



Region 7 Review

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

November 2007

IPSSA, INC. REGION 7

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IPSSA, INC. – REGION 7

Highlights of IPSSA, Inc. – R7

Regular Board Meeting

SCP Conference Rm, San Diego

October 9, 2007

Chapter Reports

Carlsbad **Doug Hausman**:

1) Members who do a presentation at a chapter meeting are allowed to miss one meeting during the year.

2) A presentation on heaters was given at last month's meeting.

3) Meeting location is being changed back to Carlsbad.

Escondido **John M. Hackett**:

1) John is now acting president, as the previous president got out of the business and the VP recently bailed.

2) Chapter elections next week. **Loyal Johnson** did a great job when he was president.

3) Several new members coming in.

4) Likes getting company reps to meeting to make presentations and give samples.

N. County Coastal **Jim Lawson**:

1) Chapter elections this month.

2) Several new members; the chapter continues to grow.

3) PEP (Pool & Electrical Products) has an awards program – chapter spent \$250,000, got 2% back.

4) Asked how to get members to step up and hold an office. **John**

Hackett said those who have never held a position get volunteered.

Rancho Del Mar **Lance Clifton**:

1) Chapter will hold its mandatory meeting and election next month. **Lance** will run for treasurer.

2) Several prospective members.

San Diego **Mike Gregg**:

1) Mandatory meeting next Wed. to: a) vote on new officers, b) vote on a proposal that every member be required to take a certain amount of classes per year to keep up to date, and c) select a nominee for the R7 B. K. Taylor Memorial Award, which originated in the San Diego chapter.

SD East County **Dick Allen**:

1) Everything is fine in the chapter.

2) One new member.

3) One member out sick; we will find out how long he will be out.

4) Proposed that East County chapter cook at next R7 picnic. **Dick** recently cooked at his chapter picnic, and it was a great success.

5) Chapter newsletter includes fun stuff like BBQ recipes; people actually read the newsletter now.

SD Metro **Ken Settles**:

1) Mandatory meeting this month, \$250 fine for unexcused absences. Members will vote for new officers, as well as select a nominee for the R7 B. K. Taylor Award.

2) This year's Christmas party will be held at the Brigantine.

3) The last chapter meeting lots of vendors attended.

4) Revving up for the new year.

Benevolent Fund/ Insurance

1) **Javier** explained that the Benevolent Fund pays \$2,000 to a member's beneficiary if the member dies. The money is taxable. Now, because the membership is older, there will be more payouts and not enough money.

The IPSSA Inc. B.O.R.D. is considering phasing out the Benevolent Fund and replacing it with life insurance. Claims to the Benevolent Fund will still be honored, and it will run out naturally when the money is used up.

The B.O.R.D. will consider the following three changed to life insurance at its November meeting: **A)**

Increase the life insurance death benefit from \$30,000 to \$50,000, for an additional cost of \$4.25 per month. **B)** Death benefit of \$50,000 plus Accidental Death increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000, a cost of \$6.10 per month. **C)** No change – keep the death benefit at \$30,000.

Calendar of Events

- **B.O.R.D. Mtg.**, Sat., Nov. 3, Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, Sacramento. Contact IPSSA executive office, ipssamail@aol.com or 888-360-9505.
- **Aqua Show 2007**, Mon., Nov. 12-16, Mandalay Bay Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. www.aquashow.com.
- **Thanksgiving**, Thurs., Nov. 22.
- **International Pool & Spa Expo / Backyard Living Expo**, Tues., Nov. 27 – 30, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL. www.PoolandSpaExpo.com.
- **R7 Board Meeting**, Tues., Jan. 8, 2008 (2nd Tues. of the month), 7:00 p.m., SCP Conference Room, 5648 Copley Drive, San Diego (858-467-9495).
- **18th Annual R7 Table Top Show**, Sat., Jan. 19, 2008, Four Points Sheraton. www.region7tabletop.com.
- **IPSSA Annual Leadership Seminar and Banquet**, Sat., Feb. 2, 2008, Hyatt Regency Newport Beach, Newport Beach, CA. Details will be mailed to you in November.

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Ray Arouesty had pointed out that the money is non-taxable. Six R7 Board members voted for Proposal (B); Jim Lawson and Mike Gregg voted no for (B). *Motion* carried unanimously to let the Benevolent Fund run out naturally when the money is used up; members will no longer pay \$1 per month to the Benevolent Fund.

2) Health Insurance – **Javier** explained that there is no IPSSA discount because the 3,600-member group is not considered a large group, so we pay the going rate.

Director's Announcements

1) Dues increase of \$2.00/month effective next year will be voted on at the November B.O.R.D. meeting. The increase is necessary because costs – such as **Vicki Lester's** salary and postage – are going up.

2) FYI – **Ray Arouesty** informed B.O.R.D that an IPSSA member and Hayward have been named in a wrongful death suit resulting from a customer cleaning a pump. Javier has no further information yet.

3) Video Production – a) **Javier** proposed creating an Internet based series of 12 professional videos on pool safety and other pool issues. This could be used as a resource to all IPSSA members as well as the general public. We would produce this locally and would welcome the participation of the R7 members. All of the media presentations we did over the two past years could also be included as resources. b) Cost would be \$6,500. IPSSA Inc. has committed \$3,500 already. We would then raise \$1,500 within R7, just over \$200 per chapter. IPSSA, Inc. will match our \$1,500 with the Matching Grants program. All chapters agreed to donate; donations are not mandatory. c) **Rick Bishop**, Escondido chapter, has already volunteered to be a presenter.

B. K. Taylor Award

Javier explained there was not enough notice for chapters to bring nominations to tonight's meeting. *Motion* made by **Jim Lawson**, seconded by **Dick Allen**, and carried (NO **Doug Hausman**) to reconvene in person to vote for the B. K. Taylor Memorial Award. *Motion* made by **Jim Lawson**, seconded by **John Hackett**, and carried (NO **Dick Allen**, **Ken Settles**) to reconvene Mon., Oct. 29, 6:00 p.m. at Brigantine Restaurant in Del Mar to vote for the B. K. Taylor Memorial Award.

Region Director

Javier stated that his time as R7 director is coming to an end; he will have served four years. It has been a great experience – both his business and his personal life are better for the experience. Need a nominee for 2008, a two-year commitment.

As his Letter to the Editor in the Oct. 2007 edition of The IPSSAN stated, he is strongly in favor of term limits. Like in government, regular people step up to serve, then step down, go back to the private sector, and live with the decisions they voted on. At the previous R7 meeting, **Mike Gregg** had been nominated as the next R7 director; he has declined for health reasons.

Motion made by **Doug Hausman**, seconded by **Mike Gregg**, and carried (NOT PRESENT **John Hackett**) to nominate **John Hackett** as the next R7 director.

New Business

1) **John Hackett** proposed that, since IPSSA members support numerous charities, we consider stuffing backpacks for soldiers. John will bring more information to the next meeting. Javier reminded him that IPSSA Inc. has matching funds.

2) **Mike Gregg** said R7 Table Top Show will be Jan. 19, 2008.

3) Next R7 meeting – Tues., Jan. 8, 2008.

The meeting reconvened at 9:00 in the SCP parking lot. **John Hackett** accepted the nomination as R7 director. *Motion* made, seconded, and carried unanimously to elect John Hackett as the next R7 director. **Javier Payan** volunteered to be Treasurer. Appointments to office will be made official at the January R7 Board meeting.

IPSSA, INC. – REGION 7

**Highlights of IPSSA, Inc. – R7
Special Board Meeting
Brigantine Restaurant, Del Mar
October 29, 2007**

Region Director

John Hackett, elected new R7 Director at the Oct. 9, 2007 R7 meeting, is now having second thoughts about serving. Board is considering **Chuck Gough**, Carlsbad chapter. **Javier Payan** will talk to Mr. Gough when he returns from vacation; Board will vote by phone for the replacement Region Director.

IPSSA Inc. Grants

Javier Payan announced that IPSSA Inc. has \$25,000 of matching grant money available that we can tap into for our water safety program. In addition, **Jerry Houseman**, IPSSA B.O.R.D. member, indicated that there was possibly money for any R7 fire victims. The Board said that as far as they knew, no R7 members have lost their homes in the fires.

B. K. Taylor Award

Javier explained that the R7 Board normally votes at its October meeting to select the recipient of the B. K. Taylor Memorial Award, but since the chapters had not had enough notice to bring their nominations to the October Board meeting, they had voted to reconvene in person to vote for the recipient of the B. K. Taylor Memorial Award.

In 1975 IPSSA R7 San Diego chapter initiated the Pool Technician of the Year Award. This honor has been awarded every year since to an R7 member who has contributed to the

improvement of IPSSA and/or the pool service industry. In 1997 the award was renamed the B. K. Taylor Memorial Award in honor of **B. K. Taylor**, a longtime outstanding member of the San Diego chapter who passed away on May 19, 1997. R7 will automatically nominate the winner for the IPSSA Inc. Terry Cowles Memorial Award, which is given by IPSSA Inc. each year to recognize an outstanding member – **Terry Cowles** had been instrumental in setting up the Benevolent Fund.

Paul Grimes described nominee **Mike Gregg** as an excellent technician who has been a pool professional for 29 years. In addition to his bachelor's degree in business management, he has taken classes in heaters, motors, pumps, and pool cleaner repair. Mr. Gregg joined an IPSA chapter in Orange County in 1978, served as vice-president, then moved to San Diego and joined the San Diego IPSSA chapter in 1986. He was instrumental in organizing the first R7 picnic. He has served on the Entertainment Committee, as co-chairman, vice-president, then R7 Director from 2002 to 2004. He is currently chapter president.

Mike is always available to assist. He has personally encouraged six people to enter the pool service profession and has trained them in the best methods of pool maintenance and repair. Three of those people are currently members of the San Diego chapter, and one will apply for membership when he has had one year's experience.

Mike contributes to the Leukemia Society, KPBS, and the American Cancer Society; assists with the American Heart Association; and used to be very involved with the Girl Scouts and the PTA when his children were young.

Motion carried unanimously to approve nominee **Mike Gregg**, San Diego chapter, as recipient of the 2007 B. K. Taylor Memorial Award. He will be awarded \$500 and a plaque at a chapter meeting or the January R7 Table Top Show.

BULLETIN

POWAY POOL CONTRACTOR SUDDENLY CLOSED DOORS LAST WEEK

One of San Diego County's larger pool builders, Hallmark Pools & Spas, closed its doors abruptly a week ago apparently leaving more than 60 uncompleted residential pool jobs and a large number of unpaid subcontractors. SPEC was quickly informed of the development and immediately notified the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) triggering a formal investigation by a top team of state officials. Homeowners report that they paid Hallmark for work prior to its being completed. Hallmark did not pay the front-end money it appears to have collected to the subcontractors who were doing their work.

SPEC is now working with key area member builders to put in place a program similar to one that proved successful in Sacramento a year ago when Aquarius Pools went out of business leaving dozens of subcontractors unpaid and pools unfinished. By joining together to solve what could have quickly become a serious pool industry public relations disaster, industry leaders arranged to complete the open pools and helped subcontractors recover some losses through progress payments still retained by pool buyers. SPEC was on local television stations and interviewed frequently by print media assuring the public that the pool and spa industry was organizing through SPEC, in cooperation with the CSLB investigators, to assist homeowners with their project completions. No negative pool industry publicity resulted. We are striving to organize a repeat of the Sacramento campaign in San Diego today to prevent an industry-bashing that could otherwise result from the Hallmark failure.

From SPEC *Monday Morning Report*
October 15, 2007
spec@calspec.org

Hint from Heloise

Here's a solution for getting white resin patio furniture clean and white again. Mix together:

- ¾ cup regular household bleach
- 1 tablespoon powder or liquid laundry detergent
- 1 gallon water

Before using, test the solution on a small, out-of-sight spot to make sure it will not harm the finish. Now, put on a pair of rubber gloves to protect your hands and, using a soft-bristle brush or sponge, apply the solution to a small area at a time. Leave this on for 5 minutes or so, then rinse well.

The Soap and Detergent Association recommends using an all-purpose, nonabrasive cleaner and a soft cloth for everyday cleanings of white resin patio furniture.

If the furniture doesn't "shape up," pass it on to a shelter, church or other similar group.

Cool Web Site

Humorous article, *Piscine of the Crime*, that debunks the myth that a chemical can be added to swimming pools that will reveal the presence of urine.

<http://www.snopes.com/science/pool/piss.asp>

I am enough of an artist to draw freely upon my imagination.

Imagination is more important than knowledge.

Knowledge is limited.

Imagination encircles the world.

- **Albert Einstein**

