



The Skimmer

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 15, 2011
MISSION VALLEY RESORT
875 HOTEL CIRCLE SO.

JULY

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2011

President's Message

Blue cards are due by Wednesday July 20th. If the card is being mailed it must be postmarked by the 20th. The Chapter's new post office box is 600862 San Diego 92160-0862. If the card is turned in at the July general meeting on the 20th it must be handed to Paul Grimes, and no one but Paul Grimes. The Blue card must be signed. The Blue card must also be legible. If the Sick Leave Chairmen can't read the writing...

The ongoing Sick Leave coverage for Marc Stewart has been progressing well. Marc is recovering from his hip replacement surgery and is following his Doctor's orders as he continues with his rehabilitation. For those of you who are servicing one of Marc's pools, please communicate any problems with Marc or a Sick Leave Chairman immediately, preferably while you're still in the backyard of the pool account, to solve the problem in a timely manner. Thank you for your service.

At the beginning of the Sick Route coverage for Marc the Sick Leave Chairmen contacted members to inform them that they would be assigned a pool to service and like usual they would have five days to pick up the yellow card. Two members said that they were out of town and wouldn't be able to pick up the yellow card until the following week. This breaks two of the Sick Leave Rules. Members are required to inform the Sick Leave Chairmen of any out-of-town vacations prior to leaving. Failure to do so will result in a fine for the violation. It is also common knowledge that not picking up the yellow card within five days will result in a fine for the violation. If you're the gambling type and want to risk your money by leaving town without informing the Chairmen, betting that a Sick Leave coverage won't be initiated while you're gone, you certainly are free to do so, many do. Just don't complain

if you lose.

If you are planning a vacation for later this year, please plan it around the October mandatory meeting on Wednesday the 19th. This is an important meeting. Elections will be held, pictures for the new directory will be taken, the David Courey Chapter Supporter Award will be voted on and awarded, and much more.

At the August dinner meeting on Wednesday the 17th at the Admiral Baker Country Club the members who attend will have the opportunity to bid on the one week stay at the Kauai condo owned by Chapter Supporter Kevin Wallace. Kevin has graciously donated the one week stay at this fabulous location to benefit the Chapter's Child Safety and Drowning Prevention Fund. The week will be available in early December and that date will be confirmed soon. The bidding will start at \$650 and the winning bidder will need to pay the Chapter by check at the meeting.

Mark R. Lane will host and teach a Pentair seminar prior to the September general meeting on Wednesday the 21st. Earn a Continuing Education point by attending and more importantly, learn more about the latest technology that continues to flood our industry. Also at this meeting the B.K. Taylor Award will be voted on and awarded.
Cheers, Mark

Blue Cards Due on or before July 20 General Meeting

Please send or give your completed, legible Blue Cards to Paul Grimes. Your options:

- Mail via US Postal Service to
San Diego Chapter IPSSA
PO Box 600862, SD, CA 92160-0862

Must be postmarked on or before July 20, 2011

- Bring to July meeting and hand to Paul Grimes.

Failure to submit a Blue Card as listed above will result in a \$50 fine.

Illegible or incomplete Blue cards is also a \$50 fine.

Hawaii Condo Five Night Stay to be Auctioned Off at August Dinner Meeting

Kevin Wallace from Underwater Unlimited has generously donated a five night stay at his spectacular Poipu Beach condo.

The Kauai condo will be available for a December 16th check-in arrival and a December 21st check-out departure.

One hundred percent of the winning bid will be donated to the Chapter's Child Safety and Drowning Prevention Fund.

The auction will take place at the August dinner meeting at the Admiral Baker Country Club.

Bidding will start at \$650. Check or cash will be accepted at the time of the auction.

Prospective Member Report

Congratulations to George Ludwig, 365 Pool Services, who was voted in at the June meeting. On July 1st he became our newest member.

We have one prospective member in process, Michael Long, Michael Long's Pool Service. He recently passed the Water Chemistry Test and should be ready for a vote at the August meeting.

Blue & White Chlorine Tab Floaters \$5/ea.

Still available at SD Superior. While supply lasts.

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Blood Drive	James Morketter	619-708-4972			
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Region7 Director	Chuck Gough	760 434-7623			

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Kirk Chapman	Poolscape Unlimited Poolscapeunlimited.com Pool plastering - Complete Pool & Spa Renovations	619-561-0555, 619-561-1633 fax kirk@poolscapeunlited.com
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Kevin Wallace	Underwater Unlimited Rust spots, Rebar, Cracks, Drain replacement	800-247-8393, 760-632-1822
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General Meeting – 6/15/2011

Call to order 7:10 PM

Pledge of allegiance- Mike Gregg

Treasurer's Report- Jim Bauer: We're in good shape financially. See info in this issue.

Secretary's report- James Morketter: June board meeting minutes were approved.

Vice-President Phil Gardiner was absent. No VP's report.

Chapter supporters etc. were called to the front of the room. Present included: Joey Chavez, John Barba, Pat Lampanella, Mike Gersch, Krista Hudson, Kristal Cavender, Gil Khoury, Don Wall, Brandon Chase, Marc Dunn, Sean Remnant, Mark R. Lane

An announcement was made that all filters available via the manufacture's rebate program have been sold.

A reminder was given that we still need advertisers for the 2011-2012 member directory.

A reminder was given that Blue Cards are due by July 20, 2011.

B.K. Taylor and David Courey award nominees are needed.

Volunteers are needed if we want to have a Summer picnic for our chapter.

Jon McArthur spoke regarding the nominating committee. He encouraged members to step up and volunteer.

Ron Baker of the sick leave committee reminded us that voice-mail and answering machine greetings must

include your name and company name. Mark Curran read some insurance claim "horror stories". •

Prospective members Mike Long, George Ludwig and Art DiMino were called to the front of the room. George Ludwig was voted into membership.

Mark R. Lane of Pentair Water spoke briefly. A Q and A session followed.

Raffle:

\$50 Ron Baker

\$25 Joe Hiel

50# Tabs Bernie Mirelez

\$50 Gas card Afshin Darandeh

Meeting adjourned 8:20 PM

Board Meeting – 7/6/2011

Jim Bauer, Phil Gardiner, James Morketter, Mark Curran

Call to order 7:30 PM

Dustin Wendt is no longer a member of IPSSA.

We have purchased an awning for future outdoor events.

We discussed the importance of reminding members of the need to notify both IPSSA as well as the chapter secretary of address changes.

Three members who needed to attend the June 2011 meeting to avoid missing a quarter did not attend.

Phil Gardiner informed us that the guest speakers for the July general meeting will be Gary Tennembaum and

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Regina Rakowski.

We will continue to feature a slide show at the general meetings.

We reviewed members with varying offenses.

We discussed ideas for purchasing a mutual fund with the excess money we have accrued in our general fund.

We discussed installing an approval process for education re-imbursement. Particularly with regard to contractor license re-imbursement.

We discussed a chapter supporter who is taking advantage of his position.

Mark Curran gave a brief description of events at the Region 7 Board meeting which he attended.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM.

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Calendar

7/20 General Meeting 7pm Future 8/17, 9/21

Mission Valley Resort, 875 Hotel Circle N.

7/23, Blood Drive 8 am

Antique Row Café, Lemon Grove

3521 Lemon Grove Av

8/3 Chapter Board: Future 9/7, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7

7 pm Kensington Grill

8/11&12 or 9/8&9 Certified Pool Operator (CPO)

SCP San Diego – 5648 Copley Drive

9/28 Region 7 Board Meeting - 7:00 pm

SCP Conf. Room 5648 Copley Dr SD

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Dear IPSSA- thanks again and again! The Lifejackets donated to the San Diego County Aquatic Council for April Pools Day have been in motion all summer! After the April Pools Day events at 7 pools, nearly 100 kids in Chula Vista learned about lifejackets and water safety during the May 26th Pool Safely media event. Here's a photo of some of the kids with Olympic Gold Medal Winner Janet Evans.

In June, I received a call from San Diego Lifeguards..."Mary can we borrow lifejackets for the Bridges to the Beach event?" The IPSSA donated Lifejackets were used by more than 300 kids during the day long event at Mission Bay in kayaks and on Stand Up Paddle Boards. Having a range of sizes for the 4th graders made a big difference- and the vest type jacket is great for water sports. Here's a look at the kids on Stand Up Paddle Boards... As a side note, most of the kids had never tried on a lifejacket before the San Diego Lifeguard's Bridges to the Beach program. (for more info check out the San Diego Junior Lifeguard Foundation)

At the end of June, the San Diego Safe Kids task force staged a Summer Swim Safety Sunday event at AquaPros Swim School in Clairmont...the smallest lifejackets were used by the kids, and the youth jackets were modeled and demonstrated by some girl scout volunteers.

Check out the SafeKids website for the next events on the last Sundays in July & August.

THANK YOU IPSSA for promoting water safety in San Diego from the Pools to the Beach!



Mary Ann Downing
Pool Safety MOM
Cell: 858-603-2260
Drowning Prevention
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DROWNING PREVENTION TIP OF THE MONTH

Conduct a safety inspection of you customers' pools and spas. Since we are the professionals in the backyard, we have the knowledge, experience and opportunity to identify problems that our customers may not be aware of. It isn't necessary to give our customers a written report that details the safety-related problems with their pools, but we can develop our own checklist as a basis to inspect their pool, and then give them a note that indicates the specific items we have observed that make their pool unsafe. At a minimum, the inspection should include the following, in addition to any other items that you consider important:

- pool and property gates close and latch automatically ?
- property fencing has no gaps or missing boards that a child could crawl through
- check for missing or loose drain covers
- are Vac Locks installed on wall suction ports ?
- pool and spa lights functioning
- GFCI on lights operating properly
- toys or floatables left in the pool after use ?
- condition handrails and diving?

- check for loose coping
- are pool chemicals kept on site in childproof containers ?
- is the pool equipment bonded properly ?

This is not meant to be a complete list of safety items to check, however, any and all inspections that we make will help make our customers' pools safer.

John Silcox

From: Kim Skinner

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2011 9:30 AM

Subject: Identifying Problems in Plaster Pools

Identifying Plastering Defects on New Pool Plaster

Discolorations – New pool plaster can discolor (darken or turn gray) from adding excessive calcium chloride set accelerator, from late hard troweling, from thin and thick areas due to an uneven shell, etc. Gray (or grey) mottled discoloration (also known as “water entrapment” or “hydration”) is difficult to remove, may be remedied by acid washing, sanding, or torching the surface, but these processes are generally detrimental to a plaster finish and the discoloration often returns later. Late hard troweling can cause “trowel burn” which darkens the plaster color in localized areas. Sanding can remove this discoloration. Severe mottled color variation from calcium chloride or finishing issues may occur quickly or take several months to show up.

White Spotting and Streaking

Deteriorations– Plaster may eventually develop white (lighter color) porous (soft) spots and streaks resulting from the addition of water to the hardened surface during late hard troweling in plaster containing excessive calcium chloride. This late hard troweling disturbs surface aggregate, and added water penetrates around that aggregate and spreads laterally through the porous paste caused by accelerated shrinkage. Beginning as excess porosity around the disturbed aggregate, soft spots expand and sometimes coalesce into larger affected areas. Disturbed zones along accent or surface tile, around fittings, etc. may also display this non-removable deterioration.

Whitened Discoloration of Colored Plaster

– In time, integrally colored pool plaster may show whitening (lighter color) either uniformly or in patterns. Uniform discoloration may be caused by using incompatible admixtures: specifically color and calcium chloride. These colored plasters may also be discolored (white streaking or spotting) from the addition of water to the surface or to trowels applied to the surface during finishing. These discolorations are permanent.

Spalling – Spalling is the flaking or peeling of a thin layer (1/8 inch or less) of plaster, usually in small areas on steps and shallow end floors. It is caused by the over-troweling of the surface when the underlying paste is wet but the surface cement laitance is dry. It can also be caused by adding too much water while troweling. This usually results from improperly timed troweling, or from hot, windy or dry days. When water evaporates from the surface faster than mix water

bleeding up can replace it, and then when that surface dry crust is troweled, a weakened subsurface zone is created that will be prone to spall. Spalling may occur immediately, or even years later, from surface impacts, stress from suction cleaners, or when the pool is drained, etc. Spalls may be sanded, although if a large percentage of a pool is spalled the pool may need to be replastered.

Delaminations – This is the separation of an entire new layer of plaster from its underlying substrate, whether that is old plaster, gunite or shotcrete, etc. Delaminations are usually first seen as a round surface area that has raised or pulled away from the wall, often with small cracks and nodules forming. This defect is usually caused by improper surface preparation to create a good bond with the new material. It may manifest itself within a month or two or several years later when the pool is drained and the plaster dries out. Ground movement such as during earthquakes, can also initiate bond failure. Occasionally, some plaster areas completely pop off, exposing the underlying surface. Delaminated areas may be patched if small, but larger delaminations require replastering.

Calcium Nodules – Nodules are a form of efflorescence, or the migration of calcium salts from the plaster interior to the surface. As the calcium carbonates at surface, nodes form which may be circular volcano-type formations or stalactite-like drips down the plaster wall. They are most often associated with delaminations (as mentioned above), or with severe craze cracks, either of which allow water to penetrate the surface and dissolve and bring calcium from the interior to the exterior of the pool plaster layer. Nodules may be removed by sanding or scraping, but may recur if the delamination void or the craze network is not yet fully carbonated.

Craze Cracks – Cracking is an excessive amount of surface shrinkage cracking which can result from an overly-wet plaster mix, from excessive calcium chloride set accelerator added to the mix, from the adding of excessive water while troweling, or from excessive drying of the plaster before the pool is filled. Cracking often leads to other problems including calcium nodules, staining, and provide a home to black algae. Excessive crazing may require replastering.

Identifying Curing Effects on New Pool Plaster

Newly plastered pools must be filled at the right time, and any water exposure must be even and uniform. Filling a pool too early results in a weakened and deteriorated paste surface, especially in the bowl of the pool where the effect is worse because it may be exposed to fill water mere minutes after final troweling.

The optimum fill delay (time between final troweling and filling the pool) is at least six or more hours. (Moderate temperatures and sufficient humidity is also necessary for proper hardening and curing of plaster). This fill delay is often realized for the upper half of the pool, which may not be submerged for a day or longer depending on water pressure, while some plastering crews start the fill before they leave and thus compromise the lower areas of the pool.

Wetting of parts of the surface by rinsing down the deck, rinsing off pool steps or areas where debris falls, etc. must also be avoided, since the uneven exposure of fresh plaster to water makes permanent discoloration. The fill must also be continual – pauses in the fill may result in “bathtub ring” permanent discoloration.

Identifying Chemical Effects on New Pool Plaster

Staining – Fill water containing excessive levels of iron, copper, or other staining agents should be filtered and removed, or at least treated before the pool is filled, or, if that is not possible, immediately upon filling the pool to the surface tile level. This kind of staining can usually be removed by acid washing, sanding or chelation. Some of these techniques are invasive to the surface, and avoiding staining is better than removing it later.

Stains or Etching from Improper

Chemical Addition – Pool chemicals need to be added to the water in a manner that prevents aggressive amounts of chemical or imbalanced water from affecting the new plaster surface. Acid should always be pre-diluted before adding, salt should only be added after 30 days of plastering, and should not be allowed to sit as a solid on fresh plaster, and cyanuric acid must also not sit as a solid on new plaster.

Water Balance, Scaling and Etching

– Before filling a new plaster pool, the chemistry of the fill water should be determined. Water that is too soft (aggressive) can create plaster dust, and etch or weaken the new plaster surface. Of course, once the pool is filled, APSP water chemistry parameters and the Saturation Index provide excellent guides for maintaining pool water in a manner which will minimize detrimental effects to the new plaster surface. The LSI parameters of -0.3 to +0.5 is the acceptable limit.

Etching (from low pH/alkalinity/calcium) and scaling (from high pH/alkalinity/calcium) are uniform effects across the pool surface, unless affected by areas of greater or lesser pool plaster surface porosity. The etching process can create a rough surface, but does not discolor the plaster. Calcium scale on the surface is generally rough, white, and uniform. In time, scale or an etched

surface will attract dirt and minerals, and discolor. Although stains, dirt, and scale deposits can generally be removed by sanding, acid washing or chelation, etching is permanent and can only be moderately mitigated by sanding the surface.

Acid Start-ups – Swimming pools should never undergo the acid start-up process. Designed as a way to remove plaster dust without filtration, acid start-ups are too aggressive for fresh plaster and will etch the surface. Subjecting fresh plaster to water with a pH below 5 is not an appropriate substitute for doing things right in the first place.

The Bottom Line

Plaster Dust in New Pools – This is the bleeding (loss) of calcium from a weak and porous plaster surface caused by improper plastering practices and/or as a result of filling too soon or with too soft (aggressive) water. This dust can harden into a surface calcification and trap dirt or metals, creating further discoloration. Dusting from new pool plaster is preventable by properly mixing, troweling, curing the surface in moderate temperatures and with sufficient humidity, waiting at least six hours before filling, and then ensuring the chemistry of the fill water is balanced. When necessary, the fill water chemistry should be adjusted by adding sodium bicarbonate, acid, chelating or sequestering agents, etc. through a slurry tank as the pool fills. Although plaster dust can be removed by brushing and filtering, the damage from the calcium loss from the surface creates porosity and is permanent.

Prevention is the key – proper plastering procedures, proper curing, and proper water balance result in a plaster surface that is both maintainable and aesthetically pleasing. Fixing errors after-the-fact is generally less than desirable, and some detrimental effects can only be remedied by replacing the plaster.

From: Kim Skinner

Sent: Wed., June 29, 2011 1:32 PM

Subject: Research Reveals Need for Plaster Standards

Research Reveals Need for Plaster Standards

This article provides the basis and evidence for the recommendations to wait at least 6 hours before filling new plaster pools, using a low water/cement ratio for a plaster mix, and reducing the amount of calcium chloride added (one percent or less). Builders, Service Techs and Pool Plasterers can work together to ensure a quality plaster job that will last a long time and be stain resistant. Pool owners want and pay for a quality product.

Several experiments were performed, and first studied were the effects on the length of time one waits after a new

plaster pool's final troweling until the time water is turned on to fill the pool.

For this experiment, plaster was mixed, and coupons were formed and placed in water at various time delays (30 minutes, 2 hours, 6 hours, and 24 hours) after the final hardening.

Each plaster coupon was placed separately into a five-gallon tank of balanced water, a starting pH of 7.7, alkalinity of 110 ppm, calcium hardness of 180 ppm, and a temperature of 70 degrees.

Since this water is balanced according to the Langelier Saturation Index, does this mean nothing from the plaster surface should dissolve into the water?

Of course, we all know that "plaster dust" often forms in the water, and on the walls and floors of pools soon after newly finished plaster pools are filled. And the primary source of this "plaster dust" is, well, the plaster! But why does the plaster come off the walls when the water is balanced to begin with? And why do some pools have more "dust" than others? What can be done to reduce this problem? Those questions will be answered below.

If the chemistry changed in the water after the plaster coupons were placed in the water tanks, it would be assumed as a result of plaster components dissolving and influencing the water chemistry. We also wanted to know if those changes varied according to the "fill delay".

The first thing noticed was that the pH of the water rose (in 24 hours) in all four tanks. But the pH rose to 8.5 in one tank, and went as high as 9.2 in another. We also noticed some "plaster dust" settling at the bottom of the tanks.

Why did the pH rise so high? Why did the pH rise to different levels in the different tanks? Why didn't the pH stop increasing once the pH reached 8.4, as it would normally? Since at a pH of 8.4 the calculated Saturation Index of the water would be +0.7, the water isn't aggressive to the plaster surface, yet the pH continued to go even higher! Where did the pH-increasing influence come from?

The reason for the continuing pH rise in this experiment is the compound **calcium hydroxide**, a component of hardening plaster, which has an extremely high pH – in the 12 range. It is somewhat soluble even in what we would consider balanced water, since water balance and the Saturation Index is relative to **calcium carbonate**, a lower-pH compound.

This experiment demonstrates that calcium hydroxide can be dissolved by "balanced" water from the surface of relatively hard plaster. However, calcium carbonate, also a component of a plaster surface, requires aggressive (SI) water to dissolve. The Saturation Index indicates

when water has the ability to dissolve calcium carbonate, not calcium hydroxide.

After placing plaster coupons into water at different time intervals after final hardening, we tested the pH of each tank 24 hours after placement. We found that the **lowest** pH increase (to about 8.5 from a beginning pH of 7.7) was the tank with the coupon that had hardened the **longest** (24 hours) before placement in water.

The six hour coupons (placed in water after six hours) resulted in a pH increase to about 8.7.

The coupons placed in water after two hours resulted in a pH of about 9.0. The **highest** pH increase (to about 9.2) was recorded in the water tanks that received the first plaster coupon in the **shortest** time, after only 30 minutes after final hardening.

CONCLUSION #1 – The rising pH levels indicated the loss of **calcium hydroxide** from the plaster surface and into the water.

CONCLUSION #2 – Since the water's pH change varied progressively from tank to tank, from fill delay to fill delay, we can conclude that the sooner the plaster is placed under water, the more plaster material is dissolved off the surface and into the pool water – even positive saturation water.

It should be reasonable to assume that when plaster loses some of its material (such as calcium hydroxide) from the surface, this loss creates porosity in the plaster surface. Increasing porosity reduces the long-term durability of the plaster surface, since it allows greater water penetration and movement. Greater porosity also increases the likelihood, severity, and permanence of staining discolorations.

Unfortunately, there is no current pool industry standard or guideline limiting how soon water can be started to fill a new plastered swimming pool. The filling of some pools is often started before the finishing crew has even left the job site. This is an area where onBalance thinks scientifically-derived standards could improve the consumer product.

The plaster coupons used for the first phase of the study were made with a water-to-cement ratio (w/cm) of .44. This means that .44 pounds of water was used for every pound of cement. The aggregate in plaster is not counted as part of the w/cm. A .44 ratio would be considered a low w/cm for the pool industry, and results in a beneficial and desired thick mix for plastering pools.

For the second phase of our experiment, we formed plaster coupons using a higher w/cm of .56, which results in a more watery mix. This scenario can sometimes happen if the plaster mixer person adds too much water to the mix. We placed these newly formed plaster

coupons in water at the same time intervals, or fill delays as in our first phase. The pH was tested again after 24 hours of coupons being placed into the water. As before, the pH rose in all tanks, but this time it rose even slightly higher than before. The water with the 24 hour coupon rose to a pH of 8.7, slightly higher than the pH of 8.5 recorded in the first phase. The 30 minute coupon rose to 9.5, also slightly higher than the pH of 9.2 that was recorded in the first phase.

CONCLUSION #3 – The wetter the original mix, the more plaster material is dissolved off the surface and into the pool water. This is an additional factor to the fill delay issue itself. Again, the loss of material from the plaster surface creates porosity and will shorten its life-expectancy. A high water/cement ratio decreasing a cement-based product's durability is established, fundamental cement science.

Unfortunately, there is no current pool industry standard or guideline limiting how much water can be used in a plaster mix. This is another area where onBalance thinks scientifically-derived standards could improve the consumer product.

As a third variable in this study, the process was repeated using various amounts (1%, 2%, 3%, and 4%) of calcium chloride (for hardening acceleration which plasterers use) in the making of the plaster coupons. Testing the water for chloride just two days after the coupons were submerged in water showed that some of the calcium chloride from the plaster coupons was dissolving into the water. We learned that about 10% to 20% of all calcium chloride that was added to a plaster mix dissolved out of the plaster paste and into the swimming pool water.

The **highest** amount of calcium chloride loss came from the coupon with the **highest** w/cm and placed into water the **shortest** time (30 minutes). And of course, the **least** calcium chloride loss was from the most durable coupons – with the **lower** w/cm in the plaster mix and with the **longer** hardening time before submersion in water.

Losing yet another paste component, this time calcium chloride, from the plaster surface into the water leads to yet more porosity. In combination with calcium hydroxide loss, a significant level of additional porosity can be created in a plaster surface.

After being in the water for 7 days, the plaster coupons were removed from the water tanks. Remember the plaster dust in bottom of the water tanks? Could dissolving this dust and measuring the calcium increase from the starting point be another way of evaluating the effects of fill delay, of water-to-cement ratios, and CC additions?

Sufficient acid was added to the water tank to dissolve all of the precipitated "plaster dust" at the bottom. Then the water was tested to determine the total amount of calcium that had dissolved out of the plaster coupons and into the water.

The water that contained the coupons with the **lower** w/cm of .44 and the **longest** fill delay of 24 hours was tested. The calcium increase was 10 to 20 ppm. Since the ratio of plaster surface to water volume in this experiment was similar to that of a pool, this can be equated to about 2 to 3 pounds of calcium carbonate dissolved away from the surface of a 20,000 gallon swimming pool.

Next tested was the water that contained the plaster coupons with the **higher** w/cm of .56, the **shortest** fill delay of only 30 minutes, and 4% CC. The calcium level in these tanks increased about 180 ppm in just 7 days! This 180 ppm of calcium increase is the equivalent of 30 pounds of calcium carbonate lost from a new plaster pool surface into the water of a 20,000 gallon swimming pool! Quite a difference!

We learn from this study that although calcium hydroxide and CC can be dissolved by balanced water, proper construction and curing practices can reduce the amount of this material that is dissolved away from the surface – resulting in a denser and better product.

Past industry standards recommended a limit of 2% of calcium chloride (CC) in plaster mixes. Unfortunately, it appears that there is an effort by the NPC to allow greater levels as a result of (inaccurate) conclusions from the NPIRC research. This potential increase in the standard is contrary to existing cement science, and contrary to our research applying known science specifically to pool plaster.

The results of this pool plaster durability study indicate a need for the plastering industry to set scientific standards and limits for:

- minimum times for hardened plaster to set and dry before filling the pool with water
- maximum water-to-cement ratio
- maximum calcium chloride content
- Ensuring that tap water contains sufficient calcium and alkalinity (positive LSI) before using for filling pool. (This was actually proved by other past experiments, and the Bicarb start-up program should be recommended)

The American Concrete Institute's *Guide to Durable Concrete (201.2R-01)* "describes specific types of concrete deterioration" and "contains a discussion of the mechanisms involved and the recommended requirements for individual components of concrete, quality considerations for concrete mixtures, construction procedures, and influences of

the exposure environment, all important considerations to ensure concrete durability".

This guide provides the following recommendations for obtaining abrasion resistant concrete surfaces and **resistance to mild acid attacks:**

- Use a low water-to-cement ratio at the surface which will reduce permeability. Tests indicated that w/cm of .40 provided significantly better protection than w/cm of .50 and .60, and a w/cm of .62 provided little protection. (A high water/cement ratio also causes shrinkage and craze cracking).
- Avoid the use of supplemental water when troweling. Do not finish concrete with standing water because this will radically reduce the compressive strength at the surface by increasing the surface water/cement ratio. (Also causes craze cracking of surface)

Other documents from the ACI and PCA advise against using more than 2% of calcium chloride to the weight of cement due to the detrimental effects of drying shrinkage and discoloration.

All of these recommendations are consistent with the results of our study.

Child pulled from pool, in critical condition

By [Pauline Repard](#)
2:57 p.m., June 28, 2011

SAN DIEGO — A 1-year-old child was found at the bottom of a [south San Diego](#) family's swimming pool and hospitalized in [critical condition](#) Monday, authorities said. The boy's two uncles, one age 19, had fallen asleep at a Cochran Avenue home in the [Otay Mesa](#) area, [San Diego police](#) spokesman Gary Hassen said. When they awoke, they couldn't find their little nephew, then saw him in the pool. They called 911 at 12:44 p.m.

Hassen said the child wasn't breathing when he was pulled out of the water. He was taken to a [Chula Vista](#) hospital, then transferred to Rady Children's Hospital. [Child abuse](#) unit detectives were called in as a matter of routine for an incident like this, Hassen said.

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Region 7 Review

A monthly publication for the members of IPSSA, Inc. – Region 7

July 2011

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IPSSA, INC. – REGION 7 Regular Board Meeting SCP Conf. Rm, SD, CA Wed., June 22, 2011 Minutes Highlights

Attendance – **Chuck Gough**, R7 Dir., Clsbd; **Dan Ruiz**, R7 Treas, SD E Cty; **Peter Gozdeck**, R7 Billing Agent; **Dustin Moors**, R7 Secy, Clsbd VP; **David Talbot**, Clsbd Pres; **Matt Hughes**, Esc. Pres; **Jordan Nelson**, N. Cty Coastal Pres; **Brian Lindlar**, N. Cty Coastal VP; **Lance Clifton**, Rncho Del Mar Pres; **Joshua McKee**, Rncho Del Mar VP; **Mark T. Curran**, SD Pres; **Bill Peck**, SD; **Joe Lukacik**, SD E. Cty Pres; **Javier Payan**, SD Metro Pres; **Steve Elbik**, SD Metro; **Nancy Gillespie**, Recording Secy.

Not Represented – All chapters were represented. Minutes – **Motion** by **Brian Lindlar**, seconded by **David Talbot**, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2011 meeting as submitted. Treasurer's Report – **Dan Ruiz** -- as of 5/31/11: General Fund \$3,353.96, Emergency Fund \$3,964.16, and Money Market \$8,642.22, for total current assets of \$15,960.34. Total income 1/1 – 5/31/11, including fines and dues \$2,413.30, expenses \$743.95. Accounts are online and accessible for viewing by **Gough**, **Gozdeck**, and **Ruiz**; only **Ruiz** can make changes. **Gozdeck** continues to provide financial services at no charge to R7. **Motion** **Brian Lindlar**, seconded **Javier Payan**, and carried unanimously to approve Treasurer's Report as presented.

Chapter Reports

Carlsbad David Talbot:

- 1) Membership – a few prospects. A supplier recommended Carlsbad chapter to several people.
- 2) Chapter once had a bad reputation, and vendors did not want to be chapter supporters. Things have turned around. Bank balance is up, chapter has eight supporters, speakers are coming back, and chapter has a monthly newsletter prepared by **Nancy Gillespie**.
- 3) Drain covers – held several roundtables. Discussed drain cover recall and replacement covers. The law will not be enforced until Sept., and the rules will probably change before then.

Escondido Matt Hughes:

- 1) Padres Game outing Sat., 6/4 went well. Annual event; chapter pays half.
- 2) Charity – Auction at May meeting; vendors donated items, with proceeds to go to National Ataxia Foundation. Not sure how much was raised; at last report it was \$2,000, but since then raffle winners have been donating their winnings.
- 3) Membership – Several prospects have been voted in, but they are not yet official. One attended three meetings but has not yet taken the test.

- 4) Meetings are held at PEP, with Superior as an alternate. It works out well.

N County Coastal Jordan Nelson:

- 1) Everything is fine and dandy.
- 2) Chapter supporters – two are being dropped, as they are also doing pool service. Certain vendors have a monopoly. They are the only ones allowed to work on equipment and won't let anyone get trained to do the work.

Rancho Del Mar Lance Clifton:

- 1) It is all good.

San Diego Mark Curran:

- 1) Membership – a) three new members, several prospects. More interest from the outside lately, getting calls from the website, people seem interested in becoming more professional. b) Member A.J. Wilson has become swamped with the military programs he is involved in. His wife Cindy has taken over the business. A.J. is now an honorary member.
- 2) Chapter supporters – roster continues to grow.
- 3) Election in October. Board and all committees will change. A nominating committee was formed months ago to find willing volunteers. We hope to have at least two candidates for each position.

- 4) Annual dinner meeting for members, supporters, vendors, and reps Wed., 8/17, Admiral Baker Golf Course. R7 Board is invited.

- 5) Sick leave – one member was out nine months with cancer; he is now back. One member is just now going on sick leave.

- 6) Change of address – post office box address is being changed to be more convenient to chapter secretary James Morketter.

- 7) Meetings – slide shows play during meetings. They add interest.

- 8) Product testing committee has been formed to test products. Now being tested are: a) Zodiac MX8 pool cleaner, with Mike Ramey repping and, b) robotic cleaner, with testing by A.J. Wilson's wife Cindy, who presented a Facebook presentation to the chapter.

- 9) Pentair Incentive Program – encourage your members to participate. Application is on our website at www.ipssaSanDiego.com/links.html.

- 10) Expulsion – one for non-attendance and non-payment; member is still paying dues. Member abandoned one account of sick coverage. The customer was a flight attendant who got home after dark, so the problem was not discovered for several months. The expulsion is a long process.

- 11) Child Safety and Drowning Prevention Committee has been involved throughout the county in water safety issues.

SD East County Joe Lukacik:

- 1) Election – chapter needs to have its election of officers early, by 10/15, as IPSSA Inc.'s planning meeting is in November.

- 2) Picnic – will be held in September. PEP has volunteered to do it.

- 3) Everything is good.

SD Metro Javier Payan:

- 1) Brochure – Chapter now has a brochure listing officers, meeting dates, chapter supporters, and code of ethics. Any revisions will be easy to make.

- 2) Newsletter – now being e-mailed, which is easier and saves money.

- 3) Meetings – a) Several roundtables have been held, at which members brainstorm, share what is working with their businesses, etc. b) Pool Safety MOM Mary Ann Downing spoke at a meeting. c) July meeting will be at PEP El Cajon.

- 4) Operation Homefront – At its 12/10 meeting, chapter sponsored two military families. Money was collected all year to present to them. Very rewarding. **Gough**

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noted that IPSSA Inc. has matching funds, which Metro takes advantage of yearly for Operation Homefront. Every chapter should use your share -- use it or lose it.

5) **Al Daugherty**, longtime member, passed away in Feb. At its Nov. mandatory meeting, chapter had a send-off and paid respects. He was a good guy.

6) **Sick leave** – a) **Kelly Halley** was recently in a highly publicized accident in the desert. In a coma for a week, had sick coverage for one week. Getting better but not released to work yet. Her employees are covering her route. b) Another member down; cards are up to date.

7) **Yellow cards** need to be up to date in case something happens. In one case when a member was down, friends had to search the member's computer to get updated information for the cards. Remember to list details on each account, such as dogs, keys, etc.

8) Chapter has a Facebook page. It is not used a lot, but it is there.

R7 Director's Report

1) From the May **BORD** meeting in Tampa – Explanation of insurance options for those extending their businesses into more than service. Application form will change for new members. One does not automatically get Arrow Insurance unless he chooses to – a new member just has to prove insurance coverage. Certain requirements, but other insurance companies probably can't cover what Arrow covers. Check *The IPSSAN* for details.

2) August BORD meeting is in Riverside.

3) **Water safety** – Attended a Swim Safe event and roundtable at Liberty Station in San Diego last month. A press conference was held the next day.

4) **Drain covers** – Talked with **Bob Nichols**, past BORD member. He says the manufacturer will supply technicians to replace. They do not have a procedure in place. Details to be worked out.

5) **Gough** advised the Board that the region needs a vice/assistant Region representative, as proxies are not allowed to vote at BORD meetings by California Corporate Law. They may attend, participate in discussions, but not vote. Having an elected second will allow the person to vote in the absence of the Region Representative.

Unfinished Business

1) **Review of IPSSA NPIRC input procedures, Salt Study** – **Bill Peck** said that last year IPSSA hired the NPIRC to do the salt study. **Lance Sada** is the liaison. His concerns are: a) IPSSA did not get input, that we were stonewalled by Cal Poly – not good science. **Gough** replied that every month THE IPSSAN publishes a request for input and has received almost no feedback. **Gough** will provide Lance's contact information. **Peck** countered that he has been in contact with Lance, and the response has been inadequate, and information on the IPSSA website Research FAQ is incorrect. b) **Peck** asked who designed the protocol. **Gough** said it was people like **Peck**. **Payan** suggested a col-

laboration to gather specific questions, with **Gough** as R7 rep.

New Business

1) **SPEC** – a) IPSSA distributed \$40.00 per member in May to all chapters that had *all* their tax data in on time. All R7 chapters received theirs by direct deposit. **Gough** suggested that you donate some or all of your windfall to SPEC or a charity of your choice. We are not supporting SPEC as well as we had in the past. b) **Gough** displayed the certificate R7 received for its donation to SPEC last year and asked where to display it. **Curran** suggested SCP and said he would follow up.

2) **Expulsion from R7, Metro Chapter** – *Motion* was made by **Curran** and seconded by **Lukacik** to expel Metro chapter from R7 for non-attendance.

Curran said Metro was not represented at R7 since Sept. 2010. In the last 1½ years R7 has improved professionalism and is running at a higher level. There is a different culture, and meetings are more productive. Those who do not attend R7 meetings are an insult to the officers who do. If Metro had grown in the last 10 years, this would not be an issue, but Metro has not grown, is redundant, and could easily be absorbed by San Diego or East County chapter and become stronger.

Payan expressed disagreement to his statement and countered that the average size of a chapter is 20 to 30 members. Metro has great camaraderie, and everyone knows and respects each other. Six members have been B. K. Taylor Memorial Award recipients, which were voted on by the R7 Boards. He questions the statement that past R7 boards were ineffective. He is proud of the previous boards.

Talbot said all chapters overlap. To expel a chapter for non-attendance seems extreme. Perhaps probation would be appropriate. He asked if Metro had paid its fines; **Gozdeck** confirmed they had.

Lukacik asked the reason for non-attendance. **Payan** responded that throughout this process, he was disappointed that no one had asked that. Dec. – he had a conflict, called backups, and they also could not attend. March – he admitted that he just blew it, failed to put it on his calendar, no excuses. **Payan** continued that Metro was formed in 1988 and does not have a history of this. He is not normally a flaky person; he is embarrassed and apologizes. In the future if something like this happens, please pick up a phone and communicate.

Gough said that IPSSA bylaws state that every chapter should have a second representative to the Region Board. The purpose of attending R7 meetings is to benefit your chapter with improved communications and opportunities to have input to the IPSSA BORD. R7 newsletter lists all R7 meetings for the year.

Nelson read from the R7 Standing Rules that a chapter *may be*, not *will be* expelled. He suggested that there might be a conflict of interest in suggesting Metro be absorbed into San Diego chapter. Average chapter size is

about 30, so size is not an issue. He conceded that **Curran** has a business mind, but Nelson wants business to be *fun*. Nelson also suggested a *motion* be made to split a chapter once it reaches 80 members because there are many drawbacks to having a large chapter. There was no second to the motion.

Attendees voted by ballot, with **Gozdeck** and **Gillespie** counting. Vote was as follows:

AYES: 2

NOES: 11

The motion to expel Metro chapter from R7 for non-attendance did not carry.

3) **Pool Safety** – **Gough** discussed participation in the Pool Safety campaign. He will e-mail criteria. Let him know which you qualify for.

4) **Nominations for R7 Director** – **Nelson** nominated **Javier Payan**. **Payan** nominated **Joe Lukacik**. Nominations will be accepted until September 1, with the vote taken at the September 28 R7 meeting.

5) **B. K. Taylor Memorial Award** – Nominations will be accepted until September 1, with the vote taken at the September 28 R7 meeting. Ask **Gillespie** for a nomination form.

6) **Backup for R7 Director** – **Lukacik** suggested that whoever becomes the new R7 Director should appoint a backup, to be ratified by the R7 Board. **Gough** will bring a Standing Rule addition for approval at the next Meeting.

Good of the Order

1) **Membership** – Attendees discussed several membership issues. a) **Payan** said that Metro chapter once had a prospect who passed the test, attended three meetings, then showed up drunk. Chapter wanted to reject this person for membership for not being a quality prospect but was told they could not do that since that individual met the minimum requirements.

Gough suggested that if a person meets the requirements and passes the test and chapter rejects that person for membership, chapter could be walking on thin ice. Suggestions: i) Usually insurance underwriters will tell you who to accept. ii) Interview prospect. iii) Keep good minutes. b) **Hughes** said Escondido chapter cancelled a member for non-payment of dues. He wants to be reinstated. **Gough** suggested **Hughes** should listen to member's sad story, discuss with chapter board, and charge the \$50 reinstatement fee. IPSSA is worth well more than the reinstatement fee.

Gozdeck asked if chapter has an application form and whether it addresses such issues. **Curran** said that San Diego has an extensive membership process. Essentially, the chapter is the underwriter for **Ray Arouesty**. You are welcome to have a copy of San Diego chapter's application form.

Adjournment

1) **Next R7 meeting** – Wednesday, September 28, 2011.

2) *Motion* was made by **Nelson**, seconded by **Lindlar** and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Gillespie, Recording Secretary

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 – June 1-30, 2011					
	General	Education	Expense Description	General	Education
Cash on Hand (Beg. Bal.)	19,389.30	8,644.77	Cash Disbursements		
CD & Savings		14,129.47	Bank charges	0.17	
Total	19,389.30	22,774.24	Continuing Education		
Combined total	49,900.41		SPEC Donation	400.00	
Cash Receipts			10X12 Canopy	116.81	
Dues collected by IPSSA	1940.00		Door prizes Raffle	75.00	
Newsletter Advertisement			Newsletter	185.98	
Chapter Supporters –			Legal/Professional Computer consulting	200.00	
Member fines			Meeting expense		
Interest earned			- Chapter Board	308.87	
Rebate Program (Pentair Filters)			- General meeting	476.08	
CD Interest		0.64	- Hall Rental		
Member payment			- Regional Dues		
Other –H2O Watcher Tags			- Water Watcher Program		
Fines: -			Office expense:		
			Phone	20.80	
			Postage & Copies	5.59	
			Mileage		
New Member			- PO Box Rental	102.00	
Education Fund			- IRS payment		
Child Safety			- Blood Drive Breakfast	60.07	
Directory sales			Total Expenses in Month	1,951.37	
Transfer from savings for Educ.			Cash on Hand (End Balance)	26,368.48	9,391.73
Total Income in Month	1,940.00	0.64	CD & Savings		14,129.47
			Total	26,368.48	23,521.20
			Combined Total	49,889.68	

	<p>San Diego Superior Pool Products 4737 Old Cliffs Rd 619-283-2066</p>		<p>SCP San Diego 5648 Copley Dr 858-467-9495</p>
<p>Monthly drawing 50 pound bucket of 3 inch Jumbo Tabs Bring your Skimmer to the July 2011 General Meeting Must place <u>your</u> coupon in the drawing. Must be present to win!</p>		<p>Monthly drawing \$50 Shell Gas Card Bring your Skimmer to the July 2011 General Meeting Must place <u>your</u> coupon in the drawing. Must be present to win!</p>	

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 600862
San Diego CA 92160-0862
[www. ipssasandiego.com/members](http://www.ipssasandiego.com/members)**

**General Meeting
July 20, 7pm
Mission Valley Resort
Blue Cards Due**



**Next General Meeting
July 20, 2011 – 7 p.m.
Mission Valley Resort
875 Hotel Circle South
Mission Valley, south of I-8
1/4 mile west of SR 163**

