Discovering Your Personal Values
Balancing Risk and Reward
PROCRASTINATION
Hard Work Often Pays Off After Time,
But Laziness Always Pays Off Now.
MEDIOCRITY

It Takes a Lot Less Time
And Most People Won’t Notice the Difference
Until it’s Too Late
INEPTITUDE

If you can't learn to do something well, learn to enjoy doing it poorly.
If at first you don’t succeed, try management.
Values
What are values?

• The things you believe are of fundamental importance.
• The guiding principles used to define right from wrong; good from bad.
• The standards that determine your actions and behavior.
• Values bring meaning and direction to your life.
• Values help you make decisions.
• Values reduce stress.
• When you know what you value, life is easier.
Observations on Values

- Learn what others value.
- Let others know what you value.
- Values sometimes conflict.
- Values can change over time.
- Your values may need to take a backseat to another’s values.
Observations (continued)

- Nobody’s perfect, and at times you will not act according to your values.
- Organizational values come from the top.
- Your values may clash with your boss’s values.
Determine what you value
Integrity

• Always following your moral principles.
• Matching up your words and your deeds.
• What we **do** every day is what we believe.
• Abraham Lincoln “If you once forfeit the confidence of your fellow citizens, you can never regain their respect and esteem.”

• Warren Buffett “It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you will do things differently.”
Bobby Leach on the barrel that took him over Niagara Falls.
ICMA Code of Ethics
Tenet 3

Be dedicated to the highest ideals of honor and integrity in all public and personal relationships in order that the member may merit the respect and confidence of the elected officials, of other officials and employees, and of the public.
Courage

• The mental or moral strength to venture, persevere and withstand danger, fear or difficulty.

• Comes from the heart.
Harry Truman

The Buck Stops Here!
• Ralph Waldo Emerson “Whatever you do, you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising which tempt you to believe your critics are right. To map out a course of action, and follow it to the end, requires some of the same courage which a soldier needs. Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men to win them.”
Courage

• Frank Benest “Courage is a skill. You develop it over time by doing something and then improving what and how you do it.”

• Maya Angelou “One is not necessarily born with courage, but one is born with potential. Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency.

• Cervantes “He who loses wealth, loses much; he that loses a friend loses more; but he that loses courage, loses all.”
Self-Worth

• Understanding your values can help you with your self-worth.

• Self-worth should not be equated with the job you hold or what others think of you.

• Self-worth should be tied to your success in life understanding your values and living your life accordingly.
• Determine what you value and live by those values! No matter what you choose to do, you will be successful.