



Region 7 Review

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

May 2007

IPSSA, INC. REGION 7 Board Officers

Javier Payan, Director ph (619) 449-1392
cell (619) 843-9460
fax (619) 449-1396
payanpoolservice@aol.com
Loyal Johnson, Treasurer (858) 679-9006
Sherry Larson, Secretary (760) 758-1812

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Water Safety -- John Silcox, San Diego chapter; Terry Snow, IPSSA Inc. President; and I attended the 6th Annual National Drowning Prevention Symposium hosted by NDPA in conjunction with the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Central Arizona in Phoenix April 25 - 26.

Highlights: We got to meet Nancy Baker from Virginia and Alan Korn, General Council for Safe Kids Worldwide. We got a chance to bend their ear a bit and tell them about IPSSA.

IPSSA was a platinum sponsor, so we got our logo on all the printed material. On another note, I was nominated and approved to serve on the advisory panel for the National Drowning Prevention Alliance. I think that so far I am the only representative for the pool industry.

I think that the event was a success because in the drowning prevention community, IPSSA is well respected.

Picnic -- If anybody has any suggestions for a new location for our picnic, let Juhli Selby, or me know.

Highlights of IPSSA, Inc. – R7

Regular Board Meeting

SCP Conference Rm, San Diego

April 10, 2007

Plaster Study

1) Phil Grider – At its 1/16/07 meeting, the R7 Board appointed Phil Grider, SD Metro chapter, as R7 plaster rep; all seven R7 chapters made a one-time donation of \$100 each towards his expenses to attend the National Plasterers Council convention in Las Vegas in Feb. R7 now has representation at the NPC. Phil has a background in plaster. Javier Payan reported that he and Phil attended the convention in Las Vegas. Phil Grider is available to speak at chapter meetings.

Phil Grider reported that his initial interest in the NPC study was personal. Reports in THE IPSSAN were written in “professor speak”; in addition, they said plaster problems were the fault of pool service techs, and he does not necessarily agree. The last two people to touch a pool are the plaster guy and pool guy, but the pool guy gets blamed for any problems with the plaster.

He became interested in seeing what was happening in the industry. There is no written formula for mixing plaster; they are now working on coming up with a written procedure and standards, for which he gives them credit. IPSSA needs to tell them to tell us exactly how we should treat their pools.

Some of the things in the NPC reports did not seem responsible, such as saying that chem balance should be kept perfect at all times, which is impossible. In their last report, they concluded that all test kits are no good. It is all in how you interpret the statistics.

Calendar of Events

- **B.O.R.D. Mtg.**, Sat., May 5, Westin Pasadena Hotel, Pasadena, CA. Contact IPSSA executive office, ipssamail@aol.com or 888-360- 9505.
- **CPO Certification Course**, May 19 & 26, PEP, Murrieta, CA. Contact Bryan Chrissan, 951-566-POOL.
- **R7 Board Meeting**, Tues., July 10 (2nd Tues. of the month), 7:00 p.m., SCP Conference Room, 5648 Copley Drive, San Diego (858-467-9495).
- **B.O.R.D. Mtg.**, Sat., Aug. 4, Sheraton Yankee Trader Hotel, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Contact IPSSA executive office, ipssamail@aol.com or 888-360- 9505.
- **R7 Annual Picnic**, August. Further details to follow.

Javier Payan said IPSSA is gaining a lot of national exposure, and we can have a positive effect on the industry. He is interested in supporting *all* research in the industry. He listened to the onBalance presentation at the Western Pool & Spa Show. **Dan Gossage** assured Javier that the NPC study is legitimate research.

Tom Rives asked if all IPSSA members could have access to the research. Javier said NPS appears to be closed-lipped perhaps because their research is still taking place, whereas onBalance is very open with their information.

2) Clarification – **Javier** said consensus had been reached at the 1/16/07 R7 Board meeting for R7 to support IPSSA Inc. donating \$10,000 to NPC. R7 TableTop presented \$5,000 and SD chapter Education Committee \$1,000 to onBalance at the Western Pool & Spa Show. Motion by **Ken Settles**, seconded by **Jim Lawson**, and carried (ABSTAIN one) to support a \$2,500

Editor/Publisher: Nancy Gillespie, *A+ Business Services*

P.O. Box 192, Vista, CA 92085-0192 • (760) 945-6667 • Fax (760) 945-6616 • nancyJG5@cox.net • www.AplusNancy.com

donation from IPSSA Inc. to onBalance.

3) Vacancy – Dan Gossage is our rep with the NPC study. Chris Miles, previously on the B.O.R.D., had assisted him, but a replacement is now needed; IPSSA Inc. wants each region to nominate one person. Motion by **Tom Rives**, seconded by **Ken Settles**, and carried unanimously to nominate **Phil Grider** to assist Dan Gossage with the NPC study if called upon to do so.

Director's Announcements

1) Water Chemistry Test – a) As of 5/1 the 2007 version of the water chemistry test must be used, no exceptions. By 4/23, it will be available to take online at www.ipssa.com/join.html.

b) **Ken** asked if existing members were grandfathered in or had to take the test. [Recording Secretary's note: According to the IPSSA Inc. Policies and Procedures, page 9: *MANDATORY PASSING OF WATER CHEMISTRY TEST: Anyone applying for membership after March 1, 2004, must pass the IPSSA water chemistry exam before becoming a full member. (2/6/04)*]

2) Insurance – Effective 4/1/07, IPSSA's business liability insurance policy will not cover claims resulting from a member's installation or replacement of a diving board.

3) Terry Cowles Memorial Award is given by IPSSA Inc. each year to recognize an outstanding member. Motion by **Dick Allen**, seconded by **Jim Lawson**, and carried unanimously to approve R7 automatically nominating its annual winner of the B. K. Taylor Award for the IPSSA Inc. Terry Cowles Memorial Award.

4) National Drowning Prevention Symposium – **Rick Bishop**, Escondido chapter, and others had started the water safety program, and Javier is honored to continue this work. IPSSA Inc. has \$15,000 to \$20,000 available annually for this type of program and has donated \$5,000 to the symposium, to be held April 25, 2007 in Phoenix. Nancy Baker, safety advocate, will be there.

5) Water Watcher Tags and Brochures are available to IPSSA members free of charge. They are available in quantities of 50 per member on a first-come-first-served basis, while quantities last. Additional pieces can be purchased at the cost of \$35/pkg of 50 tags and \$10/pkg of 50 brochures, plus shipping and handling. Order from **Vicki Lester**, IPSSA executive office (ipssamail@aol.com or 888-360-9595).

6) Aquaquip Safety Brochure – Last month Javier got a call from the owner of Aquaquip in Washington State. He loved our water safety brochure and gave IPSSA kudos for what it is doing for water safety. Javier gave him permission to copy the brochure. **Mark Curran** asked about the possibility of them adding the IPSSA logo to the brochure; Javier will follow up with Aquaquip. Javier said it makes it worthwhile to share this information if it educates people.

7) CPO Instructor – IPSSA is training one member from each region to become a CPO Certified instructor in order to make the CPO course available to IPSSA members at a reduced rate. As an independent contractor, the instructor can then charge to train others to be CPO certified. An instructor is needed to represent R7. The next class is in October 2007. **Vickie Lester**, IPSSA Inc., has all the details.

New Business

1) R7 Annual Picnic is coming up in Aug. **Juhli Selbi** of SCP Pool Corp. has done so much for so many years to help with the picnic. She is awesome at getting the ball rolling, organizing committees, and reserving the site. **Loyal Johnson** pointed out that there might be a problem getting the regular site at Mission Bay and suggested a site on Coronado.

2) Regional Director – **Javier** stated that this is his last year as R7 director, and he will have served for four years. It has been an awesome experience. By Oct. we need a nominee for 2008, so start thinking of who you want.

Water Chem Test

The new water chemistry certification exam will be available online by April 23. If you prefer to administer the exam at meetings, IPSSA can provide a hard copy at your request. Books are \$24.95 plus shipping. A case discount with free shipping is available -- \$19.95 each for 28 books. **Remember, as of May 1, the 2007 exam must be used, no exceptions.** The 2006 exam may be given up until April 30.

How to Take the IPSSA Water Chemistry Certification Exam

The IPSSA Water Chemistry Certification Exam is based on IPSSA's Basic Training Manual-Part 1. To order a copy of this book, call 888-360-9505 during regular business hours. Payment for telephone orders can be made by Visa or MasterCard.

The exam can be taken on line or in person. To take the exam in person, contact the chapter nearest you. [Click here to find the chapter nearest you.](#) To take the exam on line, write to ipssaexam@aol.com or call 888-360-9505 to obtain a log-in ID and password.

- When requesting a log-in ID and password, we will need your full name, company name, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address, and the name of the chapter you wish to join (if known).
- You will receive your log-in ID and password no later than the next business day.
- The IPSSA Water Chemistry Certification Exam contains 50 questions.
- You may refer to your copy of the IPSSA Basic Training Manual-Part 1 when taking the exam, but you only have 60 minutes in which to complete it.
- During the 60 minutes you can go back and change answers. You will not be able to answer any questions after your 60 minutes expire.
- You must get 90% or more of the questions right in order to pass. After you have completed the exam on line, you will be notified of the results immediately.
- You can take the exam as many times as you need with the same log-in ID and password, but only once in a 24-hour period.
- [Click here to access the IPSSA Water Chemistry Certification Exam on-line.](#)

www.ipssa.com/join.html

Skin Care Summer Tips

Almost everyone enjoys the warm, sunny days of summer, spending time outdoors and "getting a little sun." The truth is, there is danger in sun exposure, and that means all sun exposure, not just in overdoing it to the point of getting a sunburn. Skin cancer and premature aging are directly attributed to sun exposure. We know it's unrealistic for people to stay out of the sun completely, but there are some precautions you can take to protect yourself and your family from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

Protection - Year-round!

Remember that sun exposure occurs all the time, even during a lunchtime stroll on a cloudy afternoon. The danger of UVA and UVB rays is not just a summer occurrence; it's a 365-day a year concern. Every time we go outdoors, we're exposing our skin to damaging ultraviolet rays. We're exposed on sunny days as well as on cloudy days - in summer as well as in winter. This exposure adds up over time. Your skin remembers all of the damage that has accumulated over the years. Each burn increases the risk of developing skin cancer later in life, and tanning without burning is just as guilty for the lines, wrinkles, and dark spots that show up down the road.

Safe Sun Guidelines

The American Academy of Dermatology offers the following safe sun guidelines:

- Try to stay out of the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun's rays are the strongest.
- Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen that protects against UVA and UVB rays and has a sun protection factor of 15 greater, even on cloudy days.
- Wear protective, tightly woven clothing. Dark colors give more protection.
- Reapply sunscreen every 2 hours when outdoors, especially if you're swimming or sweating.
- Wear a broad-brimmed hat and sunglasses with UV protective lenses.

Choosing the Right Sunscreen

Doctors agree you need a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 to properly

protect your skin on a daily basis. But depending on your skin type and how much time you plan on spending in the sun, you may want to choose a sunscreen that has a much higher SPF. If you are a fair-skinned person who burns easily and plan to attend your child's soccer game all day, you would want to wear a long lasting, waterproof sunscreen with an SPF of 30 to 50, plus a hat and sunglasses.

To be effective, sunscreens should be applied to dry skin 15 to 30 minutes before going outdoors. Apply liberally and pay particular attention to the face, chest and arms. Sunscreens should be applied in the morning and reapplied after swimming or perspiring heavily. Use sunscreen even on a cloudy day, and remember that certain drugs and medications, such as Retin-A, some antibiotics, birth control pills, or high blood pressure medication increase your sensitivity to the sun.

Family Skin Health Guidelines

Everyone has moles and/or freckles on his or her body. Most of them are normal, and remain so throughout life, but a mole or freckle that changes can be the first sign of skin cancer and should be evaluated by a dermatologist. Regular self exams and yearly full skin exams by a dermatologist will help identify spots that have changed in shape, size or color. Remember the ABCDs of self examination as your guide:

- **Asymmetry:** Most moles are symmetrical and round. Pay attention to any that have changed shape and become asymmetrical.
- **Border:** Most moles have even borders; watch for those that have irregular or uneven borders and edges.
- **Color:** Moles are generally one solid color, mostly a tan or brown color. Very dark brown or black moles, moles that have different colors in them, or moles that turn a different color should be seen by a dermatologist.
- **Diameter:** Most moles are smaller than 6mm, about the size of a pencil eraser. If a mole becomes larger, have it checked out.

Examine yourself on a monthly basis and remember that change is the biggest cause for concern.

**The Center for Dermatology,
Cosmetic & Laser Surgery
359 East Main Street, Suite 4G, Mt.
Kisco, NY 10549
Phone: (914) 241-3003**

www.thecenterforderm.com/skin_care/sunmer_tips/

Another plaster study

[Pool & Spa News, Jan 17, 2005](#)

The Tucson, Ariz.-based pool research and consulting firm onBalance has released a study that it said differentiates between pool plaster "soft spots" and spot etching. The findings conclude that soft spots are caused by calcium chloride, rehydrating and hard troweling. A recent study conducted at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (Calif.) concluded that etching was caused by aggressive water chemistry. But onBalance contended that due to the industry's ongoing misuse of terminology, the Cal Poly study actually examined soft spots, not etching. Que Hales of onBalance said it's never been proven that soft spots are a result of aggressive water; onBalance worked with two laboratories for the project. The RJ Lee Group examined samples from spotted pools and concluded the spots were porous areas associated with excess calcium chloride. RJ Lee also studied plaster that had been etched; it identified hallmarks of aggressive water etching and noted that none were present in spotted plaster. The onBalance study then was sent to Construction Technologies Laboratories, a subsidiary of the Portland Cement Association,

for review. CTL drew the same conclusions as RJ Lee. For more details, visit www.poolhelp.com.