

ICC unanimously upholds adoption of ANSI/APSP-7

By Jennifer Hatfield, Director of Government and Public Affairs

The International Code Council (ICC) held its 2012 code development hearings in Baltimore, Maryland October 24 through November 11. These were the first round of hearings and final action hearings will be held in 2010. Code proposals were submitted to amend both the International Residential and International Building Codes with regard to suction entrapment avoidance. The 2009 IRC and IBC require pools and spas to comply with the ANSI/APSP-7 Suction Entrapment Avoidance Standard, consistent with the Florida Building Code.

The proposals submitted by the Pool Safety Council attempted to change the code language to also require either an SVRS or gravity drainage system on all pools, even those with multiple or unblockable drains. These proposals were in direct conflict with the Virginia Graeme

Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act and the ANSI/APSP-7 standard which call for additional devices only on single blockable drains. In addition, this proposal excluded other additional devices and mechanisms the VGB Pool & Spa Safety Act and ANSI/APSP-7 allow.

The IRC rejected the proposal by an 11-0 vote and the IBC concurred with a 12-0 vote to uphold the adoption of the ANSI/APSP-7 standard.

In addition to the hearings, the ICC annual conference and expo also took place in Baltimore. ICC members were encouraged by the fact the ICC, in conjunction with the APSP, will be developing a new ICC pool and spa code. The drafting committee will be finalized in the coming months and FSPA continues to encourage positive consideration of the Florida pool and spa code as it develops this new code.

CILB responds to petition on service contractors' work

By Jennifer Hatfield, Director of Government and Public Affairs

On November 13, 2009 the Construction Industry Licensing Board (CILB) met in Orlando for their last general session of the year. On the agenda was a petition for declaratory statement submitted by Rodney Fischer of the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board. Mr. Fischer asked the CILB to clarify whether or not a licensed swimming pool/spa servicing contractor can do certain work related to the recent rule changes in the Florida Public Swimming Pool Code (64E-9, F.A.C.) and the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act (VGB Act).

Specifically, the concern stemmed from the new requirement to convert all remaining direct suction commercial/public swimming pools and spas to a gravity fed system. This new requirement will be a phased-in requirement with some types of pools/

spas having to reach compliance as early as May 24, 2010 and as late as July 1, 2013. (See timetable chart on page 7 for specifics).

Mr. Fischer's petition maintained that this type of work is not dealing with "like, similar, same as or equivalent" materials, but instead requires the removal of concrete decks and a modification of the pool structure by installing a completely different piping arrangement and installation of a gravity system. Therefore, this is not service work, repair, replacement or renovation; rather, it is new construction that falls under the scope of work of a commercial pool/spa contractor.

This information was presented to the CILB by Mr. Fischer and additional testimony was made by representatives of the United Pool & Spa Association (UPSA). FSPA

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Reconnect, Refine, Rejuvenate at the Orlando Show

Seeing new products, talking with exhibitors and taking education courses are great reasons to attend the Orlando Pool & Spa Show on February 19-20, 2010. If you are looking for more reasons to justify the time away from your business, use the ideas below to multiply and quantify what you gain at the Orlando Show.

Outline a plan for the Show

1. Write down the three to

five most important issues being addressed in your company right now.

2. Think about how you personally contribute to the strategies that are in place to deal with those issues. How is your work aligned with the company's strategy or mission? Make a list of these "personal contributions to strategy."


3. Look at the schedule for

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News Splash

- **Energy Talk:** Energy efficiency standards are coming. Filtration systems will be more energy efficient, potentially reducing the daily operating cost by 10 to 90 percent. Page 3
- **Digging up Ideas:** Growing your future. We all work too hard not to plan for the future and retirement. Page 4
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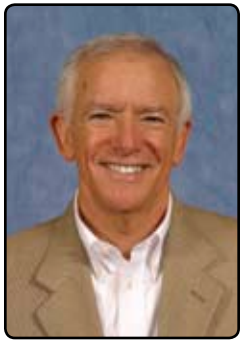
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President's Column

Thank you for a great year



Alan Cooper
FSPA President

As the old saying goes, "Time flies when you are having fun." It is hard to believe that my term as president is almost over. This is my last president's column.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as president of our association. You made my job easy by the election of the rest of the Executive Committee's members. Next year will be my final year on the Executive Committee.

There are always many questions regarding what the Executive Committee does and how decisions were reached. Prior to being elected to the Executive Committee I had the same questions. I was fortunate that I had attended a number of Executive Committee meetings prior to being elected treasurer. What I took from those meetings was the knowledge that these were hard working members trying to do the best job for the association and its members. I would encourage everyone to attend at least one Executive Committee meeting during the year. We took our positions seriously; however, we also had fun. I will always remember Clay Andrews and Pete Coccaro stating during their first meeting how they had come over to the "dark side."

Since most members of the Executive Committee serve for a number of years, friendships are made and will continue. I am not sure how many of you are aware of

the loyalty and dedication that our Immediate Past President Dominick Montanaro has for this association. Dominick's leadership and input will be greatly missed as he leaves the Executive Committee.

No president or Executive Committee could be successful without a great staff. Each and every member should be aware of how hard our staff works for us. I could go on and on about each staff person. I do want to take the opportunity to comment about one of the staff, Wendy Parker Barsell, Executive Director. The other day Wendy made some comments about what happened in a committee meeting. I called her and told her I hoped she would not take my comment in the wrong way but, "You are acting like an Executive Director." I have watched Wendy grow more and more comfortable and knowledgeable in her position. She is the person the president has the most contact with and she made my job easy and pleasurable.

What has happened during the last year? In a down economy we had a great trade show with increased attendance over the previous year. With guidance from Jennifer Hatfield, Director of Government and Public Affairs, and Kari Hebrank, Lobbyist, our Legislative Days were productive and successful. The Florida Building Commission formed two swimming pool subgroups: The Swimming Pool Subgroup to the Plumbing TAC, which will be chaired by Ken Gregory, and the Swimming Pool Subgroup to the Energy Code Work Group. A number of our members were appointed to both of these subgroups. Bill Kent was also appointed to the full Energy

Code Work Group and will be the conduit between the subgroup and the workgroup. The FSPA had a very successful legislative session. Two of the more important items were workers' compensation and the homeowner warning notice. The Florida Building Commission adopted the 2008 NEC, exempting GFCI requirements on residential pools. The FSPA High School Invitational Swimming & Diving Meet had a great

turn out and once again was a rousing success. This column would never end if I listed everything we accomplished during the year; however with the above you can see we are a busy and vibrant organization.

Thanks to all of you for making my year as president meaningful and enjoyable. It is now time to get behind your new president and Executive Committee.

January 8-9, 2010
Committee Meetings
Board of Directors Meeting
Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando
Reservations: 1-800-204-7234

9840 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819

Thursday, January 7

3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Executive Committee

Friday, January 8

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. GR Update/ Legislative Agenda

This meeting will present an overview of legislative and regulatory items which will be discussed and voted on during committee meetings.

- 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Service Council
- 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 Membership Committee
- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch available
- 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Builders' Council
- 2:00 – 2:45 p.m. Safety/ Consumer Awareness
- 2:45 – 3:30 p.m. Trade Show
- 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Energy Committee
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Presidents & Executive Committee
- 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Welcome Reception

Saturday, January 9

- 8:00 a.m. Hall of Fame Committee
- 8:15 a.m. Person of the Year Committee (Chapter Presidents)
- 8:30 a.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Florida Pool Prosm
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Rep. Plakon; Jennifer Hatfield, Director of Government & Public Affairs; and Steve Bludsworth, All-Pool Service and Supply, at the Central Florida Chapter's Meet and Greet with Legislators on November 10, 2009. See page 10 for Chapter news.

Energy Talk

Energy efficiency standards are coming



By Steve Barnes, Pentair Water Pool and Spa

Swimming pool energy efficiency standards are coming to Florida as a result of HB 7135. This means filtration systems will be much more energy efficient, potentially reducing the daily operating cost by 10 to 90 percent.

The regulations prohibit the least efficient pump motors, cutting electric cost up to 30 percent with this one change.

Greater savings come from the use of multi-speed pump motors. The concept is easy enough to understand, drive slower and save gas. The same is true for filtering pools, move water slower and it takes less energy.

Obviously slower means the filter pump needs to run longer but this is where pool owners really benefit. Physics dictate that running a pump at half speed, cuts the flow rate by half, but here is the kicker, the energy used is only one-eighth that used at high-speed.

If a pool is being filtered six hours a day costing \$800 a year, that same pool can be filtered for \$200 a year while skimming and filtering twice as long. Remember the flow rate is cut by half, meaning the pump will run twice as long to filter the same amount of water, but it is doing it with one-fourth the electricity.

To be fair, two-speed pumps are not very efficient at low-speed and the APSP Technical Committee research shows current pumps provide savings closer to \$400 a year in this example. However, apply variable-speed pumps, made with permanent magnet motors (used in hybrid cars) and the savings can exceed 76 percent based on the same, real world research.

These savings are based exclusively on different pumps on the same system, install a variable-speed pump on low Total Dynamic Head (TDH) filtration system and savings of 90 percent are being achieved.

The emphasis on multi-speed pumps is there for a reason. In addition to saving a lot of energy, they provide the high performance capabilities a modern pool needs to run the fun stuff like therapy jets and pool cleaners.

Ready or not, energy efficiency standards are changing the pool industry and there is money to be made. Become an industry leader by installing energy efficient equipment ahead of the July 1, 2010 deadline.



Private Pool Industry Party at NASCAR Sports Grille

Friday, February 19 - 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

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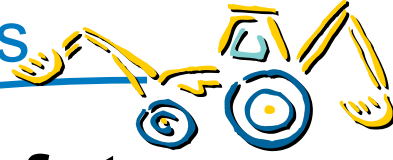
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Digging Up Ideas



Growing your future

By Andy Hernan, Allen & Company / Griffin Pools, Inc.

I am about one month away from celebrating four years in the pool industry and I have to admit it has been an exciting, educational, frustrating and humbling experience. My partner thought it would be a grand idea for me to write this builder article as my four-year reward for being in business with him.

Growth; is that a relevant word in the current economic landscape we are dealing with? Growth might not be a current, relevant noun, but as a builder you constantly need to be building, monitoring and re-allocating your personal financial growth.

Congress lately, I know you will agree, often does not give many gifts to taxpayers. If you own a 401k (only available if plan is terminated), profit sharing plan, or a regular IRA then pay attention. In January 2010 these account holders will be able to roll these types of accounts over to a ROTH IRA regardless of the modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) of the account holder. Before you read on, you must know that I am not giving you legal or tax advice and I strongly urge you to seek professional advice from your financial advisor and your CPA. But, in reading this article you will be able to attend those meetings with some very factual information to decide what is best for you and your future.

The attractiveness of rolling to a ROTH IRA:

- No mandatory required minimum distributions (RMD) at age 70^{1/2}

- Earnings are tax sheltered during accumulation
- Withdrawals will be tax free (ask advisor about five year restriction)
- Many investment choices

The catch to consider about ROTH IRA rollover:

- The rollover will be fully taxable
- Although, you can pay half the tax in 2011 and half in 2012
- If you use money from your account to pay the tax bill you will start off with less money to accumulate and grow for the future
- Be careful, don't think you have to roll everything that is qualified into a ROTH IRA. Diversification is still a relevant word.

In closing, please remember to consult with your financial advisor and CPA. If you think personal tax rates are going up and you want to have tax free withdrawals with no RMD during your retirement, ponder this greatly.

We all work way too hard not to plan for the future. I have been in the financial services industry for 14 years and the majority of business owners don't plan for themselves; ie succession planning, investments, wills and trusts, life insurance, durable powers of attorney, health surrogate authority, etc. Start today; no excuses.

New Member Applications

Central Florida

Central Florida Solar Inc. (Sub-Contractor - Solar) CVD056645
William Park, Casselberry

Water's Edge Pools (Pool / Spa Service) CPC1456508
(Including repair, refinishing & equipment servicing)
Jimmy Bothelo, Oviedo

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

Education monitors needed, earn FREE CE

The 2010 Orlando Pool and Spa Show is scheduled for February 19-20, 2010 with continuing education starting on Thursday, February 18. Continuing Education is a significant element of the annual Show and volunteer monitors play a crucial role in making the program a success. FSPA invites all FSPA members to volunteer as a course monitor.

Volunteer ID checkers support course monitors by helping to verify photo identification of attendees. They can earn points for their Chapter but no portion of their CE fees will be refunded.

To see what is available for monitoring go to www.FloridaPoolPro.com/industry/monitor.html. The course charts show courses by meeting room – this year we request that you pick a room and monitor all the courses in that room for that day. Course descriptions are available on the Show Web site at www.OrlandoPoolShow.com. Click on “attendee information” and then on “education seminars”.

Benefits of monitoring include receiving CE credit for the courses that you monitor, Chapter points and your CE registration fee refunded by the FSPA for the day(s) that you monitor.

As a monitor your duties and responsibilities include:

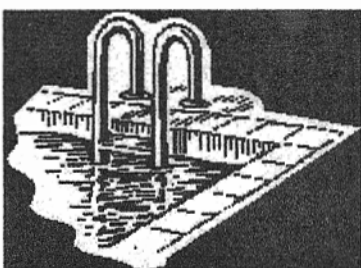
- Arriving at the meeting room prior to start time to ensure that the speakers are set-up and all their audio visual needs have been met.
- Check in attendees that are scheduled to attend the course. Check in will require attendees to present photo identification at the door.
- Give attendees an evaluation form and copy of the course syllabus.
- Ensure that the instructor and attendees sign the attendance roster.
- Read the instructor announcement prior to the class beginning.
- Monitor seminar times to ensure they begin / end promptly.
- Collect attendee course tickets as they leave the meeting room.
- Clear speakers/attendees from meeting room when course is complete.
- Monitor the doors so no one arrives late or leaves early.

If you would like to volunteer as a monitor please let us know your preferred room choice. Assignments are on a first come first served basis so please return your course selection as soon as possible. Fax to (941) 366-7433 or e-mail to Bernice@FloridaPoolPro.com.



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Dorothy Willson
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Fax 321-397-3888
dwillson@insbykenbrown.com

Insurance Update

Coming soon - Workers' compensation rate reduction

By Debra Tomaselli, CPCU, ARM, Insurance by Ken Brown, Inc.

There's good news! Effective January 1, workers' compensation rates for the state of Florida are dropping 6.8 percent, according to Florida Insurance Commissioner Kevin McCarty. McCarty approved the National Council on Compensation Insurances' (NCCI) amended rate filing effective that date.

Rates have been declining since 2003 when Florida law was revised to cap attorney fees on workers' compensation claims appeals. Despite a short disruption when the Florida Supreme Court overruled the caps from late 2008 to May 2009, the ceiling on attorney fees have contributed to the declining workers'

compensation rates.

In 2009 rates fluctuated. In January, rates dropped 18.6 percent only to be increased effective April 1. However, with the reinstatement of the limits on attorney fees, rates rolled back to the original January 2009 calculations effective July 1.

As reported by the Florida Insurance Commissioner, the current rate change will be applied to all new and renewal workers' compensation policies issued on or after January 1, 2010.

Below are typical classes for the swimming pool industry and the partnering rates. You can see the savings.

Code		Jan. 2009	April 2009	July 2009	Jan. 2010
5223	Pool Construction	4.02	4.27	4.02	3.76
9014	Pool Service	4.26	4.53	4.26	4.15
8742	Sales	.49	.52	.49	.46
8810	Clerical	.28	.30	.28	.26
5606	Executive Supervisor	2.08	2.21	2.08	1.77
6217	Excavation	6.59	7.01	6.59	5.78



Palm Beach Chapter October Meeting: Steve Lumerman, HornerXpress; Rick Myers, AquaCal-AutoPilot; and Jim Stevens, Crystal Blue Pools. See page 11 for Chapter news.



Two great places to stay during the Orlando Pool & Spa Show!

Rosen Plaza Hotel
9700 International Drive
Rate: \$175 / night
Reservations: 800-627-8258

- Receive airline boarding passes and check luggage at the hotel
- Regular transportation to Orlando International Airport
- Four restaurants
- Full service on-site concierge desk
- On-site Ikon Business Center
- On-site gift shop, valet parking and photo finishing
- Complimentary valet parking for the disabled

Quality Inn Plaza
9000 International Drive
Rate: \$89 / night
Reservations: 800-999-8585

- Newly renovated!
- Fridge and microwave in room
- FREE wireless internet service
- Three restaurants
- Playground, arcade, business center, guest services desk
- 100% smoke free
- Kids eat free program and breakfast for around \$8 for adults
- Complimentary luggage storage available

Both hotels are walking distance to the exhibit hall! A complimentary shuttle will be traveling from both hotels to and from the Friday night party at NASCAR Sports Grille in Universal CityWalk.

Any Depth!

We'll go to any depth to understand our policyholders' business needs, and we're not afraid to get our hands wet. That's the way we make sure that we're doing everything we can to provide the coverage you need, together with outstanding loss prevention programs, and industry leading claim service.

Big or small, the more we know about your business, the more you'll have the exact protection you need. And increase your profit potential at the same time.

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Florida Pool Permits



County Name	October 2008	October 2009
Alachua County	9	3
Bay County	14	8
Brevard County	25	36
Broward County	51	23
Calhoun County	0	0
Charlotte County	15	14
Citrus County	18	13
Clay County	5	6
Collier County	26	38
Dade County	67	42
Duval County	8	11
Escambia County	6	13
Flagler County	13	7
Franklin County	3	0
Gadsden County	0	0
Gulf County	0	1
Hernando County	10	3
Highlands County	6	3
Hillsborough County	44	36
Holmes County	0	0
Indian River County	23	7
Jackson County	1	0
Jefferson County	0	0
Lake County	14	7
Lee County	61	53
Leon County	5	4
Liberty County	0	1
Manatee County	34	33
Marion County	17	11
Martin County	17	11
Nassau County	1	2
Okaloosa County	10	2
Orange County	61	33
Osceola County	20	10
Palm Beach County	74	55
Pasco County	24	24
Pinellas County	38	28
Polk County	41	19
Putnam County	3	2
Santa Rosa County	9	8
Sarasota County	23	19
Seminole County	10	1
St Johns County	25	26
St Lucie County	26	6
Sumter County	8	23
Volusia County	15	11
Wakulla County	1	1
Walton County	11	9
Washington County	0	0
TOTALS	892	663

Provided by HBW / www.hbweekly.com

Reconnect, Refine, Rejuvenate at the Orlando Show

Continued from front page

the Show and mark the education sessions you want to attend that relate to your list of personal contributions to strategy, and also make a note of course instructors, exhibitors or other people you would like to meet.

4. Write a short summary on how attending these education sessions, walking the exhibit hall and meeting these people can help you contribute to your company's strategy. Review these ideas and goals during the Show to focus on what you want to gain from the experience.

For example, "We are highly focused on cost savings. At the Show there is an education session entitled, "Using Technology to Maximize Sales Efficiencies," and an industry professional, Sarah Smith, will be teaching the course. I will attend Smith's session and also meet with her after the class to get ideas about maximizing the cost savings we could receive from using technology."

Prepare for the Show

You should prepare properly for the Show in order to receive the benefits you are looking for.

Here are some things you can do to prepare for the Orlando Pool & Spa Show:

1. Make an Expo Plan. Have a list of booths you want to visit, exhibitors you want to talk to and other people you'd like to meet and why you want to meet them. Don't be shy about approaching instructors. They are more accessible than you might think, especially if you make plans with them in advance. Go to www.OrlandoPoolShow.com and look through list of exhibitors that will be there. This site allows you to check off the exhibitors you want to visit at the Show and make your own Expo Plan to print out and bring with you.

2. About one to two weeks prior to the Show, contact the people on your list. Make a specific plan for a meal, coffee, or a time and place to get together.

3. One week prior, make a personal agenda for yourself that includes the people you're meeting as well as which education sessions

you signed up to attend. Be sure to include cell phone numbers or any other contact information you may need for last-minute changes to your schedule.

4. At the Show, try to stick to your schedule as much as possible and take notes during the educational sessions and during private conversations. However, leave some "white space" on your calendar in case you encounter new people with whom you'd like to spend some time.

After the Show

1. Immediately following the Show, write a concise summary of what happened at the event and how you will use the information you received and contacts you made to further the strategies of your company. It's important to write this one- or two-page summary quickly, while the information is fresh in your mind. Use the notes you took to help you.

2. Refer to this summary throughout the year to remember what you learned and implement any new ideas you came up with while at the Show. It can also help you recall the new contacts you made and serve as a guide for future brainstorming sessions.

3. If the knowledge you gained might be useful to others in the company, then you should consider rewriting portions of your summary as a blog or Twitter post that could be useful to your colleagues at work.

When you take the time to prepare a little in advance, the Orlando Pool & Spa Show can provide more benefits than you may have otherwise realized. At the show, take time to Reconnect with others in the industry or with methods and concepts you may not implement every day; Refine your skills, your business plan or the product you produce; and Rejuvenate your love for your work and your drive toward a great future. See you at the Show February 19-20, 2010!

www.OrlandoPoolShow.com



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The Scoop on Service

Using newsletters for your business

By Scott Andrews, Sunshine Pool Service & Supply

It is common knowledge that it is five times harder to acquire new customers than it is to retain current ones. With this in mind, all efforts spent on your existing customer base are well worth your time. Service companies should develop ways to be helpful to customers. Go above and beyond so they look to us as the industry expert and an indispensable resource.

Newsletters are an excellent way to keep your customers loyal. It is a way to stay in contact with them so they don't forget you are there and decide to go somewhere else. The newsletter can also bring attention to a product or service a customer may not be aware you provide. Being in constant contact with your customers is essential to growth and profitability. Every smart, profitable business should keep their customers close and have a barrier around them in which the relationship can grow and strengthen.

Newsletter do's: It is a good idea to send your newsletter out quarterly so that customers do not become tired of them and just toss them out with the garbage each month. Keep them fresh with new product information and items related to the current season or the one you are heading into. Fill the newsletter with helpful hints on basic pool care for when you are not there or trouble shooting tips the customers can use before contacting you for a frivolous service call. Write in a casual, conversational style and keep things upbeat. Good items to also add:

- Jokes (tasteful).
- Employee spotlight. Include

a picture of the employee and write a short biography that includes industry experience and hobbies.

- Include a section on product information and use it for exciting new items that customers may not know about yet. Add a coupon or run a special that highlights this product and gives the customer who is on the fence an incentive to purchase.
- President's section. It should be a short note about a current industry topic, legislative issue or thank you to customers for continued business.

Newsletter don't's:

- Try to keep your newsletter from reading like an advertisement for you and your company.
- Don't include too much information; you don't want the customer to be confused. Try and stick to a few main themes.
- Don't send it out too frequently.
- Don't use poor grammar. Check and re-check for any errors before it is sent out.

Newsletters are very important in keeping good customers for life and they can be very easy and fun to create once you get rolling. Delegate different sections to employees to keep them energized and invested. When done right, customers will genuinely like reading it and your credibility as a professional will be cemented in their minds.

CILB responds to petition on service contractors' work

Continued from front page

responded to the petition both by an official letter and in testimony to the CILB. The Association voiced its concern that if a decision was to be made by the CILB, it must be careful to clarify the position without unjustly limiting a service contractor from doing certain work. For example, FSPA wanted it to be clear that a service contractor can penetrate the shell for purposes of repairing or replacing like-for-like parts such as part of a main drain, a return line, or skimmer. Work such as re-plastering a pool shell should also still be deemed under the scope of work of a service contractor. Mr. Fischer and members of UPSA agreed with the FSPA clarification noting it was not their intent to limit a service contractor from this type of work; their intent rested upon the issue of a new system modification.

The first question presented in the petition was: "Can a Swimming Pool/Spa Servicing Contractor do work that includes penetration or modification of a swimming pool concrete structure?" The CILB answered this question as follows: "A Swimming Pool/Spa

Servicing Contractor cannot make any modification of a swimming pool concrete structure." They removed the word "penetration" for the reasoning presented by FSPA and information presented by Board member Roy Lenois. In order to better understand what is meant by the word "modification" in the CILB answer FSPA suggests contractors look to the public pool rule, which states:

Section 64E-9.005(2) Modifications – Modifications include non-equivalent changes or additions to the recirculation system, treatment equipment, physical structure, or appurtenances. Replacement of the pool or spa shell is considered to be construction of a new facility and shall be processed as such. The installation of new decking is not considered a modification if it is installed in conformance with paragraph 64E-9.006(2)(a), F.A.C., and deck markings are upgraded per subparagraph 64E-9.006(1)(c)3., F.A.C. Resurfacing the pool interior to original non-



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Florida West Coast Chapter's Annual Tabletop Event - 10/27/09: Safety and membership table. See Chapter news on page 10 for details.

Timetable for 64E-9 gravity drainage system installation:

- All pools, including wading pools, with a main drain located in four feet of water or less: by May 24, 2010 (one year after the effective date of the revisions to 64E-9)
- All spa type pools built before 1977: by July 1, 2010
- All spa type pools built between 1977-1986: by July 1, 2011
- All spa type pools built between 1986-1995: by July 1, 2012
- All other pools (main drain in water greater than four feet): by July 1, 2013

toxic slip-resistant and smooth specifications or equivalent replacement of equipment are not considered modifications. However, the following items shall be addressed during resurfacing projects...

The second question presented in the petition was: "Can a Swimming Pool/Spa Servicing Contractor change a filtration system from a direct suction type to a gravity fed collection tank type system?" The CILB answered this question as follows: "A Swimming Pool/Spa Servicing Contractor cannot change a filtration system from a direct suction type to a gravity fed collection tank type system."

The CILB will put out an official response to this petition in the months to come and FSPA will provide this response as soon as it becomes available. In addition, FSPA has already begun talking with the Building Officials Association of Florida, who were in attendance at the CILB meeting, and other parties to make sure everyone clearly understands what was determined by the CILB.

CPSC hearing on unblockable drains

By Jennifer Hatfield, Director of Government and Public Affairs

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) held a public hearing at their Bethesda, Maryland offices on November 4. At the hearings APSP staff and volunteers as well as others in the pool/ spa industry presented information to help CPSC staff write guidance on the unblockable drain definition in the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act. When finished, this will help pool professionals efficiently comply with VGBA. In the CPSC draft guidance document an unblockable

drain is defined as an 18 x 23 opening with a 29 inch diagonal. The FSPA and APSP position prefers using the performance mechanism laid out in the ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 drain cover standard rather than this prescriptive definition. The CPSC is taking into consideration the testimony it heard and will issue a response accordingly.

To watch an archive of the CPSC Hearing on Unblockable Drains, go to www.cpsc.gov/webcast/previous.html.

Chapter News

Check out Chapter Web sites for current information!

Broward

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

Central Florida

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

Broward Chapter wishes everyone a happy holiday and a healthy New Year!

There will not be a Chapter meeting for the month of December; the Chapter would like to reflect on the past year and thank all of our Board members: President **Brian Kelly, Shamrock Pools**; Vice President **Gary Kaplan, Ike's Carter Pool Companies**; Secretary **Bjarne "Ike" Eikevik, Jr., Swimming Pools by Ike Jr.**; Treasurer **Jim Smith, LaGasse Pools**; and directors **Don Cesarone Jr., Van Kirk and Sons**; **Bob Anthon, Mike O'Brien's Pools**; **Bill Kent, HornerXpress**; **James Hawkins, Pool Service America**; **Dan Lockwood, Proline Distributors**; **Dolly Imbert, Regency Pool and Spa of FL**; **Rick Myers, AquaCal - AutoPilot**; and **Craig Doerr, SCP**. These directors have worked tirelessly through the year bring the best to the Broward Chapter.

Our new officers will be elected late this year; please check back next month to see who they are.

If you missed the Texas Hold'em Tournament you missed a great evening. **Adam Saffles, Superior Solar**, received first place and the grand prize of a \$1,500 Visa gift card. **Keith Cooper, Artesian Pools**, took third place and won a \$500 Visa gift certificate. I am sure they enjoyed the evening, congratulations!

There really was something for everyone at this event. The food served by Texas Cattle Company of Lakeland was great and plentiful. The drink specials were super and the bar was busy. The chair masseuse was a great addition to relieve tension during the breaks between games. **Donna Christensen, Pool Corp**, and **Barbara Austin, HornerXpress**, were our BINGO hostesses and gave away over \$350 in Visa gift cards.

Colleen Salvage, Central Florida Advertising and Design, was the event chairperson and declared the silent auction a huge success, thanks to donations from our member companies, manufacturers and distributors. Without their support, we could not host events of this magnitude. Thank you to the following for donating to the silent auction: **AquaCal**; **Alan Cooper, Adam Alstott, CL Industries** (Don Pugh), **Central Florida Advertising**



Sen. Baker receiving a Legislator of the Year award from Steve Bludsworth at the CF Meet & Greet with Legislators on 11/10/09.

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and Design, Epilepsy Association, Hayward (Randy Kusiv), Holland Pools, Insurance by Ken Brown, Jack's Magic, Lo-Chlor, Mary Manion, Pentair (Joe Gilman), Paramount (Nicky Milosevich), Roll-A-Way Pool Fence, Sunsational Electric, The Pool Pleaser, Tony Caruso, and Zodiac.

November 10 was the Central Florida Meet and Greet Your Legislators event. It took place in the lovely Historic Dudsread Ballroom. During the mix and mingle portion of the evening, the members had the opportunity to introduce themselves to our state senators and state representatives and to ask questions or to make comments. Jennifer Hatfield, FSPA Director of Government and Public Affairs, was the program moderator. Rep. Scott Plakon was the first to be introduced and recognized by the Florida Swimming Pool Association as a Legislator of the Year. Rep. Plakon thanked the FSPA for the plaque and the Chapter for their support of his campaign. He gave his promise to be aware of legislation that may impact the swimming pool industry.

Rep. Scott Randolph also addressed the group. He pointed out that he is on several committees that may have proposals that would affect the pool industry. He also declared support for the FSPA.

Sen. Carey Baker, keynote speaker, also received a FSPA Legislator of the Year award. He was genuinely moved by the honor and he also thanked the Central Florida Chapter and Steve Bludsworth, All-Pool Service and Supply, for the support of his campaign as Commissioner of Agriculture. Sen. Baker spoke about small businesses and how the economy has affected all realms of business, big and small. He stated that we have to enlarge our thinking and reach out to others who can assist in helping us achieve new and different goals. He concluded by stressing the importance of belonging to a trade association to achieve these goals.

Sen. Lee Constantine provided his own unique sense of humor to conclude the event. Sen. Constantine recognized Florida Building Commissioner, Ken Gregory, Holland Pools, and spoke to the Chapter about having one of our own assisting with decisions on swimming pool issues. Although this is the senator's last term, he guaranteed that he would still be around and would continue shouting the praises of the FSPA.

There will be no Builder Council or Chapter meetings in December. Have a wonderful and safe holiday season. See you on January 13, 2010 for the next meeting.



Rep. Randolph (above) and Sen. Constantine (right) speaking to the group at the CF Meet & Greet.

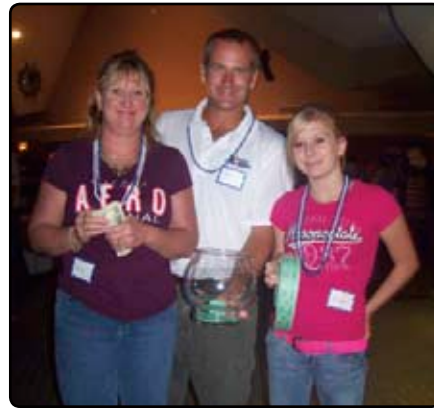


Charlotte Harbor

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

The Charlotte Harbor Chapter staff would like to wish all of our members a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Happy holidays!

Many thanks to **Marc Gordan, HornerXpress**, for teaching a one hour CE course on water chemistry. There will be no Board of Directors meeting or Chapter membership meeting held in December due to the busy holiday season. The next Chapter membership meeting will be held on January 13, 2010. Flyers for the January meeting will be mailed to all members and made available at local distributors.



Florida West Coast Chapter's Annual Tabletop Event - 10/27/09



Participants at the Florida West Coast Chapter's Annual Tabletop Event - 10/27/09

East Central Florida

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

The East Central Florida Chapter will not meet in December so that all members can enjoy the holidays with their families.

Happy holidays to all!

Florida Gulf Coast

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

The Florida Gulf Coast Chapter staff would like to wish all of our members a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Happy holidays!

Florida West Coast

Executive Director: Malinda Howard
(727) 638-6072
FSPAFloridaWestCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPAWestCoast.com

The Annual Tampa Bay Pool Industry Table Top Event was held on Tuesday, October 27 at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater. Thank you to **Helen Daniels-Twinam, Solar Source**, for chairing the event! This year's theme was Oktoberfest. There were 19 exhibitors and 130 attendees at the event. Food was provided by Ker's Wing House and music by Tim Jacobsmeyer. House District 48 Rep. Peter Nehr made an appearance and PIPAC Chairman **Rick Howard, Rick's Pool Service**, presented him with a Legislator of the Year plaque from the FSPA. It was a fun night for all.

The Chapter would like to welcome its newest members **Gorman Company - Clearwater** and **Larry Ahern Pool Remodeling, Inc.** Thank you to all of the Chapter members who renewed their membership and continue to support the FSPA!

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held at noon on Tuesday, December 1 at Applebee's at Tri City Plaza, 5110 East Bay Drive, Clearwater. Remember that any Chapter member can sit on the Board of Directors and every member is

encouraged to attend Board meetings. Our Board of Directors meetings are usually scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month, but please call or e-mail the office if you plan to attend.

The Chapter Board of Directors for 2010 is as follows: President **Brian Gangelhoff, A Pool's Best Friend**; Vice President **David Oxley, Belleair Pool Supply**; and Secretary/Treasurer **Don Ball, The Pool Works of Pinellas County**. At-large directors are **Sean Dastur, Florida Leak Locators**; **Rick Howard, Rick's Pool Service**; and **John Olden, Chemilizer**. Thank you to these members for committing their time to serve the Chapter for the next year!

We will be working on the 2010 Chapter calendar. Please call the Chapter office with your ideas for Chapter meetings and programs.

Manasota

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

Many thanks to **Marc Gordan, HornerXpress**, for teaching a one hour CE course on workplace safety.

There will be no Board of Directors meeting or Chapter membership meeting held in December due to the busy holiday season. The next Chapter membership meeting will be held on January 21, 2010. Flyers for the January meeting will be mailed to all members and made available at local distributors.

The Manasota Chapter staff would like to wish all of our members a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Happy holidays!

North Central Florida

Chapter President: Randy Taylor
State office: (800) 548-6774
FSPANorthCentralFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPANorthCentral.com

The December Chapter meeting



Rep. Peter Nehr receiving a FSPA Legislator of the Year plaque from Rick Howard, Florida West Coast Chapter President, at the Annual Tabletop Event - 10/27/09

will be at Napolitano's in Gainesville on December 16.

Officers elected for the 2010 year are President **Randy Taylor, HornerXpress**; Vice President/Secretary **Dino Muggeo, Fun State Pool Service**; and Treasurer **Larry Losciale, Easy Modern Living Inc.**

Northeast Florida

Chapter President: John Garner
State office: (800) 548-6774
FSPANortheastFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPANortheast.com

The 2nd annual Oktoberfest was held on October 17 at Fast Boys Wings. Over 100 people attended this chilly event! Vice President **Jim Batts, The Batts Company**; Treasurer **David Pruette, David Pruette's Electrical Services**; and Immediate Past President, **John "Scotty" Scott, Surfside Pools & Spas**, greeted all members and their guests. A short meeting was held prior to the beginning of the festivities. **Debi Garner, Pools by John Garner, Inc.**, spoke to the members and thanked them for renewing their memberships with the Chapter and for supporting the Chapter by coming to the outing. The following sponsors were also thanked: **Hayward Pool Products, Jandy/ Zodiac, Pentair Pool Products, Insurance by Ken Brown** and the Holiday Inn Town Center. Without sponsors, these types of events could not take place.

A raffle was held for some great prizes and everyone enjoyed lasagna, chicken wings, salad, bread, drinks and beer. The Jay Garrett Band provided live music on the deck overlooking the Intracoastal and even though it was a little breezy and chilly, a great time was had by all.

The slate of officers for 2010 has been elected. The new officers are: President **John Garner, Sr., Pools by John Garner, Inc.**; Vice President **Jim Batts, The Batts Company**;



Northeast Florida Chapter's Oktoberfest

Secretary/Treasurer **David Pruette, David Pruette's Electrical Services**; and Immediate Past President **John "Scotty" Scott, II, Surfside Pools & Spas**. The directors are **Paul Roth, Roll-a-Way Protective Fence**; **Denny Moyer, Surfside Pools & Spas**; **Joe Fitzsimmons, Majestic Pools of Orange Park**; **Stephanie Mitchell, Superior Design Pools & Spas**; **Greg Hand, Pool Barrier**; **Mark Turner, Swimcraft Pools**; **Rick Schmitz, Paradise Pool Service**; and **Butch Eaton, Pelican Pools**.

Thank you to all the officers and directors who graciously volunteer their time to make this the best Chapter possible! Also a welcome to the newest members of the Board – **Mark Turner, Rick Schmitz** and **Butch Eaton**; we are glad to have you on the team. For all the other members, please consider how you would like to be involved in the Chapter. If you are interested in learning more please contact one of your Board members.

The Chapter will host a golf tournament in April 2010, another ballpark outing and other events throughout the year. These are all opportunities for you to get involved.

The November 19 Chapter meeting was very informative with Bill Andrews, local labor and employment attorney, speaking to the Chapter. Throughout his legal career, he has limited his practice to representing employers in labor and employment law matters. Bill was chosen as one of the 100 leading lawyers in the State of Florida. We were very fortunate to have Bill at our meeting.

Due to the Christmas holidays, there will be no Chapter meeting in December.

All suggestions are welcome regarding any programs or CE courses you would like to have at the Chapter meetings.

There is an engineer willing to provide engineering forms and TDH forms to Chapter members for a discount. Please contact John Garner at 904-743-2060 for additional information.

Please make sure you have updated your records to the new address for the Chapter: PO Box 11543, Jacksonville, FL 32239. Business hour phones will be answered by the FSPA State office at 941-952-9293 and fax at 941-366-7433. Your Chapter leaders are: John Garner, President, 743-2060; Jim Batts, Vice President, 246-2455; and David Pruette, Treasurer, 272-7225.

We are all feeling the crunch of the tough economic times. Let's continue to work together and make this Chapter the best! We all welcome your comments and suggestions to help our Chapter thrive in the coming year.



Northeast Florida Chapter's Oktoberfest: *Adrian Sanchez, Jandy; Jim Batts, The Batts Company; and John "Scotty" Scott, Surfside Pools & Spas*

Northwest Florida

Chapter President: Mack Crumpler
(850) 902-1151
State office: (800) 548-6774
FSPANorthwestFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPANorthwest.com

No news this month.

Palm Beach

Executive Director: Doris Rohner
(954) 723-0937
FSPAPalmBeach@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPAPalmBeach.com

A huge thank you goes to **Rick Myers, AquaCal – AutoPilot**, for his excellent presentation at the November 4 Chapter membership meeting. His detailed presentation focused on the AquaCal 2010 Program, the new and revised model lineup, the new warranty, the 410 refrigeration change over, and myths and reality.

The Chapter has a new toll-free fax number. Use 888-671-4300 and avoid long distance charges. The existing fax number, 954-370-0507, will continue to be in service.

Mark your business on the map at www.fspa-pb.com. On the interactive map you can mark your business' location and include information you would like available for site visitors. You can even upload your logo or use the FSPA logo to identify you as a member. All members in Florida may mark their location.

On December 4 all those interested in a Holiday Happy Hour should mark their calendar. Arrive at the Old Key Lime House in Lantana at 5:00 p.m. for happy hour and dinner. There will be a gift exchange that is sure to bring out the holiday spirit. If you have not received a registration form call the Chapter office. A link to a map of the location is on the Chapter's home page.

The Chapter will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day on March 13. Everyone is heading out on a huge scavenger hunt in search of green beer and other Irish trinkets. It is a road Rally with a twist, a cash prize, trophies, goody bags and more. Bring your family, friends, employees and kids. This is a family-friendly activity. Flyers and more information will be available soon.



Palm Beach Chapter October Meeting: Chuck Grove, Horizon Pool & Patio, winner on the Spin for Success wheel with Rick Myers, AquaCal-AutoPilot

Polk County

Chapter President: Ed Delafield
(863) 665-8080
State office: (866) 930-3772
FSPAPolkCounty@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPAPolkCounty.com

The Polk County Chapter held several meetings October 28. After the Board and Service Council

meetings adjourned members were eager to partake in a CE course taught by **Jonathan Parker, Amerisure Insurance**, on the topic of workplace safety.

The other exciting part of the Chapter meeting was the election of the new Board for 2010. The officers are President **Andy Hernan, Allen and Company**; Vice President **Tracy Thompson, SCP**; Treasurer **Mike Postoll, SCP**; Secretary **Judy Williams, SCP**. The directors are **Ed Delafield, Griffin Pools, Inc.**; **Keith Johnson, Pool Works**; **Dillon Daniels, All Solar**; and **Joe Montoya, Action Pool Cleaning**.

Planning, scheduling and meetings are forthcoming to help continue the great track record and the continued success the Polk County Chapter has helped attain for the Polk County pool industry professional.

Space Coast

Chapter President: Shelly Grundhoffer
State office: (800) 548-6774
FSPASpaceCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPASpaceCoast.com

The November meeting with a free CE course was another successful event. A special thanks to **David Griffiths, Insurance by Ken Brown**, who gave the class on workers' compensation. You always learn something when you take CE courses.

Space Coast Chapter will have a Christmas party on December 5 at the Block House on Patrick Air Force Base. The normal \$25 fee has been reduced to only \$10. Your Chapter Board has decided to subsidize the event to ensure that everyone can come. It will be a chance for all of us to get together and have a good time after another hard year.

On December 10 we will have a Builders' Council, Service Council and Board meetings starting at noon at Beef 'O' Brady's, Lake Washington. We have several issues to discuss about the new year and what direction we want to go with the Chapter. The Space Coast Chapter has a strong and active Board but we need your input and support to continue to strive for a better tomorrow. Please make a 2010 New Year's resolution to get involved.

Tampa Bay

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

In Remembrance – John F. "Fritz" Quednau, 57, of Thonotosassa, FL passed away November 3, 2009 at home surrounded by his family. Preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Skip, Fritz was a lifelong resident of Tampa, a former Eagle Scout and past president of formerly NSPI, now FSPA, in the early to mid 1980s. He is also past owner of Sunshine Pool Service and Supply in Lutz, FL. He loved life, boating, fishing and autocross racing. He raised David, Stacy and Jennie. Other survivors include his soul mate, Deanetta; brother, Hank; and sisters,

Susan, Sally and Sandy.

A memorial took place Sunday, November 8, 2009. In lieu of flowers, please support LifePath Hospice. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers. We will miss him very much.

We want to thank our 2009 Board members for their service. We have had a great year in difficult circumstances. We also want to welcome our re-elected Board President **Scott Andrews, Sunshine Pool Service and Supply, Inc.**; Vice President **Tim Converse, Solar Solutions, Inc.**; Secretary **Annie Marquis, AmeriGas Propane**; and directors **Helen Daniels-Twinam, Solar Source**; **Cathie Alderman, HornerXpress – Tampa**, and **Marco Iacobucci, Cemex Construction Materials**. We look forward to another great year.

Our Christmas holiday get-together will be held December 10. Merry Christmas! Enjoy the holiday and be safe!

We would like to welcome our new member **Pleatco, LLC, John Antretter**.

Congratulations! We want to welcome a new family addition; Stella Anna Maria Iacobucci was born October 18, 2009 weighing in at 6 lbs and 19 ¼ inches long to proud parents Marco and Jaime Iacobucci, Cemex Construction Materials.

Our next Chapter Board meeting is scheduled for December 2 at 11:30 a.m. at The Tilted Kilt, Dale Mabry. We encourage all members to attend.

Treasure Coast

Executive Director: Susan Gilbert
(772) 263-2653
FSPATreasureCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com
www.FSPATreasureCoast.com

The next Chapter meeting will be the annual Christmas party on Wednesday, December 9. It will be from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Mickey Finn's, 269 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd. It is right off the Port St. Lucie Turnpike exit and is in the Winn Dixie plaza. Please come and celebrate with the Chapter. After the party everyone is invited to share a few laughs with Mickey Finn's Comedian Club from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Mark your calendars for the state Board meeting coming up January 8-9, 2010. It will be at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando.

Merry Christmas and have a safe and happy New Year!

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.

Calendar of Events

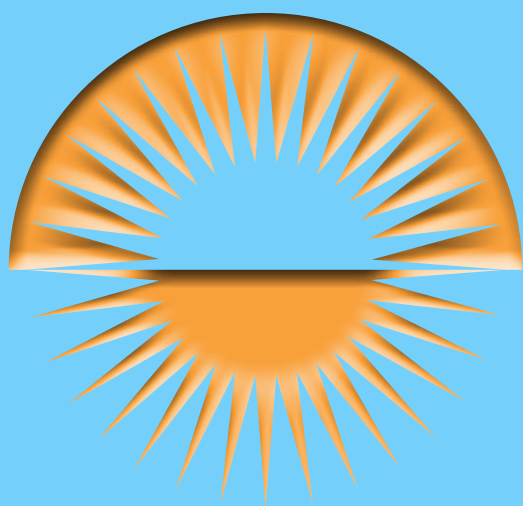
December 2009

- 1 FSPA Florida West Coast Chapter Board Meeting
Noon at Applebee's at TriCity Plaza, 5110 East Bay Drive, Clearwater
 - 2 FSPA Tampa Bay Chapter Board Meeting
11:30 a.m. The Tilted Kilt, Dale Mabry
 - 4 FSPA Palm Beach Chapter Holiday Happy Hour
5:00 p.m. Old Key Lime House, Lantana
 - 5 FSPA Space Coast Chapter Christmas Party
Block House on Patrick Air Force Base
 - 9 FSPA Treasure Coast Chapter's Annual Christmas Party
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Mickey Finn's, 269 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.
 - 10 FSPA Space Coast Chapter Builders' Council, Service Council and Board Meetings
Starting at noon, Beef 'O' Brady's, Lake Washington
- FSPA Tampa Bay Chapter Christmas Holiday Get-together

- 16 FSPA North Central Chapter Meeting
Napolitano's, Gainesville

January 2010

- 12 FSPA Manasota Chapter Board Meeting
- 13 FSPA Central Florida Chapter Meeting
FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter Meeting
- 21 FSPA Manasota Chapter Meeting
- 27 FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter Board Meeting



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