## The decision to renew (or join) FSPA membership

by Wendy Parker, Executive Director

Everyday my conversations with industry members have the same undertone ... things are rough for the swimming pool industry. And while there are multiple factors and each effect us differently, the resulting stress and uncertainty is the same.

But now is not the time to forgo membership in your industry's trade association! And just in case you haven't heard it before – and even if you have – here are some of the benefits of being a member of FSPA.

The cost of your annual membership is offset by FSPA member benefits many times over. To name a few, members receive reduced fees for required continuing education, dividend payments for using our endorsed insurance provider, use of the association's arbitration program to expedite and reduce costs associated with consumer disputes and consumer referrals through local member directories and the FSPA consumer web site. Each year FSPA awards more than \$20,000 in college scholarships to kids in the

swimming pool industry; the average scholarship is \$1,000 – more than any dues level.

The success FSPA has made in the government relations arena is protecting your industry and your business. The engineering master filing fix prevented a requirement of site-specific engineering for pools and screen enclosures. The equipotential bonding grid fix allows for single wire, which is cost effective and safe and conforms to the 2008 NEC. FSPA lobbied successfully for the adoption of the ANSI/APSP 7 Suction Entrapment Avoidance Standard, a comprehensive safety standard, into the Florida Building Code and assisted with the extension of the practical exam for subcontractors until 2012.

FSPA membership puts you on the front lines to receive communication regarding pool industry news. An e-newsletter gets you hot news and hot tips to your inbox for a quick update. The monthly *Florida Pool Prosm* is mailed first class to members and includes complete information on

matters impacting the industry. Local FSPA Chapters keep you up to date through meetings, newsletters and faxes, as well as providing networking opportunities to share and learn from other swimming pool pros.

In August we will introduce two new member benefit programs. A new program with GreenFlag will help you with delinquent receivables and a new program with Acxiom provides background checks for current and prospective employees. These programs were suggested by members just like you and we will

continue to add benefits based on your needs and suggestions.

So, when you are making the decision to renew your membership, remember that this is a bill that pays you back everyday in your business.

FSPA has established monthly and quarterly payment options, providing you the ability to spread the dues expense over the coming year. For additional information about membership, membership benefit programs or industry information please call the FSPA office at (866) 930-FSPA or your local Chapter.

## News Splash

• Insurance Update. Equipment thefts are on the rise. To prevent a loss of time, jobs and money maintain an inventory list, share it with your insurance company and take steps to secure your jobsites.

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- **Digging up Ideas**: The re-write of *ANSI/APSP-5 Standard for In-Ground Residential Pools* has been completed. To comment on the revised standard, simply let the writing committee know that you wish to be included in the canvass process. Page 7
- The Scoop on Service. There is always room to learn new things.
   Phosphates can cause recurring algae if not dealt with properly.
   Page 7
- U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission staff interpretations are available for Section 1404 Public Pools of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act are available at www.FloridaPoolPro. com. More analysis of what this means will be available in upcoming issues of *Splash* and *Florida Pool Pro*<sup>sm</sup>.

## Tax and Budget Reform Commission Completes Work

The Tax and Budget Reform Commission (TBRC) meets every 20 years to consider revisions needed to the state tax and budget policies. Commission actions take the form of recommendations to the Legislature, commonly known as statutory proposals, or as proposed constitutional amendments for the voters to decide in November. The TBRC met for the final time this 20-year cycle on April 24-25, 2008, for the last votes on constitutional proposals they will send to the ballot for the voters to approve or reject in November 2008. Described below are the seven constitutional proposals that now go to the ballot and the one proposal that was withdrawn.

CP 0002 Required Local Effort/Replacement Sales Tax (PASSED—Now referred to as Amendment #5) -

- Limits non-homestead property tax increases to five percent a year, beginning January 1, 2009;
- Prohibits the state from requiring local governments to assess ad valorem tax for school districts for the "required local effort;"
- Directs the Legislature to replace the state mandated local school taxes with state taxes from the following sources:
- o Repeal of sales tax exemptions (except food; prescription drugs; health services; charitable organizations; religious organizations; residential rent, electricity and heating fuel; sales of tangible personal property purchased for resale or imported produced or manufactured in this state for export; sales of real property; and sales of intangible personal property).
- o An increase of up to one percent in the sales and use tax in existence on January  $6,\,2009.$
- o Spending reductions in the state budget and revenue increases resulting from economic growth attributable to lower property taxes;

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Continued on page 3

## President's Column

## One size doesn't fit all



**Dominick Montanaro FSPA President** 

T h e above phrase has been a common theme across the state this last year as the legislature attempted to "fix" the property tax inequities that existed in

Florida. Almost one year after the Amendment 1 vote, we are now seeing the reality of the fix. You will all be receiving your property tax valuations this month and with the additional \$25,000 Homestead exemption you may see a pittance of relief on your home's taxes. The fix did nothing for your business property taxes. If you have additional income property, your taxes will continue to go up there too.

The statements made by our leaders, that schools would not be impacted, have not been the case. We are seeing the effects locally: municipal and county government services are being compromised or in some cases eliminated. Legitimate abuses of the old system and frivolous spending occurred in some places but that was not commonplace across the state.

Locally, people know what they want and most are willing to pay for it. When decisions are made by the Legislature that circumvent the ability of people to make those decisions on the items they want or need, the system is flawed.

The same happens outside of government. In 1999 the leadership of what was then Region 7 of NSPI realized that they had long been providing services to Florida members and the industry that the national association could not provide. They proposed at the time a restructure of the alignment with NSPI and the first affiliation was entered into with NSPI. Region 1 (NESPA) entered into a similar agreement with NSPI shortly after Florida. Both entities realized they knew the needs of their members better and could provide those services better. They also realized the benefits associated in working with NSPI on national issues.

The affiliations have been renewed several times over the last eight years and the FSPA Board of Directors on January 12, 2008 voted to extend the existing agreement for another year with APSP. In February, we were notified by APSP that they were canceling the FSPA and NESPA affiliations which were scheduled to expire on June 30, 2008.

The FSPA Board, at their March 15 meeting, voted to propose a new cooperative agreement and forwarded it to APSP. The FSPA Executive Committee, the Chairman of the Board of APSP and their Executive Director met in May to discuss the proposal. Changes were made and the proposal came back to the FSPA Board at our June 28 meeting. At that time the Board decided to take no action and discuss the proposal on September 20 at the BOD meeting.

Currently your membership with FSPA does not include membership with APSP. Likewise, renewing with APSP does not include membership with FSPA. We are committed to continue working with APSP on national issues, ANSI/ASTM and with ICC regulations as we have always

The Florida industry over the last eight years has seen a significant shift in the position the pool professional has both locally and in Tallahassee. CILB education programs offered by FSPA have provided hundreds of industry specific classes over those years that directly benefit our members. Industry certification courses are under consideration for development.

We continue to be the leader with government relations in Tallahassee and our success has been well documented over the last few years in the pages of this publication. Each success or failure in Tallahassee has an impact on your bottom line. FSPA has attained credibility working in the legislative arena on the industry's behalf. We continually monitor and participate in local regulations that members bring to our attention. We work with the Department of Health on safety, training and current revisions to Chapter 64E-9. The relationship we have established with BOAF and the

local building officials has proven to be a major asset to our industry.

The FSPA Insurance program that pays dividends to members is available along with new health and employee benefit programs. We are now offering the MSDS and OSHA compliance programs. Brochures including "The Professionals in Pool and Spas", "Important Safety Information", and "Swimming Pools and Storms" are available. A new series of pamphlets similar to those members may have used in the past from APSP are being drafted.

The dues you pay to FSPA cover all aspects of services the Association provides. Under this new structure, we have the responsibility of providing even more. We will continue to be your resource here in Florida; we know your market and are always open to new requests for programs that will work in Florida. We strive to be "the one that fits all your needs".

Thank you, Dominick



### Thursday, September 18

1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Executive Committee** Meeting 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Chapter Task Force** 

### Friday, September 19

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Service Council 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **GR** Update for Builders and Service Council **Builders Council** 10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Membership Committee 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Community Involvement/ **Consumer Awareness** Committee 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Trade Show Meeting **Energy Task Force** 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Presidents & Executive

Committee

Safety Council

**Board of Directors Meeting** 

## Florida Pool Prosm

Published monthly by the Florida Swimming Pool Association Association Mission: Promoting Florida's swimming pool industry.

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www.FloridaPoolPro.com

## Taking CE? Bring your ID!

Saturday, September 20

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

A form of identification is now required when taking any continuing education courses. If you do not present an ID when you arrive at your course and sign in, you will not receive credit.

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## **Tax and Budget Reform Commission Completes Work**

Continued from front page

- o Other revenues identified or created by the legislature.
- Requires education funding to be held harmless and allows local governments to raise ad valorem taxes for other school purposes;
- Requires each law creating a sales tax exemption to contain a single subject and contain a finding that the exemption advances or serves the public purpose of encouraging economic development and competitiveness; supporting educational, governmental, literary, scientific, religious, or charitable initiatives or organizations; or securing tax fairness.

CP 0004 Residential Property Assessment/Storm Hardening or Renewable Energy Devices (PASSED) - This proposed constitutional amendment authorizes the Legislature to exempt the value of changes made for improving homesteaded real property's resistance to wind damage or the installation of a renewable energy source device from tax assessment. The effective date is January 1, 2009, but it is not implemented until the Legislature takes action.

The proposal also repeals the renewable energy source property tax exemption in Section 3, Article VII, which repeal shall take effect when approved by the voters.

CP 0006, 0008, 0034 Working Waterfront Assessments (PASSED) - Authorizes the assessment of certain working waterfront properties to be assessed on current value rather than highest and best use. They are:

- Land used predominantly for commercial fishing purposes;
- Land that is accessible to the public and used for vessel launches into navigable waters;
- Marinas and drystacks that are open to the public;
- Water-dependent marine manufacturing facilities, commercial fishing facilities, and marine vessel construction and repair facilities and their support activities.

The assessments are subject to reasonable conditions, limitations, and definitions provided by the Legislature. This shall first apply to tax assessments on January 1, 2010.

*CP 0015/16* Ad Valorem Tax Exemption (PASSED) – This final proposal combines two proposals

that provide for an ad valorem tax exemption for real property used for conservation purposes in perpetuity, as further defined by the Legislature, and for land not encumbered in perpetuity requires the Legislature to provide classification and assessment of land use for conservation purposes based on character or use. It shall apply to tax assessments on January 1, 2010.

CP 0018 Streamlined Sales/Use Tax Collection (WITHDRAWN) - This proposal would have enforced the collection of sales and use tax from internet sales. It was withdrawn from consideration because the sponsor expressed he had a verbal commitment from the Legislature to address this issue.

CP 0020 Blaine Amendment (PASSED) – CP 20 repeals a limit on the power of the state to spend funds directly or indirectly in aid of religious institutions. It also prevents the state from excluding individuals or entities

from a generally available contract or benefit to provide government services based on religion.

CP 0035 Local Option Taxes to Supplement Local Government Funding (PASSED) – CP 35 requires the Legislature to authorize local option sales taxes to supplement funding for community colleges. The taxes would sunset after five years.

CP 0026 Sixty-five Percent of School District Funding Be Spent for Classroom Instruction/Duty for Children's Education (PASSED) – CP 26 requires 65% of school district funding to be spent on classroom instruction. It also provides that a uniform, efficient, safe, secure and high quality system of free public schools is a minimum non-exclusive duty of the state. Further, it reverses the legal precedent prohibiting public funding of private school alternatives to public school programs without creating an entitlement.



For the cost of a cup of coffee a day you could stay up to date on industry changes, take CE courses and stand out as a reliable professional.

Renew your membership today!

Just a reminder:

If you have not paid dues to APSP,
you may no longer use their logo.

Membership in the FSPA no longer includes APSP.

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Team Rewards turns your purchases into a number of great gifts and travel. Earn points to receive vacations, exotic cruises, and great merchandise.

Sign up with your HornerXpress sales Representative or visit







## Florida Pool Permits

Provided by HBW. www.hbweekly.com.



County Name	June 2007	June 2008
Alachua County	18	15
Bay County	35	19
Brevard County	73	54
Broward County	129	60
Calhoun County	0	0
Charlotte County	33	29
Citrus County	30	26
Clay County	15	9
Collier County	78	52
Dade County	145	139
Duval County	18	12
Escambia County	34	25
Flagler County		13
Franklin County	0	2
Gadsden County	0	0
Gulf County	5	1
Hernando County		20
Highlands County		1
Hillsborough County		100
Holmes County	0	1
Indian River County		23
Jackson County		2
Jefferson County		1
Lake County		35
Lee County		136
Leon County	16	23
Liberty County	0	0
Manatee County		47
Marion County		35
Martin County		31
Nassau County		6
Okaloosa County		15
Orange County		122
Osceola County	62	50
Palm Beach County		134
Pasco County	88	64
Pinellas County		35
Polk County	117	98
Putnam County	3	0
Santa Rosa County	35	33
Sarasota County	43	33
Seminole County		30
St Johns County		49
St Lucie County	17	57
Sumter County	11	16
Volusia County	57	35
Wakulla County	6	0
Walton County	11	24
Washington County	0	0
TOTALS	2268	1712
TOTALO	2200	1/14

## **New Member Applications**

#### Manasota

Pool Design Concepts, LLC (Provisional)
Qualifier: Todd Duncan, CPC1457626
Judy Hess, Sarasota

#### **Greater Miami**

Calypso Pool Co. (Builder / Installer) Qualifier: Carlos Gonzalez, CPC057334 Glysel Pineiro, Miami

#### **North West**

Pearce's Krystal Klear Pools, Inc. (Builder / Installer) CPC1457242 Tim and Erika Pearce, Crawfordville

If you have actual knowledge of any grounds why the above companies do not meet FSPA criteria, contact the Chapter Director in writing

## Classified Ads/ Job Listings

**PoolDesign.net** Since 1996. Engineered swimming pool plans • Residential • Commercial. **Expert design - layout - planning.** All Florida. *Certificate of Authorization 9871.* For more information: Phone: (954) 941-1124. Fax: (954) 941-1142. E-mail: info@swimmingpoolplan.com. www.pooldesign.

#### Also check www.floridapoolpro.com for listings!

For \$15 a month your listing will be posted on our Web site and for \$75 it will also be published in an issue of the *Florida Pool Pro*<sup>sm</sup>. For more information, contact Charis Tyson at Ctyson@FloridaPoolPro.com or (941) 952-9293.

# Doggone Right... You'll fiesta with HBW sales leads!



**HBW, Inc.** provides permit information on new swimming pool construction as well as residential and commercial construction for Florida, Georgia, Texas and Alabama.

Refer to www.hbweekly.com for county coverage. HBW, Inc. 877-332-1411

## **Energy Talk**

## Solar and pools: a winning combination



By Scott Egglefield, Mirasol FAFCO Solar, and Dillon Daniels, Solar Source.

Swimming pools are in danger of being targeted as energy wasters. Legislators and environmental groups find swimming pools as an easy target to advance the green agenda. As an industry, we need to be proactive in marketing pools as "eco-friendly". One obvious way to do this is to make them more energy efficient.

Historically pools have been referred to as "luxuries" and little attention has been paid to them as potential sources of energy savings. The general consensus was that if you have a pool it's going to cost you.

But, there's good news! Consumers can have a pool and afford it too! Multi-speed pumps and salt chlorinators result in substantial energy savings and solar pool heating is the number one energy saver for pools.

This doesn't mean that you should eliminate gas or electric heat pumps from your pool design. Pool owners make a sizeable investment and should be able to use their pool whenever they want at a reasonable operating expense.

By combining solar pool heating with a heat pump or gas heater you have the best of both worlds: economy and performance. A properly designed solar pool heater will cut the electric or gas cost by 50 percent. If a

pool blanket is used with a nighttime temperature 15 degrees cooler than the desired pool temperature, the savings will approach 90 percent.

To get the most from your solar pool heater, use of an automatic control is critical. The controller diverts the water through the panels when the solar energy is available and bypasses the panels when there is not enough sun. This prevents the solar panels from cooling the pool during rain or cloudy weather. When thermostatically controlled, it also prevents the pool or spa from overheating. A solar controller will increase the performance of a solar system by approximately 30 percent.

With a hybrid pool heating system your fossil fuel heater only goes on when the solar system can't achieve the desired temperature. It's kind of like having a sailboat with a motor. A hybrid system will extend the life of a heat pump or gas heater because it will be in use less than half of the time. Installing a hybrid pool heating systems is a win-win-win situation: The customer gets an affordable, useable pool, the pool industry sells more products and the planet uses less fossil fuels!

Solar heating greatly reduces the carbon footprint of a swimming pool.

## **Insurance Update**

# Company equipment theft- A sign of the times

By Bill Hodgkins, Insurance by Ken Brown, Inc.

With today's current economic climate, equipment thefts (and thefts in general) are reportedly on the rise. Hardly a day goes by when you don't hear of theft on the six o'clock news. Nothing can ruin your day like a thief stealing some of your company's equipment. Whether it's a \$900 pool cleaner or a \$55,000 excavator. the loss of equipment is financially damaging to your company in a number of ways. Not only do you have the cost to replace the equipment, but you also have the loss of production (including the associated employee wages) and the cost of renting new equipment until you can replace the stolen item. If the piece of equipment stolen is critical in the construction process, you could have a slowdown in not only the job that the equipment was servicing but all the other jobs it was intended to be used on.

So what can you do to prevent equipment theft? The first thing you should do is maintain an accurate and complete inventory list of all of your equipment. This list should include: year, make, model and color, product ID number or serial number (the full serial number), engine and transmission numbers and some type of company ID number and its hidden location on the equipment. This list will aid law enforcement in identifying

your equipment, if recovered, as well as registering the equipment as stolen in national and manufacturer theft databases. This list should be updated regularly (multiple times a year) and shared with your insurance company to make sure their list of covered equipment matches.

Now that you have your list, you should make sure that all your jobsites are secure and not inviting to would-be thieves. Some ways you can make your jobsites secure are: conducting unannounced jobsite visits and checking for anything suspicious, maintaining a list of employees authorized to be on your jobsite, keeping disposable cameras readily available to capture suspicious individuals, performing background checks prior to hiring, making sure equipment is locked up or disabled prior to ending the work day and making sure debris is not piled up around security fencing allowing thieves to easily climb over.

A little prevention and planning can go a long way in thwarting would-be thieves from disrupting your work flow and cash flow. Don't be complacent and think that theft won't happen to you, because unfortunately, theft can happen to anyone at any time. For more information, contact your insurance agent.



## Mid-Year Education & Networking Conference

August 22-23, 2008 • Doubletree Castle Hotel, Orlando

Don't miss out on these sponsorship opportunities:

Reception Sponsor: \$500 • 1st Round Drinks Sponsor: \$500 • Tabletop Exhibit: \$225

#### Course Fees - seeking CILB Credit

FSPA / APSP Members:

Non-members:

\$125 per day, \$199 for both days \$170 per day, \$299 for both days

#### Course Fees - No CILB credit

\$50 per day, (seating preferences will be given to those seeking credit)

Seats are limited, register early! Lunch is provided Friday & Saturday.

A Networking Reception with tabletop exhibits will be held on Friday, August 23 at the Doubletree Castle Hotel for course participants and industry members. Complimentary food and drinks will be provided!

### Thank you! to event sponsors:









Friday Track 1
----------------

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Workers' Compensation, CILB course #0006955 Workplace Safety, CILB course #0006954 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Effective Collections Techniques, CILB course 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. #0008759

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

Florida Building Code Advanced Training: 1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Residential Swimming Pools, CILB course

Chapter 489: Contractors Responsibilities, CILB 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

course #0010147

#### Friday Track 2

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Bonding and Ground for Pools, Spas & Other Bodies of Water, CILB course #0009897 Water Chemistry for Aggregate Pool Finishes, 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

CILB course #0009893

Construction and Pool Prep Considerations for 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Aggregate Pool Finishes, CILB course #0009892

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Alternative Dispute Resolution, CILB course

#0007785

Mesh Safety Barriers, CILB course #0007794

#### Saturday Track 1

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Chapter 489: Prohibitions and Penalties, CILB course #0010148

9:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Department of Transportation Regulations for the

Pool Industry, CILB course #0008307

Workers' Compensation, CILB course #0006955 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Florida Building Code: Entrapment Protection for Suction Inlets, CILB course #9991111\*

Small Business Communication, CILB course 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#0007788

#### Saturday Track 2

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Soil and Groundwater Consideration in Swimming Pool Construction in Florida, CILB course #0008404

Vanishing Edges: How to Make the Magic, CILB course #0006964

Lunch

Automatic Sanitizing Devices, CILB course

#9992222\*

Solutions in Chemistry, CILB course #9993333\*

\*Courses approved, course # pending

FPSA d/b/a Florida Swimming Pool Association CILB providership #0000917

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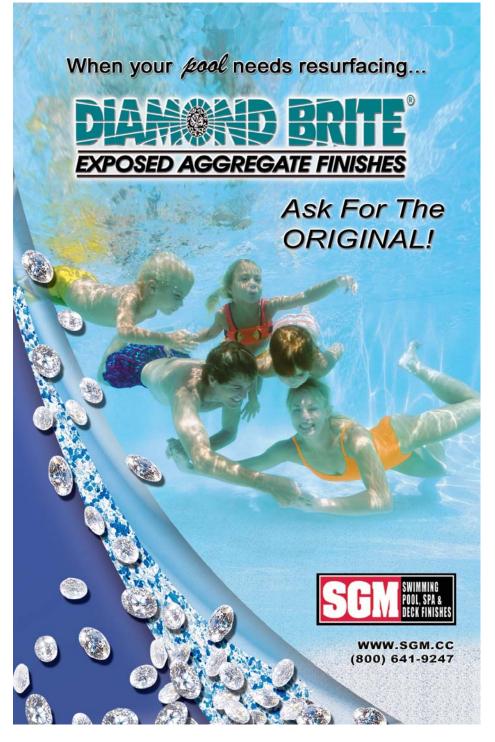


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# Digging up Ideas

## **Touch your future**

by Dan Johnson, Swim, Inc.

Before my wife came to work with me in the pool business in 2002, she was a pre-school teacher. For 18 years she opened little minds to new possibilities. She had a bumper sticker on her car that said, "I touch the future – I teach".

In a different way, you, our pool contractors, now have a unique opportunity to touch the future – your future

The re-write of the ANSI/APSP-5 Standard for In-Ground Residential Pools has been completed and it will soon be out for consensus ballot.

The ANSI process requires that every standard approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) must be reviewed at least once every five years to ensure that it is technologically current. The ANSI/APSP-5 Standard has just completed that review process. It has been reviewed and updated by the writing committee, checked by the APSP Builders Council, and reviewed for technical accuracy by the Technical Committee. The next step in the process is the Consensus Review, more commonly called, the canvass process. This is where your opportunity awaits.

In order to retain its certification as an ANSI Standard, the draft of any proposed new language must be offered for review by any interested and/or affected parties, and the comments from those reviewers must be considered by the writing committee. The committee must then

respond to each commentor explaining the action taken to accommodate their comment or the justification for taking no action.

To comment on the revised Standard, simply let the writing committee know that you wish to be included in the canvass process and you will be sent a draft for comment (if you let the FSPA state office know, they will be sure you are included in the canvass process). Once you get the draft, if you have comments, the proper procedure is to advise the writing committee of the language you disagree with and provide corrective language. Keep in mind, your corrective language must be based on sound technical rationale. The writing committee will respond to you directly.

Once a two-thirds majority is achieved in favor of the new language, the Standard may be submitted to ANSI. Typically, the APSP writing committees strive for a greater majority before submitting for re-certification but two-thirds is the requirement.

The importance of touching your future here is that the ANSI/APSP-5 Standard is the conformance standard of the Uniform Florida Building Code. You will be required to comply with the new language as soon as it is approved; so it really is in your best interest to get involved. And, in regulatory terms, it's always best to know what's coming before it gets here. Participate.



## Can't get rid of algae...did you know?

by Mike Shirey, Clear Pools Maintenance, Inc.

Having been in the swimming pool maintenance and repair business for over 30 years, I have come to realize that there is always room to learn new things.

Approximately seven or eight years ago I learned a valuable lesson, the hard way, about phosphates. I lost a very good residential service account that I had for close to 20 years. My pool technician at the time was unable to conclusively clear up an algae problem that kept recurring over the course of a summer. After getting personally involved in trying to clear up this problem and failing, the customer terminated my services.

This motivated me to further investigate this mysterious algae problem. After speaking to several of my colleagues, I began to learn about phosphates and the negative effects that they have on swimming pool water. I also observed that the majority of the pools with phosphate

issues were in areas that relied on wells as the primary source for makeup water. I believe that fertilizer and other pollutants cause the higher levels in the well water because they are absorbed into the ground and eventually make their way into the aquifer. I also believe that this problem has been exacerbated by the recent droughts.

The good news is that phosphates can be easily detected with a simple-to-use test kit and eliminated with phosphate removing chemicals that can be purchased at your local distributor. The other good news is that you can/should be charging your customer extra for this service since it is a phenomenon that can occur and is beyond your control.

In closing, I would suggest learning about phosphates; how to recognize them, how to test for them and finally, how to deal with them. It could save you an account.



## Time to renew your dues!

## New! Quarterly and monthly payment options make it easy to fit membership into any budget!

## Send in your dues renewal payment to continue receiving member benefits.

	FSPA	APSP
CILB Credit courses for State license renewal		
Local regulations - continuous monitoring and participation	✓	
State legislation & regulation - continuous monitoring and active participation including CILB, FBC and Dept. of Health	Ø	
Federal legislation & regulation - continuous monitoring and active participation with ICC and standards organizations including ANSI & ASTM	✓	ď
Active cooperation with Building Officials Association of Florida, Construction Coalition, DOH Office of Injury Prevention	✓	
MSDS - OSHA compliance program	✓	✓
Arbitration program for alternative dispute resolution	✓	
Code of Ethics	✓	✓

Monthly newsletter addressing issues facing Florida professionals		
Web site listing with find a member search capabilities for consumers		✓
Insurance programs paying dividends to FSPA members	✓	
Health insurance and employee benefit programs	V	
FREE brochures for members to give consumers including swimming pool safety, storm preparation and why to consider FSPA members		
Produce & manage pool and spa industry trade show	✓	
E-newsletter	✓	✓
Scholarships for college students	✓	

If you have any questions or would like to join as a new member, please call the Florida Swimming Pool Association at (941) 952-9293 or toll-free at (866) 930-FSPA

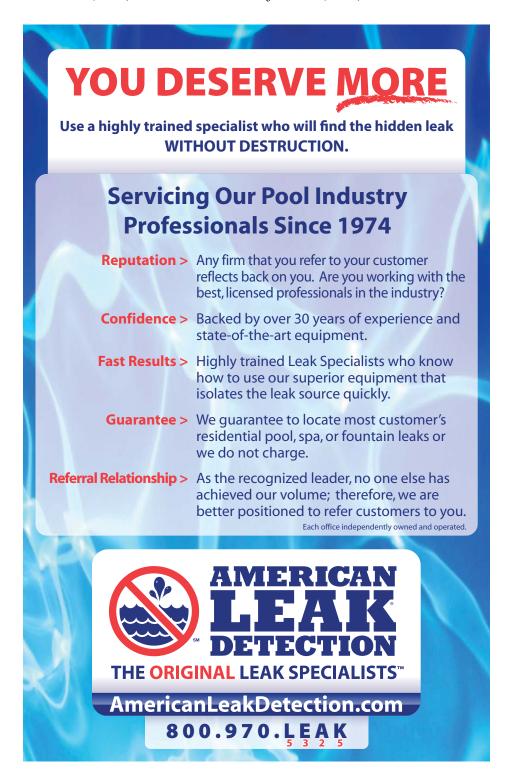


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Reliability

Technology



## **Chapter News**

#### Check out Chapter Web sites for current information!

### **Broward**

Executive Director: Kathy Bohlander (866) 414-4771 FSPABroward@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPABroward.com

No news this month.

## Central Florida

Executive Director: Mary Manion (800) 416-6774 FSPACentralFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPACentralFlorida.com

Although the Chapter takes a summer hiatus from membership meetings, the Builder Council, chaired by **Ken Gregory, Holland Pools;** the Energy Task Force, chaired by **Barbara Austin, HornerXpress – Lake Mary**; as well as your Board of Directors have been meeting routinely throughout the summer.

The Central Florida Builders Council meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the Home Builders Association in Maitland beginning at 2:00 p.m. The "CF Council" is one of the strongest standing committees in the state and is currently taking a close look at implementing ANSI 7 into Master Plan filing, as well as keeping a close watch on new or proposed legislation on water quality. At this point, the CF Council has been a leader in our association, and we are pleased to announce that Ken Gregory has been selected and endorsed by the FSPA to serve as the representative of the swimming pool industry on the Florida Building Commission. We sincerely hope Gov. Crist will make the appointment.

Currently the Chapter Energy Task Force is doing a stand-up job working with the utility companies to partnership in a proposal of energy saving tips from the swimming pool industry. We are working on a bill stuffer to be used by both the energy companies and the industry to give consumers household hints on energy conservation. We all talk about "branding" the FSPA logo and identifying who we are. Imagine what an incredible branding effort this is becoming. Thank you Energy Task Force!

Save September 9 on your day planner! This will be our "Meet Your Candidates" meeting, and we are anticipating a full house at the Sheraton Downtown Orlando for this "wine and cheese" event. Also, get out your blue suede shoes and poodle skirts for our annual Charity Auction. This year we will "Remember the Good Old Days" on October 10 at the Home Builders Association. Great food, fun, prizes, contests, and live and silent auctions! In 2007, the funds raised supported our TV commercials as well as our Web site, wateruwaiting4.com. Don't forget to go to the Web site and see what is new in Central Florida. Be sure your company is listed and connected by links to your Web sites!

All of this is part of your

membership to FSPA. Do not forget to renew! What has FSPA done for you? How about no increased costs on every pool built because of legislation that was successfully accomplished in 2007/2008. Can you afford not to renew? Do it today!

### Charlotte Harbor

Executive Director: Andy Mallison (800) 569-6774 Ext. 11 FSPACharlotteHarbor@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPACharlotteHarbor.com

The Chapter meeting schedule has been set for the next several months. The Chapter board will hold its annual strategic planning meeting on Wednesday, August 27 beginning at 4:30 p.m. at 258 Bangsberg Road. Meeting notices will be sent to remind board members of the meeting.

The September meeting schedule includes a Chapter membership meeting on Wednesday, September 10 at Sam Seltzer's Steakhouse at the Port Charlotte Town Center Mall. A CE course is planned. The meeting information will be sent to all members and made available at the local distributors. The board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 24 beginning at 4:30 p.m.

The Chapter staff is looking for information from our members! A survey will be sent to all member companies to determine interest in certain activities, CE course topics and other ideas. So, please take a moment to complete the survey and fax it back to the Chapter office. Also, a consumer directory is being designed for the Chapter members and will be available soon.

### East Central Florida

Executive Director: Lynn Hecklinger (386) 673-0038 FSPAEastCentralFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPAEastCentral.com

The East Central Florida Chapter continues its summer hiatus in August, with no board or membership meetings scheduled. However, still hard at work are Roy Lenois, Artesian Pools of East FL, Inc., on the arbitration program and other FSPA matters, Ted Buckels, Atlantic Pools & Spas, on a slate of officers to present in September, Terry Bachi, American Leak Detection, on a long-overdue rewrite of the Chapter's bylaws, Dave Favreau, Favreau, Inc., on recruiting new members and Wes Haigh, Guaranteed Pool & Spa, Inc., on the Chapter Builders Council.

Looking ahead to the fall, the Chapter plans to offer two or even three continuing education courses so that members can get a head start on the next license renewal cycle.

## Florida Gulf Coast

Executive Director: Andy Mallison (800) 569-6774 Ext. 11 FSPAFloridaGulfCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPAGulfCoast.com

The Chapter board will hold its annual strategic planning meeting on Tuesday, August 26. Topics will include meeting topics, meeting dates, new board member recruitment, combating unlicensed activity, as well as, setting a plan in place for the upcoming year(s) for Chapter growth, activities and much more.

The September Chapter membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 16. A CE course is planned. The meeting, CE course and location information will be sent to all members and made available at the local distributors. The meeting will begin with a social at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m.

## Florida West Coast

Chapter President: Rick Howard (727) 442-4343 FSPAFloridaWestCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPAWestCoast.com

No news this month.

## Greater Miami

Please contact the FSPA office (866) 930-FSPA www.FSPAMiami.com

No news this month.

## Manasota

Executive Director: Andy Mallison (800) 569-6774 Ext. 11 FSPAManasota@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPAManasota.com

The Chapter board will hold its annual strategic planning meeting on Wednesday, August 27. The September meeting schedule includes a Chapter Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, September 9 at The Alamo Steakhouse at the Lakewood Ranch Holiday Inn. The Chapter membership meeting will be held on Thursday, September 25. A CE course is planned. The meeting, CE course and location information will be sent to all members and made available at the local distributors.

## North Central Florida

Chapter President: Dino Muggeo (352) 333-7946
FSPANorthCentralFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPANorthCentral.com

The Chapter meeting was held at Gainesville's Napolatano's Restaurant on Wednesday, July 9. After a brief overview of the FSPA board meeting and the relationship between FSPA and APSP, the Chapter had a long discussion about the Chapter Task Force and the point system being proposed. It was decided that the Chapter would not hire an Executive Director until after the new year. The Chapter bylaws where modified and the immediate past president was added to the Chapter's executive committee. The Chapter voted to hold its annual planning meeting and strategic planning on August 16 in Gainesville. Mike Canto, Fun State Pools, Inc., is working on a

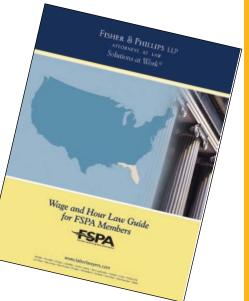
**64E-9:** The latest 64E-9 revisions are available on the FSPA Web site. Go to www.FloridaPoolPro.com and go into the industry professionals area. Login with your member ID and password and then click on document downloads. You will find it in the government relations section. Another set of revisions is expected soon and will be posted when we have it.

# Wage and Hour Law Guide

The Wage and Hour Manual is available to members for FREE!

Go to www.FloridaPoolPro.com and

login with your member ID and password. The guide is tailored specifically to the swimming pool industry and you can download it to your computer!



#### 10 Florida Pool Pro<sup>sm</sup> • August 2008

location. Our next meeting will be in Ocala at Grill 754 on August 13. The topic of discussion and CE will be on collections.

The Chapter's Golf Tournament is fast approaching and the committee is on track. The tournament will be held at Gainesville's Ironwood Golf Course on October 18, 2008. For more information please contact **Tom Bush, Fun State Pools, Inc.**, at 352-317-6640.

At the last meeting, instead of having a CE course on workers' compensation, **Bill Hodgkins** and **Rodney Littlefield, Insurance by Ken Brown**, led a discussion about it. Everyone enjoyed the open format. Thank you Rodney and Bill.

## Northeast Florida

Executive Director: Mitch Brooks (800) 569-6774 Ext. 12 FSPANortheastFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPANortheast.com

No Chapter meetings in August! Have a great summer! Watch your mail/fax for important information regarding meetings this fall. Our calendar for the year will be coming out in August so watch your mail, fax and email.

It's time to start thinking about serving your local Chapter and industry! Nominations for members of the board of directors are due in September. Our board meets monthly through the fall, winter and spring on the same day as our Chapter meetings. We are a strong Chapter and we work together so that no one person burdens all the tasks that

need to be accomplished. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact a board member or Chapter staff so they know you are interested!

We have a great relationship with our building departments and have partnered to solve some of the challenges contractors are having in the field with inspectors. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Mitch Brooks, Executive Director.

## Northwest Florida

Chapter President: John Salvo (850) 668-4202 FSPANorthwestFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com

www.FSPANorthwest.com

No news this month.

## Palm Beach

Executive Director: Doris Rohner (888) 818-9618

FSPAPalmBeach@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPAPalmBeach.com

Are you one of the millions of Floridians looking to put your hard earned money anywhere but in the gas tank? The Palm Beach Chapter has a huge solution to help. We have opened an online shopping mall. Our mall, "XSelling Fullfillment", has hundreds of stores where you can find any and everything you need. Have your items delivered directly to your door. Many of the stores are having huge sales, some offer free shipping. Proceeds from our mall benefit the FSPA PIPAC and scholarship programs as well as water safety and more at the Chapter level. Please take the day off and go shopping at http://visitourmall.com/

FSPAPalmBeach.

On September 3 we will pack the house at **Proline Distributors** in Boca for our membership meeting. The speaker will be Lance Petty from **Sea Klear.** Sea Klear, known to be reliable, safe, and effective, is a product of choice by many.

A special thank you to Mr. Peter Spirito, Town of Jupiter Building Inspector, for his presentation at our July membership meeting. Your support is appreciated by all members of the FSPA Palm Beach Chapter.

## **Polk County**Executive Director: Mary Manion

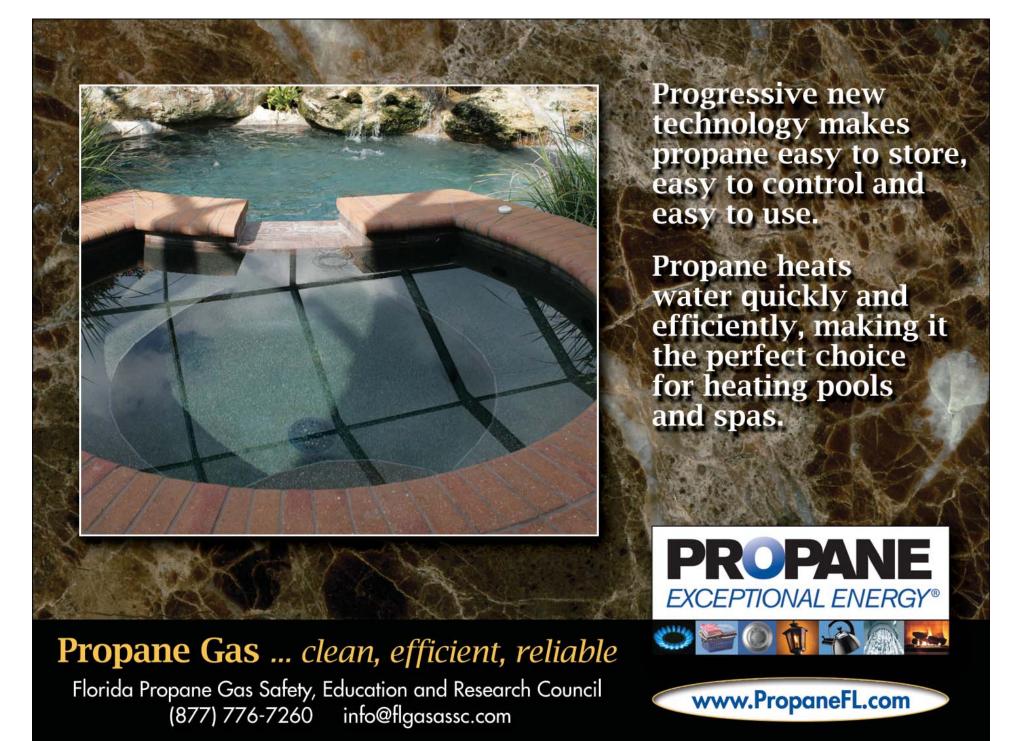
Executive Director: Mary Manion (800) 416-6774
FSPAPolkCounty@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPAPolkCounty.com

Just a reminder, although the Chapter does not hold regular meetings during the summer months, your Board of Directors continues to meet monthly. Our next board meeting is scheduled for noon on August 20 at HornerXpress – Lakeland. All Chapter members are encouraged to participate. During the summer hiatus the board plans programs and events for the upcoming year, and your input is greatly appreciated!

One of the most important discussions scheduled for the August board meeting is the upcoming decisions on the Partnership Agreement between the state organization (FSPA) and the local Chapters. Please attend the meeting at **HornerXpress** and see what is being proposed and how it will affect



programs such as WATER SAFETY and more. We sincerely hope you



your membership in Polk Chapter.

Speaking of membership, do not forget to renew your dues! We all realize that business is definitely not where we would like to see it and dues to FSPA may not seem to have a priority with your company. However, please rethink your decision! For the price of a daily soda, you service companies would pay for your annual dues! You builders, how often do you go to dinner and drop a \$50 bill? For that same \$50 per month, your dues would be paid! FSPA has established some very creative payment plans; so if you have any questions, call FSPA directly. Call 866-930-3772 and speak with Bernice, or call Mary at the Chapter office, and let us see how we can work together towards dues renewal.

## **Space Coast** Executive Director: Bill Britz

Executive Director: Bill Britz (321) 779-0103 FSPASpaceCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPASpaceCoast.com

The Space Coast Chapter's Builders Council and Service Council will have a joint meeting on Thursday, August 7 at 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Beef O'Brady's, located at 3030 Lake Washington Road, Melbourne. The Space Coast Chapter board of directors will meet following this meeting from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please plan to attend our joint Builders Council, Service Council and general membership meeting on Thursday, September 11 at Doubles Beach Side on South Patrick. We will be accepting final nominations for next years board of directors at this meeting. Following the meeting will be a two-hour CE Class on entrapment and we will be inviting all local building officials and inspectors to attend. Please keep your eye out for registration packages and make your reservations early.

Remember that we will be having our Christmas party on December 6 this year so plan now to attend.

## Tampa Bay

Executive Director: Karen Cobo (813) 265-2907 FSPATampaBay@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPATampaBay.com

The Chapter board of directors meeting was held on Wednesday, July 2. It was brought up that our Chapter needs to support PIPAC more than it has. A new member application has been received from R&K Mechanics.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, August 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Beef O' Brady's, 8816 N. Himes Ave., Tampa. All members and non-members are welcome to attend.

## Treasure Coast

Executive Director: Susan Gilbert (772) 263-2653

FSPATreasureCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPATreasureCoast.com

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer! With so many of our members on vacation our Board has decided to table our Government Relations meeting. They also decided that it would be in our best interest to support our legislators by volunteering to help with their campaigns. Our GR meeting last year was shared with Palm Beach County and it was a great success. We believe it will be in our best interest to support Chapters close to us in their GR meetings! We will keep you informed with our upcoming meetings. Have a safety and enjoyable summer!

For additional information about any of the events or meetings listed in the Chapter News, please contact the Executive Director listed at the top of each Chapter's News. Event meeting and information can also be found in Chapter newsletters sent to members and available at local distributors.

# Purchase your FSPA logo wear today!

Men's and women's polos, men's button-up twill and jean shirts, jackets and baseball caps with the FSPA logo embroidered on the front. Don't forget your FSPA Tervis Tumbler!

Call in your order at (866) 930-FSPA

Golf Shirts (white, navy, stone	\$32-\$38
Denim or Twill (short or long s	leeve) \$35
Blue Palm Tree Jacquard	\$45
Jacket (windbreaker)	\$47
Hats & Visors	\$14
Messenger Bag	\$25
Tervis Tumblers	\$8 ea., 2 for \$15, 4 for \$30
Business Card Holder	\$5
Multi-purpose Tool	\$15



Chapter President: Shelly Grundhoffer Chapter Executive Director: Bill Britz

Some of the Chapter's recent accomplishments/ projects/ events:

- 1. PIPAC Award Highest percentage of contributors
- 2. Government relations meeting had 4 out of 4 Legislators attend
- 3. Building Official Meeting had 15 of 16 Municipalities represented
- 4. Held Annual Membership Picnic and Volleyball Competition
- 5. Held Annual Golf Tournament

Ways the Chapter promotes new membership:

- 1. Board Members personally call prospects
- Distributers display and mail out membership forms to their customers
- 3. Board of Directors make personal visits to prospective members

The Chapter's best/ favorite annual event:

1. Christmas Party

Characteristics of the Chapter that make it effective/ unique:

1. Outstanding participation in Chapter and State functions

Suggestions/ Advice the Chapter gives members on how to get the most out of their FSPA membership:

 Encourages participation by discussions with Membership and having literature available at every Chapter function and event

One goal you would like to see FSPA accomplish:

1. Form a national alliance with other state organizations on government relations issues in energy and safety areas

The Chapter's goals for this year:

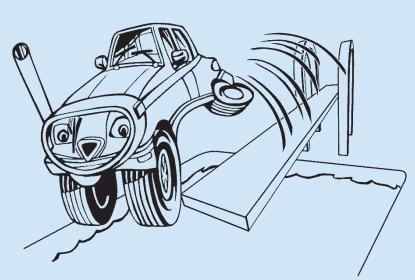
1. Insure the Chapters solvency and functionality while implementing the changes from the final Affiliation Agreement



Engineering Plans Preparation
Entrapment Avoidance
Site Inspection
Troubleshooting
Training
Problem Resolution
Compliance Certifications

#### **Terrence Lambert MSE PE**

Professional Engineer & Chemist Former Florida Department of Health Permitting Engineer (813) 282-7264 Tampa, FL tlambertpe@yahoo.com



For less than the cost of one extra fill up a month at the gas station, you could enjoy the benefits of membership in the Florida Swimming Pool Association.

## Calendar of Events

#### August 2008

- FSPA Palm Beach Chapter Meeting
- 6 FSPA Tampa Bay Chapter Board Meeting 11:30 a.m. Beef O' Brady's, 8816 N. Himes Ave., Tampa
- 7 FSPA Space Coast Chapter Builders/ Service Council Joint Meeting 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Beef O' Brady's, 3030 Lake Washington Rd., Melbourne
- 7 FSPA Space Coast Chapter Board Meeting 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Beef O' Brady's, 3030 Lake Washington Rd., Melbourne
- 13 **FSPA North Central Chapter** 6:30 p.m. Chapter Board/ Member Meeting 7:30 p.m. Dinner and CE course Grill 754, 754 NE 25th Ave., Ocala
- 16 FSPA North Central Chapter Strategic Planning Meeting 10:00 a.m.
- FSPA Manasota Chapter Board Strategic Planning Meeting 19
- 20 FSPA Polk County Chapter Board Meeting Noon, HornerXpress - Lakeland
- FSPA Florida Gulf Coast Chapter Board Strategic Planning Meeting 26
- 27 FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter Board Strategic Planning Meeting 4:30 p.m., 258 Bangsberg Rd.
- FSPA Central Florida Chapter Builders Council Meeting 27 2:00 p.m. Home Builders Association, 501 Mayo Ave., Maitland

#### September 2008

- 3 Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Proline Distributors, Boca Raton
- 9 FSPA Central Florida Chapter "Meet Your Candidates" Sheraton Downtown Orlando
- 9 FSPA Manasota Chapter Board Meeting The Alamo Steakhouse at the Lakewood Ranch Holiday Inn
- 10 FSPA North Central Florida Chapter Board/ Member Meeting Gainesville
- 10 FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter Meeting and CE course Sam Seltzer's Steakhouse at the Port Charlotte Town Center Mall
- FSPA Space Coast Joint Builders Council, Service Council, and 11 Chapter Meeting and two-hour CE class on entrapment Doubles Beach Side on South Patrick
- FSPA Florida Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting and CE course 16 6:30 p.m. Social 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 18 FSPA East Central Florida Dinner Meeting and CE course
- FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter Board Meeting
- 24 FSPA Central Florida Chapter Builders Council Meeting 2:00 p.m., Home Builders Association in Maitland
- 25 FSPA Manasota Chapter Meeting and CE course

### October 2008

- 8 FSPA North Central Florida Chapter Board/ Member Meeting
- FSPA Central Florida Chapter Annual Charity Event 10 Home Builders Association
- FSPA North Central Florida Golf Tournament 18 Gainesville
- FSPA Central Florida Builders Council Meeting 22 2:00 p.m., Home Builders Association in Maitland

## **CILB** Discipline

#### March, 2008

Case #(s): 2007-027858 Richard W. Hillyer, Jr.

License #(s): CG C061087 & FRO Sand Dollar Pools & Spa 3114 ALT 19 North, Suite E Palm Harbor, FI 34683

Revocation

Pay administrative fines in the amount of \$7,500 and costs of \$218.48 No one present at hearing

Case #(s): 2007-029770 Richard W. Hillyer, Jr.

License #(s): CG C061087 & FRO

Sand Dollar Pools & Spa

1767 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., #176

Bradenton, FI 34211

Revocation

Restitution in the amount of \$6,200 to Ulrike and or Alois Ollerer Pay administrative fines in the amount of \$7,500 and costs of \$228.21 No one present at hearing

Case #(s): 2007-027835 Richard W. Hillyer, Jr.

License #(s): CG C061087 & FRO

Sand Dollar Pools & Spa

1767 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., #176

Bradenton, FI 34211

Revocation

Restitution in the amount of \$2,756 to Peter Olt

Pay administrative fines in the amount of \$7,500 and costs of \$194.81

No one present at hearing

#### **April, 2008**

Case #(s): 2006-014772, 2006-003744, 2006-014767, 2006-014607, 2006-001503, 2006-014713, 2006-009325, 2006-013731, 2006-012032

Marsha Paola Diquez License #(s): CP C1456644 Legacy Pools of South Florida, Inc. 7000 NW 35 Avenue

Miami, FI 33073

Restitution in the amount of \$151,679

Probation for 4 years

Seven hours of live continuing education on Fla Statutes Chapter 489. Pay administrative fines in the amount of \$12,000 and costs of \$500 No one present at hearing

Case #(s): 2006-033174 Jorge Antonio Gonzalez License #(s): CP C044089 Sunset Pools & Spas, Inc.

5355 SW 133rd Court Miami, FI 33175-6151

Seven Hours of live continuing education on Fla. Statutes Chapter 489. Pay administrative fines in the amount of \$750 and costs of \$153.07 Respondent present at hearing

Case #(s): 2007-000236

Rick T. Weaver

License #(s): CP C1456915 Dream Weaver Pools, Inc. 474 H L Smith Road Haines City, FI 33844

Probation for 2 years Seven Hours of live continuing education on Fla Statutes Chapter 489. Pay administrative fines in the amount of \$5,500 and costs of \$232.20 No one present at hearing

## New, Earth friendly Florida Pool Prosm



The Florida Pool Pro<sup>sm</sup> is now being printed on paper made from eucalyptus trees. Eucalyptus is a fast growing, high yield tree. It grows in 7-10 years versus 20+ for other trees used to make paper. This allows twice as many trees to be produced on the same amount of land! Don't forget to recycle your Florida Pool Pro<sup>sm</sup> when you are done with it!