



**CONFERENCE:** Nov. 15-18, 2021  
**TRADE SHOW:** Nov. 16-19, 2021

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# Successful Water Park Operations

**THE PEOPLE ARE JUST AS  
IMPORTANT AS THE WATER**

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**2021 Water Park Lunch & Learn**

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# Your Panel



**Denise Beckson**  
The Morey Organization



**Mary Southwick**  
TrainerTainment



**George Deines**  
Counsilman-Hunsaker



**Shawn Welch**  
Shawn Welch Company

# Moderator

# Denise Beckson, ICAE

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The Morey Organization  
Morey's Piers Wildwood, NJ

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# Becoming The Premiere Employer in Your Community

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**Mary Southwick, TrainerTainment**

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If all things are  
equal for potential  
team members,  
what will bring  
them your way?



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Become the Premiere Employer in Your Community

# Build the connections with team members and community

- Get to know your team
- Find out what's important to them
- Let them know they're important





# Attain and Retain with your Core Values

## Fun

Being, having and promoting fun.

### ✓ Looks like

- Joy
- Energy
- Smiles that lead to laughter
- Finding humor in both positive and negative situations
- Being prepared to have fun in the game



### ✗ Doesn't look like

- Not present
- Living on the ledge

## Intentional Learning

### ✓ Looks like

- Forward thinking - anticipating future needs and learning more
- Reading and asking questions
- Sharing learnings with others
- Digging in - taking ownership for understanding and knowing
- Being coachable



### ✗ Doesn't look like

- Not looking for answers yourself
- Not taking ownership for training
- Not listening to our clients and each other for ideas

## Being in Service

To One Another

### ✓ Looks like

- Helping each other - inside and outside the company
- Inspiring and motivating others
- Doing what you say you will do
- Taking ownership - for your behavior whether action or inaction
- Forgiveness
- Assuming the best in others
- Accepting the limits of self and others



### ✗ Doesn't look like

- Playing the blame game
- Holding grudges
- Not being trustworthy

## Taking Initiative

### ✓ Looks like

- Seeing needs/filling them
- Bringing your brain to the table
- Asking for help
- Adapts and thrives in virtual environment



### ✗ Doesn't look like

- Waiting to be told what to do
- "It's not my job"
- Not being willing to jump in and use your talent where necessary
- Lying to the guest or each other when we are not sure of the answer.

## Being High Performers

### ✓ Looks like

- Having great behavior regardless of what's going on
- Having top level prep and action
- Sharing joy with others
- Doing things the TTT way - delivering fun training that produces serious results
- Willingness to be in the game



### ✗ Doesn't look like

- Doing just enough to get by
- Making excuses

# Attain and Retain with your Core Values


# CORE VALUES



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Become the Premiere Employer in Your Community

# Training and Expectations

- 
- A woman in a white shirt and jeans stands on the left, pointing at a whiteboard. Three people (a man and two women) are seated at a wooden table on the right, looking at her. The background features a corkboard with various business-related notes and charts.
- Provide training for all areas
  - Clear expectations
  - Seek to understand
  - Don't give silent approval

# Say what you mean and mean what you say

- Be Honest
- Post days and hours you need
- Be flexible



# Be present in your business

- Inspect what you expect
- Be open to conversation
- Walk around
- Be authentic
- Be part of your community





# Recap

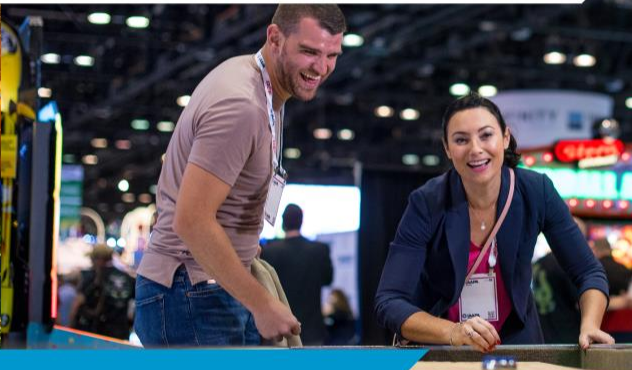
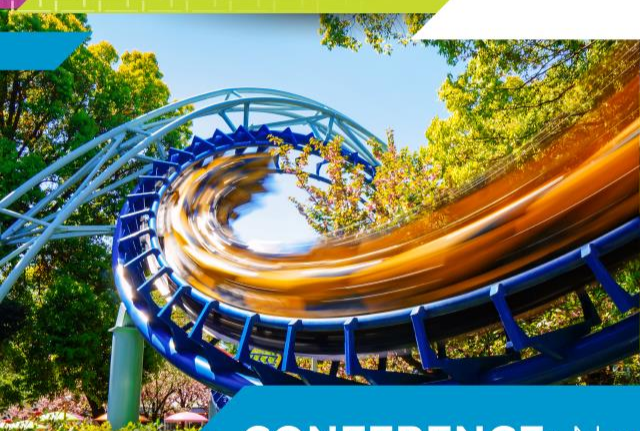


- Build the connections with team members and the community
- Attain and Retain with Core Values
- Training and Expectations
- Say what you mean and mean what you say
- Be present in your business



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Become the Premiere Employer in Your Community



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# Finding Success with the Five Types of Water Park Employees

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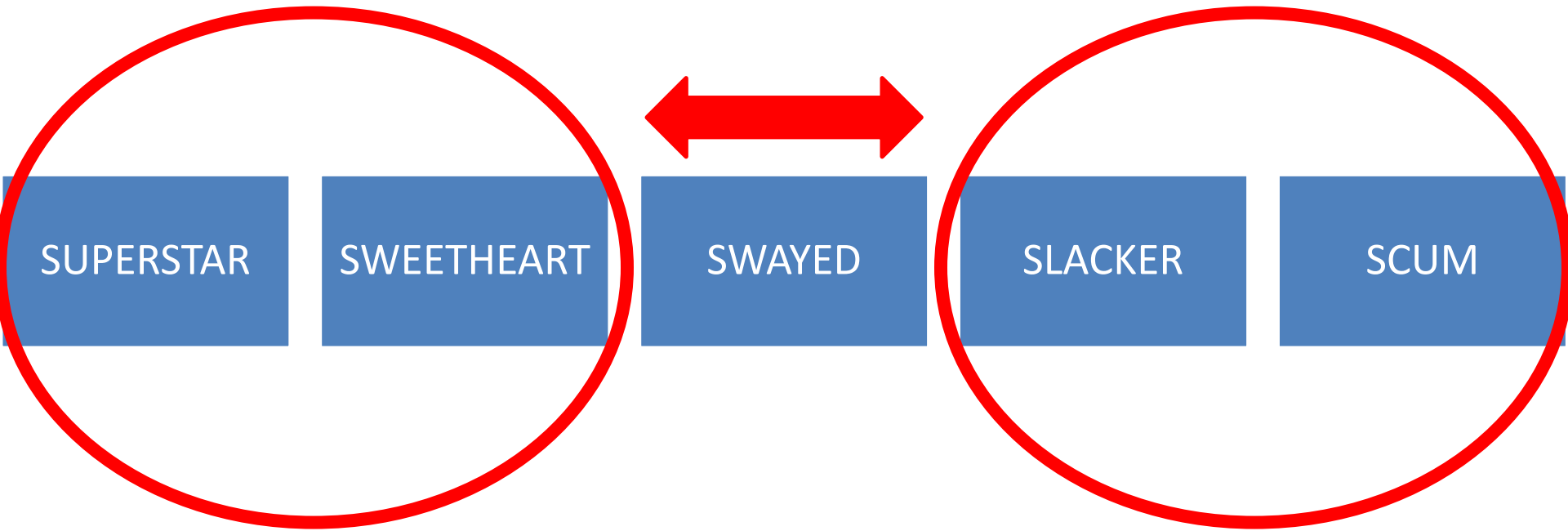
**George Deines, Counsilman-Hunsaker**

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# Types of Aquatic Employees



# Management

SUPERSTAR

SWEETHEART

SWAYED

SLACKER

SCUM

Leads others to greatness while proactively managing on the pool deck

Proactively managing on the pool deck

Comes out of office based on influence of others

Comes out of the office when needed

Sits in the office



# Lifeguards

SUPERSTAR

Only lets those 48”  
and over ride the  
waterslide

SWEETHEART

Follow rules, but  
might give in to  
parental pressure

SWAYED

Follows rules  
based on influence  
of others

SLACKER

Sometimes lets  
someone under  
48” ride the  
waterslide

SCUM

Doesn't care who  
rides the  
waterslide

# Guest Services

SUPERSTAR

Engaging with all guests, perfect cash drawer, cleans everything

SWEETHEART

Great service-oriented team member, might have trouble with problem guests

SWAYED

Greets guests based on influence of others

SLACKER

Cash drawer isn't perfect , overlooks cleanliness, has good and bad days

SCUM

No greeting or eye contact with guests, doesn't go out of their way to help

# Superstar

- High performers
  - Great attitude
  - Take their job seriously
- Future leaders
  - Take charge when needed
  - Continually model exemplary behaviors
- Model employees
  - Always willing to go the extra mile
  - On-time and ready to go
- Miniature version of you!
  - Exemplary skills



# Superstar

Leadership  
training

Care and  
support of their  
supervisor

Opportunity to  
lead

Empowerment



# Sweetheart

- Model employees
- Lacks some ability to lead an entire team
- Display frustration at others' lack of ability or motivation
- Ability to be self-sufficient without prodding or oversight
- Struggles with saying “no” to team members and guests





# Sweetheart

Positive  
reinforcement

Leadership  
opportunities

Tools to  
continue to  
succeed

Realistic goals  
and work plan



# Swayed

- Team members with the capacity for greatness
- Team members with the capacity for failure
- Easily convinced to model good or bad behaviors
- Behavior largely dependent on their initial social group



# Swayed

Be rid of their  
capacity for  
complacency

Receive  
encouragement  
from fellow team  
members

Strategically placed  
in a group of  
sweethearts or  
superstars

Encouraged by  
leadership of their  
inner greatness

# Slacker

- Lack of motivation or ability to go the extra mile
- Barely get their job done in a satisfactory manner
- Potential to be trained into being a high performer
- Potential to take a step back and get even worse
- Constantly need prodding, oversight, coaching and discipline



# Slacker

Told the truth  
about their current  
condition

Encouraged to  
attend a custom  
“Slacker School”

Taken under the  
supervision of  
sweethearts or  
superstars

Shown the effects  
of their slacking  
and the rewards  
for greatness

# Scum

- The worst type of employee!
- Lacks motivation in all respects to the job
- Inability to have a good attitude, be on-time for work or perform skills adequately
- Known as the malcontent among other team members
- Brings down morale of the rest of your team
- Debatable if you should even let them on the property



# Scum

A “No Holds  
Barred” Reality  
Check

To be shown the  
consequences of  
their detrimental  
behaviors

Around-the-clock  
supervision

A final warning



# Developing a Plan

## Superstar Academy

- Leadership
- Risk Management
- Team Performance
- Job Functions

## Sweetheart Seminar

- Define role
- Extend gratitude
- Dealing with Swayed, Slacker and Scum
- How to be a superstar

## Swayed Symposium

- Preach Importance
- Display Benefit
- Define Purpose
- Future Rewards

## Slacker School

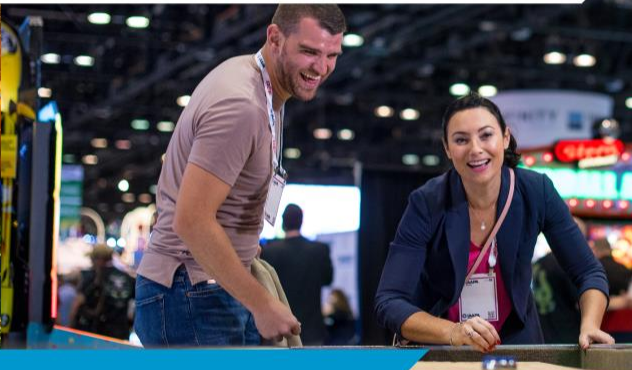
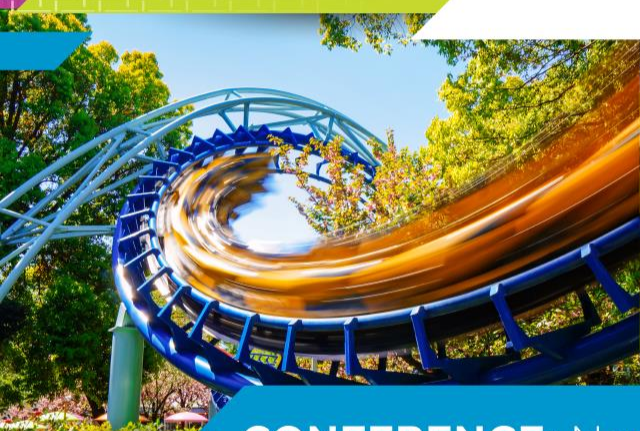
- Define Behaviors
- Refine Work Ethic
- Promise Effects
- Coach to Achieve

## “Scum to Jesus” Meeting

- Bad Hiring
- Bad Training
- Bad Employee
- Bad Fit

# Developing a Plan

- All training should focus on specific and tangible behaviors.
- A direct correlation exists between behaviors exhibited by your team members and the outcomes you receive.
- If you are not training good behaviors into your team, then you are enabling bad behaviors.
- Focus on training your team for the long-term even if they are only with you for the short-term.



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# How to Develop Diamonds and Build Championship Teams

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**Shawn Welch**  
**Shawn Welch Company**

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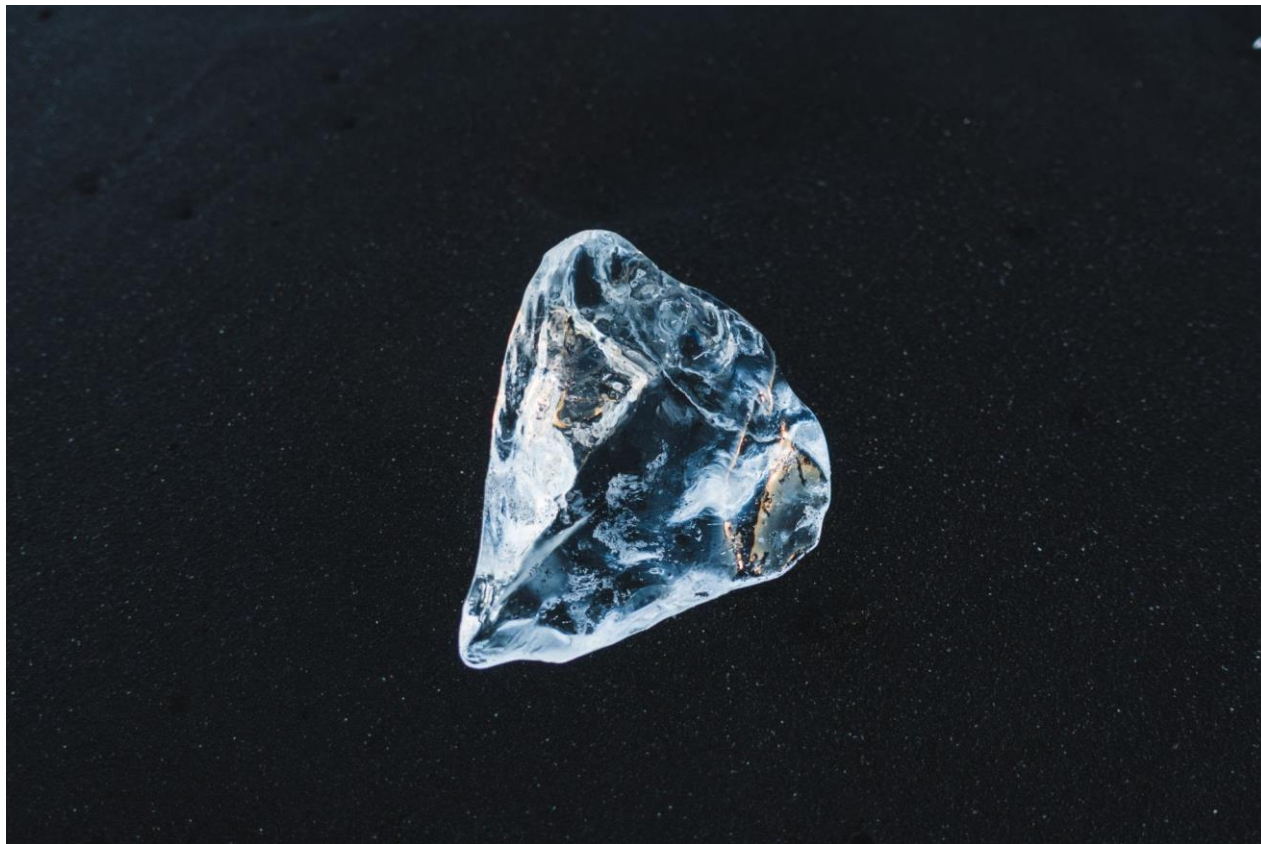


Photo by [Hao Zhang](#) on [Unsplash](#)

**“A diamond is just a chunk of coal  
[carbon] that did well under pressure.”**

**-Henry Kissinger**



# Why is coaching important?

On average, *only 3 out of 10* employees strongly agree that there is someone at work who encourages their development.



# Why is coaching important?

When this figure doubles (increases to 6 out of 10):

- Profitability increases by 11%

# Why is coaching important?

When this figure doubles (increases to 6 out of 10):

- Profitability increases by 11%
- Employee retention increases by 28%

**“A commitment to people development is what separates good leaders from great leaders.”**

**-Daniel Harkavy,  
*Becoming a Coaching Leader***



# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching



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# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

- Asking Great Questions



# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

- Asking Great Questions
- Listening Empathetically





# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

- Asking Great Questions
- Listening Empathetically
- Providing Constructive Feedback

# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

## Component #1: Asking Great Questions

**“The most useful advice doesn’t specify what to do; it helps people see blind spots in their thinking and clarify their priorities.”**

**-Adam Grant**

# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

**Go-To Question:**  
**What do you think?**

**“Double your  
Questions-to-Statements Ratio.”  
-Jim Collins**



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# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

## Component #2: Listening Empathetically



**“Being listened to is so close to being loved that for the average person they are almost indistinguishable.”**

**-David Augsberger**



# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

**R&R**

**Rephrase**

**“Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply.”**

**-Stephen Covey**



# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

**R&R**

Rephrase

Reflect

“When Morrie was with you, he was really with you. He looked you straight in the eye, and he listened as if you were the only person in the world.”

-Mitch Albom,  
*Tuesdays with Morrie*

# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

## Component #3: Providing Constructive Feedback

# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

## Constructive:

“serving a useful purpose; to build up”

# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

## Praise

- 40% of employed Americans would put energy into their work if they were recognized more often.



# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

Praise

**Critique** (Restorative Convos)

**“The person who is impatient with weakness will be ineffective in his [or her] leadership.”**

**-J. Oswald Sanders**



# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

- Specific, observable behavior

# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

- Specific, observable behavior
- Impact

# Components of Effective Leadership Coaching

Double your praise-to-critique ratio



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