Comment Corner

Help Needed!

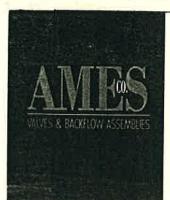
The topic of backflow preventers on fire systems still seems to be a hot topic in the industry. One of the goals of the Volunteer Chapter is to help provide information that might lead to some consistency throughout the State with regards to regulations on fire sprinkler systems.

The Volunteer Chapter is currently collecting data relating to the water quality in fire sprinkler systems. if you have done any water analysis or if you are willing to do so, please contact Larry Stinnett at (615) 594-7538 or John Hall at (615) 896-9022. They will appreciate any help or information that you can give them.

Merry Christmas December 25th



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Volunteer Chapter ABPA News

Volume 2 Issue 3

November, 1994

President's Corner

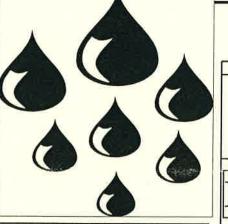
Where Do We Go From Here??

ith the Volunteer Chapter
ABPA now just over two
years of age, a little
maintenance and housekeeping
done, and a very successful 1994
ABPA International Conference
under out belts, let's now ask
ourselves these questions:
Where do we go from here?
What should be the long range
goals of the Chapter? How can
we be most effective as a voice
representing the field of
backflow prevention?

I conclude that the answers to the above questions are wholly dependant on you and I. If you and I determine that the Volunteer Chapter will succeed and be instrumental to help shape the field of backflow prevention in Tennessee, then we have taken the first baby steps in our attempt to walk. Assuming that all of us desire for the Chapter to succeed, now is the time for us to chart the course for our future.

Before attempting to answer the above questions, maybe first we should ask ourselves this: Why are we here

(Continued on Page 2, Column 2)



Important Date

Please mark your calendars for the next meeting of the Volunteer Chapter ABPA. Jackson Utility Division, Jackson, TN, will host our next meeting on November 16th at 10:00 AM. We are honored to have Ed Lathrop, ABPA Region 3 Director, as our guest speaker. Ed will announce the results of our recent election of Officers and Directors. He will discuss current issues concerning ABPA.

If you need directions to the JUD Training Center, please call **Jeff Becker** at (901) 422-7214. If you would like detailed directions faxed to your office, please call **Greg Young** at (205) 233-2023 and leave a message.

Opinion Please!

Extra Protection

n our Water District
(Madison Suburban Utility
District), we require that a
"Y" strainer be installed before
the backflow preventer to
accumulate debris before it enters
into the device.

One of our customers gave this idea much thought. He was familiar with the problems that fine particles of rust, etc. could cause his backflow preventer. After thinking the problem over, he came up with an idea.

He decided to install a home filtering system (sedimentation type) between the (Continued on Page 3, Column 3)

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- 5 Next Meeting-November 16, 1994

ABPA News

Volunteer Chapter

Published quarterly by the Volunteer Chapter of the American Backflow Prevention Association, whose members have a common interest in protecting the drinking water from contamination through cross-connections. Opinions expressed

in articles or letters are not necessarily those

Your ideas and expertise are needed by the Volunteer Chapter ABPA to ensure a balanced approach to solving backflow problems in the State of Tennessee. Your participation will help shape the future of cross connection control across the State by providing support for a unified backflow prevention effort.

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supported by the Chapter.

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ABPA annual dues are: \$27.00 ABPA National _10.00 Volunteer Chapter \$37.00 Total Annual Dues

Make check payable to ABPA. (National membership is required for Chapter membership.)

Mail dues to: ABPA 4381 Hudson Drive Stow, OH 44224

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John Hall-----(615) 896-9022 Tennessee Association of Utility Districts, Murfreesboro, TN

President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1, Column 1)

and what are we trying to do? Are we on target by stating that we are helping to protect and assure that Tennessee has a safe drinking water supply throughout all areas of the State?

Our interest is related with the regulatory agencies who establish the drinking water rules and oversee the local water purveyors, and the the water purveyors who assure that the finish water quality meets all regulations and is safe for our consumption. Also we are linked with engineers who design utility and plumbing/mechanical systems, the contractors who install and service the systems, and the property/facility owners who shell out big money, first to build their facility and then to maintain that facility.

Ultimately we are all water consumers. Every day of our life we are partakers of municipal or private drinking water. It should be our goal that anywhere in the State of Tennessee, we would have the benefits of a safe water supply protected by a well-informed, up to date, local, active and approved on-going Cross Connection Control Program.

As the Chapter Board of Directors wrestle with charting a course for our future, I summon you to provide your ideas, inspirations and answers to the questions presented earlier. A

membership survey and comment form will be issued soon for your input. Make your voice be heard. Submit articles of concern and ideas and opinions to the Chapter or Association newsletter. Talk to your area Director or any Chapter Officer-we want to hear from you!

I am reminded of a true story of a young child, that soon after being put to bed, fell off and landed in the floor. Tearfully, the child said to the anxious parents, "I guess I went to sleep too close to where I got in."

Let us not make the same mistake as the little child. Let's move on to the center of the action. Get involved and make a difference!

(Submitted by Dale Phelps. City of Gatlinburg, Gatlinburg, TN)

New Board Members

After the recent restructuring of the Board of Directors to include Regional Directors and Directors-At-Large, the Board voted unanimously to name Larry Stinnett (Knoxville Utilities Board) and John Hall (Tennessee Association of Utility Districts) as Directors-At-large. Our Association will greatly benefit from the knowledge and experience of these two fine men.

Miscellaneous

Articles, Technical Tips and other information are needed by the newsletter committee. If you have information or need information please call one of the committee members and they will be happy to assist you. The newsletter committee members are:

Dale Phelps (615) 436-4681 Don Treesh (615) 594-3633 Greg Young (205) 233-2033 Becky Thompson (615) 868-5400 Eddie Agee (615)754-8284

Membership

The mail ballot election process has been concluded. All the ballots should be in the hand of the Region 3 Director for tabulation. If you did not receive a ballot in the mail recently, it is either because the Association records do not show payment of your Chapter dues, or possibly we have an incorrect mailing address. If you have any questions concerning your membership status, please contact any member of the Nomination Committee or the Chapter Secretary.

Please remember that your local dues of \$10 must be included when you renew your National Membership. Our mailing list is provided by ABPA National and your local dues must be sent directly to them.

Congratulations

At the last Board of Directors meeting, several honors were proposed and all unanimously approved.

As a Past President of ABPA, Larry Stinnett is currently an Honorary Life Member. In turn, the Volunteer Chapter is proud to extend to Larry a Honorary Life Membership in our State organization.

In recognition of many years of distinguished service to the people of the State of Tennessee through his work in Backflow Prevention and Water Quality, the Volunteer Chapter is also proud to extend to Robert Lashlee an Honorary Lifetime Chapter Membership. With this honor, the Volunteer Chapter will pay all local and national dues for Mr. Lashlee for life.

The Board of Directors was proud to learn of the recent move of **Travis Black** to the Greater Knoxville Area. Mr. Black is a former President of ABPA and an Honorary Life Member. The Volunteer Chapter is also proud to extend to Mr. Black an Honorary Lifetime Chapter Membership.

Congratulations!!



Extra Protection

(Continued from Page 1, Column 3)

"Y" strainer and the backflow preventer. He felt he would accomplish a superior filtering system and a better guarantee that his backflow preventer would have a better chance to work without the added chance of those fine or extra fine particles reaching the device, thru cutting his cost for repairs.

After one year the double filtering system has protected his device thereby cutting his cost. Doesn't it make you wonder WHY!!! the manufacturers can not develop a method that will collect all grades of debris without the customer having to spend so much money?

This is one area that hurts the Cross-Connection Control Program so much-The Cost! We in the field deal with the small business person and see how much the cost of the repairs affects them.

WHAT DO YOU THINK!!!!!!

(Submitted by Becky Thompson, Madison Suburban Utility District, Madison, TN)