



Region Seven Monthly Newsletter

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March 2003

Director -- "On Tap"

I have received a few responses from you about having our next R7 meeting after the May 17th BORD meeting in San Diego. If you have not e-mailed, phoned or faxed me about this, please do it now. The purpose of having the BORD meetings in each region is for you to have an opportunity to see how the BORD works and to give your input on decisions that ultimately affect you and your chapters. Also, please encourage the members of your chapters to attend. There is a free lunch provided.

Just to remind you, our region has an Emergency Fund to provide immediate financial assistance to individuals who are in IMMEDIATE financial need due to illness, accident, death or a serious misfortune. This fund is designed to assist only, and should not be expected to fully compensate the recipient's needs. This fund is available to pool & spa industry personnel and their immediate family residing in the San Diego County area. I, of course am not wishing anyone any misfortune, but should it occur, remember the fund is here for you.

A member of our region was recently fined \$760 for discharging waste -water into the storm drain while power spraying and acid washing a pool. There is a federal law that is being diligently enforced in San Diego. It basically says only rainwater can be sent down the storm drain. The compliance officer responded to a neighbor's report of this offense and cited our IPSSA member this civil penalty. The maximum penalty for this violation is \$10,000. Please be sure that the members of your chapter are fully informed about this law. Even cleaning a DE filter in the street could result in a penalty.

Mike

Welcome New Region 7 Members

To Carlsbad: Juventino Lopez
To Escondido: Ken Capehart
To San Diego: Pedro Zunigar
To San Diego East County: Joseph Elizalda,
Blaine R. West
To San Diego Metro: Jesse De Wolfe, Bill Wilder

Region 7 Water Chemistry Certifications

Carlsbad: John Case Escondido: Ron Sowers
San Diego: Bob Reed

News from the February Issue of the IPSSAN

Water damage claims are the most common type of insurance claims reported under IPSSA's group general liability plan, but ironically, they are some of the most avoidable claims. In 2002, 39% of all reported claims involved property damaged by water. Some of these claims were unavoidable, but approximately half of the claims resulted from either overfilling or sewer obstructions while draining a pool.

The simplest way a pool technician can minimize the risk of a water loss is by not filling pools. If the customer chooses not to take on this responsibility, suggesting the installation of an automatic fill device could resolve the issue. The "no-fill policy" should be confirmed with the customer in writing and the monthly billing invoice is convenient for this purpose.

Sewer back-ups during pool draining are a more complex matter. Members have reported that obstructions have occurred as long as 45 minutes after beginning to drain a pool through a sewer clean-out trap. While it may be impossible to predict whether a delayed sewer obstruction may occur, one thing is clear: a clean-out trap should never be used to drain a pool unless the homeowner is present and has been warned to be on guard to water intrusion from sewer blockage.

While some types of water losses may be hard to avoid, it is clear that water intrusion claims can be reduced by an increased awareness of the potential for sewer back-ups and by placing responsibility for proper water levels on the pool owner.

TechTips: Four Handy Items to carry:
You may never need them but when you do they're handy to have: *Rubber Mallet, Hose Washers, Garden hose couplers and Latex gloves!*

Coming Up.

R7 Annual Picnic

August 3rd – Mission Bay Park

R7 Meeting

Sometime in May, still to be voted on
(Please let me know!)