



# Region 7 Review

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

October 2009

## IPSSA, INC. REGION 7

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## IPSSA, INC. – REGION 7

**Regular Board Mtg Minutes**  
**SCP Conf. Rm, San Diego, CA**  
**Wed., 9/23/09, 6:30 p.m.**

### Attendance

**Chuck Gough**, R7 Dir., Carlsbad;  
**Jordan Nelson**, R7 Treas., N Cty Coastal Pres; **Peter Gozdeck**, R7 Billing Agent; **Dustin Moors**, R7 Secy, Carlsbad; **David Talbot**, Carlsbad Pres.; **John Hackett**, Escondido Pres.; **Jack Baxter**, Escon.; **Brian Lindlar**, N. County Coastal VP; **Tom Regalado**, Rancho Del Mar Pres.; **Lance Clifton**, Rancho Del Mar Treas.; **Mark T. Curran**, SD Pres.; **Jim Bradbury**, SD; **Bob Fowler**, SD; **Mike Gregg**, SD; **Howard Guarrant**, SD; **Jim Hines**, SD; **Bill Peck**, SD; **Tim Splinter**, SD; **A. J. Wilson**, SD, Picnic Committee Pres.; **Dick Allen**, SD East County Pres.; **Robert West**, SD East Cty; **Steve Elbik**, SD Metro Pres.; **Javier Payan**, SD Metro; **Nancy Gillespie**, Recording Sec'y.

**Not Present/Represented** – None.

### Appeal Hearing

**Tim Splinter**, San Diego chapter member, recently was assigned four weeks of sick leave coverage on pools for San Diego member **Howard Guarrant**. As he has done since 1989, Splinter assigned his pool coverage to fellow IPSSA member **Javier Payan**. Apparently, there was a problem with the pump feed not circulating; during week two, visit two, the tech discovered that he couldn't vacuum due to lack of suction because of a problem with the pump. The tech noted on the sheet that he was unable to prime the pump. At that point he removed the trippers from the time clock. In addition, the filter was allowing debris to blow back into the pool.

Splinter was fined \$100 for returning a sick member's pool in poor condition and another \$100 for returning his Yellow Card five days past the due date. Splinter requested that San Diego chapter approve his transfer to Rancho Del Mar chapter; his request was denied, with the explanation that he had unpaid fines that had to be paid first. He then requested the fines be waived to allow his transfer; his request was denied. He appealed it at the San Diego chapter level; his appeal was denied. He is now appealing it at the Region level.

Splinter said he has been an IPSSA member for 27 years, first joined San Diego IPSA chapter (it was IPSA then), helped form Metro chapter and IPSSA, then rejoined San Diego chapter. He said he had never had a complaint about his sick route coverage and was always proud to help his fellow members. In his appeal, Splinter: 1) requests that the

\$100 fine for a pool returned in poor condition be waived; questions the fairness of the fine, as none of the San Diego Board members actually saw the pool. 2) Requests that the \$100 fine for returning Yellow Card late be waived, as he says it was returned within the one-week timeframe allowed. 3) Requests that his transfer to Rancho Del Mar chapter be approved, as he is not happy with the direction San Diego chapter is going.

**Mark Curran** said that Payan's service tech provided and maintained a sign-in sheet, which he stuck in the customer's time clock. On that sheet the tech noted during visit #1 (week #2) the problem with suction and filter blow-by. None of this was communicated with the sick leave chairman or Guarrant as it should have been. Curran and the San Diego board first heard of the pool problem 5½ weeks after the start of sick coverage.

**B. K. Taylor Memorial Award –**  
**Jon McArthur**

**Jon McArthur** of San Diego chapter was selected as recipient of the R7 2009 B. K. Taylor Memorial Award. Congrats, Jon! (See minutes for details.)

## Calendar of Events

- **Pool Industry Expo**, Oct. 1-3, Monterey Convention Center, Monterey, CA, [www.poolindustryexpo.com](http://www.poolindustryexpo.com).
- **B.O.R.D.**, Nov. 6-7, combined planning/B.O.R.D. meeting, Manhattan Beach Marriot.
- **Xtreme Education**, Nov 10-11. Register at [www.westernshow.com](http://www.westernshow.com).
- **R7 Board Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 16 (a week early), 7:00 p.m., SCP.

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Javier Payan apologized if the pool was not returned in good condition. He explained that the pool was turned over to Payan's service tech, and there was no report of a problem on the first visit. The tech serviced the pool for 30 minutes on the 11<sup>th</sup> of the month and 32 minutes on the 18<sup>th</sup> (confirmed by checking the tech's GPS). The tech left a door hanger after the 4<sup>th</sup> visit. The customer called Payan's office and was told to contact his regular guy Guerrant.

Guerrant said that when his customer got back from vacation, she called him; he was already back at work. He discovered that the pump lid was left ajar, so the pump did not prime. He repaired the filter and returned the pool back to good condition.

Much discussion ensued. It was suggested that chapters have different cultures, with larger chapters out of necessity having to hold to the rules, whereas smaller chapters act more like a family. A. J. Wilson declared that he was tired of this discussion and that if Splinter wants to leave, let him leave and Wilson will pay the fine; attendees thanked Wilson for his very generous offer but declined it, saying it would defeat the purpose of the disciplinary action.

**Chuck Gough** stated that sick leave coverage is the number one reason for IPSSA. Curran explained that chapters have leeway to fine, reprimand, suspend, or expel. Curran explained that Yellow Cards need to be returned to the sick member as soon as possible so he/she can see what was done to the pools while he/she was out on sick leave. In addition, funds need to be disbursed to the servicing members and reimbursed to the sick person as soon as possible. In this case, by the time Yellow Cards had been turned in, funds had been disbursed.

Splinter and others were excused. The Board debated the merits of the appeal, and the vote was called for: 1) YES, deny Splinter's appeal, or 2)

NO, accept his appeal. Each chapter got two votes. It was voted by R7 (YES eight votes, NO four votes, ABSTAIN two votes) to deny Splinter's appeal.

### Approval of Minutes

*Motion* was made by **Brian Lindlar**, seconded by **Lance Clifton**, and carried (ABSTAIN **Peck**) to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2009 meeting as submitted.

### Treasurer's Report – N/R.

### Chapter Reports

#### Carlsbad David Talbot:

- 1) Election will be held next month. Three chapter officers will remain on the Board; a new treasurer will be elected.
- 2) Membership – at least two prospects.
- 3) Sick leave policy – Dustin Moors is in the process of revising.
- 4) Sick leave – one member was down in July; pools were covered and in good condition.
- 5) Termination – lost two members for non-payment of dues, not sure if it is because of the economy. They did not contact the chapter but are still in the business.

#### Escondido John Hackett

- 1) Chapter is doing okay.
- 2) Membership – several prospects, losing a few members. Membership was at 49; it is now 39.
- 3) Meeting location – SCP will let us meet there, which will save us about \$300 per month.
- 4) Election is next month. It is the end of Hackett's term.

#### N County Coastal Jordan Nelson:

- 1) Things are going well.
- 2) Chapter continues to improve.

#### Rancho Del Mar Tom Regalado:

- 1) Membership – one prospect.
- 2) Election – It is the end of Regalado's term. Lance Clifton will take over as Pres..

#### San Diego Mark Curran:

- 1) Membership – three new members. Five prospects at September's general meeting. Voted in two new

members at the annual chapter dinner.

2) New chapter directory will be published by the end of the year. It is published every two years. Each member and chapter supporter gets one free; additional copies are \$5 each.

3) Annual chapter dinner was held in August instead of May and counted as a meeting.

4) David Courey, chapter supporter who recently passed away, had attended almost every meeting, donated to charities, was involved. Chapter will do several things for his family: a) honored Courey at the annual dinner. b) Will provide free pool service for his family all year. c) Will deliver firewood to his home in his memory because Courey loved sitting by the fire. d) Will name a chapter supporter award in his name. e) Will collect money at the mandatory meeting to help pay for his family to go to June Lake next summer to scatter his ashes. Will request matching funds from IPSSA Inc.

5) Elections will be held next month at the mandatory meeting. Will hold a seminar for the membership on the sick leave rules.

6) Continuing education is nearing the end of its first two-year period; members have two years to accumulate a certain number of points.

#### SD East County Dick Allen:

1) Chapter picnic was a success, with about 60 people attending. It was held at Santee Lake. Chapter saved a lot of money because members did all the cooking.

2) Elections will be held next month at the mandatory meeting.

#### SD Metro Steve Elbik:

1) Membership – two new prospects.

2) Sick leave – one member down; his wife became a member to cover his pools.

3) Food drive was recently sponsored by the chapter; bins were put out all over. Last year chapter collected 150 pounds of food for San Diego Food Bank.

## R7 Director's Report

1) State License – There is a movement to standardize the state pool service licenses. Florida requires 60 hours of instruction, and the test cannot be taken online.

2) The IPSSAN Listing – Associate members request that e-mail addresses of chapter presidents be listed on the back of The IPSSAN. The majority in attendance tonight voted against it.

3) Fine – Escondido chapter is late paying the third-quarter dues and fine for non-attendance at R7 meetings, for a total of \$409.

4) Right of Appeal by Potential Member – **Gough** read to the group a section on Right of Appeal by Potential Member. This will be on the agenda at the next B.O.R.D. meeting. R7 is ok with the proposed language.

## Unfinished Business

1) Picnic Committee – Tonight's attendees thanked **A. J. Wilson**, Picnic Committee Pres., for the best picnic ever. It was reported that the Picnic Fund started with approximately \$4,857.77. TableTop loaned \$10,000 which will be reimbursed, income from donations was \$6,700, and \$13,819.44 was spent. When the \$2,261.67 shortfall is repaid to the Board account, the \$10,000 loan will be repaid. The first planning meeting for next year's picnic will be in January.

## New Business

1) B. K. Taylor Memorial Award – In 1995 R7 initiated the Pool Technician of the Year Award. In 1997 the award was renamed the B. K. Taylor Memorial Award in honor of **B. K. Taylor**, a longtime outstanding member of the SD chapter who passed away May 19, 1997. The award consists of an inscribed plaque and a \$500 honorarium. The award will be presented at the recipient's chapter meeting by the seated Region director. The member being nominated shall have contributed to

the improvement of IPSSA and/or the pool service industry.

**Jon McArthur** of San Diego chapter was selected as recipient of the 2009 B. K. Taylor Memorial Award. McArthur is recognized as one of the most knowledgeable and experienced technicians in the chapter and regularly attends seminars and industry-related tradeshows to improve his skills. He co-founded the IPSSA Table Top Show in 1990, often teaches classes at the Western Pool and Spa Show in Long Beach, and promotes the importance of IPSSA technicians getting the latest training to keep up with advances in the industry. McArthur has served as chapter president, vice-president, Blood Drive Chairman, and Manufacturer's Rebate Representative, in which position he has procured close to \$60,000 for the chapter education fund over the years. He is also the chapter Education Reimbursement Representative; this fund reimburses members for attending educational seminars related to the pool industry, providing an added incentive to become more knowledgeable, educated and professional. He has been a valuable resource whether on the phone, in the field, or even at his house. He recently joined the 10-Gallon Club at San Blood Bank. McArthur and his wife **Janet** have two children, a son and a daughter, both of whom are college graduates.

2) R7 Standing Rules – **Gough** had written them years ago but they disappeared. He presented a draft of the R7 Standing Rules for review by the Board. Approval shall be at the Dec. R7 meeting.

3) Election of R7 Election – *Motion* was made by **Bill Peck**, seconded by **Mark T. Curran**, and carried unanimously to elect **Chuck Gough** for another two-year term as R7 Director. *By unanimous consent*, the Board agreed to have Treasurer **Jordan Nelson** review the R7 budget to see if R7 can afford to pay **Gough's** membership dues; if so,

perhaps R7 can pay dues for all directors in the future.

4) The IPSSAN – Board discussed whether employees should receive The IPSSAN. It was suggested it should be sent to the place of employment for all to read as part of improving education.

6) R7 Picnic – *Motion* was made by **Dick Allen**, seconded by **A. J. Wilson**, and carried unanimously to rename the R7 Picnic the **David Courey R7 Memorial Picnic**.

7) Next R7 meeting – Wednesday, December 16, 2009.

## Good of the Order

1) Tax on services – **Bob Fowler** that the SPEC newsletter recently stated that legislation is in the works to require sales tax on services, which would greatly impact our industry.

2) **Steve Elbik** said the Santa Ana winds kicked in today, and his pool was a mess. He suggested calling customers to ask if they need an additional service visit.

2) **Jordan Nelson** encourages all to read IPSSA's Code of Ethics.

## Adjournment

*Motion* was made by **Brian Lindlar**, seconded by **Lance Clifton**, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Gillespie  
Recording Secretary

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## Conan cleans a pool

Late Night host Conan O'Brien observed on a recent show the importance of proper pool maintenance. For his humorous take on our profession, visit [www.hulu.com/watch/95834/the-tonight-show-with-conan-obrien-conan-cleans-a-pool](http://www.hulu.com/watch/95834/the-tonight-show-with-conan-obrien-conan-cleans-a-pool).