

IPSSSA *Houston*

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

FallFest 2010

We wait all year for this one, but come Saturday, September 25th it's time again for our annual family picnic and pool trade show in the park, FallFest 2010! Everyone in the pool and spa business is invited to attend for free. You do not have to be a member of IPSSSA or APSP, either.

*Photo from
FallFest 2009*



**IPSSSA meets
every month at**



**2475 Kirkwood
near Westheimer**

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

There will be games for kids and adults with lots of prizes, so don't leave anyone at home. It's the most family-friendly event in town!

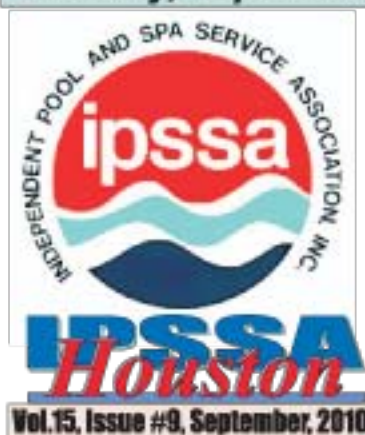
All of our Chapter Supporters will be there, with their tables set up and their fine products on display. As always there will be lots of give-aways and drawings, not to

mention our annual raffle drawing. Don't forget to get your raffle tickets turned in.

New E-Mail Address

Please make note of my e-mail address change.

The new address is:
mike.cedro@yahoo.com



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

Servicing Old Pools

It's great to take care of a brand new pool with freshly filled water and nice new equipment. The pool cleaner is operating at its very best, and the filtration system is performing perfectly, not to mention the pristine water that is very forgiving of any operator's oversight.

Unfortunately, most of the pools on your route are not brand new, and they each have their own special problems. Many pool owners are not financially prepared to authorize all of the needed repairs an older pool requires. Then it is up to you as the pool pro to deal with these situations on a weekly basis.

Drips and leaks on the equipment pad are easy enough to repair and should be taken care of promptly. Underground leaks on the suction side, evidenced by air in the pump pot, are a larger job that your customer may not be prepared to pay for. As long as the amount of air in the system is not too great, it can be dealt with.

Two of the problems that air in the system can cause are air build-up in the filter and air in the chlorinator. The filter should have a tube (sand filters and cartridge filters) or vent screen (DE filters) on the inside to automatically pull the air from the top of the filter and send it through the manifold to the returns in the pool. If the tube is missing or broken, the air will build up in the filter, causing poor filtration and water kick-back from compressed air through the pump when the system turns off.

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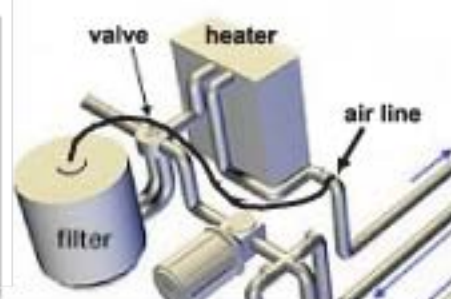
Electrical Supplies

**Garden Leisure
Above Ground
Pools**

In cartridge filters, the replacement is simple, but in a sand filter it requires removing the sand, which takes time and expense that the owner of the older pool may not be prepared to pay for. The simplest solution to this problem is to just leave the manual air relief bleeder open very slightly to minimize the air build-up in the filter. It will hiss and spit, and the owner will need to keep an eye on the

pool water level daily. This is certainly not a permanent answer to the problem, but it will do in a pinch.

A better repair would be to drill and tap an air relief tube through the top of the filter lid, connecting the other end of the tube to a tap in the return line (after the heater if there is one). This would be an external equivalent to the internal air tube and would operate the same way.



Coming Events Houston Pool & Spa Calendar

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

September 14- IPSSA/Houston
Meeting. 7:00 pm at Fuddrucker's,
2475 Kirkwood just North of West-
heimer. Board Meeting preceding.

September 25- FallFest at George
Bush Park. Family picnic & Pool
Show. Raffle drawing.



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If you have air in the system, you will



Passed The Test

Bill Pierucci, of NorthWest Pools, has passed his electrical test. We are very proud of him and others who have passed their licensing!

Houston APSP President, Michael Miller also announced recently that he has passed the test. Congratulations to all.

What's in a Name?

OK, so I'm illiterate. Our new Board Member At Large is "Star Gaeckler" (not Goekler, as printed in last month's newsletter. Gee, you'd think I would know how to spell it, since I used to work for Star and Carl. (The mind is one of the first things to go.) Hey, "Gaeckler" doesn't exactly pop up on spell-check!

have a problem with your erosion feeder (chlorinator or brominator). The feeder will be mostly full of air, and your tablets will not be dissolving. The solution to

this is the same as the solution to the sand filter. Attach an air tube from the upper side of the feeder to the return line after the feeder.



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Classified Ads are 50 cents per word. IPSSA members can have one 35-word ad per month free. Mail ad to: Cedro, 11435 Kirkhollow Drive, Houston, TX 77089, or e-mail to mike.cedro@yahoo.com

Help Wanted

Experienced Pool Repair Technician needed in Galveston. Minimum 3 years experience. Prefer 5+ years. Certifications desired. Salary negotiable. Apply at: <http://www.aquaspectx.com>

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