

Lessons In Leadership from Unexpected Places



2024

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SPEAKER



Julie Eiter
Black & Veatch
Regional Director of Business
Development in Federal Services

Fun Facts

- KC Chiefs, Royals, but my household also cheers for the Diamond Backs, Vikings, and Eagles
- Family trips to North Dakota, Minnesota, and Arizona and visiting Orlando
- Chaos coordinator, magic maker, cheerleader, & chauffer for my kids
- I share a birthday with Mickey and my husband shares his with Donald Duck

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SPEAKER



Melissa Lewis
AFCEC/CFDE NDR
F-35 Complex Project Manager

Fun Facts

- Arkansas Razorbacks (Go Hogs Go!!), Dallas Cowboys, and STL Cardinals/Blues
- Did you Know I...am actually Wonder Woman!
- Permanent taxi driver, cheerleader, and laundry service for my 3 children. Running 5ks, audio books, and a good glass of wine!
- Arkansas to see family because we live in a vacation spot (Panama City Beach) or Disney!

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SPEAKER



Dave Newkirk
RAH
President

Fun Facts

- Seahawks, Mariners, Supersonics :)
University of Washington – Go Dawgs
- Anywhere with a nice sandy beach and sunshine (from Washington)
- Did you Know I helped tear down the Berlin Wall in 1989, was 15 years old
- Hobbies – playing and Coaching Sports and Family Hang time

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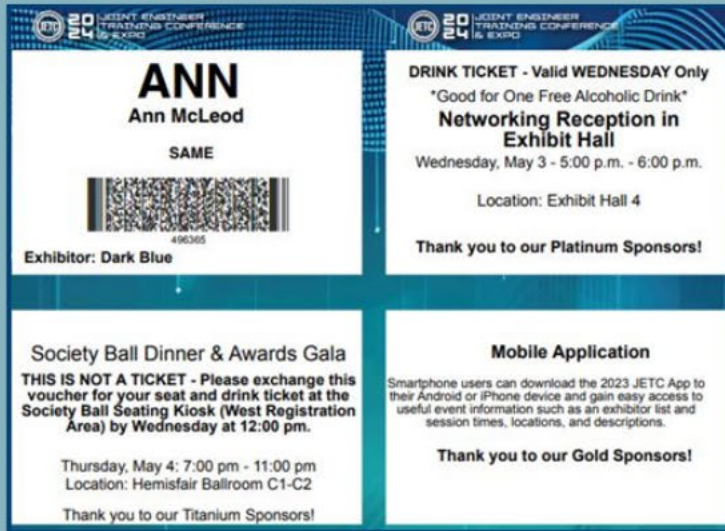
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Housekeeping Items: Take Note of Exits



Opening Reception at Universal CityWalk

(Minimum age 18 - No Children)



Bring Your Name Badge
with Drink Tickets)
+ Your ID



Get Your Wrist Band
TODAY at the
Registration Help Desk
or SAME Booth



Buses depart Gaylord
& Caribe Royale,
beginning at 6:00 p.m.



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Learning Objectives

Illuminate the possibilities to learning leadership lessons (or other lessons) from the **most unexpected of places**

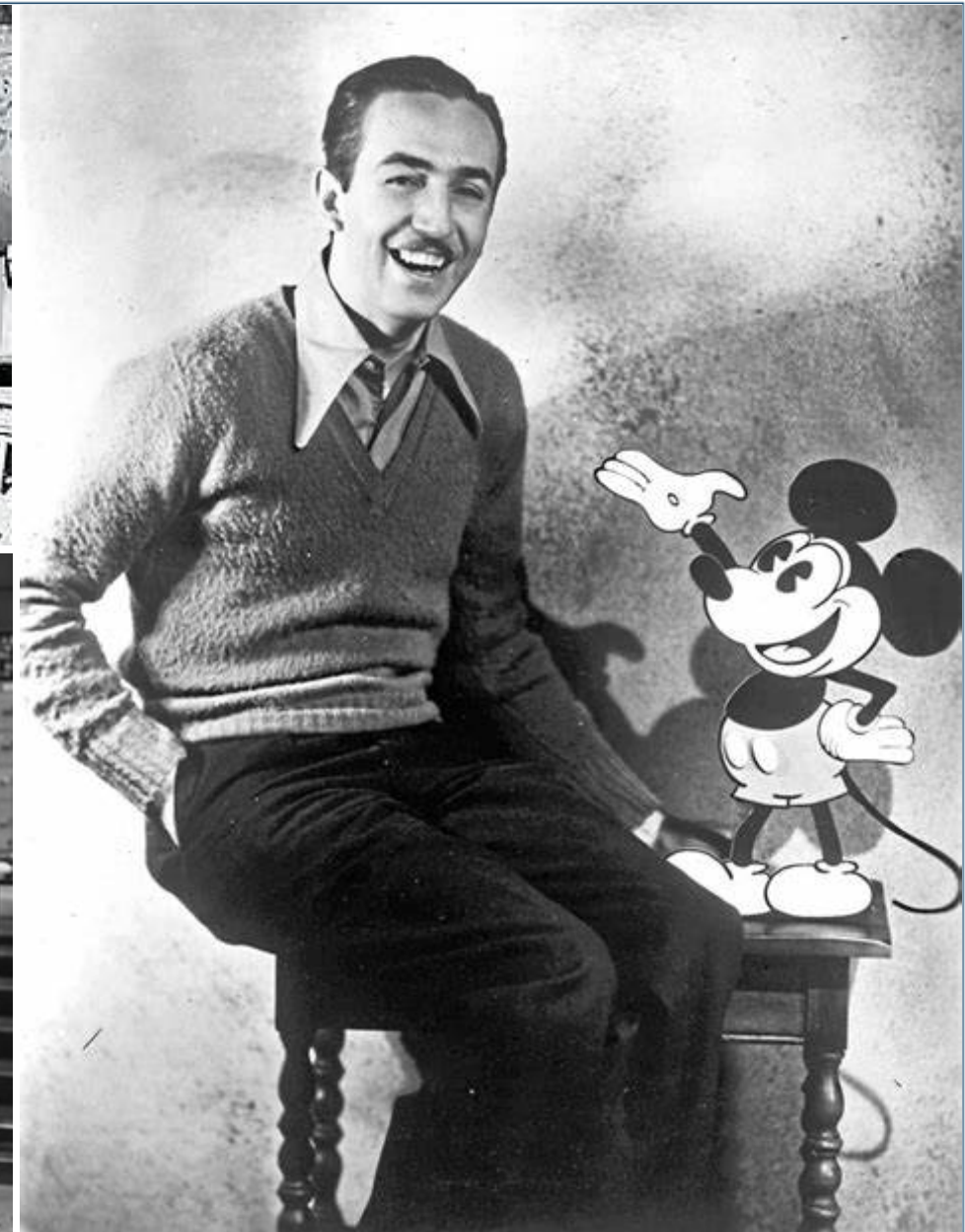


Live Content Slide

Poll: Who all do we have participating in the audience?

It All Started with...

- **1911** Newspaper boy and attending classes at KC Art Institute on Saturdays
- **1917** Becomes a cartoonist of School paper & classes at Chicago Academy of Fine Art
- **1919** Becomes an apprentice artist at a commercial art studio in KC
- **1921** Starts his own company (Laugh-O-Gram Films)
- **1923** Moves to CA, Disney Bros. Studios, Alice Comedies
- **1927** Loses rights to Oswald
- **1928** Steamboat Willie



How do you define GRIT?

A personality trait possessed by individuals who demonstrate passion and perseverance toward a goal despite being confronted by significant obstacles and distractions.



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“Oh yes, the past can hurt. But the way I see it, you either run from it or learn from it.”

— Rafiki (The Lion King)



Collaboration

*“One little spark of inspiration,
is at the heart of all creation.”*

— Figment

Collaboration is teamwork that involves multiple individuals working together **towards a common goal**. It involves sharing ideas, resources, and expertise to achieve a desired outcome.



Collaboration

Keep the Momentum of a SPARK going:

1. Document ideas
2. Organizing and Prioritizing
3. Collecting feedback
4. Closing the loop



One little spark and curiosity:
“Around here, however, we don't look backwards for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things, because were curious... and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.”
— Walt Disney



Collaboration

Let's explore some real-life examples...

1. Diverse Perspectives
2. Synergy and Increased Creativity
3. Less Pressure on Individuals
4. Increased Accountability and Ownership





Please stand up!



Have You Ever?

- Taught a course or class
- Became a member of your post leadership (i.e. Secretary, Treasurer, Post President, Membership, Scholarships)
- Coached any sport for adults or kids (tee ball counts)
- Organized or helped plan an event or activity
- Mentored a member or student
- Elected official



Have You Ever?

- Took a stand for what is right
- Head of a Household
- Mother or Father
- Commissioned or Non-Commissioned Officer in the Military
- Helped out a new employee or student
- Older brother or sister

Leadership is in all facets of life!



"If you don't know where you want to go, then it doesn't matter which path you take."

— The Cheshire Cat
(Alice in Wonderland)



Tying it All Together

- Foundational to GRIT, Collaboration, and your interactions

YOU ARE!

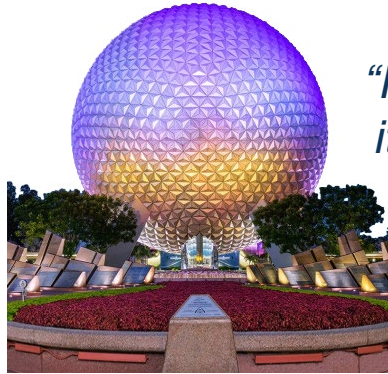


Building Self Belief



“Dig deep down inside yourself, you’ll find out what you need.”

– Mama Odie



“If you can dream it, you can do it.”

– Horizons Pavilion at Epcot



“You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.”

– Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh



“Pitiful. Hey, kid. You need help. And Ol’ Baloo’s gonna learn you to fight like a bear. Now come on, I’m gonna show ya.”

– Baloo



“You control your destiny, and you don’t need magic to do it. And there are no magical shortcuts to solving your problems”

– Merida

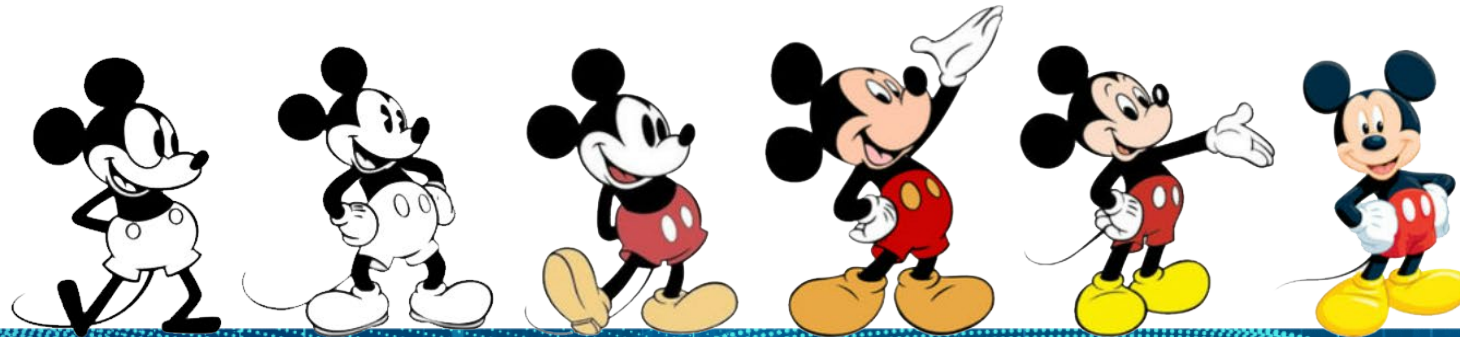


“Silenzio Bruno”

– Luca

*“All our dreams can come true, if we
have the courage to pursue them.”*

— Walt Disney



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Q&A

- Julie Eiter, eiterj@bv.com
- Melissa Lewis, Melissa.Lewis.6@us.af.mil
- Dave Newkirk, daven@rahaec.com

Lessons In Leadership from Unexpected Places

“See ya real soon!” 

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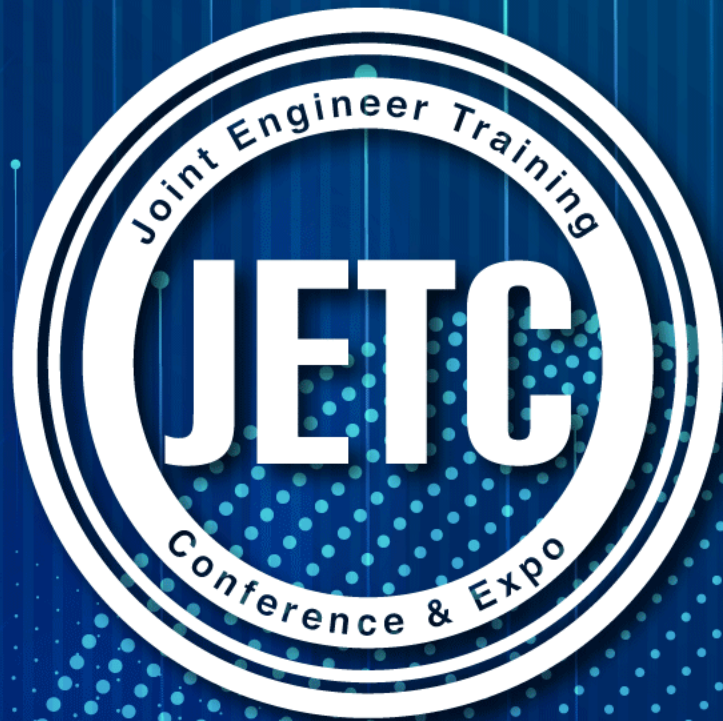


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