I was raised that a man who believes he is not the center of his world is to be honored and respected - because humility and fallibility are foundations for doing business, living a full life, and leaving a legacy of honor.

In the midst of an uncertain economy and world, I wish you the gift of time to pause and recognize the incredible opportunities, blessings, and possibilities of living in a nation that is resilient, courageous, and still rooted in the pursuit of all things good and noble regardless of the evil and confusion in the hearts and minds of so many.

Thank YOU for your encouragement, patronage, and referrals this year. And it is with a gracious and confident spirit I wish you a, "Happy and Meaningful Thanksgiving!"

At least that's how I see it.

## A TIP OR TWO

### Give THANKS to The People Who Make Your Life Worth Living:

There's an old saying, "Counting your blessings reminds you of more." Most of our blessings come through the people that come, go, and stay in our lives. During this holiday, consider a call, a note, an email, a get-together, a handshake, a cup of coffee, a lunch, a drink, or a hug to thank:

- Spouse: for his or her faithfulness, patience, and love
- Children: for their love and willingness to listen, learn, and grow into responsible adults
- Friends: for listening and being there when you need them
- The boss: for his direction and support
- Co-workers: for their work ethic and assistance
- Employees: for their dedication and dependability
- Vendors: for their products and services
- Faithful Religious leaders: for supporting your spiritual strength
- Neighbors: for watching out for things while you're away
- Honest Political leaders: for honoring their oath to ensure just legislation and oversight
- Former Teachers, Advisors, Mentors: for their efforts, encouragement, and inspiration
- Colleagues and Partners: for their professional, financial, emotional support in business endeavors

These people help you endure the struggles and celebrate the joys. And it isn't by accident.

## THOUGHTS FROM HERE AND THERE

Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence. Erma Bombeck

Thanksgiving, man! Not a good day to be my pants. Kevin James

Coexistence: what the farmer does with the turkey - until Thanksgiving. Mike Connolly

How wonderful it would be if we could help our children and grandchildren to learn thanksgiving at an early age. Thanksgiving opens the doors. It changes a child's personality. A child is resentful, negative, or thankful. Thankful children want to give, they radiate happiness; they draw people. Sir John Templeton

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Hebrews 12:1

But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you for My power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9

## VINNIE'S COMMERCIAL

### **The #1 Reason for Attending Your Association or Corporate Event Better be IMPROVEMENT...**

Conferences are a nice break from the day-to-day work; however, your event must improve skills, direction, strategy, sales, service, etc. OR it is a highly questionable expenditure of time, energy, and money.

Ensure your content is solid; your speakers are knowledgeable and professional. The days of one-shot spectaculars are over: make sure there is a plan for on-going reinforcement of the conference concepts. Forget the general motivational speaker - your keynoter must bring real-world experience, knowledge, insight, and actionable content. The BEST Planners are working nine to twelve months out to book the BEST Speakers.

**Have You Prepared for Your 2010 Association or Corporate Leadership Event Yet?** Email [Jackie@REACHdevelopment.com](mailto:Jackie@REACHdevelopment.com) to arrange a time to discuss your specific needs with Vince.

**ALWAYS, ALWAYS... Continue to REACH!**

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