



## How to Clean Swimming Pool Water

Let's face it—the only thing essential about a swimming pool is that the water be fresh and clean. Let's face something else, too: Achieving this can involve more chemistry than you may have seen since junior year in high school—if then. Don't worry, though. Here are all the important concepts and terms you need to know to keep your pool clean. Just be sure to follow all manufacturer's directions on the package of a chemical carefully.

**Balancing the water Steps:** 1. Note: The three factors mentioned here—pH, total alkalinity and calcium hardness—all affect one another, so it will take some trial and error to get all three in the proper range at once. Also note that before you add any chemical—especially an acid—to the water, you need to first turn on the pool's filter. 2. Use a water-testing kit to measure the calcium hardness (how "hard" or "soft" the water is). The proper calcium hardness is between 200 and 400 parts per million (ppm). 3. Following package directions, add calcium carbonate dihydrate to raise calcium hardness; add sodium hexametaphosphate to lower it. Carefully pour the chemical mixture into the pool at various spots a foot or two (about half a meter) away from the sides of the pool. 4. Measure the water's total alkalinity. This figure should be in the range of 80 to 150 ppm; 100 to 120 ppm is best. 5. Adjust the total alkalinity by adding sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) to raise it or sodium bisulfate (dry acid) to lower it. 6. With a pH tester, measure the water's pH. The proper pH for a pool is in the range of 7.2 to 7.6. 7. To lower the pH, add sodium bisulfate or liquid muriatic acid. To raise it, add soda ash (sodium carbonate). 8. Add more chemicals as needed until the water is in balance.

**Treating water with chlorine Steps:** 1. Scoop chlorine granules into water in a nonmetal container, following package directions. Always wear goggles and rubber gloves when handling chlorine, and always put the chlorine into the water—don't pour the water over the chlorine. 2. Stir for about 30 seconds, and leave for 30 minutes to settle. 3. Turn on the filter. Reaching as far into the middle of the pool as possible (perhaps by standing on a diving board), pour the chlorine into the pool. Discard any sediment left in the container. 4. Add chlorine three to four times a week for a pool in heavy use. 5. Occasionally—no more than once a week—you may need to superchlorinate (also called shock) the pool to burn any built-up bacteria, algae and ammonia. Following chlorine package directions, make a solution for superchlorination (it will be three to five times as strong as normal chlorine). 6. Add the chlorine solution to the pool after sundown, if possible, as the sun's rays break down chlorine. 7. Before allowing anyone to go in the pool, test the residual chlorine level to make sure it has gone back down below 3.0 ppm. This will take at least several hours.

**Keeping the water dirt- and debris-free Steps:** 1. Remove any leaves from the pool with a leaf net each time you go swimming. 2. Empty and rinse off the strainer basket of the skimmer once or twice a week, and as often as daily during falling-leaf season. 3. Keep the deck clean by regularly sweeping and then rinsing it with a garden hose. 4. Use a cover over your pool as often as possible. 5. Thoroughly clean your pool filter at least monthly. Clean a sand filter by backwashing: Reverse the flow of water through the filter for 2 to 3 minutes until the wastewater is clear. 6. For a cartridge filter, remove the filter cartridge and wash it with a hose with a high-pressure nozzle. Replace the cartridge.

**Overall Tips:** Don't add harsh chemicals to the water through the pool skimmer, as that could damage the equipment. Take water samples for testing from at least a foot (30 cm) below the surface for a truer reading. Chlorine also comes in a more expensive but convenient liquid form, and in tablets and sticks that you place in dispensers to slowly dissolve.

## The 2006 Texas Pool and Spa Show promises a Big Splash

January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in Plano Texas



*Dallas, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005:* The **Texas Pool and Spa Show** has a new home, the located Plano Centre in Plano, Texas. The show has grown in popularity to the point that last year it increased to two days and this year show planners promise to fill those two days with exciting special events, training provided by sponsors and industry leaders, and dozens of exhibits showing the latest products and services for the pool and spa industry.

The new exhibit space will allow manufacturers and representatives to bring more product and information for attendees and for classes to run concurrently with the exhibits. Attendees can meet with vendors and experts to learn all the latest trends in the backyard living market as well as innovative ways to increase profits while providing optimum service.

The **2006 Texas Pool and Spa Show Pool School** will feature professionals teaching classes on subjects from pumps and filters to pool and spa safety and code compliance. Technical and product information will be presented in two hour, highly comprehensive sessions with education on safety and the latest news on preventing pool and spa mishaps.

Hayward Pool Products, lead sponsor for the show, will be hosting a party for show attendees on Friday night. Other sponsors include Pentair Pool Products, United Chemical Corporation, Jandy, SCP Distributors, Raypak, IPSSA (Region 9-Texas) and APEC.

The 2006 Texas Pool and Spa Show is under the direction of the Texas Pool and Spa Show Board of Directors, all of which are members of Texas Chapters of IPSSA.

For further information on the **2006 Texas Pool and Spa Show**, reservations, accommodations, etc. go to [www.texaspoolandspashow.com](http://www.texaspoolandspashow.com) or call Tim Long at (972) 978-9322 or Brett Moore at (972) 880-2481.

**Contact: Lou Ann York**

**(214) 343-1599**

[lapub@aol.com](mailto:lapub@aol.com)

## “Staying Alive in 2005”

This was Raypak's slogan for the year and it looks as if we have just about made it.

Jon Gartner will be our featured speaker for our October meeting.

When Jon became the district sales manager for our area (many – many moons ago) he had some pretty big shoes to fill. Tom Apt (now Raypak's national training manager) was someone that you knew you could always count on for backup. Jon has proved to be someone that was more than up to the task. Any of us that has had dealings with Jon knows that he is always there to help. Once again Raypak has stepped up to support IPSSA members.

We will be able to attend Raypak's seminar, January 10, 2006 for half price – that's only \$ 30.00 for a days training (including lunch, manual, tool kit and t-shirt). If you have never attended the Raypak class I strongly urge you to do so. There is new information every year and there is always something to be reminded of.

Be sure to thank Jon for the support when we see him at our meeting this month.

SPLASH

# A Word from the President

*A great leader never sets himself above his followers except in carrying responsibilities.*

Whew, the heat's gone. That was the longest summer I can remember in quite a while. I know, I know, we live in Texas what did you expect? Well I am glad to see some cooler weather. But that just means more work. It's that time again for the Ft Worth chapter to vote in new officers. Time to reflect on what we have been through and where we need to go. The last two years have been very good for us. Our membership has grown, our web site is getting out to our customers, our newsletter has expanded and we have tripled its publication. More and more chapter supporters have been attending our meetings, the meetings have been very social and enlightening. We thank them for their support, and pledge our support to them. They enable us to be more profitable, more educated, and more resourceful. Their support gives us an edge against your competition. Through training and education, you can continue to be an "elite" Pool professional. Top Dog.....ok, ok you get the point. Your present and future customers can look you up on the internet and see you are part of the only certified and insured pool professional organization here in Texas. I am proud of what we have accomplished. I would like to see our chapter continue to grow and educate our members. I want us to continue to inform the public about the vast capacities that our members give to the pool industry. Widen the gap from the others, and show the public that we truly are professionals. My goal is to put in place the IPSSA name and logo, and the means for the public to get a hold of you. This next two years I want us to be more involved in community events, help out those who need, and support pool safety. We can do this, we can make a difference in both the residential and commercial pool worlds. We need help. I want to encourage any one interested in leading your chapter to step up. Being an officer of this chapter is not just showing up and getting a free meal at the officers meetings. So much preparation is done to maintain the level of leadership you see. The chapter financial, the work with vendors and manufacture's rep's, coordinating chapter supporters and meetings, training, newsletter updates, Texas region 9 quarterly meetings, local and regional committees, maintaining your records, sick route information, national updates, insurance. Ok you get that point. I would like to see us vote in 4 officers that are willing to participate in their roles, and participate in all the tasks required to keep things running smoothly. Some one who is dedicated to our industry and to them selves. Some one that understands how to be on a team and to challenge our industry to make better of it. Texas has been leading IPSSA for some years. Let us continue to set the mark and lead. I would like the opportunity to stay on your board. I have served 4 years now, and even worked for the chapter before being elected. But that is up to you.

Thank you!

Just an update, at our last meeting we approved a donation to the Red Cross in conjunction with all of Texas Region 9 IPSSA. We will be matching up to a \$1000. Many of you pledged your support, you can also pledge at our web site. We will close out the donation at the end of the October members meeting. Please bring in your checks. We are also looking into supporting some fellow pool professionals that lost their customers and their homes along with their businesses from the last two hurricanes, more to follow.

I would like to thank Ingrid Slagle for her efforts in the newsletter and our local and state IPSSA web sites. We have a powerful tool for your customers and competition to see what we are all about, leaders and professionals.

Thank you.

Jason S. Bonser

## You Can Advertise in the Fort Worth IPSSA Newsletter

Business Card                      \$ 200 per year

Half-Page                              \$ 400 per year

Full Page Ad                         \$ 600 per year

For more information, contact Jason Bonser at 817-605-0194 or [aquatown@charter.net](mailto:aquatown@charter.net)

# WEBTALK

We continue to see more and more activity on our [www.ipssafortworth.com](http://www.ipssafortworth.com) website

and I'm doing my best to add and adjust information as quickly as I get it.

We have had over 3100 hits on the website for this year.

Let me know if you are getting any positive results (New Customers) from our website.

Contact me at: [ipahl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ipahl@sbcglobal.net)

Thanks, Ingrid

## Members we still need business cards for the website –

APC

Aquamaid

Clear Connection Pool Service

DFW Pool Service

G & D Pool & Spa Inc.

Kelley's Complete Pool Care

Ken's Hamilton's Pool Repair

Please review the website and let me know if you have any additional information or changes to be made.



Take a look at IPSSA Dallas new website, its great. To locate members they have decided on a map with zip code links to bring up member information by location. Check it out; this may be something you would like for our website.

## September Meeting Attendance

The following Companies were not represented at the September meeting:

Clean Water Pool Service

Mikos (called in)

If I've made any mistakes please call Splash at 817-595-1167.

Remember that our standing rules call for \$ 50.00 fine for missing two meetings in a row. "Upon a third consecutive absence the Board may revoke membership".



## New Member

Welcome to our new member Jerry Shaver – Alpine Pool Service

Jerry and family have transferred their membership from IPSSA's Delta Chapter in Stockton California. They are living in Decatur and will be doing service and repair work in North Tarrant and Wise County.

**Our next meeting is:  
Tuesday, October 18th at:**

La Playa Maya Restaurant, 1540 North Main Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76106 - 817-624-8411

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**

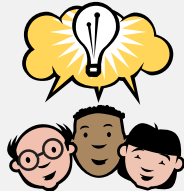
**Tuesday, November 7th - 7:00 pm:**

Chili's Restaurant, 8000 Bedford-Euless Road  
Euless, TX 76180 - 817-577-1245

**Pool Quiz**

1.) One bacteria in spa can become more than 1 million (depending on the bacteria) in only one hour.

- A. True
- B. False



2.) pH will drop in you add.

- A. Acid
- B. Trichlor
- C. Bromine Tablets
- D. All of the above

3.) Bromamines, unlike Chloramines are not a problem in a pool or spa.

- A. True
- B. False

4.) One quart of Muratic Acid is equal to how many pounds of Dry Acid?

- A. 1
- B. 1.5
- C. 2.5
- D. 4

5.) Muriatic Acid is made from...

- A. Sulfuric acid
- B. Cyanuric acid
- C. Hydrochloric acid
- D. None of the above



My customers question was – “What’s wrong with keeping Tri-chlor tablets in my skimmer and why isn’t my brass pump moving more water?”

**September Supporters**

Once again we had a great turnout of our Chapter supporters:

Char Thompson – American Leak Detection

Paul Putscher and Brad Stoker – Hayward

Ric Hart and Billy Ferguson – Polaris

Steve Gossett – SCP

Mike Low – Stingl Products

Cliff Davis – WEK & Associates

One of the great things about the IPSSA members meeting is the opportunity to interact with the people that represent the industry that we are involved in.



IPSSA Fort Worth  
P.O. Box 820852  
N. Richland Hills, TX  
76180

Please check our on-line calendar for other upcoming events!

Contact me to keep the calendar updated -

let me know when there is an event coming up that should be brought to everyone's attention!

## October Calendar

- Oct. 3rd Officers Meeting
- Oct. 18th Member Meeting
- Oct. 25th Pentair sponsored training seminar  
go to [www.pentairtraining.com](http://www.pentairtraining.com) for more info.
- Oct. 30th Daylight saving time ends
- Oct. 31st Halloween

### Officers

817-605-0194 Jason S. Bonser - President  
817-337-8585 Dave Boyd - Vice President  
817-595-1167 Gordon F. Slagle - Secretary  
817-247-5247 Paul Garcia - Treasurer  
817-459-0808 Christopher Miles - Texas Region 9 Director  
[www.ipssafortworth.com](http://www.ipssafortworth.com)

Jon Gartner from Raypak will be our featured speaker for our October Meeting



For information regarding this newsletter please contact Ingrid Slagle  
Phone: 817-595-1167  
E-mail: [ladyweaver@ladywebweaver.com](mailto:ladyweaver@ladywebweaver.com)

### Quiz Results

- 1.) - A. True
- 2.) - D. All the above
- 3.) - A. True
- 4.) - C. 2.5
- 5.) - C. Hydrochloric acid

