



IPSSA

CORPUS CHRISTI



Volume 1, Issue 1

December 2006

1st QUARTER REGION 9 MEETING TO BE HELD IN CORPUS CHRISTI

The 1st quarter meeting for IPSSA Region 9 will be held on Saturday January 13th at 9am at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort on Padre Island in Corpus Christi. All members are invited to attend. If you want to know what is going on with IPSSA in our region, this is the place to be. If you are interested in attending, contact Brian Doggett at 361-949-8899.

IPSSA FIRST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY A SUCCESS

Approximately 25 members, guests and vendors showed up for the first annual IPSSA Corpus Christi Christmas Party on board the Texas Treasure on December 16th.

A special thanks to our sponsors who made the evening possible:

Hayward Pool Products paid admission to the cruise for all of the IPSSA members and their guests.

The following sponsors provided door prizes:

Hayward Pool Products – a Phantom Automatic Pool Cleaner

Pentair Pool Products – a \$100 Lowes Gift Card

Superior Pool Products – 2 great tickets and a parking pass to a Spurs game in San Antonio.

IPSSA MEETS THE FIRST THURSDAY
OF EVERY MONTH AT 6:30PM AT



4551 South Padre Island Drive

CORPUS CHRISTI OFFICERS

Region 9 Director	Greg Donoho
President	Brian Doggett
Vice President	Mike Baker
Secretary	Allen Aaron
Treasurer	Tom Hamman



Brian Doggett, Mike Baker, Mike Holzer, Olaf Johansen, and Scott Getz taking a break on board the Texas Treasure.

Impressions

By Greg Donoho

As you know by now I have been traveling between Texas and Florida and Texas and California. Last week the BORD had an opportunity to visit the Plaster Research Center at Cal Tech Poly in San Luis Obispo, California. It is impressive with the pools all side by side and split into six separate areas for each pool. Dan Gossage, IPSSA's liaison to NPRIC, gave us the personal tour. Dan volunteered his time to come out to SLO and show us around. He also volunteers many more times in the year as liaison traveling from one corner of the country to the other. Dan also takes time to write articles for the IPSSAN the Swimming Pool Service Industries largest newspaper. Dan is a volunteer, not unlike the many other volunteers in IPSSA.

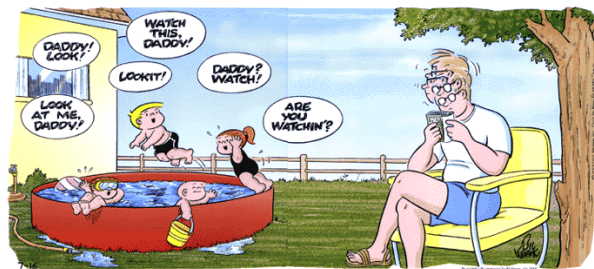
Some of these individuals rise to the top because they truly and genuinely enjoy this business and they like their fellow man. Look around you, chances are there are many among you who volunteer their time for your chapter as officers. Some even go so far as to work together in educational programs, table tops, or shows. IPSSA is chock full of 'em. The Texas Pool and Spa Show is such a show that has developed into the premier show in Texas. Look around, in Phoenix is the Hands On Table Top presented by IPSSA members from Region 5. This is the 29th year for the Western Pool and Spa Show, and again IPSSA members worked together before IPSSA was in existence to help educate the Swimming Pool Service Tech. The Pool Industry Expo is another—look around and what you see are a people of benevolence. Those that care about the business they are in enough to make sure the competition keeps up with current technology and they help each other out in time of need. Impressive.

It seems to me that belonging to the worlds largest swimming pool service technician association means that you care about yourself, your competition, your clients and the Industry. Individuals who have a business, family, and IPSSA, are really, really, good people. They volunteer for the benefit of all involved and I want to say Thank You to each and every volunteer in IPSSA. Without you IPSSA would not be possible. The Organization that is run by Volunteers hands down is the best.

IPSSA TO OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION!!!!

Over the last year, Dave Boyd and Jim Romanowski have each been working independently of each other on finding an affordable health insurance plan for IPSSA members and their families. We had been told for years that IPSSA was too small of an organization for a company to be able to offer our members affordable coverage. This is apparently not true. The plan is currently being finalized and the details will be presented to us at the leadership conference in February. A great big thanks from all of us to Jim and Dave for their hard work in researching this fantastic addition to our benefits as IPSSA members.

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SAFETY IS AN ATTITUDE

By Mike Baker

How many times in the last year have you seen or done something that is unsafe. As pool professionals we do quite a bit of driving, we work with water, electricity, and hazardous chemicals, just to name a few of the dangers we work with on a daily basis. Safety is really about how we think. It is vitally important in our business to have safety on our minds at all times. It is also equally important that we address unsafe conditions as we come upon them. Some years ago (before I became a CPO) I was cleaning the pool at a local hotel. Very little of anything that had to do with this pool was up to code. After making my concerns known to management verbally and then sending several letters, I

(See Safety Page 5)



Catch the Wave!

2007 Texas Pool and Spa Show

...the Pipeline to competence, professionalism and safety in the pool and spa industry

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Texas Pool and Spa Show

Has Expanded to Accommodate Premium Classes

10/1/06, Dallas, Texas: The Texas Pool and Spa Show has expanded from two to four days and will now begin on Wednesday, January 24th and run through Saturday, January 27th. Show Directors have promised an even bigger and better show for 2007 and they are getting ready to deliver. Last year the show was moved into the Plano Centre in Plano, Texas because the center offered more exhibit and classroom space than previous locations. This year they are going to need every square foot to accommodate vendors and exhibitors bringing the latest innovations in the pool and spa industry including an outside exhibit of all that's new in backyard living.

While fun will not be in short supply with the addition of a golf tournament on Wednesday, January 24th and a rockin' welcome party on Friday night, education is still the primary purpose of the show. The Texas Pool and Spa Show will be offering the special Certified Pool Operator™ (CPO) Course on Wednesday and Thursday. Developed by the National Swimming Pool Foundation, the CPO Course is sure to fill up early so show directors are recommending early registration. Raypak will be conducting two sessions, morning and afternoon Thursday on the Low-Nox Heater. The class schedule on Friday and Saturday is jam-packed with seminars conducted by industry leaders. Attendees will have the opportunity to obtain instruction on the latest equipment from the folks who know it best!

This year's theme is "**Catch the Wave...the Pipeline to competence, professionalism, and safety in the pool and spa industry**". Monster Wave Sponsors for the show are Hayward Pool Products and Gold Line Controls, Inc. Other sponsors include Raypak, Pentair Pool Products, United Chemical Corporation, Stellar Sales, and Zodiac Pool Care, Inc/ Polaris Pool Systems

Passes to seminars are \$75 for those who pre-register and \$100 the day-of. This entitles the participant to attend classes of their choice on Friday and Saturday as space permits (lunch is provided for seminar attendees). Wednesday and Thursday classes are premium classes (check website for pricing). Exhibits are free to all show attendees who pre-register. For event information and to register, go to www.texaspoolandspashow.com or call Tim Long, Show Director at 972-978-9322 or Brett Moore, Asst. Show Director and Sponsor Coordinator at 972-880-2481.

DISTRIBUTORS AND MANUFACTURERS

PLEASE let us know ahead of time when you are planning Any activity, class, tabletop, show or open house. We are happy to put it on the calendar and publicize your event.

Call 361-949-8899

or E-mail

Brian.Doggett@island-aquatics.com

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was approached by the manager. "Why do you care about these things?" he asked. I went on to explain the dangers associated with each of the violations and the potential for serious injury or even death. That didn't seem to faze him so I went on to explain the liability he was exposing both himself and I to in financial terms. He still did not seem to care. I quit working for the hotel that day and made a call to the local health department. I also followed with a certified letter to the hotel manager. Of course these days, seeing a pool in that condition, I wouldn't even consider cleaning the pool or even allowing it to remain open until the safety issues were addressed. **Remember, as a CPO, it is not only your right but your RESPONSIBILITY to close down a pool that has unsafe conditions.**

Of course many customers are concerned about safety and will quickly implement any safety deficiencies you bring to their attention. Not uncoincidentally, I've found that the customers that appreciate your efforts in keeping their pool safe are usually the fastest paying customers. These are the customers I prefer to work for.

If you have any safety related questions, any IPSSA member would be happy to point you in the right direction to get your questions answered.

Think Safety in 2007!

SICK ROUTE CARDS

To be able to take advantage of the sick route program when you need it, you must have your sick route cards filled out. Remember, you do not provide us with any names or addresses unless and until you become unable to service your pools and need sick route coverage. These cards should be kept where a loved one or other trusted person can find them and provide them to us in the event you become incapacitated. The only card that we need to keep on file is the card with the number of pools you service and the zip codes of where they are located. If you need either of the cards, contact Vice President Mike Baker at 361-563-7665.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 4	IPSSA Corpus Christi Regular Meeting
January 11	Raypak Training Tour San Antonio, TX
January 13	Region 9 Quarterly Meeting
January 24 – 27	Texas Pool and Spa Show Plano, TX
February 3	Leadership Seminar Newport Beach, CA

JOIN IPSSA!

Yes! I am interested in joining the Corpus Christi Chapter for benefits such as cost effective liability insurance, distributor discounts, education opportunities and sick route coverage

Please contact me:

Company Name: _____

My Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail or fax to: Mike Baker
1533 Humble Road
Corpus Christi, TX 78418
Fax: 361-949-0117

The IPSSA Corpus Christi Newsletter is published monthly and is mailed to all pool and spa service companies in the Corpus Christi area. All articles written and edited by Brian Doggett unless otherwise noted.


For advertising information or to be added to our mailing list, please email: brian.doggett@island-aquatics.com or Fax: 361-949-0117 Phone: 361-949-8899



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