

# Santa Clara Valley IPSSA Newsletter



**Next General Membership Meeting  
Thursday, June 20, 2019**

santaclaraipssa@gmail.com / scvipssa.org

## Meeting Location

**SCP: 2036 Martin Ave.  
Santa Clara, CA 95050  
Dinner 6:30PM, Mtg. 7PM**

**Volume #28, Issue 4**

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## **President's Message**

If those few scorching hot days we had a week ago are any indication, we might be in for a hot summer. Remember to take care of yourselves out there, drink plenty of water and protect your skin from the sun.

This month we're happy to have Patrick Raney from Deck-O-Seal speak at our meeting. We are serving some fantastic Mexican food, the same lady who cooked for us in April is back. Well worth the drive over to SCP. So you can work a little later, dinner is at 6:30, meeting is at 7 pm this month.

Looking forward to seeing you at this month's meeting.

*Fred*

## **A Survey That Is Shocking!**

Americans are ready to kick off a season of sunshine and swimming. But before you jump into the water, beware: a new survey exposes some bad habits that contribute to [dirty swimming pools](#).

The online survey found that more than half of U.S. adults say they have at some point gotten into a pool as a substitute for showering or to rinse off after exercise or yard work.

The survey was conducted by Sachs Media Group, a PR firm working on behalf of the Water Quality & Health Council, a group of advisors to the chlorine industry trade association. On its website, Sachs Media Group says it aims to "Improve chlorine's brand nationwide to pre-empt legislators and regulators from developing policy that promotes chlorine alternatives."

"When dirt, sweat, personal care products, and other things on our bodies react with chlorine, there is less chlorine available to kill germs," Dr. Chris Wiant, chair of the Water Quality & Health Council, said in a statement. "Rinsing off for just one minute removes most of the dirt, sweat, or anything else on your body."

The report is based on an online survey of 3,100 American adults. It also found 40% admit to [peeing in the pool](#) as an adult. Experts warn that urine reacts with chlorine, reducing the amount of the chemical available to kill germs.

"The bottom line is: Don't pee in the pool," said Michele Hlavsa, chief of the CDC's Healthy Swimming program.

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## **On Balance**

Many of us may have had the unfortunate experience of adding soda ash to raise the pH and turned the pool water a milky white... in fact, we refer to it as "milking" a pool. Why does that happen and what does that do to the water?

Well, the soda ash (sodium carbonate) is normally very soluble in the water and goes into solution almost immediately. But it also can raise the pH and the Saturation Index high enough to cause calcium bicarbonate (dissolved calcium in the pool water, or calcium hardness) to precipitate. The white cloud you see is not actually the soda ash, but precipitated calcium carbonate.

If a small amount of calcium carbonate is precipitated and creates some cloudiness, it generally and gradually, usually within minutes, re-dissolves and clears up. The added carbonate (from soda ash) blends through the pool, changing and becoming bicarbonates of calcium and sodium, and the pH and the alkalinity rise, as planned. But if too much calcium is precipitated, it triggers a reaction that results in calcium carbonate precipitate that does not typically dissolve back into the rest of the water.

When a pool is milked, steps can be taken to either re-dissolve the calcium (by lowering the pH using acid until the Saturation Index value is low enough so that the calcium carbonate becomes bicarbonate and is re-solubilized), or we can filter out the precipitate and lower the calcium level.

The advantage of the first option is that within an hour or two the pool water can be clear again, but with everything (including the calcium!) back where it came from. The advantage of the second is that we pool water can be softened by reducing the calcium hardness level, but the pool will be cloudy through the filtration process, which may take days or a week.

By manipulating the water's saturation chemistry, calcium can be removed via an ion exchange-style process of adding sodium to remove calcium, and then clear the water by filtration.

By way of example, we helped a pool owner who's 18,000-gallon pool had a calcium hardness level of 1196 ppm, a pH of 8.2, and a total alkalinity of 180. The pool owner did not want to drain the pool unless they really had to, so they contacted us. We added 70 pounds of soda ash to the pool. This precipitated around 70 pounds of calcium carbonate, which was filtered from the pool. The resultant readings were a calcium hardness level of 589 ppm, a pH of 7.5, and a total alkalinity of 158.

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## New Polaris® Quattro™ Sport Redefines Pressure-Side Cleaning / Debris Doesn't Stand A Chance Designed to devour debris

Designed to devour debris, the NEW Polaris® Quattro™ Sport boasts 4WD agility to aggressively climb walls and actively brush the waterline. Even acorns, leaves and pebbles don't stand a chance thanks to its extra-large intake and superior vacuum power. And with dual-stage filtration, this cutting-edge cleaner efficiently collects both fine and large debris into a large capacity, easy-clean canister with a transparent window, so you'll know instantly when the canister is full. Backed by Polaris' 40-year legacy of innovation and engineering excellence, the Quattro Sport stands apart from the crowd as the most advanced and capable pressure-side cleaner available. Powered by a booster pump, the Quattro Sport is ideal for all in-ground pool surfaces. (800) 822-7933



## Orenda's Pool Dosing Calculator

Instructions

1. At the top left, select whether the pool is **residential** or **commercial**
2. At the top right, **input gallons** of the pool
3. The left side is your **current water chemistry**. Test your water and adjust each item with the +/- buttons on the sides, or by tapping the number and typing manually.
4. The right side is your **desired water chemistry**. Each number can be adjusted the same way as the left side.
5. **The goal is to adjust the right side to an LSI value as close to zero (0.00) as possible.**
6. Be sure your right side (desired water chemistry) is realistic, based on your current water chemistry. *For example, dropping the pH while also trying to raise Alkalinity will be counter-productive.*

The [Langelier Saturation Index \(LSI\)](#) value adjusts automatically as you work. The color will be **GREEN** when the LSI is in the acceptable range. It will be **RED** when the water is out of the acceptable LSI range.

1. When the right side has an LSI value that works for you, tap **GET DOSAGE** at the bottom.

The results page will appear with [two chlorine options](#) for Calcium Hypochlorite and Liquid Bleach. Use one or the other, not both. If you use Trichlor or a different type of chlorine, this calculator does not include dosing for it, so adjust as necessary on your own. Below the standard chemicals are Orenda products and how to dose them. If you do not use Orenda products, these can be ignored. they will not impact your LSI score.

Our local rep is: [saara@thewissbaumgroup.com](mailto:saara@thewissbaumgroup.com)

**Orenda App Check It Out**

Current Levels		Desired Levels	
80	Temperature	80	
1.0	Chlorine	2.0	
7.2	pH	7.4	
180	Calcium	400	
50	Alkalinity	80	
30	Stabilizer	30	
0	Salt/TDS	0	
1900	Phosphates	0	
-0.79	LSI	0.00	

**LSI and CHEMICAL DOSING CALCULATOR**

Available on the [App Store](#) | GET IT ON [Google Play](#)

And yes, it's free





THE

# IPSSAN

Mission Statement: The Independent Pool & Spa Service Association, Inc. exists for the mutual professional benefit and growth of its members and for the continued improvement of the pool and spa service industry.

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### California Capitol Report

## Dynamex Independent Contractor Bill Moves Forward

By John Norwood

Director of Government Relations, California Pool & Spa Association

AB 5, the labor-backed bill to put the Dynamex decision in statute, cleared the Assembly Appropriations Committee in early May and will soon be heard by the full Assembly. Amendments were added to the bill to provide for a general exception for licensed professionals such as accountants, dentists, architects and others so long as they meet certain conditions, an exemption for hair and nail salons and language specifically applying Dynamex to



unemployment insurance decisions, thus extending the decision beyond wage orders. The bill already contained specific exemptions for insurance agents and brokers, emergency room doctors, direct sellers like Mary Kay and stockbrokers.

Negotiations on additional amends and exemptions are ongoing. It is expected that the final language for the bill will be completed when the bill is heard

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### IPSSA Partners with Pride Industries

IPSSA proudly partners with Pride Industries for the mailing of the IPSSAN to its subscribers. In addition to taking on the role of the "mail house" for the IPSSAN, Pride Industries will insert loose advertisements

## Nuts 'N Bolts Tabletop

### IPSSA Santa Clara Chapter annual event



Santa Clara Chapter's yearly event held on Thursday, April 18, at Scuba Pool Repair. Pictured from left-to-right: Joe McVeigh, Fred Doering, Santa Clara Chapter President; Santa Clara Chapter members: Filberto Ruvalcaba, Jose Olvera, and Nigel Roberts; and Stan Phillips, Region 10 Director. The event raised \$1,270 for the NDPA (National Drowning Prevention Alliance).

Well here is some great news, our chapter made the cover of the June IPSSAN!

If you do not receive the IPSSAN you can view it on line:

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/14ba4a\\_c0faecc4b99d4bce890fe70ddf25503c.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/14ba4a_c0faecc4b99d4bce890fe70ddf25503c.pdf)

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### On Balance

Wait a minute! Didn't adding 70 POUNDS of soda ash cause a HUGE increase in pH and alkalinity?

Actually, and perhaps surprisingly, no. Since there is an almost one-to-one exchange of alkaline materials (sodium carbonate in and calcium carbonate out), the pH and the alkalinity actually stayed about the same.

Caustic soda (sodium hydroxide or NaOH) can also be used instead of soda ash to precipitate calcium. Less material is required for the same result, but sodium hydroxide may not be available and convenient as the soda ash for most service technicians.

There are variables in how much calcium is precipitated from a given amount of soda ash. These include water temperature (the higher the

temperature, the more precipitate), the existing level of calcium, and addition method (the more "localized" the addition method, the more precipitate).

We have found that a simple application of chemistry can save a pool owner from the necessity of draining their pool, and that the calcium carbonate precipitate should not adhere to the pool surface if continually brushed and removed by filtration quickly. This procedure, however, does not lower CYA or TDS levels.



**Have a safe 4th of July**

Company	Contact	Phone	Email
American Leak Detection	Bill Webb	408-729-5325	ald114@garlic.com
Blake Sales	Brian Duyanovich	916-529-0806	bduyavich@blakesales.net
Blueray XL	Chris Galvan	714-497-8822	Chrisg@bluerayxl.com
Chemquip—SCP	Laura Minert	925-250-7206	Laura.minert@poolcorp.com
Elm Distribution	John Kies	916-853-2600	john@elmdistribution.com
HASA	Brian Rivera	925-997-3640	brivera@hasapool.com
Hayward	Alex Capous	415-515-9982	acapous@hayward.com
Leisure / Keller Supply	Johnny Vasquez	408-727-8100	jvasquez@kellersupply.com
Lifesaver Pool Fence	Mark Hinkle	408-779-7922	Mark@garlic.com
Pentair	David Lagrimas	209-627-6356	Dave.Lagrimas@pentair.com
Pool Covers Inc	Cheryl MacLennan	707-386-9106	cmaclennan@poolcoversinc.com
Purity Pool	Rich Gross	530-472-3298	rich@puritypool.com
Raypak	Matt Anderson	916-767-8185	Matt.Anderson@raypak.com
SCP Distributers	Kevin Brown	408-327-4900	kevin.brown@poolcorp.com
Scuba Pool Repair	Patrick Bagg	408-866-1945	office@scubapoolrepair.com
United Chemical	Jeff Moscoe	707-533-5136	J.moscoe@unitedchemicalscorp.com
W.R. Meadows	Patrick Raney	916-806-8924	praney@wrmeadows.com
Zodiac	Jade Nicol	408-250-7000	jade.nicol@zodiac.com

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## Survey

"Swimming is a great way to be physically active and not peeing in the pool is a key healthy swimming step."

The survey revealed even more nasty findings. Almost a quarter of those surveyed said they'd go in a swimming pool within one hour of having diarrhea and 48% said they never shower before swimming.

The CDC advises all swimmers stay out of the pool if they have diarrhea, as this can contaminate the pool with feces and germs, which can make others sick. Everyone should also rinse off before entering a swimming pool.

When it comes to making sure the water is safe to swim in, the CDC recommends taking matters into your own hands. Pool-goers can use a test strip — available at most pool-supply stores, or free on the Water Quality and Health Council's [Healthy Pools campaign website](#) — to determine if the pH and free chlorine or bromine concentration are correct. The CDC recommends the following levels:

Free chlorine concentration of at least 1 ppm in pools and at least 3 ppm in hot tubs/spas.

Free bromine concentration of at least 3 ppm in pools and at least 4 ppm in hot tubs/spas. pH of 7.2-7.8.

## Sick Route Card - Click on the card to fill it out!

DATE _____					
Your Name _____		Spouse's Name _____			
Home Address _____		City _____	Zip _____	Phone _____	
Company Name _____					
Company Address _____		City _____	Zip _____	Phone _____	
Contact Person _____		Phone _____			
Location of Sick Route Cards _____					
Cities where you provide service and the number of service accounts in each city.					
City	Zip Code	Quantity	City	Zip Code	Quantity
This card must be updated every 6 months. SR-1296					