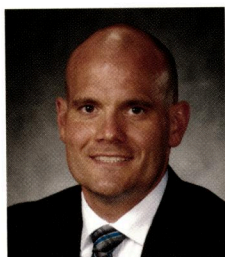


## WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 2016



**By George Deines**  
Project Director  
Counsilman-Hunsaker

Our team of industry experts give selflessly of their time and resources to better educate our other committee members, thus helping us to educate the entire WWA membership.

**WHEN I FIRST JOINED** the Safety Committee after attending my first WWA Symposium and Trade Show in 2009 at Disney's Coronado Springs, I figured the sole focus of the committee dealt with drowning prevention, lifeguard operations and minimizing risk at our waterparks. After my first meeting, I realized that these topics were just the tip of the iceberg! As a novice waterpark operator myself, I'm not sure I had ever heard of ASTM, APSP or the ICC; and at that time I had only heard rumblings of this new health code that would rock our world, the Model Aquatic Health Code. While some operators might view these as nuisances, our committee views them as integral to the waterpark industry as a whole. All of these help shape and form standards and policies that play critical roles in impacting the safety of guests on a daily basis. I never imagined that less than 6 years later, I would be leading the very committee that I knew so little about. And, while my knowledge of these things has definitely increased, it's really our committee members who make the biggest difference and help lead the charge on these important issues. Our team of industry experts give selflessly of their time and resources to better educate our other committee members, thus helping us to educate the entire WWA membership.

Just in 2015 alone, our committee members contributed several articles to "World Waterpark Magazine," including: "Developing a Quality Water Slide Dispatch Course," by Joe Stefanyak, "How to Choose a Water Quality Checking Method" by Lee Hovis and "Why Flow Rates Are Such a Big Deal" by Harlan Bryant. These magazine articles, available digitally via [http://waterparks.org/Current\\_Issue](http://waterparks.org/Current_Issue), represent one way our committee members continued to make contributions to the waterpark industry last year, giving practical instruction on important issues. Couple that with the safety-related sessions our Committee

put together for the WWA show, our involvement in the ASTM and ICC processes and our partnership with WWA's Government Relations Committee to develop MAHC voting recommendations for the WWA membership, it was definitely a busy and productive year for our committee.

The Safety Committee will always be invested in ASTM standards, ICC building codes, MAHC editions and APSP standards, but it seems every year another issue or two arises that we need to research and determine a course of action on. Two issues our industry currently faces are rider weight limits on waterslides, as well as the inclusiveness of guests with disabilities on waterslides and water-based attractions. These two issues top our plan of work for this calendar year and the Safety Committee would love your feedback on these issues and anything else related to safety that affects your park.

Feel free to reach out to our Committee by emailing [SafetyCommittee@waterparks.org](mailto:SafetyCommittee@waterparks.org). Let your voice be heard and help make a worldwide impact on the waterpark industry. •



Did you miss one of these articles written by Safety Committee members? Check out the digital archives at [Waterparks.org/current\\_issue](http://Waterparks.org/current_issue).