



Region Seven Monthly Newsletter

Mike Gregg, Region Director (619) 224-9708
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April 2003

Director -- "On Tap"

All responses to having our R7 meeting combined with the BORD meeting in San Diego have been positive. The location and time have not yet been determined, but the date will be Saturday, May 17th. Please plan to attend with your representative. I will be chairing the BORD meeting and we can have a very short R7 meeting immediately after this. There will be a free lunch and I will work with Geoff to arrange some other refreshments after our meeting.

The Service Industry News for March reported that Orange County quietly amended its code to eliminate door alarms as an option to the four sided barrier code. The new pool requirements will also apply to existing residence upon sale, rental or lease. Don Burns of SPEC, fears that this ordinance could easily spread to other cities. "The situation is a very serious one," Burns said. If you want to contact him, his e-mail is dburns@calspec.org

IPSSAN HIGHLIGHTS

Insurance Report

IPSSA's insurance carrier will increase premiums by \$4 per month effective April 2, 2003. The renewed policy will now cover mold claims and will not take away existing coverage.

Web Site

After a hard drive crash and replacement, the newly designed web site is up and glitches have been fixed. More involvement by associate members is desired.

Safety/Public Relations

Mike Gregg reported 450 water watcher tags remain out of an original 15,000. Mike is developing a plan to get financial support from manufacturers to reprint the tags in time for Child Safety Month, which is May.

State of the Association

It has been a year of change and progress for IPSSA according to Bryan Gunn 2002 Admin Director. After saying good-bye to Sally Ryan who had managed the association since it began, a new management service has been established

with Vickie Lester and Jeannine Christensen. Strides have been made in refining grievance procedures for chapters. Continued emphasis has been placed on professionalism through water chemistry certification exams. We are upgrading exhibits for trade shows and investing in technology. The association is showing compassion by taking great interest in the welfare of its individual members.

Freak Chemical Accidents Can Happen

It was late on Tuesday afternoon as my wife Kathy and I arrived at our last stop for the day. Preparing to pull my chemical box from the truck I lifted the chlorine container a few inches to see how much it contained- my mistake was lifting it by the cap- the cap popped off and the bottle dropped maybe four inches, instantly, a shot of pure chlorine splashed up into my left eye. It was as if someone had taken a Dixie cup of water and threw it – somehow it got past my sunglasses. After a few seconds of shock, I ran to the pool and started washing it out. My wife said I should call the doctor-they told me to wash it out 15 to 30 minutes and get to the Emergency Room, thanks for cell phones and her concern. She drove, and my vision was very cloudy in my left eye. At the hospital my eye was flushed for an hour with saline solution fed through a small tube attached to a contact lens type device. I had retinal burns and was told chlorine is almost as bad as acid. I received a patch to wear overnight and returned to be looked at the next day.

Fortunately, the only small remaining burn was outside my field of vision. I guess it's easy to get used to handling these toxic chemicals, but be aware of their potential danger.

by Paul Grimes

Coming Up

R7 Meeting, Saturday, May 17th, time and place to be announced.

R7 Picnic, August 3rd, Mission Bay Park
3rd Annual IPSSA Golf Invitational, Aug. 24th
Elkins Ranch, Fillmore CA. Call Jerry Mazienis at 310-280-0923 or Ivan Vance at 818-376-8541