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Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Angel Goike, Secretary
c/o City of Clarksville
1030 Pumping Station Rd
Clarksville, TN 37040

TBPA



Tennessee Backflow News

Fall 2001



NEXT MEETING

10:00 AM
Tuesday
December 4,
2001
Loudon Utility,
Loudon, TN

Directions to
Meeting Inside

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2002 Conference Memphis

Join us in the Blues Capital of the South!

The seventh annual Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association Conference will be held in Memphis, TN, on Thursday and Friday, March 7th & 8th 2001. The conference will be as last year a day and a half.

The Conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel Downtown Memphis. Situated in the heart of downtown Memphis, the Radisson hotel is the heart of the Memphis celebration. It places you in walking distance to all that our great city has to offer. The hotel is adjacent to the Peabody Place/Beale Street Entertainment District as well as AutoZone Park, home of the Memphis Redbirds Baseball. The hotel is at walking distance from the Civil Rights Museum, BB Kings, Hard Rock Cafe, Elvis Presley and many other popular Memphis venues, including the famous Rendezvous Ribs restaurant and the Peabody hotel, where the Peabody ducks greet visitors every afternoon. Only minutes from Graceland, the Southland Grayhound Park and Mud Island the hotel is at the heart of it all.



Registration Forms and Conference Fees will be forthcoming in the next newsletter along with a list of speakers. The Conference promises to be one of our best located in a city full of things to see and do.



BACKFLOW PROTECTION GETS BIG BOOST

The Fleming Training Center completed their third basic course under the leadership of Brent Ogles in Cross-Connection Control on June 9, 2001...Brent is the director of FTC and the instructor of the four day course in Backflow Prevention, since Robert Lashlee retired in March of this year.

Students were lectured on the kinds of cross-connections both direct and indirect. A cross-connection is piping of a potable water with the piping of non-potable water or substance. With this piping arrangement a backsiphonage or backpressure on either system could cause a contaminant to enter our water system. As everyone knows, a contaminant could cause serious illness or death.

Students were then trained in the testing and installation of backflow devices. Brent did an excellent job of explaining the hydraulics and mechanics of a backflow preventer. On the final day, a written examination was given and then a closed book examination for testing a backflow device. Each student had a proctor and could make one mistake and given a chance to correct the mistake. If the same mistake was made again, the student failed. The student can make an appointment and return in 30 days for another examination. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK BRENT, WE ALL THANK YOU!**

Grady Gentry
Grady's Backflows

New Board Members To Take Office-First Of Year

Few nominations were received for the three board positions up for election. Due to the uncontested nature of all positions, on January 1, 2002, the following new board members will take office by appointment from the Regional Director, William Kent: President-Larry Stinnet of Backflow Specialty, Vice-President- Eddie O'Neill of Jackson Utilities, Middle Tennessee Director-Mike Trigg of Plumbers and Pipefitters LU 572 and Past President-David Kellogg of Gallatin Utilities.

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association



Name	Affiliation	Phone # E-Mail	Fax #
David Kellogg, President	City of Gallatin	615-451-5922 Dkellogg@ gallatinutilities.com	615-452-0568
Larry Stinnett Vice President	Backflow Specialty Company, Inc. Powell, TN	865-947-5722 backfloop@aol.com	865-947-5722
Lori Bachus, Treasurer	Tennessee America Chattanooga, TN	423-755-7601 Lbachus@amwater. com	
Angel Goike Secretary	City of Clarksville	931-553-2489 agoike@clarksville. com	931-553-2490
Grady Gentry Director, West	Grady's Backflows Dyersburg, TN	901-286-4271 mgentry@bellsouth. net	901-286-1557
Mike Trigg Director, Middle	Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 572	615-227-5542 Local572jalc @mindspring.com	615-227-5892
Dave Birkholz Director, East	Loudon Utilities	865-458-2091 Dave.birkholz@ loudonutilities.org	865-458-6781
Greg Baker, Director At-Large	Tennessee Association of Utility Districts Murfreesboro, TN	615-896-9022 Gregbaker@laud.org	615-896-8608
Brent Ogles Director-At-Large	J. R. Fleming Training Center Murfreesboro, TN	615-898-8090 Bogles@mail.state.tn. us	615-898-8064
Dale Phelps Director-At-Large	City of Gatlinburg Gatlinburg, TN	865-436-7792 Dalephelps@yahoo. com	
William (Bill) Kent Columbus Water Works, GA	ABPA Region 3 Di- rector	706-649-3490 wkent@cwwga.org	706-649-3477
Jack Poole	ABPA President	913-829-8650 jack@tpcsink.com	913-829-8690

The Tennessee Backflow News is published quarterly by the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association, whose members have a common interest in protecting the drinking water from contamination through cross connections. Your ideas, experience and expertise are invited and needed by the TBPA to insure a balanced approach to backflow prevention in the State of Tennessee. Your participation and support will continue to help shape the future of this industry in Tennessee.

Opinions expressed in articles, letters or advertisements in this publication are not necessarily those endorsed or supported by the TBPA. The content of this newsletter is not to be considered as legal or professional advice. Dues are \$45 annually, and are payable to the TBPA Treasurer. Annual dues include \$15 for Tennessee and \$30 for National ABPA dues. National membership is required for Tennessee membership.

The TBPA Treasurer address is:

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Lori Bachus, TBPA Treasurer
c/o TAWC, PO Box 6338 Chattanooga, TN 37402

All other info requests and inquiries, including newsletter items and advertisements can be directed to:

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Attn: Angel Goike, Secretary
c/o City of Clarksville
1030 Pumping Station Rd
Clarksville, TN 37040

TBPA/ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
American Backflow Prevention Association

NAME: _____

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CHECK ONE: RENEWAL: _____ MEMBER # _____

NEW : _____



ABPA DUES: \$30.00
TBPA DUES: 15.00
ANNUAL DUES TOTAL: \$45.00

Please remit total to:
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Lori Bachus
c/o TAWC
PO Box 6338
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Includes bi-monthly ABPA News Magazine
and quarterly Tennessee Backflow News
Pre-payment of dues required to process application.
Membership is non-transferable. National ABPA mem-
bership required for state TBPA membership

TBN Thursday,

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Joint Apprenticeship Training Program
Nashville, TN LU. 572
MIKE TRIGG
Training Coordinator
P.O. Box 78572 225 Ben Allen Road Nashville, Tennessee 37207
Home: 360-8426 Office: 254-1104

Tennessee Training Calendar

- **The Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD):** Cross Connection Renewal Classes for Municipalities and Basic Cross Connection Training Classes for contractors are available. Other classes may be available. Call Greg Baker at TAUD, 615-896-9022 for further information.
- **Memphis Light, Gas & Water (MLGW):** Classes are held in the greater Memphis Tennessee area on an annual basis. Call 901-528-4720 for further information.
- **Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 572,** Nashville, Tennessee: Backflow Classes for Apprentices and Journeyman, contact Mike Trigg at 615-254-7235 for further information.
- *To list or update your training class here please contact Angel Goike at 931-553-2489*

Upcoming Events

- December 4, 2001 – TBPA Meeting – Loudon, TN
- March 7-8, 2002-TBPA Annual Conference-Memphis, TN
- May 4-8, 2002 – 18th Annual ABPA International Conference Savannah, GA
- April 28– May 1, 2003-19th Annual ABPA International Conference, Detroit, MI
- October, 2003-TBPA Annual Conference-Nashville, TN

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation – Cross Connection Control Training Classes

Fleming Training Center
2022 Blanton Drive
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
615-898-8090

The classes offered by the Fleming Training Center are free of charge to any person who wishes to attend. Written registration is required, however, a minimum of thirty days in advance of the class. Confirmation letters for all classes/seminars will be sent out to registrants approximately three weeks prior to class and will contain pertinent details regarding exact location, class content, and materials. For information on class content for Cross Connection Control Workshops call Mr. Brent Ogles at 615-898-8090.

Cross Connection Control Workshop (BASIC) (4 days) (Textbook: None) Classes are at the Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro unless otherwise indicated.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| November 13 - 16, 2001 | November 27-30, 2001 |
| January 15-18, 2002 | March 12-15, 2002 |
| April 23-26, 2002 (Knoxville) | May 21-24, 2002 (Kingsport) |
| June 4-7, 2002 | June 25-28, 2002 (Jackson) |
| July 16-19, 2002 | |
| August 20-23, 2002 (Kingsport) | |
| September 10-13, 2002 (Knoxville) | |
| October 15-18, 2002 | |
| November 12-15, 2002 | |

Cross Connection Control Workshop (RENEWAL) (2 days) (Textbook: None) Classes are at the Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro unless otherwise indicated.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| December 5-6, 2001 | February 6-7, 2002 |
| April 22-23, 2002 (Knoxville) | May 20-21, 2002 (Kingsport) |
| June 24-25, 2002 (Jackson) | July 22-23, 2002 |
| August 19-20, 2002 (Kingsport) | |
| September 9-10, 2002 (Knoxville) | December 4-5, 2002 |

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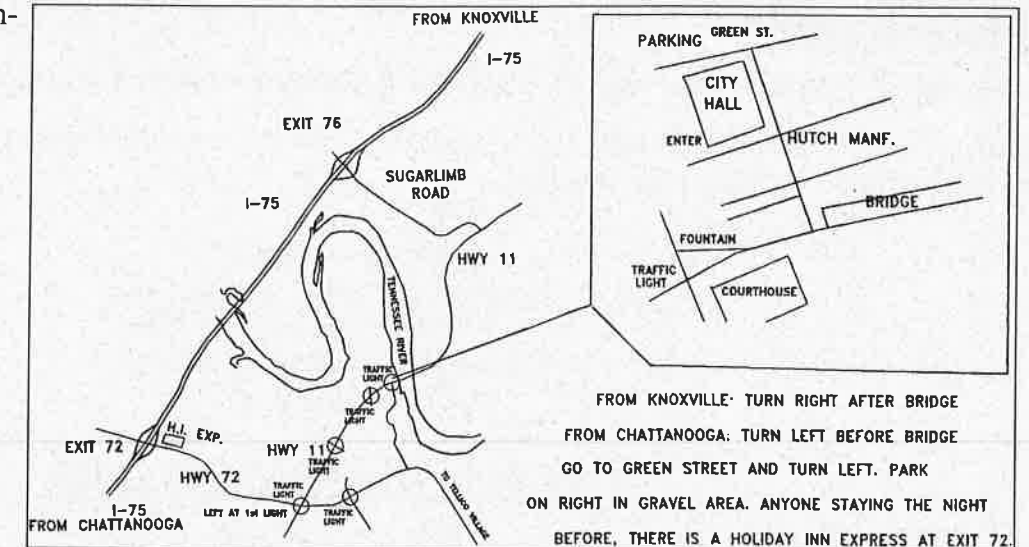
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Next Meeting December 4, 2001 Loudon Utilities

Here's how to get there:

For more information contact Dave Birkholz 865-458-2091.



LOCAL MEMBERS ATTEND NATIONAL BACKFLOW CONFERENCE

by: Grady Gentry

Six members of the TBPA attended the American Backflow Protection Association annual conference in Kansas City on April 23---26, 2001.

A variety of topics were presented by nationally known speakers such as Paul Schwartz, Henry Chang and Patrick Sylvester of USC; Les O'Brien of UF-TREEO and Jim Purzycki of Bavco. The Banquet was the last evening with a delicious meal and a very good magic show for the finale.

Recognition and awards were given to many members. David Kellogg (Gallatin), Angel Goike (Clarksville), Dave Birkholz (Loudon), and Grady Gentry (Dyersburg) were given a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Contribution to the field of Backflow Prevention. Dale Strong of Charleston, S.C. was elected Vice President of ABPA. William Kent was re-elected director of Region (3). Other Tennessee members present were Steve Beene (Hixon U.D.) and Billy Rogers (Lebanon).



Highlights of September 20, 2001 Board Meeting

*New printing of the "What is a Backflow Preventer?" brochure was completed courtesy of the Wilkins company. If you need a free informative brochure to distribute in your community, please contact any board member.

*Need Members for Newsletter Committee!!!! The board is currently looking into having someone publish the newsletter for us, but we still need active member participation.

*2002 Conference set for March in Memphis, and 2003 Conference set for new month of October in Nashville. We need west and middle members to help with both conferences.



Spotlight:
(the following article will be presented in sections in the next three issues of the TBPA Newsletter)



The Essentials of A Cross Connection Control Program

There are several elements necessary for a valid cross connection control program. These elements can be summarized under the following headings.

- *Authority (Spring Issue)
- *Backflow Preventers (Spring Issue)
- *Certified Testers and Specialist
- *Defensible and Detailed Records
- *Education and Training

Certified Testers and Specialists

Certified Testers

Once backflow prevention assemblies are properly installed, they must be periodically tested and maintained properly. Who will test these assemblies? That will be up to the administrative authority. There are some very important issues that need to be considered when determining who will be permitted to field test the backflow preventers in a particular jurisdiction.

First of all, what method of testing is to be used? Some may assume if certain test cocks are opened with shutoff valves closed the condition of the assembly may be ascertained by whether or not water comes out of a test cock. This is not likely to be the type of authority would want to see in their area of jurisdiction. The Foundation recommends the field test procedures found in the current edition of the Manual of Cross Connection Control. These procedures enable the tester to accurately determine the condition of the backflow preventers, even with shutoff valve leaks. But, there are other field test procedures available and the administrative authority must make the determination as to which field test procedure is to be used in the jurisdiction.

Once the field test procedure is determined there must be some means of determining if a tester is qualified to test using these field test procedures. This is where training and certification come in. While the Foundation offers training courses to train individuals on the intricacies of testing and ascertaining problems on the various backflow prevention assemblies. Those passing the Foundation's courses are not certified. They are issued a certificate of completion, which states that the individual did successfully complete the course. But a certification is usually a voluntary process instituted by a non-governmental agency in which individuals are recognized for advanced knowledge and skill. The certification of backflow prevention assembly testers typically requires a retest or recertification every so many years (typically every two to three years), to assure that the tester maintains their proficiency with the current field test procedures.

Many administrative authorities conduct their own certification program. Others adopt those of another organization or even another administrative authority. What the administrative authority needs to determine is, "what is essential to a certification program." One of the most important aspects of a certification program was hinted at in the previous paragraph; that is recertification.

(Continued on Next Page)

Certified Testers (cont.)

Recertification is necessary to ensure that testers testing in the jurisdiction know what they are doing and continue to know what they are doing. Without recertification, one doesn't know if the tester actually knows how to test. For example, if an administrative authority does not have a certification program, but only requires training. A tester could come in to the office of an administrative authority and show them a USC certificate of completion from 1975. The tester meets the qualifications, if those qualifications only state that the tester must have attended an acceptable training course. It is possible that they haven't tested a backflow preventer since 1975. If they did, they are probably continuing to use outdated methods. This is why recertification is so important. Of course recertification may take on many forms. For some types of certification only a renewal fee is necessary. However, for backflow prevention assembly testing it is essential that an examination be required. Not only a written examination, but also a performance examination. There is no way to tell if a tester can actually test and ascertain the condition of an assembly if they do not demonstrate this fact to an impartial proctor. So, whether the administrative authority conducts their own certification program, or adopts one already in operation it is imperative that the program requires recertification with both a written and performance examination.

Certified Specialists

Approved backflow preventers being tested by certified testers are essential to any cross-connection control program. But, who is to determine when and if a backflow preventer is to be installed in the first place. This is where the certified cross-connection control program specialist comes in. The specialist is trained to administer a cross-connection control program. They must be very familiar with all of the essentials of any program. One of their most critical tasks is conducting site surveys. This is where the specialist determines the degree of hazard, then what type of backflow preventer is necessary and where it must be installed.

How they go about this will depend on which type of protection the administrative authority is responsible for, meter protection, or internal protection (sometimes called containment and isolation respectively). If the administrative authority has a containment or meter protection program, it is their responsibility to determine if there are cross-connections on the premises which may pose a threat to the quality of the water in the distribution system. If there is a hazard, the administrative authority must require the appropriate type of backflow preventer at the meter in order to protect the potable water distribution system.

If, however, the administrative authority is responsible for internal protection, the assessment of which type of backflow preventer is necessary, if any, must be made at each point of water use. (A summary of how this done may be found in the article, "Three Questions", found in the Autumn, 1998 issue of Cross Talk.) A trained specialist will need to conduct a site survey to make the determination. The specialist will need to have a thorough understanding of the various hydraulic conditions which allow backflow to occur. Additionally, it will be necessary to have a good understanding of the degree of hazard. Knowledge in both of these areas is necessary in order to make a determination as to which type of backflow protection, if any, would be needed at the various points of use.

Excerpted from *Cross Talk*, published by the Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research of the University of Southern California 1999. Copyright University of Southern California. Used with permission. All rights reserved.