

## **Remember when?**

By Wendy Parker Barsell, FSPA Executive Director

Do you remember the first pool you swam in, the first pool you regularly cleaned or the first pool you built?

There have probably been hundreds since that first one, but the memory of it is probably triggered when you drive down the road it was on, run into someone you worked on it with or maybe by the smell of a certain flower that grew in the yard.

Do you remember who introduced you to FSPA (or NSPI)? What's your first memory of going to a chapter meeting or the annual trade show? Hopefully, you were inspired by other industry members and encouraged by the strength of the Association and what it offers each individual.

FSPA is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Florida corporation serving the swimming pool industry. In that time memories have been formed by thousands of individuals, families and companies. These memories include winning design awards, scholarship awards for members' children, and probably even a few bikini contests and wing girls. While your mind swirls around that, I ask you to take some time to remember other achievements. In recent years government relations efforts have saved you money on each pool built or repaired; the active committee structure provides a forum for everyone to provide feedback on pending legislation and regulations so that it makes sense in the field and not just on paper; timely continuing education courses provide you and your staff the opportunity to learn about the latest technologies; and our weekly e-news publications provide current information so you can stay informed early and often of anything that may impact your business.

Your annual FSPA membership dues invoice has probably arrived by now and hopefully there is no hesitation for you to send in payment. Just remember all the ways FSPA helps your business and the swimming pool

industry at-large, along with those memories of being in the Association. By renewing your dues you are helping FSPA continue to serve the industry and create more memories for you, your family, your company and your colleagues.