

Florida PoolProSM

April 2015

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Florida Pool Prosm

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Association Mission: **Promoting
Florida's swimming pool industry.**

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June 12-13, 2015

Board of Directors Meeting
The Westin Tampa Harbour Island
Tampa

*All FSPA members are welcome to attend state Board of Directors Meetings.
If you would like more information or need to RSVP visit www.FloridaPoolPro.com/board-june or call 800-548-6774.*

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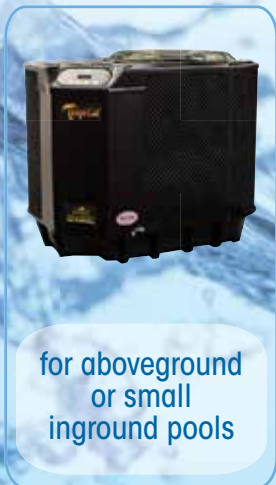
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Time flies

Time does fly by. One quarter of 2015 is already gone! And the FSPA is constantly busy. There are Board meetings, the Everything Under the Sunsm Expo in Orlando, Legislative Days was in March and the FSPA Swim Meet is in the fall.

This all takes lots of work from our state office as well as members who volunteer their time unselfishly.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Wendy and Bernice, and the efforts of their staff and volunteers, on a successful Expo in February. This is in the wake of the national show which was held in November 2014 in the Orange County Convention Center as well. All of the comments from the distributors and people who participated have all been very positive. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of our exhibitors who participated in the show; thank you!

The legislative session is underway and we have been working very hard on our government relations program. Thank you to Jennifer Hatfield for all of her hard work and dedication. If you and/or your chapter have not made a donation to PIPAC, now is the time. Support our cause in Tallahassee and support your industry. Keeping track of and voicing opinions regarding bills which could affect you or your business takes time, money and the support of legislators.

We also have a hard-working public pool task force. We created a public pool coalition with UPSA, BOAF, and DOH and are working hard on legislative issues. A flowchart (see page 16) has been created for public pool permitting that makes the new process easier to follow and hopefully helps building departments and DOH, and of course the pool contractors, understand how the process works.

As you know, this industry has always been good to us and we continue to learn from the efforts of this association and our education programs. Manufacturers work with us and provide education also. As 2015 continues to fly by, support one another, the pool industry and the Florida Swimming Pool Association.



John Garner, Sr.
FSPA President
johnngarnersr@gmail.com

Remind customers of safety

Pool season is in full swing for Floridians and our members are reporting they are as busy as ever. We don't officially recognize Water Safety Month until May, but this is a good time to remind your customers about backyard safety since their pool is being used more frequently.

FSPA has brochures available for consumers which provide information about all aspects of their backyard and members can purchase these for just a few pennies. When you are speaking to your customers or including information on you billing statements here are a few things to highlight.

Fences and gates and doors. When pools are being utilized more frequently a homeowner can get "lazy" about making sure the locks are secure every time they are used. Remind them of the importance of checking the locks on each pool access location when they finish swimming each and every time. It isn't just the children living in a home who explore, neighborhood kids go exploring and wandering!

Main drains. Recently FSPA reminded members of the expiration of the drain covers. Due to the constant exposure to chlorinated water and sunshine, covers need to be replaced to ensure they remain secure.

Adult supervision and swimming lessons. Adults should always be poolside to watch children, no matter the level of swimming ability. Now is a good time for swimming lessons and even refresher lessons for those who have been out of the water all winter. Remember, swimming lessons are the only life saving device which goes everywhere with the child.

Water chemistry and clarity. While it seems like the basics to pool pros some homeowners do not realize the implications of unbalanced water. For those not on a regular service route it might be a good time to remind your customers that keeping their pool balanced and circulation system functioning will extend the life of their investment.

And FSPA members, don't forget to claim your free safety brochures and place orders for pool watcher badges and coloring books to hand out to customers. See the advertisement on page 4 for details.



Wendy Parker Barsell
FSPA Executive Director
Wendy@FloridaPoolPro.com

Prepare for safety month

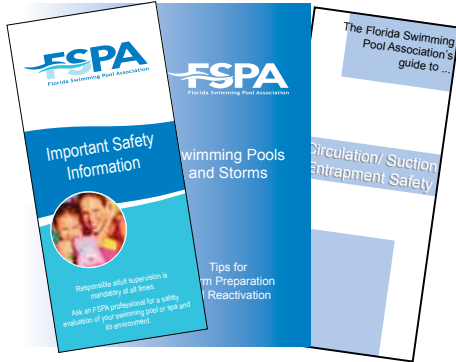
The FSPA is promoting its annual swimming pool safety month in Florida during the month of May in conjunction with the National Water Safety Month. For April and May only, safety brochures are FREE for members (you pay shipping, other items are still full price).

Be prepared to promote safety! Order safety coloring books, Splash the Penguin stuffed toys, pool watcher badges, suction entrapment brochures and safety brochures to give out to customers. Log in to the members only area of FloridaPoolPro.biz to download the order form or call 866-930-FSPA to place your order.

FREE in April and May

| Quantity | Price* | Postage |
|----------|---------|---------|
| 100 | \$2.50 | \$7.00 |
| 250 | \$5.00 | \$8.00 |
| 500 | \$10.00 | \$10.00 |
| 1000 | \$15.00 | \$13.00 |

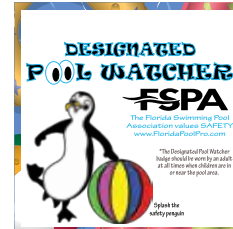
*Pricing is based on total quantity of all types of brochures.



Splash the Penguin Temporary Tattoos (\$5 / 50)



FSPA beach ball - \$1 each



Pool Watcher Badges \$1 each (includes a lanyard)



Coloring books - \$0.25 each

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FLORIDA POOL PERMITS

| County Name | February 2013 | February 2014 |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Alachua County</i> | 0 | 6 |
| <i>Bay County</i> | 7 | 10 |
| <i>Brevard County</i> | 47 | 61 |
| <i>Broward County</i> | 54 | 59 |
| <i>Calhoun County</i> | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Charlotte County</i> | 28 | 0 |
| <i>Citrus County</i> | 3 | 15 |
| <i>Clay County</i> | 4 | 6 |
| <i>Collier County</i> | 88 | 101 |
| <i>Dade County</i> | 92 | 68 |
| <i>Duval County</i> | 15 | 40 |
| <i>Escambia County</i> | 8 | 12 |
| <i>Flagler County</i> | 26 | 21 |
| <i>Franklin County</i> | 0 | 4 |
| <i>Gadsden County</i> | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Gulf County</i> | 2 | 2 |
| <i>Hernando County</i> | 0 | 11 |
| <i>Highlands County</i> | 4 | 3 |
| <i>Hillsborough County</i> | 74 | 70 |
| <i>Holmes County</i> | 1 | 0 |
| <i>Indian River County</i> | 24 | 31 |
| <i>Jackson County</i> | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Jefferson County</i> | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Lake County</i> | 22 | 33 |
| <i>Lee County</i> | 112 | 138 |
| <i>Leon County</i> | 6 | 9 |

| County Name | February 2013 | February 2014 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Liberty County</i> | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Manatee County</i> | 71 | 99 |
| <i>Marion County</i> | 12 | 7 |
| <i>Martin County</i> | 14 | 23 |
| <i>Nassau County</i> | 5 | 8 |
| <i>Okaloosa County</i> | 9 | 19 |
| <i>Orange County</i> | 73 | 105 |
| <i>Osceola County</i> | 37 | 3 |
| <i>Palm Beach County</i> | 88 | 112 |
| <i>Pasco County</i> | 24 | 34 |
| <i>Pinellas County</i> | 43 | 52 |
| <i>Polk County</i> | 43 | 37 |
| <i>Putnam County</i> | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Santa Rosa County</i> | 26 | 16 |
| <i>Sarasota County</i> | 35 | 52 |
| <i>Seminole County</i> | 23 | 34 |
| <i>St Johns County</i> | 43 | 53 |
| <i>St Lucie County</i> | 14 | 22 |
| <i>Sumter County</i> | 13 | 22 |
| <i>Volusia County</i> | 18 | 14 |
| <i>Wakulla County</i> | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Walton County</i> | 22 | 30 |
| <i>Washington County</i> | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 1230 | 1443 |

Have a look at what's going on through our eyes

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Refer to www.hbweekly.com for county coverage.

HBW, Inc. 877-332-1411

FSPA Legislative Days and 2015 Legislative Bill Tracking Report

By Jennifer Hatfield, FSPA Government Relations Consultant / jennifer@FloridaPoolPro.com

Week 3 of the 2015 Florida Legislative Session saw firemen, the farm bureau and a slew of other groups descend on the Capitol, and most importantly the Florida Swimming Pool Association held its annual Legislative Days Event! Thirty-five pool professionals from across the State spent a fast-paced 24 hours speaking to legislators and agency staff. All told, FSPA members sat down with approximately 90 legislative offices to discuss our priority bills and introduce ourselves to any of the newly elected House or Senate members.

The event began on Wednesday when officials from the Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Business & Professional Regulation (DBPR) spent time with us to discuss areas of importance: public pool regulation, Florida Building Code, unlicensed activity, Construction Industry Licensing Board, and any legislation that impacts these agencies. In addition, leaders from the Building Officials Association of Florida (BOAF) stopped by and noted that in their meetings with legislators questions had arisen about bills we have a common interest in (both our building code and pool lighting bills).

On Thursday the group hit the ground running, breaking up to hit legislative offices to discuss both SB 1232 and SB 926, which were now slated to be heard in the Health Policy Committee on March 23 (increasing the importance of our talks). The highlight of the event was the group's meeting with Senate President Andy Gardiner – who not only took the time to meet with our contingent but brought us into the Senate Chambers and had staff from the Secretary of the Senate provide us an overview of the history within the chambers. Thanks also goes out to one of our own members, Rep. Larry Ahern, who once again visited with the group during our lunch at the Governor's Club and in his office. All in attendance felt the event was a success and worth taking the time – FSPA encourages all members to considering take part next year!

Here is a list of the bills FSPA is tracking with comments and current status

(as of 3/20). Changes since the March issue are printed in red. To read bill summaries and for the most up-to-date reports log in to the members-only area of www.FloridaPoolPro.com.

FSPA Priority Bills

Building Code/Public Pools - HB 915 by Rep. Eagle / SB 1232 by Sen. Simpson

Comments: FSPA has been working with the Building Officials Association of Florida and the United Pool & Spa Association to put forward language that will resolve issues related to proposed changes to 64E-9, the public pool rule. Specifically, language would clearly provide that the Department of Health has the ability to inspect existing public pools for items that fall under the building code and that are considered construction items during their biennial inspections. FSPA, in conjunction with BOAF and UPSA, have been discussing this issue with DOH, the Governor's office, and legislators in order to ensure both citizens and tourists are protected and we look forward to a positive resolution. This legislation is the result of these efforts. Effective Date: July 1, 2015

Status: HB 915 – Passed with amendments by the Business and Professions Subcommittee by a vote of 13-0 on March 11. SB 1232 - Placed on Health Policy agenda for March 23.

Underwater Pool Lighting Safety - HB 795 by Rep. Stark / SB 926 by Sen. Sobel

Comments: These bills as currently drafted may be problematic in that 1) the FL Department of Health may not have the funding to have properly trained people to inspect public pools for electrical aspects, 2) the disclosure statement does not look at all aspects of electrical wiring of the property, and 3) some aspects addressed in this bill are already required via the Florida Building Commission's adoption of the National Electrical Code. However, FSPA looks forward to working with the bill sponsors to work out these kinks and wants to always ensure proper safety mechanisms are in place. Effective Date: July 1, 2015

Status: HB 795 – Referred to Health Quality Subcommittee; Business and

Professions Subcommittee; Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee; Health and Human Services Committee on February 26. SB 926 – **Placed on Health Policy agenda for March 23.**

FSPA Watch Bills:

Legislative Ratification/Workers' Compensation Law - HB 1013 by Rep. Hager / SB 1060 by Sen. Simmons

Effective Date: July 1, 2015. *Status:* HB 1013 - Voted favorable with amendments by Insurance and Banking Subcommittee by 11-1 on March 18 and has one more committee stop. Voted favorable with amendments by Banking and Insurance Committee by 9-0 on March 10 and has one more committee stop.

Statute of Repose - HB 501 by Rep. Fant / SB 1158 by Sen. Stargel

Comments: Reduces current 10-year period to 7 years for when action can occur. Effective Date: July 1, 2015

Status: HB 501 - Passed with amendments by the Civil Justice Subcommittee by a vote of 7-6 on February 17. SB 1158 - Referred to Judiciary, Regulated Industries and Rules on Feb. 27.

Construction Defect Claims - HB 87 by Rep. Passidomo / SB 418 by Sen. Richter

Comments: Chapter 558, F.S., provides a method for resolving construction defect disputes before filing a lawsuit. In short, it provides for notice and an opportunity to cure. Before the property owner may sue a contractor, the property owner is required to notify the contractor of the defect and to give the contractor the opportunity to examine the defect. If the contractor agrees that the defect exists, the contractor is given a reasonable opportunity to repair the defect or make some other offer in settlement. If the parties still disagree, the matter may go to court. The amendment passed by the Civil Justice Committee provides that any claim that has been previously resolved by making repairs in the time and manner agreed to by the parties is deemed frivolous. Effective date: 10/1/2015

Status: HB 87 – Passed with amendments by Business and Professions Subcommittee by a vote of 12-1 on March 10. SB 418 - Referred to Regulated

Industries; Banking and Insurance; and Fiscal Policy on 1/28/15.

Tax on Commercial Real Property - HB 245 by Rep. Ahern / **SB 1230 Sen. Hays**

Comments: This bill would eliminate the state sales tax Florida business owners pay on their commercial leases. The legislation will provide an exemption on the total rent paid for the right to use or occupy commercial real property. The exemption for the first year will be for businesses that pay up to \$10,000-per year in state sales tax - 2nd year \$20,000- 3rd year \$40,000. It would cover all leases and contractual agreements with rent and license fees regardless of terms and length of agreement. The exemption would increase by \$10,000 each year for the ensuing six years until the total exemption is \$90,000 and the remainder repealed completely in the tenth year. Effective date: 7/1/2015

Status: HB 245 - Referred to Finance & Tax Committee, Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee, and Appropriations Committee on January 22. **SB 1230 - Referred to Commerce and Tourism Committee; Finance and Tax Committee and Appropriations Committee on Feb. 27.**

Sales and Use Tax - HB 355 by Rep. Burgess / SB 310 by Sen. Margolis

Comments: Chlorine is not exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter when used for the treatment of water in swimming pools. Effective date: 1/1/2016

Status: HB 355 – Referred to Finance and Tax Committee; Appropriations Committee on January 28. SB 310 – Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Finance and Tax; Appropriations on 1/20/15.

R e n e w a b l e E n e r g y S o u r c e D e v i c e s -
HB 867 by Rep. Rodrigues and Rep. Berman / HJR 865 by Rep. Rodrigues /
SB 402 by Sen. Brandes / SJR 400 by Sen. Brandes. Effective date: January 1, 2017, if Senate Joint Resolution 400, or a similar joint resolution having substantially the same specific intent and purpose, is approved by the electors at the general election to be held in November 2016 or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose.

Status: HB 867 – **Voted favorable by the Energy and Utilities Subcommittee by a vote of 11-0 on March 12.** HJR 865 - **Voted favorable by the Energy and Utilities Subcommittee by a vote of 11-0 on March 12.** Regulatory Affairs

Committee on February 26. SB 402 – Passed with amendments by the Senate Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities Committee by a vote of 8-0 on March 10. SJR 400 – Passed with amendments by the Senate Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities Committee by a vote of 8-0 on March 10.

Solar Thermal Compatible Systems/Residential Building Code - HB 911 by Rep. Dudley / SB 1034 by Sen. Clemens

Comments: Although this bill does not apply to the residential pool, only the home, it would impact our solar contractor members. Effective Date: July 1, 2015

Status: HB 911 - Referred to Energy and Utilities Subcommittee, Business and Professions Subcommittee, Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee and Regulatory Affairs Committee on March 3. SB 1034 - Referred to Community Affairs, Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Fiscal Policy on February 27.

Tax Exempt Income - HB 49 by Rep. Moskowitz / SB 138 by Sen. Hukill

Comments: Would increase amount of income exempt from both taxes to \$75,000. Currently only \$50,000 is exempt from both the corporate income tax and franchise tax. Effective date: 1/1/2016

Status: HB 49 - Referred to Finance and Tax Committee and Appropriations Committee on 12/19/14. SB 138 – Favorable by Finance and Tax by 6-0 vote on 2/2/15.

Solar Energy:

HB 1089 by Rep. Torres/ SB 992 by Senator Bullard

Effective Date: 7/1/2015. *Status:* HB 1089 - Referred to Energy and Utilities Subcommittee; Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; Regulatory Affairs Committee on March 08. SB 992 - Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government; Appropriations on February 26.

HB 509 by Rep. J. Cortes / SB 868 by Soto

Effective Date: 7/1/2015. *Status:* HB 509 – Withdrawn from consideration on Feb. 20. SB 868 - Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government; Appropriations on

February 20.

Florida Building Code - HB 525 by Rep Jacobs / SB 592 by Sen. Sobel
Effective date: 7/1/2015. *Status:* HB 525 – Referred to Business and Professions Subcommittee; Local Government Affairs Subcommittee; and Regulatory Affairs Committee on February 5. SB 592 – **Placed on Community Affairs Agenda for March 23.**

Public Records/Contractors - HB 163 by Rep Beshears / SB 224 by Simpson

Comments: The bill provides that the public must make all public records requests relating to contracts for services to the agency. (Currently, the public may request records directly from the contractor.) If the agency is not in possession of a record, the agency may request the record from the contractor. Under the bill, a contractor who fails to provide records to an agency within a reasonable amount of time is subject to s. 119.10, F.S. Section 119.10, F.S. provides that a public officer who violates the Public Records Act may be fined up to \$500.00, subject to impeachment, or held criminally liable. Effective date: Upon becoming a law.

Status: HB 163 – **Passed with amendments by Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee agenda by a vote of 13-0 on March 17.** SB 224 – **Passed with amendments by Judiciary Committee by a vote of 10-0 on March 10.**

Applicants to be a Contractor - SB 1168 by Sen. Sachs

Effective Date: July 1, 2015. *Status:* Referred to Regulated Industries, Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Fiscal Policy on Feb. 27.

FSPA Bills of Interest (statuses only):

Discrimination in Employment Screening - HB 977 by Rep. Powell / SB 214 by Sen. Clemens

Status: HB 977 - Referred to Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee, and Judiciary Committee on March 3. SB 214 - Referred to Commerce and Tourism, Judiciary, Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Fiscal Policy on January 13.

Code Enforcement - HB 345 by Rep. Burton / SB 708 by Sen. Simpson
Status: HB 345 - Referred to Local Government Affairs Subcommittee, Business and Professions Subcommittee and Local and Federal Affairs Committee on January 28. SB 708 - Referred to Community Affairs, Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Fiscal Policy on February 13.

Texting While Driving - HB 1 by Rep. Stark / SB 246 by Sen. Sachs
Status: HB 1 - Referred to Highway & Waterway Safety Subcommittee; Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee on 12/19/14. SB 246 – Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; and Fiscal Policy on 1/15/15.

Use of a Wireless Communication Device While Operating a Motor Vehicle - HB 9 by Rep. Slosberg / SB 270 by Sen. Soto

Status: HB 9 – Referred to Justice Appropriations Subcommittee & Judiciary Committee on February 20. SB 270 – Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Criminal Justice; and Fiscal Policy on 1/15/15.

W i r e l e s s C o m m u n i c a t i o n s D e v i c e s -
HB 1313 by Rep. Slosberg / SB 192 by Sen. Altman

Status: HB 1313 – Referred to Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee; Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee on March 8. SB 192 - Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; and Appropriations on 1/8/15.

Driving Safety - HB 17 by Rep. Slosberg / SB 492 by Thompson

Status: HB 17 - Referred to Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee; Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee; and Economic Affairs Committee on 12/19/14. SB 492 - Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities Committee; Transportation Committee; Fiscal Policy Committee on February 3.

Employment Discrimination - HB 25 by Rep. Cruz / SB 98 by Sen. Joyner

Status: HB 25 - Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee; Appropriations Committee; and Economic Affairs Committee on 12/19/14. SB 98 - Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; and Fiscal Policy on 12/12/14.

State Minimum Wage - HB 47 by Rep. Stafford / SB 114 by Sen. Bullard

Status: HB 47 - Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee; Appropriations Committee; and Economic Affairs Committee on 12/19/14. SB 114 - Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Community Affairs; and Appropriations on 12/12/14.

New Small Business Tax Credit - HB 517 by Rep. J. Cortes / SB 128 by Sen. Soto

Status: HB 517 – Withdrawn from consideration February 25. SB 128 - Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Finance and Tax; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; and Appropriations on 12/12/14.

Notaries Public - HB 663 by Rep. Dubose / SB 436 by Senator Soto

Status: HB 663 - Referred to Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee; Business and Professions Subcommittee; Economic Affairs Committee on February 18. SB 436 - Referred to Commerce and Tourism; Judiciary; Fiscal Policy on 01/28/15.

Notaries Public - HB 523 by Rep Kerner / SB 526 by Sen. Grimsley

Status: HB 523 – Voted favorable by the Criminal Justice Committee by a vote of 13-0 on March 17 and now has one more committee stop. SB 526 – Voted favorable by the Criminal Justice Committee by 5-0 on March 16 and now has one more committee stop.

Are we just pool builders anymore?

By Ken McKenna, Tampa Bay Pools, Inc. / ken@tampabaypools.com

Only a short 14 years ago when I started in the pool business, needing to know about fire bowls, fire pits, fireplaces, outdoor kitchens, sunken seating areas and sunken bars, just to name a few items, would have made me laugh. We build swimming pools. Let someone else worry about those items, if anyone even asked for them back then. Well, now if you aren't thinking about those items and more, you are missing out. We are no longer swimming pool builders, we are backyard providers.

The term backyard experience is everywhere. Lucas Lagoons, out of Osprey, FL, has its own reality series called Insane Pools - Off the Deep End. The pools they are building cost the same as a house did 14 years ago. They build a backyard oasis, not just a place to cool off. HGTV has highlighted pool builders from around the country and the backyard experiences these builders



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are creating for the customer. When people start thinking about a pool, they put more thought into the items surrounding and attached to the pool than ever before.

When the trend started and people began asking for other items besides pools, I know our salespeople weren't comfortable with selling or even discussing anything but a pool, deck and screen. We mostly referred outdoor kitchens, fire pits and fireplaces to small GC companies. Now it is a must to not only be able to discuss these items but to be able to provide them yourself. The money left on the table if you do not offer these services is significant. Do not miss out on these opportunities; if you haven't started getting into other outdoor backyard items, start tomorrow.

Pool builder show rooms used to be tile, acrylic deck colors, some pavers and interior colors. Now they are starting to resemble home design centers. Options are what make the pool. People don't want to just swim, they want to feel like they are at a resort. They want the experience of the backyard. Our job is to provide that. You can see the other trends just from walking the Florida pool show last month. The number of suppliers and manufacturers carrying fire bowls and water bowls has gone up. Glass tile is more widely asked for. Arbors or pergolas around the pool area are increasing. Connecting a sunken kitchen and bar area to the pool is increasing. Sunken seating areas attached or even in the middle of the pool are increasing as well. This is why the Florida Pool Show's name is now Everything Under the Sunsm Expo. We provide it all and if you don't, you will fall behind.

Something is lurking in the water!

By Rick Howard, Rick's Pool Service, Inc. / flapoolguy1@yahoo.com

Springtime is pool time and not just for humans. For us in Florida we have lots of wildlife using our pools. Has anyone watched "The Gator Boys" on TV remove large alligators from swimming pools? If you arrive at a pool stop and find a gator enjoying the pool, I suggest calling a professional (actually I believe it is required) to remove the critter.

In the spring it is not uncommon to find baby turtles making their way into our pools. It is also not uncommon for animals to leave behind some signs that they have been enjoying the pool. I once informed a customer that a raccoon had been getting into his pool. He said, "We are in the city, you mean we have them around here?" Yes we do! He found out I was right when a large raccoon fell through his screen into his pool. He later trapped six and relocated them. I advise caution when opening skimmer lids as I have removed everything from them including rats, mice, opossums, rabbits and snakes. The snakes can be dangerous. Yes, I have removed rattlesnakes!

During our dry months, April and May, smaller lakes dry up and ducks go looking for water. This is a major problem and can cause pools to be closed for extended periods. I had a condo group that liked to feed them. The ducks invited their friends and relatives for the free meal and pool swim! I informed the

folks that if they wanted to keep feeding them, their pool would be closed indefinitely. The reason? Duck droppings, or "poo" as Mike Rowe from "Dirty Jobs" calls it. And it is not only a dirty job to clean it up but is also hazardous to humans. If and when humans defecate in pools we call it an AFR

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(accidental fecal release), with ducks it is no accident. It seems they save it up and leave it behind. It must be treated the same, as duck poo has potentially the same bad stuff as other poo. Pools should be closed and the CDC guidelines should be followed for fecal clean-up when duck waste is discovered.

The best way to deal with ducks is to prevent them from getting into pools in the first place. Not an easy task! Most likely the best way would be to have the guys from “Duck Dynasty” set up a blind and shoot them as they try to land in the pool, but that could get messy. And, if they are using a dog that is swimming/retrieving them, well now you have to consider a dog using the pool and creating other water balance issues.

Animals are not allowed in commercial pools (ref. 64E-9); if only the ducks could read! I suppose teaching ducks to read is not an option. I asked Tim Hagar from Tropiclear/LoChlor Chemicals if they had a chemical to keep ducks out. They used to and still have one sold in Australia but that is a long way to go to get some. Apparently it is not safe to use in America and was pulled. I have also heard some enzyme companies declare that their enzymes are so effective that when the ducks land in the water it removes the oil from their feathers and they sink! Don't we wish they worked that fast. People would pay to see it and the money raised could offset the cost of the extra chlorine needed to decontaminate the water.

We have spent countless dollars on blow-up toys from beach balls to the special order, extra scary alligator, only to arrive to see the ducks riding the blow up gator around. I am sure the ducks were thinking, “This is great, these folks are providing toys for us to use!” One solution that seems to work is putting up monofilament lines over the pool...a bird defense grid as we call them. The ducks are excellent flyers, so you may need numerous lines. We have used special order “scare tape” on the lines and wind socks in worst case situations. I am not sure how scary the tape is, and the wind socks look cool but sometimes I think help the ducks by showing the wind direction!

So, the battle continues. The lines help. And, when I see duck on any menu (The Melting Pot duck is awesome!) I eat it. Heaven knows we need fewer ducks around, at least using our pools!

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Should some be exempt?

By Gary Kaplan, Ike's Carter Pools. / garyk@ikescarterpools.com

For nearly three decades I have been in the pool business in south Florida and have seen many mom-and-pop hotels and motels disappear to be replaced by 200-plus unit condos. But some smaller complexes remain and have swimming pools.

Fortunately for all, with the help of many involved, the Department of Health (DOH) and the Building Departments found some common ground as the battle of responsibilities dragged on. As of October 1, 2014, via changes to Florida Statutes 514 and 553, a new or modified swimming pool must obtain an operating permit prior to any Building Department approval and issuance of a building permit. This logical, common sense ruling allows us, the commercial pool contractor, an opportunity to build a pool that will be able to operate as such when it is completed.

Under F.S. Chapter 514 the DOH has been in charge of routine checks on water quality and safety at all public swimming pools by adopting sanitation and safety standards in 64E-9, F.A.C. However the question that troubles me and is often asked is, "Should some be exempt?"

Per the criteria in 64E-9.0035, F.A.C., any public pool that is a condominium privately owned with 32 units or less can be eligible for exemption. An application to the DOH must be renewed bi-annually, by July 1 of each even numbered year! This, however, does not negate the pool from other federal, state and local requirements.

The question remains, "Does this make sense?" As I researched I was unable to provide a true number of how many of these pools are out there, or how many are even aware that the pool is exempt?

As we all struggle with daily business we should take into consideration some basic fundamentals of the requirements on public pools as a necessity regardless of exempt status for sanitation and safety. Each company has to

ask themselves the question, “Do we do the job just because?” or take the approach of a company responsibility to educate the consumer on what they may not know.

We as an industry should help all swimmers enjoy a safe environment and we should strive together to educate the consumer on what exempt really means. Perhaps there should be discussion on a requirement to have some information posted when a pool is exempt to make the user aware of the exemption.

The debate will continue on if some should be exempt; the question more realistically is, “Why you would want to be?”



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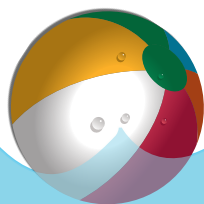
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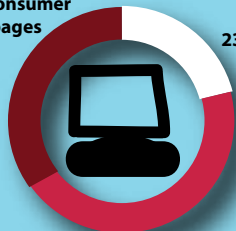
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23 member-only pages

65 industry pages

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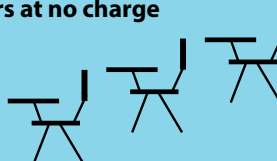


3,709

seats were filled for

5,959

hours of education



\$13,500

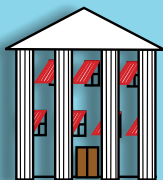
awarded to members' dependents in college scholarships



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printed copies of Florida Pool Prosm

70+ offices met with FSPA members during Legislative Days



4,275

registrants for the 2014 Expo



110 members volunteer on their local Chapter Board

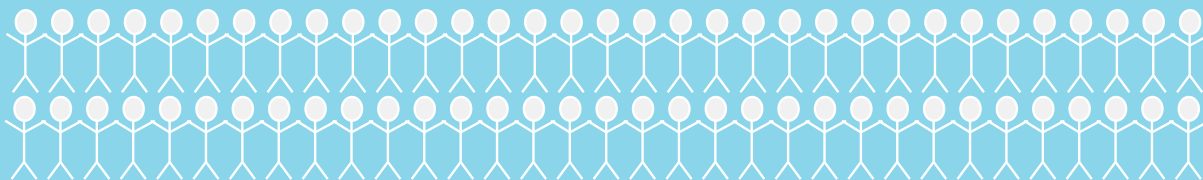


11,660

safety materials distributed during

27

chapter safety events and outreach programs



66 new member companies joined the association

The importance of having a company driver policy

By David Griffiths, Insurance By Ken Brown / dgriffiths@insbykenbrown.com

Does your company have a specific driver policy that you review with newly hired employees as well as with all employees annually? If not, you are missing out on one of best risk management tools available to you.

Having an official, written driver policy shows both your employees and your insurer that you take the issue very seriously. Rightly so considering the fact you are entrusting an employee with a multi-ton moving object with your name on it.

Most importantly, it can help reduce claims and keep safety on the minds of your drivers. In this day and time any risk management strategies you can put into place will go a long way in controlling claims, and therefore, premiums.

The daily exposure to catastrophic claim is probably higher in the operations of your vehicles than in any other scope of your business. This is because it is constant, because auto accidents are occurring at a much more frequent rate these days, and because the dollar value of settlements is increasing.

Florida is busy again and growing again. Those two facts combined with the fact that your drivers are out on the road with many distractions and making important decisions independently, makes Florida roads more dangerous and leads to more accidents every day.

Outlined below are criteria of a good driver policy that can be used as the framework for your company's driver policy. Please tailor it for your company's needs. You should also review it with your attorney for their legal opinion as well.

JOB OPENINGS in the pool industry can be found at

www.FloridaPoolPro.com/latest-information-2/classifieds/

Here are some thoughts for the agreement...

- Company vehicle will be used only for company business and never for personal use unless specifically authorized. If personal use of the vehicle is specifically authorized, only the employee will drive the vehicle.
- Emphasize defensive driving techniques and emphasize the driver take reasonable care in the operation of the company vehicle.
- Only company employees or other persons being transported for business purposes will be allowed as passengers and only previously approved company personnel are allowed to drive any company vehicle.
- No consumption of alcoholic beverages or other drugs is allowed prior to or while operating a company vehicle. Nor is operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Nor is anyone else allowed to operate the vehicle under these conditions. No open container (alcohol) is ever allowed by driver or any passenger of a company vehicle.
- All traffic laws, ordinances, and regulations pertaining to the operation of motor vehicles will be obeyed at all times. The driver will pay any fines, parking tickets, or other assessments for violations of traffic laws, ordinances, or regulations imposed when they are the responsibility of the driver.
- Driver will wear a seat belt at all times and will require all passengers to do so as well.
- Prior to driving the vehicle, a safety check will be performed. This will include checking tires, lights, wipers, horn, turn signals, rear view mirrors and brakes to be sure they appear to be in safe operating condition. If defects are noted, the driver will immediately report deficiencies to a supervisor or manager.
- In the event of an accident, the company automobile accident reporting procedures will all be adhered to.
- Driver should understand that if they are involved in an at-fault accident with a company vehicle they will be required to attend a remedial driving school or attend a defensive driving course at their expense.

- Regarding the use of cell phone, smart phone or mobile radio of any kind, any of the following is strictly prohibited while operating a “moving” company vehicle: texting, calling, talking or receiving messages. Driver should pull over and park vehicle to answer or reply to all calls and messages.
- Driver should understand if they are involved in an at-fault accident, they will reimburse the employer for the collision deductible on your insurance policy.

Finally, the driver agreement should close with a statement in which the driver understands that “any violation of any part of this company driver policy may lead to immediate termination of employment.”

You may have additional thoughts to incorporate with your driver agreement. If there is anything further we can provide please let us know. We are always happy to assist with any needs or questions and if you would like a “sample” driver agreement please let us know.

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Thank you, education and membership booth volunteers!

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2015 FSPA Design Awards



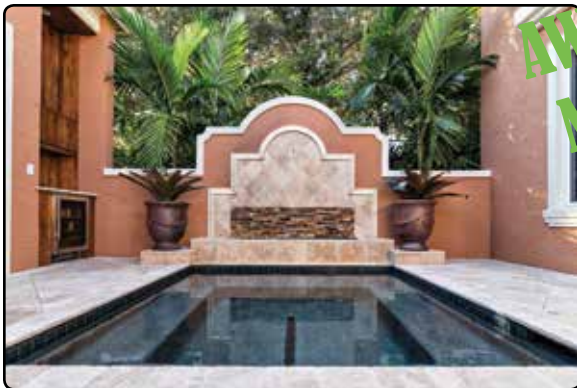
Here are additional winners from the 2015 FSPA Design Awards! To view all winners go to the News & Events page at www.FloridaPoolPro.biz or on Pinterest.com/flpoolpro.



Riviera Pools of Tampa
Pool/Spa Combination 501 - 700 sq. ft.



AAA Custom Pools
Residential Pool 701+ sq. ft.



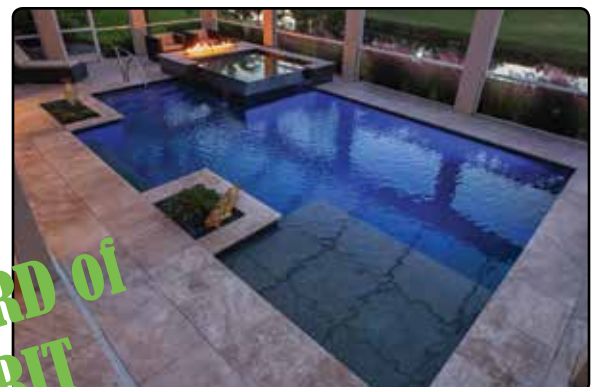
Almar / Jackson Pools
Residential Spa



Coast to Coast Pools
Pool/Spa Combination 250 - 500 sq. ft.



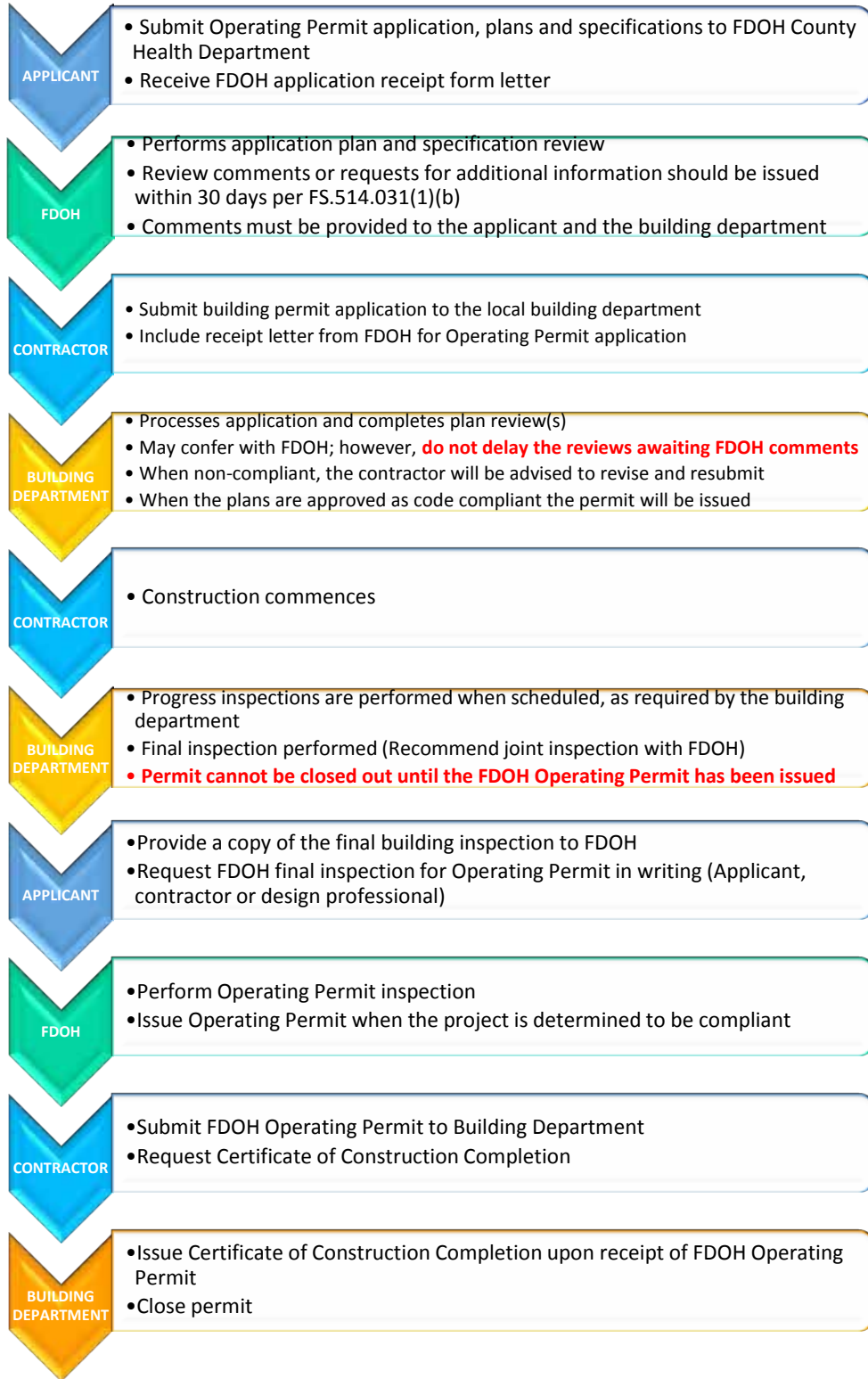
Van Kirk & Sons Pools & Spas
Residential Pool 501-700 sq. ft.



Aquatech Pools GC
Pool/Spa Combination 250 - 500 sq. ft.

The Florida Public Swimming Pool Coalition, whose members include the Florida Swimming Pool Association, United Pool & Spa Association, Building Officials Association of Florida and the Department of Health, have put together this guidance document to ensure contractors, building department and county health department staff are all following the same system when trying to implement the changes made in the 2014 legislative session in regards to the operating and building permit process when building or renovating a public pool. FSPA encourages its members to take this permit flowchart to the building departments it works with, as well as their county health department. Any questions or concerns can be sent to Jennifer Hatfield.

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL PERMIT PROCESS



Guidance provided by the Florida Public Swimming Pool Coalition whose members include representatives from the following groups:









NOTE: This process applies to new construction, alterations, repairs and equipment replacement

Team Horner recognized for promoting employee well-being and performance

FSPA member Team Horner received the American Psychological Association's (APA) 2015 Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 14. One of five employers from across North America to receive the award this year, the company won in the medium for-profit category.



The Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards are designed to recognize organizations for their efforts to foster employee well-being while enhancing organizational performance.

"This is outside confirmation that we are totally committed to teamwork for all the stakeholders in the company – customers, suppliers, employees, the industry and our community" says Dr. Bill Kent, Team Horner owner and president of the 430-employee company.

The wow factor that got the attention of the review panel of psychologists was the "Color Me Healthy" well-being program. Guided by Team Well-being Coordinator, Kim Kent, teams of employees are the ones who decide what well-being programs will be implemented without direction or censorship by management.

Groups within the company have different ideas of what they want. For instance, office workers in Ft. Lauderdale created a quiet room, on-site yoga and meditation, provide stand-up desks and ball chairs and offer nutrition workshops. At the firm's manufacturing plant,

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AquaCal/AutoPilot in St. Petersburg, the team offers parenting classes, financial management workshops, on-site workouts with a personal trainer and healthy cooking classes.

Each of the 16 branch locations in Florida chooses their own initiatives and the national sales team from all over the country likes well-being challenges and Fitbits. All teammates can participate in one-to-one well-being coaching on an on-going basis. Certified well-being professionals help employees with stress, nutrition, fitness, weight loss, and/or work/life balance. While it is confidential, employees often share their remarkable results with others.

“The Color Me Healthy philosophy is that we view teammates as creative, competent and complete. We don’t exist to fix anyone. We provide opportunities for folks to choose if and how they want to participate,” says well-being coordinator Kim Kent.

Team Horner’s psychologically healthy workplace practices have reaped rewards for both the organization and its employees. In fact, 94% said they feel they can openly communicate with their supervisor. Team Horner programs promoting longevity are working; 25% of employees have been with Team Horner for 10 years or longer, while 56% have been employed for at least five years.

“My personal goal has always been to create an environment where every employee jumps out of bed and can hardly wait to get to work,” says Dr. Bill Kent.

“Employees notice when an organization legitimately cares about their well-being and are more likely to be satisfied with their jobs, committed to the organization and motivated to do their best,” says David W. Ballard, PsyD, MBA, head of APA’s Center for Organizational Excellence.

APA’s Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards are designed to showcase the very best from among the award winners recognized by APA’s affiliated state, provincial and territorial psychological associations. Awards are given to for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, as well as government, military and educational institutions.

More information about APA’s Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award winners is available at www.apaexcellence.org/media. Organizations interested in learning more about creating a psychologically healthy workplace or applying for an award in their state, province or territory can visit www.apaexcellence.org. The Psychologically Healthy Workplace Program is a public education initiative from APA’s Center for Organizational Excellence.

The American Psychological Association, in Washington, D.C., is the largest scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States. APA’s membership includes nearly 130,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants and students. Through its divisions in 54 subfields of psychology and affiliations with 60 state, territorial and Canadian provincial associations, APA works to advance the creation, communication and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society.



Team Horner Receiving APA Award in Washington, DC. (L to R) Dr. Norman Anderson, APA CEO, Kim Kent, Team Well-being Coordinator, Dr. Bill Kent, President/Owner Team Horner, Dr. Barry Anton, APA President. Photo Credit: Larry Canner Photography. Photos Courtesy of the American Psychological Association. Used with permission.

FSPA Chapter news

Broward

Chapter Coordinator: Maggie Kloepfer / (866) 930-3772
 FSPABroward@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPABroward.com

Welcome to new members **Gary Eagan, Allbrite Pool Supplies;** and **Adam Chorzelewski, ACDC Pool Works, Inc.**

The March Board of Directors Meeting was held March 10 at Bimini's Boatyard Bar & Grill.

May is Water Safety Month. If you or your company are participating in any events in your area, please let Maggie know.

Please support your Chapter by attending the planned meetings and events. If you have something specific you would like to see at a meeting, please let us hear from you. We are always looking for members who want to get involved in the Chapter events; if you are interested, please let us know.

Central Florida

Chapter Coordinator: Sonja Dickey / (800) 548-6774
 FSPACentralFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPACentralFlorida.com

The Central Florida Chapter would like to welcome **Sea Breeze Pool Services** and **Seven Seas Pool Construction, Inc.** as our newest Chapter members. We have a great year planned for 2015 and look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events.

The American Lung Association Fight for Air Climb took place Saturday, March 7. Besides having a pool and water safety booth at this memorable



The Central Florida Chapter gave out safety information at the American Lung Association Fight for Air Climb and had a group take part in the climb!



Nicky Milosevich and Scott Jones at the Orlando City Soccer inaugural game on March 8. The Central Florida Chapter enjoyed the event.

event, a few of our Chapter members strutted up 521 stairs, that's 25 long flights of stairs, to raise money for the American Lung Association.

On March 8 many of our members had the wonderful opportunity to watch the Orlando City Soccer inaugural game against New York City FC.

It was a beautiful evening to network with industry peers and enjoy a great game! The game ended up being a tie... 1 to 1. Go Orlando City!

Some exciting things are in the works for 2015 including some interesting presentations and networking opportunities that will help you in your business, as well as numerous safety events that will occur throughout the year. Watch for more information.

The Chapter Board wanted to thank and highlight a local member, **Tony Caruso**.

"Who is watching the kids?" This is how Tony Caruso starts off his weekly radio show, "The Pool Fanatics" Saturday afternoons on WDBO-AM in Orlando. He believes that children are our future and that they should be nurtured, praised, disciplined, taught, hugged and above all else..loved.

"The Pool Fanatics" radio show turns five years old this year and it is a labor of love that Tony thoroughly enjoys doing. It is not an hour long talk show about his own accomplishments but an educational question and answer session about the latest swimming pool industry trends, technology, innovation, problems and, more importantly, recommended solutions.

Tony Caruso is very giving person in today's swimming pool industry. He is the owner of **TC Water Features Inc.** in Orlando, a family business that also employs his wife Tina, his brothers Bud, Mike and Tom, and his sons Chris and Anthony. His passion is work and play. He believes in giving back in many ways. He spends countless hours preparing for both his weekly radio show and the FSPA positions and committees in which he is involved.

For our industry, he currently serves as the president of the Bludsworth Central Florida Chapter of FSPA, having been on the local Board since 1996. He has served on the state Board and is active in the state Builders' Council.



Tony Caruso, TC Water Features, has a passion for pools and safety.

In what spare time he has after family and work, Tony loves sports. At 55 years young, he plays in the Roy Hobbs Senior Baseball League and competes with the winning attitude of a 17-year-old. Tony also loves old cars and driving his 1970 Gran Torino. He participates in the annual nationwide “Fireball Run” which combines a cross country scavenger hunt with a nationwide publicity campaign to locate missing children.

Tony was born in Baltimore, Maryland and moved to south Orlando at an early age, and attended local schools and graduating from Colonial High School. Working with his mind and hands brought Tony into residential and industrial plumbing. He believes a license only brings more skill and credibility to a tradesperson so in 1980 he obtained his plumbing license and was a subcontractor for Adair Pools of Orlando. Four years later, Tony started his own company.

Tony’s best friend and wife, Tina is more than just a life partner. He is happy to tell you his greatest accomplishment is being a proud, happy husband.

Tony’s goals in life are to be happy, healthy and to make a difference in the world. That’s why he always asks his listeners and people he meets, “Who is watching the kids?”

Charlotte Harbor

Executive Director: Andy Mallison / (941) 764-6774

FSPACHarlotteHarbor@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPACHarlotteHarbor.com

The next Charlotte Harbor Chapter meeting will be held April 21. A CE course is planned. The meeting will begin with a social at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact the Chapter office. Full details will be mailed to all members, subcontractors and made available via fax, e-mail and at local distributors.

The April Chapter Board meeting will be held on April 14 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Information will be sent to all Board members via e-mail.

Hold the date for the 21st Annual Chapter Golf Classic! The tournament will be held Saturday, May 9 at The Kingsway Country Club. Sponsorships are available for tees and greens, beverage carts, raffle prizes and for lunch.

Details about sponsorship and sign-ups will be available at local distributors and by mail. For more information, please contact the Chapter office.

East Central Florida

Chapter President: Coby Moore / (386) 615-7425
 FSPAEastCentralFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPAEastCentral.com

No news this month.

Florida Gulf Coast

Executive Director: Mitch Brooks / (941) 628-1160
 FSPAFloridaGulfCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPAFloridaGulfCoast.com

Big thanks to **Connie Sue Centrella, Team Horner**, for doing a super job as our guest speaker at the March Chapter meeting. Huge thanks also to **Mike Weida** and **Southeastern Group** for sponsoring the meeting; you are appreciated. This was one of our largest meetings in many years and we thank the 53 people who attended.

The “Spring Into Summer” Table Top will be Thursday, April 30 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Fort Myers (by the Town Center Mall) off of Alico Road. Thirty manufacturers, suppliers and distributors will be attending to show off their exciting new products, answer your questions and have some fun. There will be lots of food and door prizes along with a few great deals in our auction! It is FREE to all industry members but you must RSVP by going on online at www.FloridaGulfCoastFSPA.com or giving us a call at (941) 764-6774. For more information or to exhibit, you may call or go online as well.

May 28 is the next Chapter Meeting. It is at the Holiday Inn, Fort



Connie Sue Centrella, Team Horner, was the guest speaker at the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter meeting March 5.



The Florida West Coast Chapter had several members participate in FSPA Legislative Days in March in Tallahassee.



Myers/Town Center Mall off Alico Road, at 6:30 p.m. Registration starts at 6:00 p.m. The topic will be local unlicensed activity and what is happening to combat the issue. You must RSVP by going on online at www.FloridaGulfCoastFSPA.com or giving us a call.

Florida West Coast

Executive Director: Malinda Howard / (727) 638-6072

FSPAFloridaWestCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPAWestCoast.com

The Chapter Board met on Tuesday, March 3 at **Jack's Magic Products** in Largo. Thank you to **Ian Ferguson** and **Jack's Magic Products** for hosting this meeting and providing lunch. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held at noon on Tuesday, April 7 at Johnny's Italian Restaurant, 2907 S.R. 590 (Coachman Road) in Clearwater. The Chapter Board of Directors meetings are usually scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month. We are always interested in hearing your ideas for Chapter meetings and programs

A big thank you to the Florida West Coast Chapter members who attended the 2015 FSPA Legislative Days in Tallahassee. Those members are: **Jack Beane, Nadia Beane, and Ian Ferguson, Jack's Magic Products, Inc.; Rick Howard and Marcus Howard, Rick's Pool Service, Inc.; Richard Smith and Kaylin Dowling, Solar Source; and Don Ball, The Pool Works of Florida.**

It is time to start putting your team(s) together for the Florida West Coast Chapter's Annual Golf Tournament! This year's tournament will be held on Saturday, May 2, at the Bardmoor Golf Club in Largo. The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Lunch and awards will follow play. Sponsorships are available to get your name out and support your Chapter! Contact the Chapter office regarding sponsorships or registration.

Manasota

Chapter Coordinator: Sonja Dickey / (800) 548-6774

FSPAManasota@FloridaPoolPro.com www.FSPAManasota.com

The Manasota Chapter would like to welcome **Integrity Pool Development, Blue Cove Pool Care, LLC** and **EcoWater Systems** as our newest Chapter

members. We have a great year planned for 2015 and look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events.

What better way to kick off National Water Safety Month in May than with Josh the Otter? Please join us at the library readings of Josh the Otter at Selby, Gulf Gate and Fruitville Libraries on May 4. There is more pool and water safety to come, mark your calendars to join us at the World's Largest Swim Lesson at Arlington Park Aquatic Center on June 18. To get more information or to volunteer for these events please contact Sonja at Sonja@FloridaPoolPro.com

Our next Chapter Board meeting, which all members are encouraged to attend, will be Tuesday, April 14 at 11:45 a.m. at the FSPA state office. Please RSVP if you are attending.

The Manasota Chapter has great plans for 2015. There will be business mixed with pleasure throughout the year. Please let us hear from you with any suggestions for speakers or events.

North Central Florida

Chapter Coordinator: Maggie Kloepfer / (866) 930-3772
FSPANorthCentralFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPANorthCentral.com

Welcome to new member **Cheaney Pritchett, Ocala Pool Boys.**

On March 19 the Chapter had their meeting in conjunction with the grand opening of Solar Trek's new location. **Solar Trek** has partnered with Caribbean Electric and can now provide electric for repairs and new pools. If you didn't attend you missed a good time of food and fellowship.

May is Water Safety Month. If you or your company are participating in any events in your area, please let Maggie know.

We need your input! The Board would like to offer CE classes locally for Chapter Members. Please let us know what topic you would like to see offered. Contact Maggie at Maggie@FloridaPoolPro.com or one of the Board members.

Please support your Chapter by attending the planned meetings and events. If you have something specific you would like to see at a meeting, please let us

hear from you. We are always looking for members who want to get involved in the Chapter events; if you are interested, please let us know.

Northeast Florida

Chapter President: Rick Schmitz / State office: (866) 930-3772
FSPANortheastFlorida@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPANortheast.com

No news this month.

Palm Beach

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

John Puetz and Doug Kerns, Lonza Microbial Control, presented the March 10 Chapter meeting program. Topics included pool water chemistry, hot water chemistry for spas, stains/solutions, specialty products, phosphates, and a Q&A on local pool and spa problems. The program was well attended with approximately 50 registrants.

Juhani Koivunen, Red Rhino Leak Detection, was the lucky winner of the evenings door prize sponsored by **SCP Distributors**. He won a package consisting of a Taylor test kit, pole, basket and cleaning accessories. Thank you, **Randy Craddock, SCP Distributors**, for putting together the door prize items that put a smile on Juhani's face.

Horizon Pool & Patio employees clearly were after the big win of the night. After a show of hands, **Horizon Pool & Patio** had the most attendees present. They showed strong determination to win when they reached to the ceiling as their name was called. The outcome was close and had to be recounted, but in the end they won narrowly beating out **The Wright Pool Service** and **Red Rhino Leak Detection**. A Visa gift card was the prize sponsored by **Proline Distributors**.

Proline Distributors was the pizza sponsor for the evening. This sponsorship allowed the Chapter



(Above) Horizon Pool & Patio won a gift card for bringing the most attendees to the Palm Beach Chapter Meeting!



Juhani Koivunen, Red Rhino Leak Detection, won a prize package.



to offer this meeting for free to attendees. Thank you!

The Chapter Director of the Year for 2014 is **Jim Bingold, Proline Distributors**. Chapter President Dave Ballard presented Jim with an appreciation plaque for all of the volunteer hours and projects he freely gave throughout 2014.

Mark your calendars for the next two meeting programs. On April 14 the meeting will cover all issues relating to stains in pools. The May 12 meeting will be on commercial equipment presented by **Alex Fletcher, AquaWorx**. Meetings are held at Contractors Business Park, 2701 Vista Pkwy., Bldg. A, Ste. 9, West Palm Beach. The itinerary includes a Board meeting at 5:30 p.m., light dinner and refreshments at 6:30 p.m., and the program commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Please be sure to welcome our new members. **Daniel Duecker, Vinyl Pools; Brian Loften, Loften Pool Service; Ray Tremblay, Streamline Pool Service; Carlos Marquez, Pool Clear Corp.; and Dennis Miller, Pro Star Pool Supplies.**

The 2015 Palm Beach Pool Show will be held at the Palm Beach Marriott, 1001 Okeechobee Blvd., on Wednesday, September 16.

“We have moved the location to allow for a larger show, more exhibitors, more attendees, bigger auction, and an outdoor exhibit tent,” said **Jim Stevens**, Show Chair.

See the list of early registered exhibitors and auction items on the Chapter website at www.fspa-pb.com as well as short video clips of the 2014 show. There will be incentives to register early so check often for all new updates.

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Polk County

Chapter Coordinator: Maggie Kloepfer / (866) 930-3772
FSPAPolkCounty@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPAPolkCounty.com

May is Water Safety Month. If you or your company are participating in any events in your area, please let the chapter coordinator know.

The Polk Chapter is looking for a few good industry members to help out a few hours a month serving on the Chapter Board of Directors. Please contact Maggie if you are interested.

Space Coast

Chapter President: Shelly Grundhoffer / State office: (866) 930-3772
FSPASpaceCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPASpaceCoast.com

The Space Coast Chapter's meeting this month will be April 9 at noon. We will meet at the Beef 'O' Brady's on Lake Washington Road in Melbourne.

Mark your calendars now for our Picnic in the Park. It will be held May 9 from 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. We have rented pavilion #4 at Wickham Park. The address is 2500 Parkway Drive, Melbourne, FL 32935. We will have a volleyball tournament and other activities planned. A flier will be out soon with all the details.

Tampa Bay

Chapter Coordinator: Maggie Kloepfer / (866) 930-3772
FSPATampaBay@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPATampaBay.com

Welcome to new member **Nicholas Quackenbush, Q Services, LLC.**

On March 10 the Chapter had a training seminar at **HornerXpress** for members and employees. Thanks go to **Jim Hartley, Gunn Sales; Tim Hagar, Tropiclear;** and **Pat O'Key, Zodiac,** for speaking. We had a great turnout for this event. Thanks to everyone who attended.

It is time to pull out those golf clubs. Our Annual Golf Tournament is being held Friday, April 24 at the Eagles Golf Club in Odessa. Please sign up today. If you have any questions call the chapter coordinator.

May is Water Safety Month. If you or your company are participating in any

events in your area, please let the chapter coordinator know.

Please support your Chapter by attending the planned meetings and events. If you have something specific you would like to see at a meeting, please let us hear from you. We are always looking for members who want to get involved in the Chapter events; if you are interested, please let us know.

Treasure Coast

Executive Director: Maggie Kloepfer / (866) 930-3772
FSPATreasureCoast@FloridaPoolPro.com / www.FSPATreasureCoast.com

The 2nd Annual Horseshoe Tournament takes place April 25. Bring the family and enjoy a day on the beach. Call the chapter coordinator with any questions. We hope to see you there.

May is Water Safety Month. If you or your company are participating in any events in your area, please let Maggie know.

Please support your Chapter by attending the planned meetings and events. If you have something specific you would like to see at a meeting, please let us hear from you. We are always looking for members who want to get involved in the Chapter events; if you are interested, please let us know.

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.

CALENDAR

April 2015

- 7** FSPA Florida West Coast Chapter Board Meeting
Noon at Johnny's Italian Restaurant
2907 SR 590 (Coachman Rd.), Clearwater
- 8** FSPA Florida Gulf Coast Chapter Board Meeting
- 9** FSPA Space Coast Chapter Meeting
Noon at Beef 'O' Brady's, Melbourne
- 14** FSPA Central Florida Chapter Board Meeting
2:00 p.m. All Pool Service & Supply
- FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter Board Meeting
4:30 p.m.
- FSPA Manasota Chapter Board Meeting
11:45 a.m. FSPA state office, 2555 Porter Lake Dr., Ste. 106
- FSPA Palm Beach Chapter
5:30 p.m. Board Meeting
6:30 p.m. Light dinner and refreshments
7:00 p.m. Chapter Meeting
Contractors Business Park
2701 Vista Pkwy., Bldg. A, Ste. 9, West Palm Beach
- 21** FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter Meeting and CE
5:30 p.m. Social
6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 24** FSPA Northeast Florida Chapter Golf Tournament
Windsor Parke Golf Course
- 30** FSPA Florida Gulf Coast Chapter "Spring into Summer" Table Top
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Holiday Inn, Fort Myers

May 2015

- 2** FSPA Florida West Coast Chapter Annual Golf Tournament
8:00 a.m. Bardmoor Golf Club
- 4** FSPA Manasota Chapter Water Safety at Libraries
- 9** FSPA Space Coast Chapter Picnic in the Park
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 2500 Parkway Dt., Melbourne
- FSPA Charlotte Harbor Chapter's 21st Annual Golf Classic
The Kingsway Country Club
- 20** FSPA Florida Gulf Coast Chapter Board Meeting
- 28** FSPA Florida Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting
6:30 p.m. Holiday Inn, Ft. Myers / Town Center Mall

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