Monday Morning Quarterbacking

23 Years from Tiger Lily's Playbook

Charleston, South Carolina 1996-2018



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Tiger Lily's Playbook

► Build Your Brand





- ► Know Your Numbers 2+2=5
- ► Learn to Lead



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Branding isn't just your Logo and Matching T-shirts

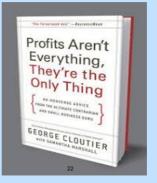
- ► What's Your product
- ► Who's Your Customer
- ► Customer Service
- ▶ Charitable Giving

18

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Summer Lake Vacation Reading 2011 Light Reading







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Profit Rule Takeaways from <u>Profits</u> <u>Aren't Everything</u>

- Forget Sweat Equity
- Live and Die by a Real Plan
- ► Pay for Performance
- ► You Aren't in the Business to Pay Vendors
- ▶ It's Not the Economy, Stupid, It's You

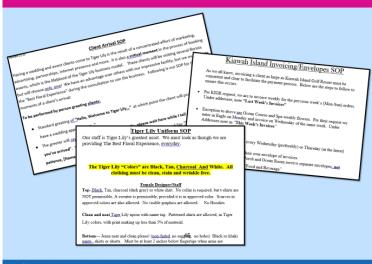
23

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New Processes - 30/30/30/10

- ► Wages(30%) tied to Sales Forecast Manager
- ► COGS (30%) Tied to Sales Forecast Clara
- ► All other expenses including rent (30%) Manny
- Performance based compensation- Manny
- Profit goal 10% Everyone's Job

29



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Things We Did Well

- ► Marketing through Charitable Giving
- ► Buying Property
- Started working on the business and not in it....Fingertip Controls
- ► Got Involved with SAF
- ► Started Exit Strategy Early

46

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Exit Strategy Started 2016

- Maximize real estate potential with built up equity in Spring Street
- Start conversations with potential buyer
- ► Make sure 30/30/30/10 is solid
- Reduce write offs to business to show true profit to potential buyer
- ► A million other things....
- October 1st, 2018 Papers Signed with new owner

Things we should have done better....

- ► Fired people faster
- Provided more ongoing staff training
- Embraced our Financial Statement and not just looked at balance in checking account
- Shared information with staff more
- Understood how our Ego's effected our ability to lead – especially in beginning
- Understood the process of selling the business

58

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1996 - Bought existing florist - Tiger Lily, Sales \$149,000 1997-1999 - Decided who our Customer was, Drop all 5 wire services 1997-2004 - Grew sales to \$1,263,000 2003 - Bought Real Estate on Spring Street, Small **Business of the Year (Charleston Chamber of Commerce)** 2004-2009 - Grew sales to \$1,837,000 -FatDumbHappy 2010-2011 Recession hits Charleston slowly, sales drop 40%, \$300k in debt and not taking income 2012 - Start Process to regain control of Wages and COGS, Open 2nd location on Kiawah Island 2012-2016 - Grow sales to over \$1,600,000 and close 2nd location on Kiawah Island 2016-2017 - Wages at 29.5%, COGS at 29.5% - Exit Strategy begins, Buy 2nd Commercial Property 2018 - Oct 1 - Officially sold Tiger Lily with 2 Locations

Society of American Florists