

I wish us all a great new pool season

By Richard Moseley, FSPA President

I look at our FSPA Orlando Pool & Spa Show as the start to the pool season, and if the Show was any indication of the year ahead, what a great year it will be.

First, thank you to all of our suppliers, members and attendees for gracing us with your time, money and energy. If not for each and every one of you, the Show could not go on. I am not sure that I have seen or felt the excitement and energy that was exuded during our few days together or not. But if I have ever felt that much energy, it was long ago when I was still young.

As president I have spent the last couple of months trying to see old friends and new associates from around the state. This last month everyone else did the traveling and came to me. I had a great time meeting and engaging with many of our members in Orlando.

The Awards and Welcome Reception is always a favorite to see how far we have come in our designs and abilities from when I started in the mid-1980s. The Executive Committee invited and got many of our past presidents, Person of the Year recipients and Hall of Fame inductees to come and join us. I apologize for not inviting each of you up on stage to get the real recognition you deserve for all of the awesome things you have done to move us to this point as an industry and an association. But, thank you for joining us, getting to know us and allowing us to get to know you a little better.

While in Orlando the Executive Committee had a chance to meet with the Executive Committee from APSP and start a dialog on what we can do together to make this industry better in the future. I found that none of them had three eyes nor did they try to brainwash us as I had been lead to believe might happen from stories of the past. Seriously, thank you for that time and effort; we enjoyed the short time together and look forward to seeing them again.

I also had the chance in the last month to go to an UPSA meeting and sit in on their plans for the coming year on some subjects. Thank you for allowing me to have the opportunity, and hopefully I was not too much of an alien at that meeting. We have too much in common in Florida not to have a dialog and I hope we can continue to grow in this direction.

The ICC Code on swimming pools is being written as we speak. I suggest we stay involved in that process from the local level, as many ideas seem to come from other parts of this great country which may have an effect on us later if adopted into the Florida code.

Finally, congratulations to all the award winners from my local chapter, to Eva on the Person of the Year Award and to Dominick Montanaro on his induction into the Hall of Fame. To our staff - the people who make this whole Show grow and excel year in and year out - Wendy, Bernice, Charis, Valerie, Michelle, and Sonja, you are the best and our Show is the greatest example of how great you really are; thank you.