



IPSSA - FORT WORTH

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Newsletter

“LAISSEZ LES BONNS TEMPS ROULER”

(Let the good times roll)

The 12th annual Texas Pool and Spa Show (Jan. 21 & 22, 2005) was a great success. Friday offered an educational opportunity with subjects that included: DE Filter cleaning, plaster facts, leak detection, salt systems, pumps, pool electrical, safety and PVC repair. There was a 2-part water chemistry class and one chemistry class offered in Spanish!



The classes were taught by fellow industry professionals, all very knowledgeable. I myself attended the plaster, salt system, pool electrical and PVC repair classes. Time in the classes went by quickly as the subjects kept your attention. I brought home about six pages of notes – little bits of wisdom and facts to remind myself of things I need to know.

Friday evening's welcome party at a local Embassy Suites provided hord'oeuvres, adult beverages and an opportunity to visit with fellow members, vendors and sponsors.

A lightly attended (too bad) round table discussion with Ray Arouesty of Arrow Insurance was held Saturday morning. Ray is a smart guy and knows his stuff. He is the go-to-guy when you have a question about our coverage. Did you know that if you have a subcontractor working for you that you should have a certificate of insurance from that sub as you IPSSA insurance may not cover you if you are sued by a customer for something that sub might do wrong? The following page is a summary of our general liability program, which becomes effective April 1, 2005.

The theme of this years tabletop vendor exhibits was Mardi Gras. There were colorful decorated booths and plenty of beads and chocolate coins to go around. I believe that All Tech Leak Detection won best-decorated booth, but that was a tough call as all the booths were unique in their own way. Something just seemed right about seeing our manufacturer's reps in funny hats.

Cajun food for dinner – crawfish, catfish, red beans and rice – hit the spot along with a couple of those adult beverages. The vendors provided some great items for the silent auctions and door prizes throughout the day. I won't mention what happened at the end of the day when some great raffle items were given away.

Hats off and a big pat on the back for the IPSSA members that worked so hard to make this all happen. I'm already looking forward to next year.

SPLASH

By the way – does anyone know who these “Pool Pimps” are?

More photos - www.ipssafortworth.com



Summary of IPSSA'S Commercial General Liability Program

- ◆ \$ 1 million occurrence and \$ 3 million aggregate limits remain unchanged
- ◆ \$ 250 deductible
- ◆ Broad coverage for damaged to items worked on, including damage to plaster and tile are excluded from other policies. This special coverage is limited to \$ 50,000, subject to a \$ 250 deductible.
 - ◆ Broad coverage for swimming pool inspections. Most claims of this type are excluded from other policies. This coverage is limited to \$ 50,000, subject to a \$ 250 deductible.
 - ◆ Limited pollution coverage. Coverage is limited to \$ 50,000. This coverage was first added in 2002 and it remains in today.
 - ◆ Hazardous material spills are covered to \$ 5,000. This coverage was first added in 2002 and it remains in 2005.
 - ◆ Mold coverage. Carriers across the country have started excluding damage due to mold. IPSSA members are covered for up to \$ 25,000 for costs to clean-up mold-related property damage.
 - ◆ Discontinued Completed Operations - Retiring members can extend coverage to cover claims occurring after they leave IPSSA. The premium is \$ 240 per year.
 - ◆ Optional coverage for stores, warehouses and offices at a small additional monthly premium.
 - ◆ Business contents coverage is available for members with stores, warehouses of offices.
 - ◆ Members should be aware of special exclusions for:
 - New construction
 - Vinyl liners damaged following water drainage
 - Stores, warehouses and offices (unless optional coverage is purchased)
 - Undisclosed employees
 - Claims by uninsured subcontractors
 - ◆ The 3 claim/5 year rule remains

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www.ipssaftworth.com
has been visited more than 1,000 times since its beginning. We know that can't just be our members checking out the info! This number will grow as more and more people, potential customers, use the internet as a reference and referral service.

Currently of our 32 members, 21 of their business cards are included on our list of members by Company Name. Take a minute and go to the website to review your information. Any changes that are needed (addresses - phone numbers - spelling) can be quickly made, but we need to know! Only you can tell us! Contact your webmaster at ipahl@sbcglobal.net



For information regarding this newsletter please contact Ingrid Slagle
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On January 18th Raypak held its annual training class. Thanks to John

Gartner and Raypak for allowing IPSSA members to attend on a two for one basis. There is always something new to be learned, even for the old guys who have attended many of these classes. Tom Apt is always enjoyable. Back in the old days, he was our local Raypak rep anyone who has dealings with Raypak knows how well they take care of us. Did you know all heaters sold now in Texas must be LoW-NoX. These are all electronic heaters that have additional circulation fans to create a more complete burn of the gas. Raypak's heater has a fan that induces air into the gas mixture in the burner tray. The new LoW-NoX heater has been redesigned. The cabinet is 6" lower, the in & outs are lower and the gas line is lower. This will become important whenever we bid on a heater replacement. Remember, gas lines must be hard pipe with full flow valves. (No, flex gas lines!)

It is rumored that some non-LoW-NoX heaters might still be shipped here from out of State internet sites. Be careful, you should not be installing these as replacements. Existing heaters are not subject to upgrade until replaced. With the cost of natural gas, being so high your customers standing pilot light (milivolt) heater is probably costing them around \$ 100 a year just to keep the pilot lit.



A Word from the President

Jason S. Bonser

Marie Austin, as of Feb. 1, has retired from the pool industry. We lost her as an IPSSA officer as well. We all wish her well in her new endeavors. Marie served on the board as your Vice President, Treasure and Secretary for the last five years. Her stay in IPSSA lasted some 7 years. In 7 years she has only missed 1 meeting. She has traveled the state and country promoting IPSSA where ever she was. Her zest and flair for life brought many our way. She did her best, and I thank her. Our little chapter would not have survived if it were not for her efforts. She will be missed. **Thank You Marie Austin.**

This new year will prove to be the best for all of IPSSA. This last year we have established relationships with the National Plaster Council, NSPI, Red Cross, Safe Kids Coalition, and many others. By joining forces we can bring more knowledge to our members and make the industry even stronger. Safety has been the number 1 goal. I encourage all of you to participate in our/your future.

I would like to thank all of our chapter supporters. 2004 was a great year for Ft. Worth IPSSA. Our continued relationship's benefit all involved. And I am looking forward to 2005 and to bring our education level up.

Thank you all who attended the table top in Dallas. We all had a great time. All the manufactures were there. So much to learn so little time. Don't miss out on next year.

Safety. Is that the first thing on you mind when you open your customers gates? You know the ones that don't close by them selves, or the ones that have blown down. Well you are there to just test chemicals and drop tabs, right? Its your job to help the customer to keep the pool safe for their family chemical wise, but also to keep the entire back yard safe from itself, or others. Maybe even that cute dog that has to be petted every time you enter the yard. Close a gate save a life.

Upcoming Events

Members meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at:

La Playa Maya Restaurant

1540 North Main Street

Fort Worth, TX 76106

817-624-8411

Tuesday, **March 15** th - Member Meeting

that's a few blocks south of the Stockyards
We try to arrive around 6:30 pm with the meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. We do our best to be finished by 9:00 pm.



Officers Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at:

Chili's Restaurant

8000 Bedford-Eules Road

Eules, TX 76180

817-577-1245

Monday, **March 7** th - Officer Meeting



Pool Quiz

1.) The National Spa and Pool Institute recommends that the Cyanuric Acid level be kept between:

A: 10 - 30 ppm

B: 30 - 50 ppm

C: 50 - 70 ppm

D: 70 - 100 ppm

2.) Copper Ions will inhibit algae growth in pools and spas:

A: True

B: False

3.) pH rises when you add:

A: Soda Ash

B: Liquid Chlorine

C: Calcuim hypo

D: All of the above

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Monica Padilla from Natural Chemistry
will be our Speaker at the February
Meeting

Monica Padilla
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Friendly, Safe
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Quiz Results

- 1.) B - 30 - 50 ppm
- 2.) A - True
- 3.) D - All the above

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