

POOL SUPER VISION™



Country Seminar Review 2016

**Consider Every Patron a Member
of your Family**



YOUR ROLE ON THE POOL DECK

“Our job, our responsibility, is to predict and then alter the future.”

We have to think through all the events, decisions and circumstances that lead to drowning and then systematically disrupt them through prevention, action and outreach.”

John Malatak

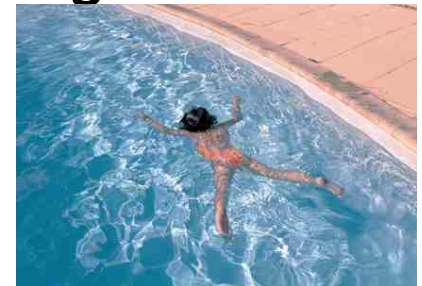
Chief of Program Operations, Boating & Safety of the U.S. Coast Guard

2010 National Drowning Prevention Symposium



KEEPING SUPERVISION FRONT OF MIND

- **Toddler drowns in Logan pool . The little girl, who was at a family gathering at the Logan pool, was found floating face down in the water and died in hospital despite the frantic efforts of lifeguards to revive her**
- **Meanwhile, a 10-year-old girl is fighting for life after being found unresponsive in a private pool at Caloundra**
- **In a third incident yesterday, two boys, aged three and four, came close to drowning at a private pool in a Brisbane suburb**
- **All in a single weekend!**





KEEPING SUPERVISION FRONT OF MIND

- **51 Year old woman died of a suspected heart attack at the Warringah Aquatic Centre**
- **She was found floating in the pool by Lifeguards and was not able to be resuscitated**
- **It is understood the woman had a medical condition that could have contributed to her death.**
- **Similar incidents have happened a number times in WA Pools in recent years.**

Boy, 7, nearly drowns in Blacktown Leisure Centre, Stanhope Gardens

- **A young boy is in hospital after being pulled unconscious from a public pool today.**
- **The 7-year-old was swimming in the wave pool at Blacktown Leisure Centre, Stanhope Gardens, early this afternoon.**
- **He was seen unconscious below the surface and rescued by a teenage boy, who signalled for a lifeguard.**
- **The lifeguard administered CPR and the child woke up before paramedics arrived**



KEY INDUSTRY OUTCOMES

- **150 Million⁺ visitations to Western Australian Public Pools since Jan 2004 with no deaths **attributably** to drowning**
- **A continuation of competency and industry based on deck training for Lifeguards**
- **A rigorous safety audit process of WA Aquatic Facilities by RLSSWA that provides bench making opportunities for continuous improvement**
- **Regular industry engagement through professional development**



HOW DID WE ACHIEVE THESE OUTCOMES?

- Through high standards of supervision in our pools - Vigilance NOT Complacency
- We now understand what environmental factors produce *DEAD WATER* in our pools
- We empower our staff to make the right decisions through training AND DEVELOPMENT
- We intervene prior to an issue arising and we record these interventions
- We have FOUR PILLARS of safety in place

Any guesses what they are?

THE FOUR PILLARS OF THIS SUCCESS

- Watch Around Water
- Pool Super Vision
- RLSSWA
- Well trained highly professional workforce



MAINTAINING HIGH STANDARDS OF POOL SUPERVISION



REGIONAL ISSUES

- **Single operators in remote sites**
- **Oppressive environmental considerations over extended periods**
- **Access to staff can be problematic in some regions**
- **The need for all staff to be “Super Lifeguards” with enhanced skills and knowledge to control bystanders in a emergency situation**



REGIONAL ISSUES

- **First hand knowledge of the community and users – which includes swimming ability, age and confidence**
- **Ability to draw on local assistance when required**
- **The need for well refined emergency protocols that are supported by the communities emergency services**



CLOSE

- The South West and the Wheatbelt regions are unique to the aquatic industry nationally
- You have an amazing safety record in place that is a reflection of the level of professionalism of managers and lifeguards
- Well done to all!

