

IPSSSA *Houston*

Newsletter for the Houston Chapter of the Independent Pool & Spa Service Association

Christmas Party

Once again our IPSSSA/Houston family and friends will gather together and celebrate the happy Christmas holiday season during our regular monthly Tuesday meeting night in December. This year we

will all enjoy the evening together in the spirit of the holiday. It will be another great night of festive fun and fellowship with

your pool industry friends. Everyone is invited, so we expect to see all of our friends from our suppliers, manufacturers and reps.

Don't forget the grab bag gift swap and hostile confiscation in the spirit of the holidays. Gifts valued from \$10 to \$20, and be sure it is something that I will really like.

IPSSSA meets every month at



2475 Kirkwood near Westheimer

**Next Meeting 7:00pm
Tuesday, December 14**

Planning for the South West Pool & Spa Show

If you are in the pool industry in any capacity, it is vital that you keep up with the ever-changing laws and business climate of your field. This year there is no better opportunity to do so than the South West Pool

and Spa Show in Arlington. Keep up with all that is going on, as well as getting all the training and professional education you need to be several steps ahead of your competition. You simply can't



E-mail Pool news to mike.cedro@yahoo.com
Contact Jim for meeting speakers at 281-474-7665

Planning for the South West Pool & Spa Show

Continued from page 1

perform in this industry without diligently maintaining a professional connection to the industry.

When the VGB act changed the face of the pool service business, those who were out of touch and clueless to the laws and trends were broadsided, some put out of business. New laws are already in place and will take effect in the spring that you must be fully aware of, if you are to survive in this business.

Be aware, Texas Pool Professional, state licensing is coming. You must be informed and on top of it all to keep from becoming extinct, while your more informed competition evolves to survive and leave you behind.

The South West Pool & Spa Show will be a huge trade show with lots of training and available classes for you to become a better professional. You cannot afford to miss it.

Everyone needs to plan now to attend this show. It's bigger than last year with

free classes by vendors. Pumps, heaters, business, electronics, controls, 9 free one-hour classes. Remember: this show is half ours (IPSSA/Texas). Plan now. You need two days to see this one.

The South West Pool & Spa Show will be February 15-19 at the Arlington Convention Center. For information go to:

www.swpoolandspashow.com

See y'all there!

 **Advertise in: IPSSA: Houston**
Monthly Newsletter of the Houston Chapter of IPSSA

There is no better way to reach so many Houston Pool Professionals!

713-703-6496 mike.cedro@yahoo.com

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Houston Pool & Spa Coming Events Calendar

December 9- APSP Monthly Meeting
at Dave & Busters (Richmond):
6:00 pm; 713-944-4444 or
michael@millerpools.com

December 14- IPSSA/Houston Meeting
7:00 pm at Fuddrucker's, 2475 Kirk-
wood just North of Westheimer.
Board Meeting preceeding.



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All this for monthly dues that are much less than you are now paying for your current business liability insurance. Now that's a win-win situation!

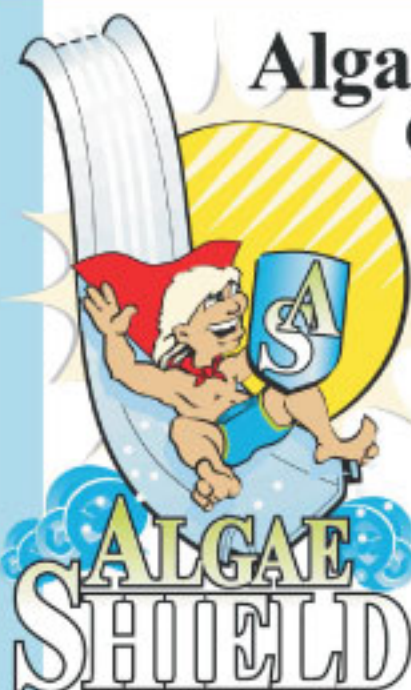
Come to a regular monthly meeting to find out more and begin an association that will change your business for the very best.

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CONFERENCE:

February 15-19, 2011

EXHIBITS:

February 18-19, 2011

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6 Total Alkalinity

The Most Important Factor

In Theory and in Practice

You have heard it many times before. Always "Alkalinity First", because, as we know, so much depends on the pool's Total Alkalinity. It's a pivotal determinant of the Water Balance in both the Langelier index and the Hamilton index. It also controls the pH of the pool water, which, in turn has a major bearing on the effectiveness of your chlorine as a sanitizer.

As you can see, everything influences everything else. That's the way chemistry (especially pool chemistry) works. With this in mind, how can we make a blanket statement that 80-120ppm is the ideal TA level? OK, so they tell us that you should run the TA higher in liner pools, due to the lack of influence of pool plaster. Here I wish to note that, while that may be beneficial to the water balance (although

minimal) it does cause a pH problem that is a real hazard to liners. For this reason, I do not maintain a higher pH level in liner pools.

The real determining factor of what TA levels should be maintained has to do with the other chemicals that are added to the pool, most importantly, the pool's specific sanitizer, and its pH. If you used (God forbid) compressed elemental chlorine, you would be nearly unable to maintain a TA level, as it would be constantly being purged from the water with a super low pH.

In the practical range, we have Trichlor tablets, which have a very low pH, but dissolve so slowly that a normal range of 80-120 ppm is just fine for pH and water balance stability. Another reason that stabilized tablets are the best choice for

most home pools using chlorine.

If you sanitize with Calcium Hypochlorite or Sodium Hypochlorite (liquid chlorine bleach), you should consider keeping your TA levels lower, due to the high pH of these chemicals. By the same token, we should also keep the TA level low in salt generated pools. Why should we maintain the TA high enough to raise the pH, when the generation of active chlorine from salt water already raises the pH?

You may say that I am crazy or call for my head for heresy, but I would keep the TA for salt pools and those treated primarily with Calcium Hypochlorite or Sodium Hypochlorite in a range of 70-90 ppm. In the field you will find that this will really make your pH problems minimal, in spite of theory.

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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 publicise your event for you.

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