Announcing our 4th Annual IPSSA Region 12 Tabletop!! Please join us October 21st 2017 12-4 pm at Embassy Suites Bass Pro at, 2401 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, Texas, 76051, for a day of training, prizes, camaraderie and networking!

New for this year are FREE training classes by Hayward, Zodiac & Pentair! If you are in need of a C.P.O class, Sam Thompson with Premier Education is holding a class on Friday the 20th & Saturday the 21st at the same location!

We will have over 30 tables representing 25 plus vendors and suppliers. Prizes will be given out throughout the event. Last year there were over $2000 in prizes handed out!!! Don’t miss out this year! Special prize for one lucky IPSSA member from each Region 12 chapter! Look for more information at your local supplier or contact any IPSSA Region 12 Chapter Board Member.

Thank you for your support & see you there!!
IPSSA REGION 12 Tabletop Committee

For more information contact:
Will Ainsworth 817-987-8580 william_ainsworth@hotmail.com

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TURTLE TIME
For the last five years, members of IPSSA Texas and other pool professionals have been trekking to South Padre Island to donate their time and expertise at Sea Turtle Inc., a 30 years project dedicated to preservation of our endangered sea turtle populations.

They are treating and releasing injured sea turtles and educate the public about the plight of the 7 species of sea turtles (5 in Texas waters). All are on the federal endangered list.

They are responsible for the increase in numbers of the native Texas Kemps Ridley sea turtle. The only turtle to nest during the day, human exploitation of the turtles and eggs drove them to the point of extinction.

Operating on donations only, their goal has been to save enough to build a state of the art facility next door.

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| AUSTIN MEMBER MEETING | Cherry Creek Catfish Company | 5712 Manchaca Rd. Austin, TX 78745 | First Tuesday of the month 6:00pm | Keith Timm President 512-636-3750
|                      |                            |          |      | Jerome Potter Vice President 512-484-9093
|                      |                            |          |      | Edward Cabello Secretary 512-362-8890
|                      |                            |          |      | Will Pieti Treasurer 512-351-0323 |
| AUSTIN NORTH MEMBER MEETING | Lupe Tortilla | 4501 183A Cedar Park, TX 78613 | Second Tuesday of the month 6:00pm | Ken Burrington President 512-673-6701
|                      |                            |          |      | Scot Pemberton Vice President 512-257-7665
|                      |                            |          |      | Justin Pinson Secretary 512-766-7946
|                      |                            |          |      | Cory Heerlein Treasurer 512-577-5202 |
| CORPUS CHRISTI MEMBER MEETING | Schlitterbahn Veranda Restaurant | 14353 Commodores Drive Corpus Christi, Texas 78418 | First Thursday of the month 6:30pm | Mike Baker President 361-563-7665
|                      |                            |          |      | David Galloway Vice President 361-855-5557
|                      |                            |          |      | Adam Wilkinson Secretary 209-604-7159
|                      |                            |          |      | Michael Holzer Treasurer 361-815-0936 |
| DALLAS MEMBER MEETING | Tony’s Diner | 3367 Beltline Garland, TX 75044 | Fourth Tuesday - 5:30pm | Eustaquio Portillo President 214-325-6746
|                      |                            |          |      | John Eric Harper Vice President 469-698-8055
|                      |                            |          |      | Autumn Vogel Secretary 214-532-0231
|                      |                            |          |      | Juan Colunga Treasurer 214-478-2360 |
| FORT WORTH MEMBER MEETING | La Playa Maya Restaurant | 1540 N. Main Street Fort Worth, TX 76106 | Third Tuesday of the month 6:30pm | Tina Slagle President 817-991-0555
|                      |                            |          |      | Jason Sanchez Vice President 817-901-8363
|                      |                            |          |      | Barton Barber Secretary 817-229-8535
|                      |                            |          |      | John Powers Treasurer 817-453-5426 |
| HILL COUNTRY MEMBER MEETING | Komal Latin Grill | 2550 Hunter Road Ste 1106 San Marcos, TX 78666 | Third Tuesday of the month 6:00pm | Jascha Wood 512-216-7663 |
| HOUSTON MEMBER MEETING | I Hop | 11225 Katy Freeway Houston, TX 77079 | Second Tuesday of the month 7:00pm | Bryan Norris President 713-234-7649
|                      |                            |          |      | David Queen Vice President 281-807-5442
|                      |                            |          |      | Doug Dinkins Treasurer 281-794-6644 |
| HOUSTON CLEAR LAKE MEETING | Rudy’s BBQ | 21361 Gulf Freeway Webster, TX 77598 | Fourth Tuesday of the month 7:00pm | David Potts President 832-840-0887
|                      |                            |          |      | Brett Dawson Vice President 281-724-9650
|                      |                            |          |      | Donnie Jones Secretary 832-275-0612
|                      |                            |          |      | Stephanie Laws Treasurer 832-250-6858 |
| HOUSTON NORTH MEETING | I Hop | 25619 I-45, Spring, TX 77380 | Third Tuesday of the month 7pm | David Harling President 281-256-7886
|                      |                            |          |      | Andrew Hillmeyer Vice President 832-585-4424
|                      |                            |          |      | Stephen Titone Secretary 281-773-8643 |
| HOUSTON WEST MEETING | Spring Creek BBQ | 21000 Katy Freeway Houston Texas 77449 | Second Monday of the month 7pm | Bill Williams President 832-593-6299
|                      |                            |          |      | Patrick Ramsey Vice President 281-923-6755
|                      |                            |          |      | James Lundberg Secretary 832-875-5680
|                      |                            |          |      | David Howard Treasurer 832-689-5636 |
| MID CITIES MEMBER MEETING | SCP Carrollton | 2107 Hutton Dr., Carrollton, TX 75006 | First Monday of the month 7:00pm | Casey Gardner President 469-835-5674
|                      |                            |          |      | Jeremy Smith Vice President 214-695-8717
|                      |                            |          |      | Barry Luckie Secretary 817-691-0267
|                      |                            |          |      | Doug Taylor Treasurer 214-866-9462 |
| SAN ANTONIO MEETING | Longhorn Café | 17625 Blanco Road San Antonio, TX 78232 | First Monday of the month | Officers Meeting 6:00 pm
|                      |                            |          |      | Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm
|                      |                            |          |      | Flash Rose President 210-494-9784
|                      |                            |          |      | Martin Fowler Vice President 210-659-6529
|                      |                            |          |      | Jorge Martinez Secretary 210-549-7669
|                      |                            |          |      | Mark Posson Treasurer 210-725-5889 |
| TARRANT COUNTY MEMBER MEETING | El Chico | 7621 Baker Blvd Richland Hills, TX 76118 | First Tuesday of the month 7:00pm | Will Ainsworth President 817-987-8580
|                      |                            |          |      | Jason Wilson Vice President 817-366-1200
|                      |                            |          |      | James Gifford Secretary 817-881-3990
|                      |                            |          |      | Chris Byars Treasurer 817-597-5132 |
| WAXAHACHIE MEMBER MEETING | Denny’s | 408 Westchase Drive Grand Prairie, TX 75052 | Second Wednesday of the month 7:00am | Thomas Sheehy President 214-395-0143
|                      |                            |          |      | Bryan Courville Vice President 817-308-9874
|                      |                            |          |      | Bob Bauer Treasurer 214-577-4843
|                      |                            |          |      | Gary Harrell Secretary 817-896-7655 |

IPSSA Texas News prints ALL of Texas chapter events that it receives. Help your chapter grow, SEND US YOUR INFO!
Food for thought…..

We’ve all heard grumblings of how we need to grow IPSSA. The most popular ideas are to lower our dues, cut out the chemical test all together, or even make the 3 month attendance down to none. All of these would and can definitely draw in membership and we could grow very rapidly, but then what does it mean to be an IPSSA member? If we start lowering our standards just to get members in the door, what kind of members will we attract? Are these really the ones we want representing our association? We have stated over and over, to be an IPSSA member we are the cream of the crop. We will help each other out and be the best in the industry. We will continue to get the education and further ourselves to stay ahead of the others that can’t or won’t keep our standards. I for one am very proud to be part of IPSSA and to be able to say I did all that is required and more to be a part of this excellent team of business owners. I would hate to see our association take the standards down instead of finding better ways to grow this organization. I hope our directors see this article and know that I for one am adverse to these methods and they should look to other ways to keep our membership happy and growing. As we all know a happy member will do the advertising for us and bring in others as well. Just some food for thought

Tina Slagle
Fort Worth Chapter President
UPCOMING EVENTS

Region Meetings
Region 12 Board Meeting
October 2nd - 4pm

Region 9 Board Meeting
October 2017

Region 9 Executive Board
Director - Becky Clayson
210-240-3121
Secretary - David Potts  832-840-0887
Treasurer - Will Pietri  512-351-0323
Austin - Keith Timm  512-636-3750
Austin North - Ken Burrinton
512-673-6701
Corpus Christi - Mike Baker
361-563-7665
Houston - Bryan Norris
713-234-7649
Houston North - David Harling
281-256-7886
Houston West - Bill Williams
832-593-6299
San Antonio - Flash Rose
210-494-9784

Region 12 Executive Board
Director - Neal Holt
214-837-5884
Secretary - Will Ainsworth
817-987-8580
Treasurer - Jason Sanchez
817-901-8363
Dallas - Eustaquio Portillo
214-325-6746
Fort Worth - Tina Slagle
817-991-0555
Mid Cities - Casey Gardner
469-835-5674
Waxahachie - Thomas Sheehy
214-395-0143

REGION 9

The Region 9 meeting held in San Antonio, runs like a well oiled machine, thank you Becky.

Discussed various ways to attract new members, a member booklet is in the works. Since IPSSA really is different from other associations we need to be more assertive in spreading the word, to make sure that people working in our industry will know all the benefits that go with an IPSSA membership.

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN

IPSSA is forming new chapters in San Antonio - Hill Country and Stephenville in North Texas area. If you are interested to join our group, please contact the chapter below.

CROSS TIMBER CHAPTER
Pulido’s, 809 E. Road.,
Stephenville, TX 76401
Meetings will be the 4th Thursday of each month, 7pm,
Call Paul Nelson 254-592-0323

HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER
Komal Latin Grill
2550 Hunter Road Ste 1106
San Marcos, TX 78666
Third Tuesday of the month 6:00pm
Call Jascha Wood 512-216-7663

Region 9/12 - 7186 Baker Blvd., Richland Hills, TX 76118 (817) 304-7244
Email: info@ipssatexas.com - Website: www.ipssatexas.com - Managing Editor: Ingrid Slagle
Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month. Material submitted late will be considered for the following month.
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“What were they Thinking?” We have all run into those situations that are just so outrageous, funny or just plain stupid that they warrant a photo - it doesn’t just have to do with all the “creative” plumbing or equipment layouts we have seen. If you have a contribution of interest just let me know at: Ingrid - info@ipssatexas.com

If you work with apartment pools, I’m sure you have run into some “interesting” pump rooms. Makes you think that the installer NEVER plans on retuning for repair or maintenance of the equipment.

In this pump room the challenge was:

How do we put 2 - 36” sand filters, 5- large pumps and a gas heater in a room approximately 10’x10’?

The top filters backwash valve can not be operated without a ladder. While the metal stand appears sturdy enough, the 1” thick particle board it sits on has been soaked and is deteriorated.

There’s no way to change out a pump, you can barley pull a motor. Of course you have to be very limber to work in here as all of the plumbing is in front of the equipment. Added bonus is the gas line running through everything.

My question is how much would you charge to change sand in the bottom filter???
By Jim Stearns A.K.A. The Pool Sheik

Yes it is a statement of fact. I ’am an ole dog and proud to say you can still teach me new tricks. I remember when I first started in this industry, in 1985. I was at the ole ‘Poolquip McNeme” in Houston. For you youngins. “Poolquip McNeme” morphed into the current day SCP. I was introduced to Tom McNeme as; “he has forgotten more about the pool industry then you will ever know”, at the time a very true statement. Now here I ’am exactly 32 years later and wondering, how much I have forgotten! Alas I just may have forgotten a thing or two over the years but I ’am still learning new tricks and practices about our industry. I have tried to live my life by the mantra that you should always be learning in life no matter your chosen profession(s).

Let’s review just the last two (2) years of new tricks that this ole dog has learned. While at the SCP in Corpus Christi, TX. I was snoopy, no, checking out the beds of Technicians truck’s while talking with their owners. Now I know I ’am not the only one who does this? RIGHT! That afternoon I came away with two (2) nuggets. One (1) was using one of those big umbrella hats to enable you to stay dry while working in the rain and can double as a shield for your head from the hot Texas sun. The second nugget, was using a 16oz. water bottle in place of a tennis ball to plug skimmers. The ole Baker Hydro skimmers that are prevalent in this market don’t seal off to well with a tennis ball. Now a flimsy plastic water bottle, with water in it, does the job just fine.

Besides talking to or checking out the beds of Technicians trucks, I have found it very educational to do ride-alongs. Either I ride-along with another Tech or they with me, it really doesn’t matter because it seems we are both learning from each other. When pulling a pressure side cleaner out of the pool you are servicing, kink the hose just ahead of the back-up valve and shove it down the throat of the cleaner. You don’t get sprayed with water and you can clean the pool without having to dodge the cleaner. Bottom Feeders a.k.a. Hammer-head, PowerVac and Riptide to name a few are GREAT for pools with a heavy debris challenge. I had always scoffed at Service Guys / Gals who used these. After trying another Technicians bottom feeder out on a ride-along, I just had to have one. Now in the fall and spring with the heavy debris challenge I wouldn’t be caught dead without my bottom feeder that we have loving nick named “The Scoopy Rig”. It truly has cut our cleaning time in half and my ole trusty Leaf Master is enjoying its retirement.

Another learning facet for me has been Facebook. That’s right Face Book. There are several “Pages” and / or “Groups” you can join that from

Continued on page 14
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(713)460-0598

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(281)776-0515

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1. A pool is said to be "in balance" when the pH, alkalinity, calcium hardness, TDS and temperature are all within the recommended ranges
   A. True
   B. False

2. The two basic things that we need to test in the water are:
   A. pH and chlorine
   B. Sanitizer and water balance
   C. Chlorine and alkalinity
   D. Sanitizer and pH

3. Total alkalinity does not affect the speed of pH change in the water
   A. True
   B. False

4. A colorimeter measures the amount of light that is transmitted through a sample
   A. True
   B. False

Answers provided in this edition, last page
Hello, Fellow Pool Professionals,

My name is William Ainsworth, and I have served on the Aquatic Professionals Education Council (APEC) Board since 2008. I currently serve as President of the IPSSA Tarrant County Chapter and IPSSA Region 12 Secretary. Previously, I have been the Vice-President of APEC for 2 terms and would like to introduce myself as the new President. We have also elected Rick Beaubouf as Vice-President, Neal Holt is continuing on as Treasurer, and Stephanie Gardner is again our Secretary. Our Board of Directors has included Pool/Spa Service Professionals, Pool Builders, Manufacturers, Distributors, Educators, and Retailers representing you at the state level, and municipal level, where possible. We have members of IPSSA & APSP on the board as well.

As we enter the 12th year of our organization’s existence, I would like to reflect on the state of our industry & APEC here in Texas. There was once a time when we collectively had no worries about state regulations affecting our industry, but a few people had the foresight to see the writing on the wall. APEC was formed with the mission to protect the swimming pool & spa industry in Texas. Since that first legislative session in 2005, we have effectively reacted, fought, defended, and won many battles that would have seriously damaged or limited the pool/spa industry or consumers here in Texas. Most of the people reading this article may know about the major fight over the Residential Appliance Installers Licensing. It was a huge issue we faced for several years, and eventually APEC succeeded and we became a part of the solution. There have been many, many other bills we have been able to stop from being passed, and a couple we helped to get passed, such as in 2011, Senate Bill 710 and matching House Bill 3489, relating to the disclosure of a hazardous drain in a swimming pool or spa by a seller of residential real property, which essentially modified the disclosure form specifying that the main drains do or do not meet the VGB Act.

Over the years, fewer and fewer bills were being filed that we have to react to, mostly due to the attorneys/lobbyists, Jake Posey & Steve Koeble, APEC hired in 2007. Without these two, our industry in Texas would be at a standstill. They have helped tremendously to bring APEC to the forefront of legislators’ minds when they consider filing bills that do or do not meet the VGB Act.

You may not hear much about the day to day issues APEC handles, and much of that is due to the fact that we are now able to be more proactive than reactive. Some of it is due to our own failure in communication with you, our members, and the industry in general. Please, understand that we are an all volunteer board and do not have a full time Executive Director/ Administrator, yet. These are not excuses, but explanations. We still have much work to do.

We have concentrated on retaining our lobbyists to protect the industry, and this is difficult with the membership currently being less than 85 people.

YES! Less than 85 members of APEC are protecting YOUR industry! We had over 400 at one time, but that number has shrunk for many reasons. We face a time of fundamental change, and I ask that YOU be part of it. We cannot list every challenge we have overcome as an organization. However, we are still standing. I ask you to be a part of the voice of the pool/spa industry here in Texas and become a member of APEC. Individuals, Service, Builders, Manufacturers, Distributors, Retailers… WE NEED ALL OF YOU!! If you do business in this industry here in TEXAS, WE REPRESENT YOU! Support APEC by becoming a member, volunteering for a committee or asking how you can help!

At this time, just a few weeks after regular session, we have a few issues we currently face. Some of these issues, however, are delicate in negotiations. Unfortunately, we cannot issue an announcement calling the industry to arms, as Jake and Steve work hand in hand with legislators, agency heads, and others to work out solutions. We have made an impact, and there is awareness that we as an industry can come together to speak as one when needed.

In closing, I believe that APEC has more to offer the Texas pool/spa industry than people realize. We must move forward to become a sustainable force in order to continue to protect our businesses. Every Individual member counts, but we can no longer stand on the shoulders of the individual member. I am counting on increased financial and operational support from the companies that do business here in Texas. APEC appeals to the entire swimming pool & spa industry in Texas to join now and help your business not only survive, but thrive.

Thank you for your support!

Will Ainsworth
APEC President
www.apectexas.org

For more information contact:
Will Ainsworth 817-987-8580 will@poolprotexas.com
TEACHING AN OLE DOG NEW TRICKS

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time to time you can come away with some real nuggets or query the Members as to any challenge(s) you may be having with your business. I joined the “Certified Pool Operators - CPO” closed group, after being invited to join. I will have to warn you that about 90% of their inquires are right at the entry level of our industry. For the most part very entertaining but even I have come away with a few nuggets. Using a Sawzall for plumbing jobs. The main trick here is to get a variable speed saw, the correct blade to cut PVC, 10 -14 TPI (Teeth Per Inch) and most important of all, start at a very, very slow rate increasing your speed the deeper your cut gets. Gone are the days of aching arms from a big replumb job and it saves you quite a bit of time as well. Using a Shop Vac to remove sand from a sand filter. The trick here is to purchase a Shop Vac that is at least 6.0 H.P. or higher, has a 15 gallon or larger tank with a 2” hose and attachments. We have cut our filter media time changes in some cases by as much as 2/3rds. Now I have to ask myself “are these the only things I have learned over the last two (2) years”. The answer would be an emphatic, “HELL NO”!!! I just cannot remember all the things, I have forgotten. YES I maybe approaching or I may have already surpassed that point in my life. Where I have forgotten more then what others will learn in our industry. My point being NEVER, ever stop learning. The day you claim to know-it-all, is the day some wet behind the ears newcomer, just may put you in your place. Now I know there are going to be those of you out there that are going to claim “it took you over 30 years to learn that”. I can only explain it one way. PLEASE keep in mind that I ‘am part Polish and 100% Infantry …. HOOAH!!!.

THAT IS ALL!!! James Stearns - Stearns Pools & Spas

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TURTLE TIME

That is happening now and volunteers hope to aid in the installation of 14 sets of equipment, 7 heat pumps and a collection and delivery system of water from the lagoon. This is a family affair, there is always something for everyone to do.

The official dates have not been set. We anticipate the end of October to the first of November. Even if you can only give a couple of days, anything will help.

For more information, please contact Tina Slagle 817-551-0999
Chairwoman Sea Turtle Project, President of the Fort Worth IPSSA Chapter

QUOTE

Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers.

Alfred Lord Tennyson
What might be heard at Mount Rushmore about Salt Water Pools...

I check the salt level and only use AQUASALT.

I keep the pH in the correct range.

I clean the cell every 2 to 3 months of use.

I add conditioner as needed, honestly.

www.aquasalt.com

George Washington 1st President
Thomas Jefferson 3rd President
Theodore Roosevelt 26th President
Abraham Lincoln 16th President
Happy Birthday

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Lorna MacDougall  
Edward Mack  
Richard Rock Mark  
Mark Mastropietro  
Amy Metcalf  
Terrill Overstreet  
Mark Posson  
David Posson  

The Fort Worth chapter has tickets available for September 26, 2017
Texas Rangers vs. Houston Astros
Contact Tina Slagle
817-991-0555

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ANSWERS for the POOL QUIZ:

1. A
2. B
3. B
4. A