

Water Watcher

MARCH 2012



March 7, 2012
8990 Kruitof Way,
Fair Oaks, 95628

Dinner
6:30 pm
Meeting
7:00 to 9:00 pm

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

March
Monte Routon
American Leak
Detection &
Perfect Attendance Awards

April
Pentair

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Upcoming Speakers	1
Announcements	2
Announcements	3
Sick Route	3
Contact Numbers	4
Chapter Supporters	4

President's Message



Here comes the sun. Temperatures are climbing and customers are in there yards again checking out there pools. It is time to start prepping for the spring. Get filters cleaned, check for equipment leaks, check pool cleaners, and adjust your chemistry for Spring Conditioning. Spring Conditioning is something every pool needs to adjust water chemistry after the winter weather. Spring Conditioning is recommended to be an extra charge this time of year to offset the cost associated with the amount of chemicals needed to properly chemically treat a pool. Don't leave your self short. The rise in fuel costs and the rise in chemical costs may require you to raise your Spring Conditioning charge and even your Monthly Service charge to reflect this. Do your homework before you send out your next month's customer billing. Costs have gone way up and it can catch up with you real quick. Your quality depends on your ability to stay successfully in

business. Afford to be able to service pools.

Please be at this month's chapter meeting the speaker is Monte from American Leak Detection. There is a lot to learn from him. Also, Pentair will be handing out perfect attendance awards. If you have perfect attendance last year, don't miss it. The award is spectacular. I will also be passing out a sign up sheet for volunteers at the May Table top. Please volunteer. Jillian and I have taken charge of it again and are hoping to make it even better. Please let us know if you have any requests or ideas for this year's Table Top.

In case anybody cares, I would like to make an announcement. Jillian and I had a baby in February. William George Simon. He was born February 7th, at 6:57 am, eight pounds 12 ounces and 21.5 inches long. Mom and the baby are doing really well. My two daughters couldn't be

more excited. Thank you for every ones support. Thank you, Larry for running the board meeting, and going to the leadership conference in my place.

Hope to see everyone at this month's chapter meeting. Enjoy the weather.

"Keep up the good work"
Sincerely, Gregg Simon
Capital Valley I.P.S.S.A. President

**PIZZA PROVIDED BY
MONTE ROUTON
OF
AMERICAN LEAK
DETECTION**



Perfect Attendance Awards for 2011

- ♦ Jack Emlay
- ♦ Scott Houseman
- ♦ Jerry Houseman
- ♦ Larry Hughes
- ♦ Richard Lynch
- ♦ Bob Martell
- ♦ Lauren Rider
- ♦ Fernando Rodriguez
- ♦ Jim Severin
- ♦ Karam Singh
- ♦ George Stevenson
- ♦ Michael Walker

IPSSA National Pentair Rebate Program

Program Details - \$1 for each product you purchase will go to IPSSA, Inc. for the education program. Forms for the rebate program will be available at the meeting, March 7, 2012. Signing up for this will not interrupt any other rebate program you might be participating in.

March 15 - 17, 2012 Annual Western Pool and Spa Show

With attendance topping 10,000, the Annual Western Pool & Spa Show has become one of the premier pool and spa industry trade shows in the United States. Yet it still remains faithful to its original purpose - to educate and train pool and spa service technicians and the trade while giving manufacturers and distributors the opportunity to reach this very specific and influential portion of the swimming pool and spa industry

For more detail check out
www.westernshow.com

Sick Route Highlights

- ◆ On February 1, 2012 a fine of \$100 will be levied against **any** member who has not completed and returned the card by that date.
- ◆ On March 1, 2012 an additional fine of \$200 will be levied against **any** member who has not completed and returned the card by that date.
- ◆ On April 1, 2012 an additional fine of \$300 will be levied against **any** member who has not completed and returned the card by that date.
- ◆ If you don't fill out and return this card, you will NOT have sick route coverage for your pools.
- ◆ If you don't fill out and return this card, you can be assigned to sick route coverage ANYWHERE in the coverage area, regardless of where or if you have pools.
- ◆ Those who do not fill out and return the cards will be at the top of the list for coverage of sick route pools.
- ◆ If you do not fill out and return the card, you are eligible for expulsion from Capital Valley IPSSA.
- ◆ **Currently Larry Souza is out sick. He has 79 pools that have been issued to members. Please service these pools with the same respect you would give your own customers. Thank you!**

Poolman's Fishing Derby

7TH ANNUAL
Family - Fishing - Food - Fun

Collins Lake, California Carpe Diem/Carpe Piscis

March 23, 24, 25, 2012



Call or e-mail The Derby
for your registration form

530-889-8682

pmfd2011@sbcglobal.net

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Newsletters are being sent out via e-mail! If you do not receive a newsletter via e-mail its because the IPSSA financial office does not have your e-mail address. Please e-mail me at jneronde@yahoo.com and I will be sure to add you to the list.

Capital Valley IPSSA Chapter

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Capital Valley IPSSA Chapter Board of Directors

Please Patronize Our Chapter Supporters

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Table listing chapter supporters with names and phone numbers, including Adams Pool Specialties, American Leak Detection, Aqua Salt, Aqua Star, Aztec Solar, Blake Sales, Bullseye Leak Detection, Chem Quip, Contractors State License Services, Deck-O-Seal, HASA Chemicals, Hayward Pool Products, Jandy/Polaris/Zodiac, Leisure Supply Company, Natural Chemistry, Orenda Technologies, Paramount Pool & Spa Systems, Pentair, Pool Covers, Inc., Premier Pool & Spa, Raypak, Recreation Sales, Sales Link, SCP, Rancho Cordova, SCP, Rocklin, Sierra Concrete Resurfacing, Valley Leak Detection, Jason Ladd, Monte Routon, Susan Flowers, Jack Wohler, Jonathan Gemma, Ron Eger, Daniel Spatz, Mitch Miles, Mary Birch, Patrick Raney, Stan Carpenter, John Adams Handy, Jade Nicol, Tristen Traynor, Pat Smith, Patrick Storm, John Andersen, Lorne Early, Cheryl MacLennan, Louie Nava, Rick Witt, Kirk Wissbaum, Chuck Stetler, Eron Bennett, Ernie Weigum, Rocco, and Jeff Smith.

Chapter Supporters if your name is not on this list and you believe it should be please contact our program chairman George Stevenson (916) 863-1700.

If you are a Chapter Supporter and are interested in submitting monthly articles, or news, please e-mail info and artwork to Jennifer Neronde at jneronde@yahoo.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month for the following months issue. Thank you.



January 17, 2012

To: IPSSA BORD
IPSSA Chapter Presidents

Re: Rola Chem Chemical Feeders

Many of you are aware of a major lawsuit involving chemical burn injuries suffered by two spa bathers. The injury occurred when a Rola Chem controller allegedly malfunctioned and discharged 5 gallons of liquid chlorine into an 800 gallon spa resulting in a chlorine reading of approximately 700 ppm. The settlement and legal fees to defend our IPSSA member were close to \$500,000.

This is a serious issue since this is a very popular chemical feeder in commercial pools. Rola Chem executives have advised me that they are attempting to determine (1) whether their product commonly fails in a way to permit an unregulated discharge supply of chlorine and (2) how any problem can be fixed.

Toward this end, Rola Chem has agreed to replace chemical controllers that have failed, even if the unit is beyond the warranty period. Members should call (800)549-4473 and ask for Dennis Johnson or Debbie Zaiger. You will be sent a replacement controller and given instructions on how to return the defective unit.

IMPORTANT

We advise all members request an additional insured endorsement from Rola Chem. Rola Chem has agreed to add IPSSA service techs at no cost. The additional insured endorsement will provide the service tech with substantial insurance protection in the event of a product defect claim. Contact Mark Lynch at Rola Chem (800)549-4473 or markl@specialtymfg.com .

Ray Arouesty

Diagnosing clogged suction lines

By Monte Routon

American Leak Detection, Sacramento

Some of you may have customers who are experiencing clogged suction lines, but...they just don't know it yet. You will recognize a clogged or partially clogged suction line right away: If the pool pump is sucking air or losing prime there is probably an air leak, either above or below ground. If, however, there is no air being pulled into the pump but there is reduced water flow, there may be a partially plugged suction line.

To clear the clogged suction line, American Leak Detection suggests you try the following:

- First, attempt to blow the line out from the pump side. There is a good chance that the obstruction is closer to the skimmer than the pump and there is a better chance of freeing that obstruction by blowing the line out backwards. ***Before you do this***, pull out the skimmer basket and plug the front hole of the skimmer to avoid freeing the object from the suction line and then sending it down the main drain pipe.
- Next, using a combination of air and water, give the line high-pressure, consecutive blasts. If the line is partially plugged there shouldn't be a risk of high pressure building up and blowing the inducer out of the line or causing any damage. Hopefully this procedure will free the obstruction and you will find whatever was clogging the line in the skimmer. If the obstruction doesn't come up into the skimmer, it may be visible down the pipe, but you may need a pair of long needle-nose pliers to retrieve it.
- Finally, if the suction line is still clogged after doing the first two steps, try blowing it out from the skimmer side into the pump, making sure the lid is off the pump. The next step would be digging up the pipe to access the obstruction.

To avoid this problem altogether, make sure that your customer isn't using a small rock to weight the skimmer basket. Sometimes, customers put rocks in there that are smaller than the suction pipe, and when the basket turns over, this rock is sucked into the line. Also, warn your customers against vacuuming the pool directly into the skimmer without a cartridge in the vacuum hose. The cartridge catches any debris before it enters the suction line.

Good luck!

Monte Routon

American Leak Detection, Sacramento



2012 Technical Training

Saturday, March 17 - FPSIE 598 Display Way. Sacramento

9:00 AM – 12:00 AM



Hayward Heater Seminar

R.S.V.P. Reserve Seating, Seminar is Free

John Adams-Handy

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