



The Skimmer

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
MAY 19, 2010
MISSION VALLEY RESORT
875 HOTEL CIRCLE SO.

MAY

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2010

President's Message

A Lesson Learned

Picture in your mind a swimming pool with an attached spa. The spa is raised six feet above the pool and the water cascades out of it and into the pool. The six foot raised bond beam also has multiple sheer descent waterfalls. This beautiful combination is nestled next to the house and is surrounded by a five foot stucco block wall, creating a private courtyard. Outside of this and eight feet further below the pool level is the location of the pool equipment. It is housed in a well made structure exclusively for the pool equipment. This roofed shed sits on the other side of a driveway on the side of a severe slope.

When I arrived for my weekly service visit there was a note waiting for me. The homeowner had used the spa the night before as she regularly does and was unable to get the jets to work. She said the spa heated up but she couldn't get the separate jet pump to work. So I went down to the equipment room and started my investigation. Inside there are three pumps, one filter, one heater, one tab chlorinator, and a compool control panel. None of the pumps are labeled nor are any of the auxiliary buttons on the control panel. The filter pump is easy to distinguish but the jet pump and the waterfall pump are identical. Both are two horsepower. So I put the system in the service mode and turned on aux. 1 and the pump motor buzzes. Hmm...must be a bad jet pump motor, I say to myself. I turned on aux. 2 and the waterfall pump works. So I further investigate the motor that buzzes to confirm that in fact it is in need of replacement. Once that is confirmed I notice that neither the jet pump nor the waterfall pump have shut off valves plumbed before or after them and they are located eight feet below the pool and fourteen

feet below the spa.

So when I am giving my service technician specific instructions on replacing the motor on the jet pump that the homeowner reportedly couldn't get working the day before, I explain to him that he will be working below water level and without shut off valves. I instruct him to drain the spa in the "spa drain" mode prior to taking the jet pump apart. I also remind him that following the draining not to be alarmed if he has water coming out of the pump for thirty seconds or so, since there is a one hundred foot run from the spa to the pump and it will take some time for the water in the pipe to drain out.

The next day the service tech arrives and follows my spa draining instructions. He then removes the lid of the pump to let the residual water drain out. While waiting for the rest of the water to leave the pipes, he walked back to his truck to get his tools out and prepare to rebuild the jet pump. After approximately five minutes, he notices that he still hears water running in the equipment room and it doesn't sound like it is diminishing. He sticks his head in the room and sure enough, the water is still coming out of the pump full force just like when he opened it up earlier. So he walked up to the pool area and looked into the spa and the one inch of water that was on the floor of the spa when he had stopped draining the spa was still there. Then he looked at the pool and noticed that the water level had dropped six inches and was still dropping. The overwhelming amount of water was washing away the dirt floor of the equipment room and eroding the entire bank that the structure was built on.

When I was there the day before and determined what needed to be done, I assumed that the reason the homeowner couldn't get the jets to work was because the motor was bad on the aux. 1 pump. I also assumed that the pump that was working (aux.2) was the waterfall pump. After all, she said she

couldn't get the jets to work. Again let me remind you that neither the pumps nor the control panel buttons were labeled. It turns out that the waterfall pump had the bad motor, and the homeowner didn't push the spa side remote button for the jet pump correctly. That was the reason she couldn't get the jets to work.

During the original investigation, since nothing was labeled, when I had the aux. 2 pump running I should have walked up to the pool and confirmed that the waterfall was on. If I had, I would have discovered that the jets were on and the waterfall was not. This assumption cost me approximately three thousand dollars. I certainly learned a lesson from this and I hope this story saves you from making a similar costly assumption.

Cheers, Mark

PNC Park Sold Out For 'Fan Euthanasia Night'

PITTSBURGH—PNC Park boasted a rare sellout crowd Tuesday when more than 38,000 eager Pirates fans showed up for "Fan Euthanasia Night," during which each attendee was guaranteed "the sweet release of a quick and painless death" courtesy of sponsor PepsiCo. "For a diehard Pirates fan who has been following this team for nearly 20 consecutive losing seasons, or really just anyone who watched them get beat 20-0 by the Brewers last week, this is certainly a well-deserved treat," said 46-year-old Jim Martin, walking through the turnstile to receive his souvenir program and his lethal dose of sodium thiopental. "I haven't seen so many people so relaxed and generally happy to be at a Pirates game in a long time." An estimated 200,000 Pirates fans who were unable to get tickets to the game reportedly listened to its radio broadcast while idling their cars inside closed garages.

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Leigh O'Brien	Advantis Technologies – advantistech.com - poolspacare.com Applied Biochemists, Blue Devil Chemicals	949-366-2153, 949-584-5220 cell
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Tom Gharib	JNR Pool Plastering, Inc. Pool and Spa Remodeling, Coping , Tile, Concrete, Plaster	619-466-6571, 619-698-4745 Fax 619-654-4175 Cell
Don Bowlin Derek Meere*	Kid Safe Pool Safety Fences, Covers, Products	800-921-9681, 949-633-4292 858-205-7737Derek
Michael Mamula Ed Mumford*	Leak Detection USA – leakdetectionusa.com. Leak detection/repair for pools/spas/ponds–com.c.l/resd.	800-652-9062 ed@leakdetectionusa.com
Justin Robinett	Leak Terminators Leak Detection	619-563-7585
Gil Koury	Life Deck - www.lifedeck.com Concrete Resurfacing & Staining, Waterproof Deck Coatings, Cleaning/Maintenance.	619-262-8600 619-262-8606 Fax
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General Meeting April 21, 2010

Call to order 7:10 PM

Pledge of Allegiance Mike Gregg
Secretary's report James Morketter-
April Board meeting minutes were approved

Treasurer's report Jim Bauer- We're in good shape financially. Jim handed out education reimbursement checks. Vice-President's report Phil Gardiner- Phil announced the evening's speakers. Potential new members were called to the front of the room. Chris Murphy was the only potential member present. He was voted in as a new member.

Chapter supporters, manufacturer's representatives etc were called to the front of the room. Present included: Gabriel Gurmilan, Krystal Cavender, Mary Ann Downing, Matt Castillo, Mike Gersch, Reid Mirvis, Jeff Belgau, Brandon Chase, Dave Ogren, Tony Ruf, Peter Gozdeck, Luke Weiser, Don Wall, Gil Khoury, Sandro Marino, Reed Chastang, Daniel Nicholas.

Jon MacArthur accepted a check from Daniel Nicholas of Raypak for our education fund. It was for over \$4000! Reid Mirvis of PS2000 spoke briefly. Jon Silcox spoke about April Pool's Day 2010 . •

Mark reminded us all about the upcoming chapter dinner and picnic. A reminder was given to all members to ensure that they have turned in

completed continuing forms to Jon MacArthur.

Gil Khoury from Life Deck spoke briefly.

Sandro Marino of Pre-Paid Legal Services spoke briefly.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 PM.

Board Meeting Minutes May 6, 2010

James Morketter, Mark Curran, Phil Gardiner, Jim Bauer, John Silcox
Call to order 7:20 PM

John Silcox spoke about attending the National Drowning Prevention Alliance Symposium in Pittsburgh PA last month. He said that IPSSA has made a good name for itself with regard to drowning prevention. John suggested that we create a safety checklist for our members to use in the field.

We will be updating the IPSSA safety brochure soon.

VP Phil Gardiner announced that Reed Chastang and Krystal Cavender will be our speakers at the May general meeting.

Treasurer Jim Bauer announced that we have no outstanding fines due to our chapter.

We discussed a member who has

several outstanding fines due to IPSSA Inc.

The board members will individually review the latest standing rules updates. Jon MacArthur and James Morketter will work together to send out probation letters to members who have not yet submitted completed continuing ed. forms.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM

Prospective Member Report

Christopher Murphy, Pool & Spa Teacher, was voted in at the April meeting and became a member on May 1st. We have 4 prospective members in process of joining. Matthew Wannamaker; Michael Thomas, Aquarius Pool & Spa; and Ryan Donnelly, Neverwinter Pools are at various stages of the application process. Do you know anyone who would be an asset to the Chapter? Invite them to a General Meeting, tell them to bring their checkbook!

Calendar

5/19 General Meeting 7pm

Mission Valley Resort
875 Hotel Circle North

5/22, Blood Drive 8 am

Antique Row Café, Lemon Grove
3521 Lemon Grove Av

6/2 Chapter Board 7 pm

Kensington Grill

6/23 Region 7 Board Meeting 7 pm

SCP Conference Room
5648 Copley Dr 858-467-9495

Future Board Meetings:

6/2, 7/7, 8/4, 9/1, 10/6, 11/3, 12/1

Future General Meetings:

5/19, 6/16, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15, 10/20, 11/17

Future R7 Board Meetings:

(7pm SCP): 6/23, 9/22, 12/16

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Article I – Organization Structure

Section 1.1: Now reflects August General meeting

Section 4.4: Added recommendation that Committee Chairpersons provide reports and other information via the Skimmer newsletter.

Section 7: Modified to reflect \$200 monthly SPEC donation. Removed Muto Fund donation language

Section 8: Skimmer advertisements: Updated to reflect standard use of electronic means of receiving ads. Modifies language of free smaller ads and \$25 fee for full page ads and flyers.

Article II – Membership requirements

Section 1.1 Adds Chapter Continuing Education Program to requirements

Section 1.2 Updates and clarifies member answering machine/voice mail requirements

Section 2.2 Clarifies member requirements for sign in process at General Meetings

Section 2.5 Adds language on process for excused absences from General Meetings

Section 3 Adds e-mail as an option to update roster information

Section 5 Updates service charge from IPSSA if 10 day notice is ignored.

Section 6 Adds language that requires any fine to first be paid prior to any appeal.

Section 8 Remove requirement for transfers to take Water Chemistry test as all members must have passed the test to be a member of any chapter.

Section 9 Added language that if a partnership joins and one partner does not qualify as a member, he/she must be an employee member and continue to meet full membership requirements.

Section 13 New section stating that all members must participate in both the Continuing Education Program and the Sick Leave Program.

Article III – New Member process

Section 1 Cleaned up language on new member fees

Section 2.1 With application new member must complete life insurance beneficiary form

Section 2.2 Adds word “consecutive” to meetings required during new member process.

Article IV – Life Insurance and actions upon death of a member

Section 1 Section changed from Benevolent Fund to Life Insurance and requires a designated beneficiary

Section 2 Addresses death of a member and adds language or “beneficiary(ies)” after wife. Clarifies disposal of route and sick leave coverage process.

Article V – Insurance Claims

Section 1 Removes Chapter Advisor

Article VI – Chapter Supporters - No change proposed

Article VII – Continuing Education Fund

Section 5 Updates payment schedule for local and out of town educational opportunities

Article VIII Continuing Education Program

Entirely new Article to address October 2007 approved program. Outlines points needed per two-year period, disciplinary action, records of classes, committee makeup, and evaluation process of program.

Article IX Chapter Nomination and Election Procedures

Entirely new Article spelling out nomination process, nomination committee formation/duties, election process and process to fill vacancies.

SPEC Bill to Protect California Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs from Closure Passes Assembly

Diligence pays off; continued lobbying and grassroots efforts needed to assure adoption.

[AB 2409](#), a bill sponsored by SPEC to address possible closure of swimming pools, spas and hot tubs, passed the State Assembly on consent. "We have worked hard to develop a compromise bill with legislative staff, the Department of Water Resources, the Sierra Club and the Planning and Conservation League," announced John Norwood, President of SPEC. "All our diligence has paid off with this very positive result of our bill passing the State Assembly without a negative vote."

AB 2409 revises the Urban Water Management Planning Act. The amended bill directs local public agencies like cities and counties to analyze and define "water feature" including fountains, ponds, streams, and waterfalls, where water is artificially supplied, separately from swimming pools and spas, and requires swimming pools and spas to be defined the same as in the Health and Safety Code. This language assures that cities and counties that enact water conservation plans and drought ordinances will not be confused by the definition of "water feature" in the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (now in effect throughout the state) that combines decorative fountains and waterfalls with swimming pools and spas.

"For a lot of reasons it was too difficult to reopen the regulatory process to correct the definition on the model landscape ordinance," noted Norwood. Instead, SPEC has simply directed the agencies in charge of developing local water conservation and drought plans to treat swimming pools and spas differently than decorative water features. By doing so, SPEC will avoid having to monitor the development of water conservation plans all over California. There are 58 counties, 458 cities, 300 water districts, and various sewer agencies in California. "In addition," added Norwood, "the possibility that swimming pools, spas and hot tubs will be ordered shut down like decorative water features are in some water conservation ordinances is pretty much precluded."

As AB 2409 was amended, the bill did not have to be heard in the Assembly Local Government Committee or the Appropriations Committee. Instead, the bill went directly from the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee to the Assembly floor. AB 2409 will be referred to the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee where it is expected it will be heard in late May. "As we get closer to the Senate hearing, SPEC will again be calling on its members to send letters of support to members of this committee or otherwise communicate support for the bill by fax or email," emphasized Norwood.

Earlier this month, Norwood reminded industry members that any type of bill that addresses water issues in California is under tremendous scrutiny following last year's landmark water debate and compromise water package aimed at water conservation and rebuilding California's water distribution. A continued grassroots and lobbying effort will be necessary to assure successful adoption of AB 2409.

SPEC Supports Bill to Combat the Underground Economy

Last week, SPEC testified before the Assembly Committee on Labor & Employment in support of AB 2770, a bill authored by Assemblymen Bill Monning (D-Santa Cruz) and Bill Berryhill (R-Stockton) to combat California's underground economy. SPEC was joined in its support by the National Federation of Independent Businesses, California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO and California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

[AB 2770](#) is aimed at developing a coordinated approach to enforcement of labor and tax laws. According to the Employment Development Department's analysis of findings of the Internal Revenue Service, the underground economy in California is flourishing and is estimated to be between \$60 billion and \$140 billion each year. The Franchise Tax Board and Board of Equalization estimate an average of \$8.5 billion in owed taxes go uncollected in California each year.

Specifically, AB 2770 would require the Labor and Workforce Development Agency labor commissioner, or his or her designee, in consultation with the Franchise Tax Board and the Economic and Employment Enforcement Coalition (EEEC), to develop and implement a set of standards. The standards, if met by an employer, would trigger a recommendation to the appropriate state agency for a tax audit or investigation of employers violating state laws relating to employee wages, hours, and working conditions. Further, this bill would require that after July 1, 2011, the labor commissioner or the EEEEC take specified actions to facilitate audits and investigations of employers who meet the standards required by this bill.

Additionally, the bill would provide the Joint Enforcement Strike Force on the Underground Economy (a partnership involving the Employment Development Department, Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, Department of Consumer Affairs, Contractors State License Board, Franchise Tax Board, the Board of Equalization, and the Department of Justice) with additional tools by which to identify and coordinate those businesses that are violating state tax, license and employment laws.

"Employers operating in the underground economy hurt everyone," explained John Norwood, President of SPEC. "The state loses billions of dollars each year in tax revenues, workers are forced to go without basic employment protections, and law-abiding businesses are confronted with unfair competition from scofflaw competitors."

As a legitimate employer working in the pool and spa industry in California, SPEC supports the efforts of the authors of AB 2770 to target those employers that operate in the underground economy in flagrant violation of law, and not employers that commit minor or inadvertent violations of existing law.

AB 2770 passed out of the Assembly Labor & Employment Committee with a vote of 6-0. It will now head to the Assembly Appropriations Committee for hearing.

To view the entire text of the measure on the internet: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/asm/ab_2751-2800/ab_2770_bill_20100413_amended_asm_v98.html

From: Kim Skinner [mailto:kimskinner@rburst.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 8:56 AM
To: onBalance
Subject: Aggressive Water VS Poor Plaster

Poorly Made Plaster VS Aggressive Water

How aggressive does water need to be, and how long does it take to visibly etch well-made plaster? And if plaster is not well-made, what can even balanced pool water do in terms of early deterioration and discoloration? The following are results of our study that was funded by an IPSSA donation.

“Good” Plaster, “Bad” Water - The first part of our study was designed to determine the amount of calcium that can be dissolved or etched away from well-made pool plaster by aggressive water. Several plaster coupons were made with a proper (low) water-to-cement ratio, with no calcium chloride (an accelerator), and were allowed to cure and harden for 24 hours before being individually submerged in aggressive water for six months. The beginning calcium level of the water they were placed in was 80 ppm, and the water was maintained continually with a Langelier Saturation Index (LSI) ranging from -0.6 to -1.1. After six months, the measurement of the calcium in the water tanks showed an average increase of 50 ppm. (Note: An increase of calcium in the water indicates a loss of calcium from the plaster surface). No discoloration of these coupons was visible, the coupons remained very white and smooth, and there was no visible shrinkage or craze cracking.

“Bad” Plaster, “Good” Water – The next part studied how much calcium can deteriorate or can be removed (dissolved), from poorly made plaster that was placed in balanced water. The beginning calcium hardness level was 180 ppm and in a LSI range of +0.2 to +0.5. The “poorly made” plaster coupons were made with a high water-to-cement ratio, a high amount of calcium chloride, and they were placed in water only one hour after final troweling, representing three possible and sometimes common improper plastering practices. After two days, the calcium level of the water in the tanks was tested, and the result was an average increase of 160 ppm! Since the ratio of plaster surface area of the coupons to gallons of submersion water was similar to that of an actual pool, we can calculate that this amount of calcium loss from a plaster surface is equal to about 26 pounds of calcium carbonate from a 20,000 gallon pool. Some gray discoloration and minor craze cracking of the coupons was also observed, which confirmed the known effects of using excessive amounts of calcium chloride and a high water-to-cement ratio.

As can be seen in this study comparison, three times more calcium was lost from the plaster surface due to the improper plastering methods than is lost from significantly aggressive water attacking well-made plaster for six months. A loss of calcium from the immediate surface increases porosity (and possible change in whiteness color) which directly affects the aesthetic durability of a pool plaster surface. Simply put, it reduces plaster’s ability to hold up well in a water environment and makes it more susceptible to staining and discoloration.

There are data from other sources that support the results of our study. The American Concrete Institute has documented the negative and detrimental effects from using high water-to-cement ratios, high calcium chloride contents, and submerging cement too early before sufficient and proper hardening.

Also, an objective review of the data from the studies of the NPIRC at Cal Poly reveals some similarities to our results. For example, in their Phase 1 protocol, the plaster sections that were submerged in water immediately after final troweling looked visibly worse in comparison to plaster sections that had six hours of drying time before being submerged in water. In Phase 2, several of the test pools were reported to have had either visible deterioration or discoloration in just six weeks time even though the water was balanced and non-aggressive. These results indicate something other than aggressive water chemistry as the cause of the deterioration and discoloration of the NPIRC test pools, although this information was not included in their final conclusions.

It should not always be assumed that an increase of calcium in the pool water (compared to the tap water readings) has to be the result of aggressive water dissolving calcium from the new pool plaster surface, but instead may be the result of improper workmanship practices. The discoloration of plaster, whether white streaks or spots on white or dark colored plaster, should not automatically be blamed on aggressive water. And grey mottling discoloration is most likely caused by calcium chloride added to the mix and/or late hard troweling. If the pool water has been maintained properly and reasonably well, and within APSP standards, a review with the plasterer regarding the quality and workmanship of their product is appropriate.

Fortunately, today’s technology provides the ability to analyze pool plaster for its water-to-cement ratio, the content of calcium chloride, and whether etching has occurred due to aggressive water or whether the plaster has simply deteriorated, discolored, and leached (by balanced water) due to improper plastering practices and additives.

A similar article was published in Service Industry News in 2008 by onBalance (a consulting group comprised of Que Hales, Doug Latta and Kim Skinner)

From: Kim Skinner [mailto:kimskinner@rburst.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 12:51 PM
To: onBalance
Subject: Startup Chemistry Study

Four years ago, the National Pool Industry Research Center (NPIRC) reported that they had studied the effects of three different chemical startups procedures for new pool plaster. (Phase 2, October 2005). The three chemical startup procedures were;

- the "Acid" startup – where enough acid was added to lower the pH to 4.5 and alkalinity to zero
- the "pH-Neutral" startup – where one gallon of acid was added to an 8000 gallon pool
- and the "Traditional" startup where the water is maintained in a slightly alkaline (basic) water condition

In published results the NPIRC claimed (using only visual observations) that the Acid and the pH Neutral startups proved superior and provided plaster with better protection against etching deterioration when compared to the Traditional startup, which was reported as resulting in plaster with significant etching deterioration. This begs the obvious question: How does a balanced startup technique, such as the Traditional startup, result in "etching deterioration?" Yet, the acid startup had no etching?

Is the NPIRC study accurate regarding the effects of the three different startup procedures? What really is the best way to chemically start up a new plaster pool? These questions are the heart of a recent study conducted by onBalance, and funded with a donation by IPSSA.

All three of these startup techniques were recently studied (during 2008) by onBalance, which also included a study on the technique known as the Bicarb startup (which involves water pre-treatment with sodium bicarbonate).

Two different methods were used to analyze and determine what chemical startup provided the best protection for a new plaster surface. One method was microscopy (40X magnification) to examine the plaster surface. The other analysis was performed by determining the calcium increase of the water that the plaster coupons were submerged in.

Well made, high quality plaster coupons were formed and placed in water after 24 hours of drying in moderate temperatures. Several coupons were each (separately) placed in water where conditions duplicated the "Bicarb" startup. The second set of coupons were placed in typical balanced water (simulating a "Traditional" startup), the third set were placed in moderately aggressive water (an SI of -0.8, similar to the so-called "pH Neutral" startup), and the fourth set were placed in water that simulated an "Acid" startup (which equals a very aggressive -4.0 SI). After three days, the coupons were removed and the calcium level in each water tank was tested. The Bicarb startup water had a zero to 2 ppm increase in calcium, the Traditional start water had an average calcium increase of 7 to 10 ppm, the pH Neutral (moderately aggressive) startup water had a 15 to 20 ppm calcium average increase, and the Acid (or zero alkalinity) startup process had an average calcium increase of 60 to 80 ppm. When the Acid startup process was extended for an additional four days, the results indicated a calcium loss of about 120 ppm! This is significant because an increase in calcium (in the water) indicates a loss of calcium from the plaster, and increased porosity of the surface. As can be seen from these results, the bicarb startup program had the least amount of calcium loss, preserving the high surface density which provides the best protection for the plaster surface.

When 40X magnification was used to examine the plaster surface, we found that the Acid startup coupons were slightly etched, with the thin layer of cream (cement) missing, the aggregate exposed, and the surface uniformly rough. On other hand, the Bicarb startup coupons were very smooth, with the cement cream layer still intact and the aggregate not exposed. The other two methods fell in between the Acid and Bicarb results, with the Traditional startup coupons showing just a slight effect of exposed aggregate, and the pH Neutral startup coupons just a little more exposed than the Traditional. This microscopic examination was consistent with, and confirmed the results found by using the "calcium increase" analysis method.

As can be seen, the results obtained by the onBalance study differ greatly from the results obtained by the NPIRC, and in fact, are completely opposite. But more importantly, it is evident that the Acid startup is the most detrimental method and causes irreparable harm to a new plaster surface. While the Acid startup may dissolve plaster dust and help the surface look good for a few months, it should be understood that this etched and more porous plaster surface will deteriorate and stain earlier and easier. The Bicarb method, on the other hand, is an improvement on the industry standard Traditional method.

onBalance (12-15-08) A similar writeup was published in Service Industry News in 2009.

May Region 7 News Highlights

IPSSA, INC. REGION 7 Board

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Dustin Moors, Secretary 760-509-6482

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Director's Notes

Region 7 Quarterly Report

NDPA – On April 25th thru the 27th I had the honor and privilege to represent IPSSA at the 9th Annual National Drowning Prevention Alliance Symposium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, accompanied by **Terry Snow** and **Jeremy Smith**. I knew that **Mary Ann Downing** (an NDPA Director) was going to be there; it was good to see her, and it was a pleasant surprise to see **John Silcox** from the San Diego chapter there also. For more details see the attached Outreach report.

BORD – From there I went to the May BORD meeting in San Antonio the following weekend. I went in a day early to visit with **Phil Sharp** (a Director and current President of IPSSA). Can you believe he had me out doing sick route pools with him the first day? On that Friday Phil had his Region 9 meeting. There were two representatives from every chapter (FYI, due to the size of the region, the members have to spend a night in the host city at their or their chapter's expense, sometimes two nights, depending on the length of the meeting). It was an extremely well-run meeting, and I was impressed by the lack of crosstalk, which made for a very efficient meeting.

Saturday the BORD meeting started at 9:00 a.m. as usual. For the most part it was an unexciting meeting, as much of the business was cleaning up some overlooked details from the February meeting. Additional Chairmen and Liaisons approved:

Bylaws	Chuck Gough
Member Education	Celia Hugueley
Expansion	Jim Romanowski
IPSSAN	Eric Nielson, Bob Nichols
Member Benefits	Gary Ellyatt
Outreach	Bob Nichols, Jeremy Smith, Javier Payan
FPSIE Liaison	Mike Gardner
SPEC Liaison	Terry Snow
NPIRC Liaison	Lance Sada

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- The new protocols and the contract for NPIRC have been approved.
- Suggestion to waive the entry chemistry exam for holders of a CPO certification – no action taken. Region discussion!

- The executive office to pursue a free conference call account for IPSSA.
- Kelly and Associates (publishers of our Regional directories) has been given notice to inform prospective advertisers that they receive the add income, not IPSSA. Some advertisers were under the impression that IPSSA received the income.
- Florida is considering legislation to extend VGB regulations to residential pools.
- A chapter is being considered in Oklahoma as part of Region 9.
- IPSSA census as of 3/31/10 is 3,676.
- After consideration of a different date due to several potential show conflicts, the 2011 Leadership Conference will remain February 11-12, 2011.
- The next BORD meeting will be August 7, 2010 in Oakland, California.

REMEMBER!!

May is National Water Safety Month – Plan an event to inform your customers/the public about the risks associated with water, whether it is the backyard pool or the beach. Get coloring books from IPSSA to hand out at schools or a health fair. Don't forget Water Watcher Tags – insert them in your invoices or hand them out as you interact with your customers.

Next Region 7 meeting is June 23, 2010, same place, same time.

Calendar

- **National Water Safety Month**, May 2010. www.watersafetymonth.org
- **R7 Board Meeting**, Wed., June 23, 7:00 p.m., SCP Conf. Rm. (858-467-9495), 5648 Copley Dr., SD.
- **B.O.R.D. Meeting**, Sat., Aug. 7, Oakland, CA. 9th Annual NDPA Symposium

On April 25th thru the 27th **Terry Snow**, **Jeremy Smith** and I participated in the 9th Annual National Drowning Prevention Alliance Symposium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Although I do not yet have the follow-up statistics on attendance and groups attending, I would guess there to be at least 200 individuals and 30 groups. IPSSA had a prime spot for our booth, as we were the sponsor of the exhibition space.

The event was hosted by Slippery Rock University. The symposium consisted of several high-profile people as keynote speakers, including the Auditor General of Pennsylvania. In addition to the keynote speakers, there were several break-out sessions addressing critical issues pertaining to drowning prevention. The main theme was certainly "that drowning is not an **accident**, unless you were on the Titanic". Consensus was that too frequently drowning happens because most people are unaware of the risk involved in their activities around water. Two- to four-year-olds have the highest rate of drowning, after which the

curve drops sharply until about sixteen to eighteen, when it then goes back up gradually, due to bad decisions on the part of "invincible" teenagers, especially boys.

Florida and Texas have the highest number of drownings each year.

Florida has done a great job of gathering statistics that have led them to a course of action to minimize their drowning figures in the future. They found that culture plays a big part in the lack of understanding of the risk associated with water: the Asian community, where swimming is not a recreational activity; the dysfunctional, possibly violent family; and the Hispanic community. Each group has a different sensitivity to the risks associated with water.

Many in the Asian community, in addition to lacking a culture of recreational swimming, have lived on boats a good part of their lives and are, sad to say, accustomed to a high drowning rate.

The dysfunctional families are for the most part poor parents and do not provide sufficient supervision.

The Hispanic community has an ethic of cleanliness and frequently leaves the soapy water bucket standing while wringing out the mop or just leaves it for awhile, period. Little kids are fast and can tip into the bucket in no time. The highest number of "bucket drownings" occurs in this group.

Florida has initiated a system of one-on-one education where sworn officers (often firemen) knock on doors, sit down with families to explain the risks associated with water, and leave appropriate literature.

Texas is in the statistic gathering mode and formulating a plan to improve drowning prevention.

Open water and boating activities comprise another category of risk. Open water drownings are generally due to poor decisions about one's swimming ability or the use of unsafe equipment. The high rate of drowning associated with boating accidents is usually due to alcohol or not wearing a life vest.

Although the San Diego IPSSA chapter was the first with the "Water Watcher Tag", many other groups have adopted the idea, and they now come in many shapes and forms, including one with a springy wrist band and whistle.

We had many discussions at the booth about VGB (Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act). Everyone seemed pleased that IPSSA is in the forefront of seeing that it is implemented correctly.

This was an excellent opportunity to network, and we had many opportunities to talk to several members of the Consumer Product Safety Commission as well as other organizations.

Chuck Gough Region 7 B.O.R.D. Rep.

HER DIARY/HIS DIARY

Dear Diary:

Tonight, I thought my husband was acting weird. We had made plans to meet at a bar to have a drink. I was shopping with my friends all day long, so I thought he was upset at the fact that I was a bit late, but he made no comment on it.

Conversation wasn't flowing, so I suggested that we go somewhere quiet so we could talk. He agreed, but he didn't say much. I asked him what was wrong. He said, 'Nothing.' I asked him if it was my fault that he was upset. He said he wasn't upset, that it had nothing to do with me, and not to worry about it.

On the way home, I told him that I loved him. He smiled slightly, and kept driving. I can't explain his behavior. I don't know why he didn't say, 'I love you, too.' When we got home, I felt as if I had lost him completely, as if he wanted nothing to do with me anymore. He just sat there quietly, and watched TV. He continued to seem distant and absent.

Finally, with silence all around us, I decided to go to bed. About 15 minutes later, he came to bed. To my surprise, he responded to my caress, and we made love. But I still felt that he was distracted, and his thoughts were somewhere else. He fell asleep - I cried. I don't know what to do. I'm almost sure that his thoughts are with someone else. My life is a disaster...

More From the Onion

Tony Gwynn Mentioned 72 Times During Guided Tour Of Padres Stadium

SAN DIEGO—Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn's name was uttered 72 times and indirectly referenced on another 36 instances during a guided tour of Petco Park, sources reported Tuesday. "There's Tony Gwynn's No. 19 over the center field wall there, and beyond that is the picnic area where countless Padre fans have chanted Tony Gwynn's name or at least thought about Tony Gwynn," said tour guide Hank Classon, adding that Tony Gwynn would have patrolled right field in Petco Park had he not retired three years before it opened. "Our groundskeepers always keeps the pitcher's mound pristine, since that's where we wish to have Padres great Tony Gwynn throw out the first pitch of all our future games. Look, everyone, there's manager Bud Black! Yes, I wish he were Tony Gwynn." Current Padres slugger Adrian Gonzalez was mentioned zero times.

SD Chapter Website has useful forms

The San Diego Chapter website, www.ipssasandiego.com, has several useful forms for your convenience. Go to the website, click "Members" on the left, then in the middle of the next page click on "Rules-Links-Forms". There you will find Employee Applications, various automatic and credit card payment forms, SDG&E rebate form, and the Life Insurance Beneficiary Form. Please get the Beneficiary Form and complete it if you have never done so or if you need to update it (new wife, gf, cat or whatever). If you don't have a Beneficiary Form on file with the Financial Office and something happens (things happen...), the money could go to the State. Why not designate the Chapter Party Fund if you have no other better ideas? Think of the fun we could have celebrating your life... While several of these forms are available elsewhere, we have made it much easier to find them here on our website.

HIS DIARY:

My boat wouldn't start today, but at least I got laid.

From the Newsletter Chair:

I've had successful hernia surgery (5/12) and thank our members who will start taking care of my pools starting the week of May 17. I'll see you all next Wednesday and hope to be back servicing my pools ASAP.
Paul Grimes



Correction to 2010/2011 Photo Directory

Unfortunately, information for member **Michael Harris** of **Barrow Pool Service** was not displayed correctly in the 2010-11 Photo Directory. Michael's photo is displayed to the left. Please update Mike's phone number on your directory to **(619) 395-6700**.

CONTINUING EDUCATION FUND APPLICATION

Member Name: _____ Date _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Course/Seminar/Program: _____

Course/Seminar/Program Date: _____ Cost: \$ _____

Note: The Education Committee Chairperson (ECC) must receive Application within 30 days of course Completion. Receipt or proof of attendance must be submitted to ECC before reimbursement will be made. Give/mail to Education Committee Chair – Brian Davis 8070 La Jolla Shores Dr. #421 La Jolla, CA 92037

San Diego Chapter Financial Report – Apr. 1-30, 2010					
	General	Education	Expense Description	General	Education
Cash on Hand (Beg. Bal.)	13,865.77	7,921.97	Cash Disbursements		
CD & Savings		10,935.58	Bank charges		
Total	13,865.77	18,857.55	Continuing Education		4,270.00
Combined total	32,733.32		SPEC	200.00	
Cash Receipts			Deposit Santee Lakes (Picnic)	245.00	
Dues collected by IPSSA	2,048.00		Door prizes Raffle	125.00	
Newsletter Advertisement			Newsletter	116.87	
Chapter Supporters	300.00		Legal/Professional Computer consulting	100.00	
Member fines			Meeting expense		
Interest earned		2.71	- Chapter Board	224.71	
Rebate Program (Pentair filters)		3,775.00	- General meeting	476.09	
Rebate Program (Raypak)		4,238.85	- Directory Printing Production	1,887.92	
			- Directory Coordination (P. Grimes)	1,000.00	
Other –H2O Watcher Tags			- Regional Dues		
Fines: -			Office expense:		
			Phone	20.10	
			Postage, Copies, Office Supplies	298.28	
			Mileage		
New Member			- PO Box rental	60.00	
Education Fund			- IRS payment	0.64	
Water Watcher tags			- Donation Chula Vista Swim Lessons		240.00
Directory sales			Total Expenses in Month	4,754.61	4,510.00
Transfer from savings for Educ.			Cash on Hand (End Balance)	11,229.80	11,666.21
Total Income in Month	2,348.00	8,016.56	CD & Savings		10,937.26
			Total	11,229.80	22,603.57
			Combined Total	33,833.27	



San Diego
Superior Pool Products
4737 Old Cliffs Rd
619-283-2066



SCP San Diego
5648 Copley Dr
858-467-9495

Monthly drawing
50 pound bucket of 3 inch Jumbo Tabs
Bring your Skimmer
to the May 2010 General Meeting
Must place your coupon in the drawing.
Must be present to win!

Monthly drawing
\$50 Shell Gas Card
Bring your Skimmer
to the May 2010 General Meeting
Must place your coupon in the drawing.
Must be present to win!

BLUE CARD - SAN DIEGO IPSSA (Fill form completely) Date: _____

Name: _____ Spouse: _____ H.Phone:() _____

H. Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Company Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

B. Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

B.Phone:() _____ Pager:() _____ Cellular:() _____

CIRCLE ZIP CODES THAT YOU SERVICE (Mail cards to Chapter PO Box or give to Paul Grimes)

<u>NORTH CITY</u>	<u>METRO NORTH</u>	<u>METRO SOUTH</u>	<u>SOUTH BAY</u>	<u>EASTCOUNTRY</u>
92007 - Cardiff	92037 - La Jolla	92101 - Downtown	91902 - Bonita	91901 - Alpine
92014 - Del Mar	92108 - Mission Valley	92102 - Golden Hill	91910 - Chula Vista	91935 - Jamul
92024 - Encinitas	92109 - Pacific Beach	92103 - Hilerst/MsnHl	91911 - Chula Vista	91941 - La Mesa
92064 - Poway	92111 - Clairemont	92104 - North Park	91913 - Chula Vista	91942 - La Mesa
92067 - Rancho S Fe	92117 - Clairemont	92105 - City Heights	91914 - Eastlake	91945 - Lemon Grove
92075 - Solana Beach	92119 - San Carlos	92106 - Pt. Loma	91915 - Eastlake	91977 - Spring Valley
92091 - Morgan Run	92120 - Grantville	92107 - Ocean Bch/PL	91932 - Imperial Bch	91978 - Rancho SD
92121 - Sorrento Valey	92122 - Univ. City	92110 - Midway/O.T.	91950 - National City	92019 - El Cajon
92126 - Mira Mesa	92123 - Mission Village	92113 - Logan Heights	92118 - Coronado	92020 - El Cajon
92127 - Rancho Berndo	92124 - Tierrasanta	92114 - Encanto	92154 - Otay Mesa	92021 - El Cajon
92128 - Rancho Berndo		92115 - Rolando	92173 - San Ysidro	92040 - Lakeside
92129 - Penasquitos		92116 - Normal Hghts		92071 - Santee
92130 - Carmel Valley		92139 - Paradise Hills		
92131 - Scripps Ranch	poolservicepros.com listings are by your Zip codes.		DO NOT list me for referrals on www. poolservicepros.com	

I, the undersigned, waive any and all claims against IPSSA, Inc, IPSSA Management Company, IPSSA Chapters and/or its individual members, arising out of my participation in the IPSSA Sick Leave Program, including, but not limited to claims for lost income resulting from improper maintenance performed by IPSSA members. I have read and understand the standing rules for the Sick Leave Program and agree to participate in that program.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED _____ DATE _____

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**San Diego Chapter
Independent Pool & Spa
Service Association
PO BOX 70192
San Diego CA 92167-1192
[www. ipssasandiego.com/members](http://www.ipssasandiego.com/members)**

**General Meeting
May 19, 7pm**

**Mark your Calendar:
Chapter Summer
Picnic
Sept. 19th at Santee Lakes**



**Next General Meeting
May 19, 2010 – 7 p.m.
Mission Valley Resort
875 Hotel Circle South
Mission Valley, south of I-8
1/4 mile west of SR 163**

