

Tennessee Backflow News

Winter 2017



NEXT BOARD MEETING

10:00 AM

January 10, 2018
Murfreesboro Water Plant
5528 Sam Jared Drive
Murfreesboro, TN
For directions Call:
615-848-3222

Upcoming Events

2018

TBPA Board Meetings
10:00 AM
Murfreesboro Water Plant
April 4th - July 11th

2018 ABPA Conference
Orlando, FL
April 23rd- 25th

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TBPA Mission Statement

The mission of the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association is to protect drinking water quality in the State of Tennessee by providing for education, statewide training, standardized certification, technical assistance and resources to our membership and the general public.

President's Message

Hello TBPA members! It's hard to believe that another year has already gone by. There is some truth to the saying "the days are long but the years are short". If you did not make the TBPA conference this year, you missed hearing some valuable information from some great speakers. The attendees also took a guided tour behind the scenes of the Aquarium in Gatlinburg. I hope you will check out this year's conference highlights and all the annual award winners on our web site.

During our October Board meeting we were unable to decide on our 2018 conference. We discussed going to a one day conference opposed to a day and a half. We also talked about having a conference every other year instead of every year. We really want some input from our membership on what direction to take. The board will meet again on January 10th. Plans for our next conference will be decided then. Please contact a Board member or myself we would like to hear your thoughts on the subject.

The 2018 American Backflow Prevention Association Conference and trade show will be held in Orlando, Florida on April 23rd - 25th. You can visit the ABPA web site for more details

I would like to take this opportunity to give one last **THANK YOU** to Liba Ford for all her years of putting this newsletter together for production, and I wish her the best on her retirement from Jackson Energy Authority.

I will be handing the gavel over to our new TBPA President Bradley Tomlin in January. I would like to thank everyone for all their help. It has been an honor serving as your TBPA president.

Wayne Osborne
TBPA President

TBPA Board Members



Name	Affiliation	Phone # - Email	Fax #
Wayne Osborne President	Shelbyville Power & Water Shelbyville, TN	931-684-5713 wosborne@shelbyvillepower.com	931-685-0113
Frank Maccagnano Past President	Murfreesboro Water & Sewer Murfreesboro, TN	615-848-3222 fmaccagnano@murfreesborotn.gov	615-848-3244
Bradley Tomlin Vice-President	JEA Jackson, TN	731-422-7531 btomlin@jaxenergy.com	
Kitty Vaughn Secretary	TN American Water Chattanooga, TN	423-771-4705 kitty.banks@amwater.com	423-266-2663
Kim Pritchett Treasurer	TN American Water Co. Chatanooga, TN	423-771-4724 kimberly.pritchett@amwater.com	423-771-4790
Michael Robeson Director-At-Large / Membership	Morristown Utility Morristown, TN	423-317-6316 mrobeson@musfiber.net	
David Wright Director, West	MLGW Memphis, TN	901-528-4449 dwright@mlgw.org	901-334-5434
David Risner Director, Middle	Murfreesboro Water & Sewer Murfreesboro, TN	615-848-3222 drisner@murfreesborotn.gov	615-848-3244
Kent Bowman Director, East	Bowman Backflow	865-258-2800 kentbowman@comcast.net	
Brent Ogles Director-At-Large	TAUD	615-900-1011 brentogles@taud.org	615-898-8283
Kathy Riley ABPA Region 3 Director	Charlotte, NC	704-293-6859 kriley@ci.charlotte.nc.us	
Tim Brown ABPA President	Charlottesville, VA	434-977-4511 ext. 119 tbrown@serviceauthority.org	

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 \$85 annually. (Dues include \$65 for National and \$20 for Tennessee) National membership is required for Tennessee membership.

Mail membership dues to:
American Backflow Prevention Association
342 Main Street - Suite 301
West Hartford, CT 06117

For newsletter advertisements contact:
Kitty Vaughn
P.O. Box 6338
Chattanooga, TN 37401

TBPA / ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
American Backflow Prevention Association



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COMPANY _____

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CHECK ONE: RENEWAL _____ MEMBER # _____ NEW _____

ABPA DUES: \$65.00
TBPA DUES: \$20.00
ANNUAL DUES TOTAL \$85.00

Remit Total to:
ABPA
342 Main Street - Suite 301
West Hartford, CT 06117

Includes ABPA quarterly e-newsletters and quarterly TBPA Newsletters. Prepayment of dues is required to process application. Membership is non-transferable. ABPA membership required for TBPA membership.

Tennessee Training Calendar

The Fleming Training Center: FTC offers Basic and Renewal and Cross Connection Classes to water systems and personnel throughout Tennessee. FTC is located at 2022 Blanton Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129, phone: (615) 898-8090, fax: (615) 898- 8064. Hours of operation: Weekdays 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Central Time. For more information and a registration form visit: www.state.tn.us/environment/fleming/. Written registration and 30 days notice is required for the following classes:

The Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD): Offering classes for utilities, municipalities and other industry related businesses and contractors. Classes include Cross Connection Renewal and Basic, Confined Space Entry, CPR/ First Aid, Flagger Safety, Trench Excavation and many others. Customized classes are also available. For more information please visit the Training Page at www.taud.org or contact Tonia Pass at (615) 900-1000 or ToniaPass@taud.org.

2103 Cross Connection Control Basic Workshop

Duration: 3 days • Class Fee: \$275
(full time employees of public water systems are exempt)
 Testing Fee: \$60 (no exemptions)

Murfreesboro		Alcoa
Jan. 10-12	Apr. 4-6	Apr. 11-13
Feb. 7-9	May 16-18	
Mar. 7-9	June 6-8	

3102 Cross Connection Control Renewal

Duration: 1 day • Class Fee: \$110 *(full time employees of public water systems are exempt)*
 Testing Fee: \$60 (no exemptions)

Murfreesboro		Alcoa
Jan. 9	Apr. 3	Apr. 10
Feb. 6	May 15	Kingsport
Mar. 6	June 5	May 22

3300 Backflow Prevention Assembly Repair Class

Fee: \$125 - CEU's: 6 hours

Murfreesboro
 Feb. 23 May 25 Sept. 21

Fleming Training Center Notice

All registrations forms for classes and seminars must be accompanied by the required fee payment.

Basic Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro	Kingsport	Jackson
Jan. 10 -12	Mar. 14 - 16	Jan. 31 - Feb. 2
Apr. 4-6	Clarksville	Memphis
Chattanooga	Jan. 24 -26	Feb. 13 - 15
Feb. 21 - 23	Knoxville	
	Apr. 18 - 20	

Renewal Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro	Kingsport	Jackson
Jan. 9	Mar. 13	Jan. 30
Apr. 3	Clarksville	Memphis
Chattanooga	Jan. 23	Feb. 14
Feb. 20	Knoxville	
Mar. 7	Apr. 17	

TAUD Backflow Troubleshooting & Advanced Testing
 Knoxville - Feb. 28 Chattanooga - Mar. 1
 Jackson - Mar. 28

Memphis Light Gas & Water
 For information and to register for classes contact David Wright at 901-528-4449 or dwright@mlgw.org

Training Information

- **Plumbers and Pipefitters, Local 572, Nashville, Tennessee:** Backflow Classes for Apprentices and Journeyman: (615) 227-5542
225 Ben Allen Rd., Nashville, TN 37207
- **Plumbers & Steamfitters, Local #43 JACT:**
Contact Woody Evans, 3013 Riverside Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37406, (423) 365-9972
- **Knoxville Plumbers & Steamfitters, LU #102 JATC:** Knoxville, TN Contact Wayne Summers, 1218 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN 37917 - (865) 525-6305 or lu102jatc@bellsouth.net
- **Plumbers Local Union #17:** For information on classes contact Howard Burgess at (901) 368-9099 or howard@ua17.org - 4229 Prescott Road, Memphis, TN 38118
- **Backflow Control:** Backflow Training and Certification Classes for Mississippi, Alabama & Tennessee. Contact Roger Crane at (662) 333-9007 -262 Boatner Road, Potts Camp, MS 38659

To list or update your training classes contact Kitty Vaughn at kitty.banks@amwater.com.



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TBPA Board Meeting Update - October 18, 2017

Treasurer's report:

Account Balance \$ 11,020.14

TBPA 2017 Conference:

Speakers are in place. Wayne has the awards. We have visitors from the Kentucky Blue Grass Association visiting with us this year. Gary and Alice Williams.

TBPA 2018 Conference:

Discussion was held about whether to have a conference in 2018. We will ask the membership attending the conference and Michael will send out an email for opinions.

Nominations: West TN Director and Vice-President Elections are this year. David Wright will run again for West Director. Nominations are still needed for Vice-President and others interested in the West Director position. Wayne will ask at the conference and Michael will send out an email for nominations.

Discussion was held on doing the ballots by email or by mail in. That will be pursued in January. Wayne will look at the By-laws on how it needs to be presented to the membership.

Currently we do not have an email for each member. Those members would have to receive a mail in ballot.

Web site: Ryan is continuing to make updates to the TBPA web site. Everything looks good.

Newsletter: December (Winter 2017) will be Liba's last newsletter to produce. Kitty will look at the information again. If she cannot take on the job she will try to find someone else. If she cannot find someone, Michael will email the membership to see if anyone is interested in taking over the job. Other options for the newsletter were discussed but we would like to keep issuing the printed copy.

Next Board meeting:

Murfreesboro - January 10th - 10:00 AM



Gary and Alice Williams with Kitty Vaughn

Not official minutes



Lloyd Rainey

lloyd@midamericamktg.com

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A word from the TBPA Vice-President

Greetings fellow TBPA members! Many thanks to all who attended our 2017 Annual Conference. I am especially grateful all our speakers and vendors that provided informative training, experience and products.

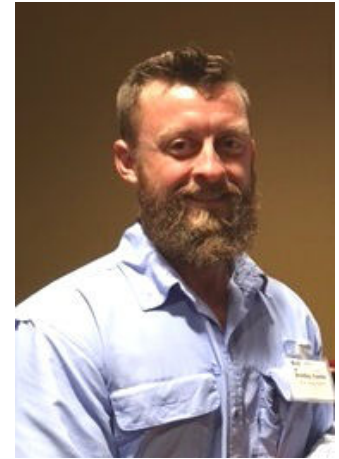
TBPA's goal is to provide training, education, and assistance. The Board Members are looking for your feedback to best serve you. If you have a specific need, please let us know. If you need help with backflow device troubleshooting/repairs, regulation requirements, certification or public/customer awareness, contact TBPA. We would be glad to assist you with your needs.

Our next Board meeting is January 10th at the Murfreesboro Water Plant. If you can make it that would be great. If not, please let us know your ideas or concerns so they can be discussed at the meeting.

We are always looking for ways to improve our association. I encourage your involvement so that the Board may best serve its members.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Bradley Tomlin
Vice-President



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THANK YOU TO OUR VENDORS

We would like to say a special "Thank You" to the Vendors that participated in our Annual Conference. The success of our conference depends on you and we want you to know how much you are appreciated.

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Backflow Specialty Company

Wilkins Zurn / Ben O'Neal Company

Mid Americ Marketing (Watts / Ames /Febco)

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Thanks again and we hope to see you at our next conference!

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Roger Crane
Instrument Technician

TBPA East Section News

I hope everyone had a Great Thanksgiving. Christmas is right around the corner and then I like to say, Spring time! I hated I didn't make it to the Conference this year. I was able to attend the Board Meeting and had to get back home to take care of my mother. However, I want to say Thank You to all the speakers, vendors and the members that attended. If it wasn't for you we would not have a TBPA.

I want to share with you a problem I had a few months ago. I had a Utility call me and ask for some help to get their Irrigation backflows tested. All went well with the utility, the homeowners and me until I had 3 left to test. The house I was to test did not have a device location on the paperwork. I walked down the side of the house and didn't see the device. They had a fence at the back of the house so I pulled back the bushes in front of the fence and still no device. There was a gate in the fence (I think most of us have done this) I shook the fence. No dog. So, I tried to open the latch to see if the device was just inside the fence. The latch wouldn't go all the way up so I took my screwdriver and was pulling it all the way up when.....A lady came out on the back deck ask me what the \$&@* I was doing. She said she had a GUN. I told her I was a contractor and was there to test the backflow device. She asked me again what the \$&@* I was doing. I told her again and she told me to stay right there. She came out the front of the house to talk to me. My truck was sitting just past her driveway with "Bowman Backflow" from the front fender to the back fender with the Utility's sticker above my name but that didn't matter to her.

I still had the screwdriver in my hand as she walked toward me. She saw the screwdriver and said "that's a \$&@* knife" and I said no it's a screwdriver and held it up. Again she said "that's a \$&@* knife" and ran into the house.

I called the Utility to tell them that she called the police and I told them I would handle it. When the two police cars showed up I told them what the deal was and they understood what I was doing. As I sat in my truck, I saw the backflow on the outside of fence at the end of the bushes that I didn't make it to. They had painted it the same color as the fence (go figure). So while they talked to her, I ran and tested the backflow.

After I tested the backflow, which passed thank goodness (but if that thing had failed I would have been all over it to fix it!) I went to talk to the lady and the officer to explain the situation and let them know that if I had to go behind the fence and house I would have knocked on the door. I was just trying to find the device first.

She told me she would not have opened the door. I explained to her that I always ring the door bell and stand in the yard.

She said she still would not have opened the door and the gun would have been in her hand. I immediately left.

The Cross Connection Dept. and the manager of the Utility were great to me about what had happened

I tell this story to say that one of the police officers told me there was a report about utility workers and how assaults by homeowners was on the rise nowadays. When I worked for the Utility in Knoxville, I asked more than one Knox County Deputy about going behind a house when nobody was home. It was interesting that both of them said I was crazy doing that and the only time they would go behind a house is if they were after someone. They said the homeowner could say they had items in the backyard and now they are missing. Since I was there, I would be a suspect. Also, I had one homeowner tell me he was going to electrocute me and another one told me he was going to set out a couple of bear traps the next year.

I know most Cross Connection Departments are understaffed and if they send a letter saying its time to test it's hard to narrow it down to a time or day. Plus, if the homeowner is mad about the test fee it doesn't matter what a tester does he is in the middle of it.

This is just a reminder for everyone to have your head on a swivel and be aware of your surroundings!

Now, I'm not sure if everyone knows but Liba Ford is retiring from JEA the end of this year. I wish nothing but the best for her in her retirement and that she and Bill can do what they want when they want.

Liba - Thank You so much for all that you have done for the TBPA - you have done A LOT and stayed on top of anything that needed to be done. I always give her a hard time about my newsletter articles. I told her I didn't go to school to write newsletter articles and she has always double checked what I send her. Since 2001 when I send her my article at the end I always write "Liba work your magic on this." Soooo... Liba one more time "work your magic" and I will miss you at the meetings and conferences!!

I hope everyone has a blessed Christmas and gets to spend time with their family and friends

Kent Bowman
East Tennessee Director

NEW TBPA MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest TBPA Members. We are delighted to have you working with us in TBPA. If you would like to serve on the Board or a Committee, please contact your Section Director or any Board member.

Steven Tucker
James Jackson
Steve Berkley
Jaren Gowan
Steven Fitzgerald
Norman Eichmann
Tommy Heaton
Jamie Love
Josh Rau
Steve Ryan

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City of Springfield
Jackson Energy Auth.
Jackson Energy Auth.
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City of Kingsport
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Hallsdale Powell Utility
Clarksville Gas & Water
Keeling Company

Springfield, TN
Springfield, TN
Jackson, TN
Jackson, TN
Pleasant View, TN
Kingsport, TN
Acworth, GA
Knoxville, TN
Clarksville, TN
Knoxville, TN

TBPA Annual Awards

TBPA President Wayne Osborne presented the TBPA Awards at the Annual Conference in Gatlinburg.



Bradley Tomlin accepting the TBPA Individual Award



Lloyd Rainey accepting the TBPA Water Purveyor Award on behalf of Memphis Light Gas & Water

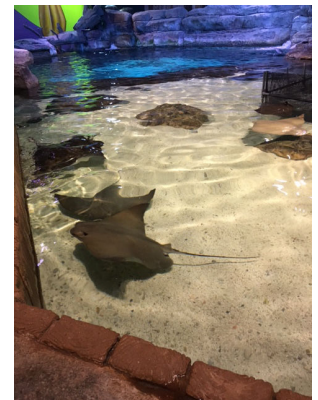
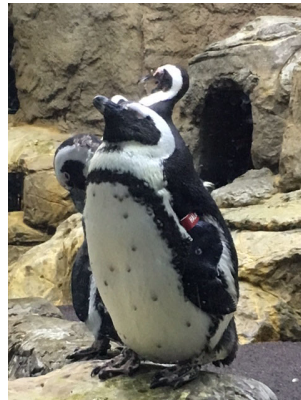
Roger Crane accepting the Robert Lashlee Lifetime Achievement Award



TBPA 21st Annual Conference



Behind the scene tour of the Aquarium



Craig Ingram with TN One Call



Kathy Riley ABPA Region Director



Catherine Weaver with TN Environmental Health Assoc.



Bill Jennings with Brentwood Utilities

Stephen Bitely with Arkansas Automatic Sprinklers



Ben Rodriguez with TDEC



Kim Pritchett and Kitty Vaughn

BACKFLOW LINKS

For more backflow information check out the American Backflow web site: www.abpa.org

Check Out Our Website!

www.tnbackflow.com

Your Association working for safe drinking water in Tennessee

ABPA Harrington / Arthur Memorial Scholarship

2017 - 2018 Essay Contest Topic: *Explain the relationship between Lawn Irrigation Systems and Backflow Prevention. How can these irrigation systems be a threat to potable water supplies and how can the water supplies be protected.*

The Scholarship is available to any high school student over 13 and under 20 years of age as of December 31st and legal residents of the United States or Canada. The essayist is NOT required to be college bound! It can be used for any type of advanced education.

Essays must be submitted based on the required topic with an official application form and be 700-1200 words. The winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Winners of under this competition are not eligible to win more than once. Entries must be received by 11:59 EST on January 1, 2018. Visit the web site for Complete Rules and Content information - www.abpa.org.



TBPA

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Liba Ford
c/o Jackson Energy Authority
P.O. Box 68
Jackson, TN 38302-0068