



Region 7 Review

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

Volume 4, Issue 26

April 2002

IPSSA, INC. REGION 7 Board Officers

Mike Gregg, Incoming Region Director
(619) 224-3863
Brian Davis, Region Treasurer
Don Wall, Region Secretary

Director's Corner

Next R7 Meeting Our next R7 meeting will be April 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Pernicano's Restaurant, 9988 Scripps Ranch Blvd. Please e-mail or mail me your R7 Chapter Report included in this newsletter. I need to have it by April 20 so I can make copies for everyone. This will allow me to set the agenda and will save us time at our meeting, as each president will not need to give an oral report. My e-mail address is mikejgregg@cox.net, fax is (619) 224-3863, and my home address is 944 Moana Dr., San Diego, CA 92106.

I will bring the Water Watcher Badges if your chapter would like to purchase any. They are in packs of 50 and cost \$35 a pack. Spring is the time of year when people start to think about their pools and is an ideal time to disseminate them. I have had very good response from my customers about the badges. Please talk them up at your next chapter meeting.

All chapters now have a 100% contribution to the Benevolent Fund - congratulations! I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in April.

Water Chem certification The following IPSSA members have recently passed the Water Chemistry Certification test:

>Director, page 2

License Lapse Costs Contractor \$7,200

A Bay Area cabling contractor recently learned the hard way that letting your license expire is dangerous and expensive. On October 2, 2001, the Department of Industrial Relations Division of Labor Standards upheld a \$7,200 penalty assessment and Stop Order issued to a Navato, California electrician at his work site last summer.

When the Deputy Labor Commissioner and CSLB investigator investigated a complaint of unlicensed contracting activity on August 16, they found the contractor and his crew installing cable in a commercial building. After being asked to show his license, he produced one that had expired on July 31. It was then determined that he had employed a crew of six on the job for 12 days after his license had expired.

Despite the contractor's declaration that he did not intend to be unlicensed, his explanation that he was in the process of renewing his license, and the fact that his Workers' Comp insurance was in order, the Deputy Labor Commissioner issued a stop order and penalty assessment of \$7,200. The assessment was based on California Labor Code Section 1021, which provides for a penalty of \$100 a day for each employee performing work for which a contractor's license is required.

At a September 28 hearing, the Hearing Officer affirmed the penalty, citing, "Although the Appellant may have intended to renew his contractor's license, the fact remains that (when he was cited on August 16, 2001), his contractor's license had expired."

Calendar of Events

- **B.O.R.D. Meeting**, Sat., April 13, Embassy Suites LAX - South, El Segundo, (310) 640-3600.
- **R7 Board Meeting**, Tues., April 23, 7:00 p.m. **New location** -- Pernicano's Restaurant, 9988 Scripps Ranch Blvd. (Von's shopping mall), Scripps Ranch, (858) 271-5250. I-15 / east on Pomerado Rd./Mira Mar Way / left on Scripps Ranch Blvd. / left at Wash. Mutual/Wells Fargo banks.

Don't learn this lesson the hard way. In situations such as this, nobody wins. Keep your paperwork up to date and renew your license early to avoid a lapse and the risk of heavy penalties.

--from **CALIFORNIA LICENSED CONTRACTOR**, Winter 2002.

Education

Scholarship Fund

The IPSSA scholarship fund is now open to requests! Yes, it has arrived. After many hours of hard work and thanks to the many contributions of individual members as well as associate members, the applications are now available. Below are answers to some frequently asked questions about how the fund works and what you need to do to participate.

Who is eligible?

Any self-employed pool service professional (more than 50% of income) and/or their immediate family members (spouses, children) are eligible to apply.

What classes are included?

Any class or program that is related to the business of being a

self-employed pool or spa service technician is included; just explain how it is connected on your application.

When can I apply?

There are two enrollment periods: May 1 - August 1 and Nov. 1 - Feb 1. Applications must be post marked during those periods.

Where do I get an application?

The application is currently under revision. New applications will be available October 1. To answer any questions call 1-888-360-9505.

How will I be reimbursed?

There are two ways to receive payment from the scholarship fund. One is to send in a receipt for any eligible class taken after February 24, 2001 with your application. Or, you may apply in advance and receive a pledge from the fund that will be paid after the class has been completed.

How much money is available?

There is no specific limit to the amount an individual grant. It will depend on the amount of money in the fund as well as how much funding is being requested during any enrollment period. The fund currently stands at \$25,000. Until the fund reaches \$100,000 there will be a maximum disbursement of 25% in any one year. As the fund grows so will the cash available to be given away. After the fund reaches \$100,000, any amount over that which is earned through interest or fund-raising will be given away.

How many classes may I apply to be reimbursed?

There is no limit. One application must be completed for each class. If you apply and do not receive a grant, you may re-apply during any enrollment period within two years.

Who decides who will receive a grant?

To prevent any chance of favoritism, there is a screening committee appointed by the standing committee

that will be unnamed and unrelated to the pool industry. After an application is screened it will be sent to the standing committee with all personal information deleted. The standing committee will then determine the amount of available funding and make disbursements.

The members of the standing committee are: **David Hawes, Jim Ciccone, Roberta Rohwedder, Ray Arouesty** and the IPSSA Education chair, currently **Celia Hugueley**. The term of office for committee members is two years, at which time the can continue with a vote of confidence by the other members of the committee.

How will I be notified if I am awarded a scholarship?

After the 3-month enrollment period has closed, the screening committee will make its recommendations and the standing committee will match the available funding with the funding requests. Applicants will then be notified how much has been awarded to them. That process will be completed within six weeks of the closing of enrollment or Sept 15 and February 15 of each year.

How can I help?

The IPSSA Financial Office gladly accepts all donations of any amount. Every little bit helps. Call IPSSA at (888) 391-6012.

NSPI offering classes

The National Spa and Pool Institute (NSPI) is offering a variety of educational classes for pool and spa service technicians to further their knowledge in pool and spa service and repair. These classes are the first step towards earning the CSP Certified Service Professional@ certification.

TECH I Correspondence Course
The NSPI TECH I Correspondence Course is available at any time of the year in any part of the United States.

NSPI Proficiency Exam Individuals who haven't completed TECH I but have at least five years of experi-

ence in the pool and spa industry may skip TECH I by receiving a passing grade on the NSPI Proficiency Exam.

For more information, contact **Bird Dawson** of NSPI at (703) 838-0083 ext. 152; fax (703) 549-0493; or e-mail bdawson@nspi.org. The current schedule for NSPI Tech Schools is maintained and updated at the www.nspi.org Web site.

--as seen at www.ipssa.com, 4/4/02.

>Director

continued from page 1

Escondido -- **Rory O'Neal . . . San Diego** -- **Ladd Carlson, Dee Eakright, Russ Hargrove, Alan Jaquish, Nobby Mandolf, Mario Padilla, Michael Patoliano, Tom Richardson, Patrick Schultheis, Gary Sevigny, John Toms.** San Diego is over 90% Chem Certified. Contact your chapter president for the next scheduled test that will be given by me.

Welcome New Members!!

Escondido: **Zak Shelton . . . Rancho Del Mar:** **Ryan Wolford . . . North County Coastal:** **Ryan M. Hevener.**

Success

He who is waiting for something to turn up might start with his own shirtsleeves.

The secret of success is to start from scratch and keep on scratching.
--from Black Art - Words to live by...

"The biggest people with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest people with the smallest minds. Think big anyway."

--John Rajcic, *Letters*, NORTH COUNTY TIMES, March 3, 2002.

You are all welcome and encouraged to submit newsworthy items and/or ideas to the Editor/Publisher: **Nancy Gillespie**

At Business Services

P.O. Box 192, Vista, CA 92085-0192
Ph (760) 945-6667 • Fax (760) 945-6616
nancy5@flash.net • www.flash.net/~nancy5