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2009 General Meetings

1st Tuesday of the month
Dark January and July

November through April, 7 PM
May through October, 7:30 PM

**Canoga Park Bowl
Courtyard Room
20122 Vanowen Street
Canoga Park, CA 91306**

**Next Meeting
7:00 PM, Tuesday
February 3**

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ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

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IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT PHONE
NUMBERS AND INFORMATION**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The New Year is upon us and we've had several weeks of high winds accompanied by soot, ash, and more ash, coming from the fires we had late last year. I only hope the winds settle down so we can catch a break and get caught up on those problem pools!

Our Holiday dinner meeting was huge hit. We had great food, good company and a big collection for Toys 4 Tots. Our chapter members donated over \$1,000.00 cash for Gary Provolt, the Santa Clarita chapter member who lost his house to last year's fire. Way to go guys! Ray and I are working on some good speakers for our February Chapter meeting.

Ray Arouesty, President of Arrow Insurance and the insurance broker for IPSSA, has an excellent article in the December IPSSAN about the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act. This law went into effect December 19, 2008. Remember, you need to have a C53 contractor's license to do this kind of work. IPSSA's general liability insurance policy contains an exclusion for the construction of swimming pools, fountains or spas, resulting in a lack of coverage in this area. Construction is defined as "acting as a general contractor". Arrow insurance can provide additional insurance for members involved in pool construction, including remodeling, in compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act.

Below is information about the Title 20 Amendment from Pool & Spa News Magazine:

California's Title 20 Amendments Adopted

By John Miles

California has passed new energy efficiency standards for pumps, motors and spa testing.

On December 3, 2008, the California Energy Commission adopted amended language to its Title 20 appliance efficiency standards. The changes were the result of more than 10 months of public comments and recommendations from manufacturers, trade associations and individual contractors.

"We've had differences of opinion on how to get the best results, but the good news is, generally everyone is focused now on energy efficiency," said Gary Fernstrom, a staff augmentation employee at Pacific Gas & Electric Co., who has spearheaded advocacy efforts for energy efficiency in pools and spas.

The more significant changes will affect the sales of pool pumps and motors. As of January 1, 2008, filtration pumps sold with a capacity of 1hp or higher must be capable of operating at two or more speeds. But the language failed to clarify two issues: whether replacement motors were subject to the same law and how "capacity" is defined.

The newly amended language now includes replacement motors in its scope, thus making them part of the requirement. The language also clearly defines capacity as total horsepower (the product of the nameplate hp and the service factor). These changes will go into effect January 1, 2010.

However, CEC is still considering issuing a clarification to define capacity as total horsepower in the 2008 language, according to Fernstrom. The clarification would be effective immediately and require new 3/4hp pumps, which generally have a 1.25 total hp, to be sold as two-, multi- or variable-speed for filtration applications.

The new Title 20 amendments also allow for more leniency in spa testing. "The way they [wrote] it originally ... it was really a difficult test to achieve the requirements they asked for," said Angelo Pugliese, senior engineer at Dimension One Spas in Vista, Calif. "They gave us some leeway and that was a big help."

The amendments established allowable variances in ambient air and water temperatures. The changes should ultimately enable more spas to become compliant with the state's energy efficiency requirements.

PG&E is currently planning to research energy savings between automatic pool cleaning products and solar thermal heating systems. Though the company is not looking to advocate any more laws, the results may influence the California Public Utility Commission's new incentive and rebate programs, which should be unveiled this summer.

Let's make this a good and prosperous new year and of course always drive safely,

Dave

Support Our Sponsors!

SECRETARY'S REPORT

In December we had a Holiday Dinner Meeting, no business was conducted.

Bill Jackson, Secretary

Alain Francois, of Spear AquaChlor, who is a real expert in pool repair, equipment, and does insurance work for your customers homeowners insurance, has agreed to be in our meeting room 30 minutes before the meeting to answer any questions you may have. If you have any questions he will be glad to help. Alain has many hard to find parts at his business, and will do pump seal and bearing jobs. Stop by and meet him! His phone is 818-719-9059.

Please Bring Your Sick Cards To The Next Meeting To Show Farshid That You Have Filled Them Out This is voluntary for now but will become mandatory shortly!

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