

Tennessee Backflow News

Summer 2019



NEXT BOARD MEETING

July 10, 2019
Murfreesboro Water Plant
5528 Sam Jared Drive
Murfreesboro, TN
For directions Call:
615-848-3222

Upcoming Events

2019
Conference to be held in
Murfreesboro, TN on
October 11th at the
Courtyard by Marriot.

1306 Greshampark Dr.
Murfreesboro, TN
37129

More information on
website

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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.

***PLEASE NOTE: This edition will be the last to be printed. Please check the TBPA website for upcoming editions of our quarterly newsletter.**

President's Message

Greetings members! Though it's about to get HOT and HUMID, lately here in West Tennessee we have been blessed with nice weather. I hope everyone is enjoying it while it lasts! The cold, rainy remnants of winter and spring are gone, kids are out of school, and if you're fortunate enough to be able to get away from the daily grind, many of you are taking or planning vacations. It's often hard for me to unplug from work it seems. Even when I travel, I always find myself noticing different methods in the Cross Connection and Utility industry- whether it be construction practices or an unfamiliar backflow device or installation method I've never seen before. Of course my wife thinks I'm crazy as I'm rubber-necking down the road, saying "Ohhh, what is that?! I've never seen that," or "That's bad, that's just an accident waiting to happen!" Does that make me a fanatic? Maybe so. As I said, it's hard to unplug.

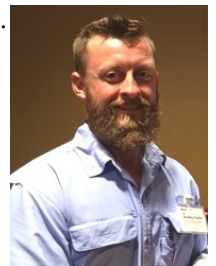
However, seeing something new or different is a learning opportunity, a chance to sharpen your skills. Even if you don't scour the streets on your vacations- spying on the practices other cities, states or countries implement- I hope you mark your calendar for the TBPA's 2019 Annual Conference. It will be this October 11th and in Murfreesboro, TN, and will be an excellent opportunity to learn and share new ideas.

The Board has decided to try something different this year for the Conference than in years past. This year will be a one day event, in an effort to make travel arrangements easier for attendees. Murfreesboro is a booming city, located near Nashville, with plenty to do for those wishing to extend their trip and enjoy a long weekend. This year's conference will be here before we know it, so make plans to join us!

The board is always looking for feedback from the membership for ways to make our association better. Your ideas and participation are greatly appreciated/ Please feel free to reach out and let us know how we can all improve and grow the TBPA.



Bradley Tomlin
TBPA President



TBPA Board Members



Name	Affiliation	Phone # - Email	Fax #
Bradley Tomlin President	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7531 btomlin@jaxenergy.com	731-422-7221
Wayne Osborne Past President	Shelbyville Power Murfreesboro, TN	931-684-5713 wosborne@shelbyvillepower.com	937-685-0113
Bill Jennings Vice-President	City of Brentwood Water Services Brentwood, TN	615-371-0080 bill.jennings@brentwoodtn.gov	
Kitty Vaughn Secretary	TN American Water Chattanooga, TN	423-771-4705 kitty.banks@amwater.com	423-266-2663
Kim Pritchett Treasurer	TN American Water Chattanooga, 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
100 N.20th St. - Suite 200
Philadelphia, PA 19103

For newsletter advertisements contact:
Kimberly Pritchett
109 Wiehl Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403

TBPA / ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
American Backflow Prevention Association



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PHONE _____

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EMAIL _____

CHECK ONE: RENEWAL _____ MEMBER # _____ NEW _____

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

Remit Total to:
ABPA
100 N. 20th St. - Suite 200
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Includes ABPA quarterly e-newsletters and quarterly TBPA Newsletters. Pre-payment 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

June 12-14 Oct. 16-18

July 17-19 Nov. 13-15

Aug. 14-16 Dec. 4-6

Sept. 11-13 Dec. 18-20

Alcoa

Aug. 28-30

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

Jun. 11

Jul. 16 Aug. 13 Sep. 10

Oct. 15 Nov. 12 Dec. 17

Kingsport

Sep. 24

Alcoa

Aug. 27

Basic Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro

Jun. 26-28

Sep. 11-13

Nov. 20-22

Kingsport

Oct. 9-11

Knoxville

Aug. 28-30

Jun. 5-7

Oct. 23-25

Chattanooga

Jul. 10-12

Sep. 25-27

Memphis

Jun. 4

Oct. 22

Jackson

Sep. 24

Renewal Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro

Jun. 25

Sep. 10

Nov. 19

Jackson

Knoxville

Aug. 27

Memphis

Jun. 4

Oct. 22

Chattanooga

Jul. 9

Kingsport

Oct. 8

3300 Backflow Prevention Assembly Repair Class

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

Murfreesboro

Sep. 27

Fleming Training Center Notice

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

TAUD Backflow Troubleshooting & Advanced Testing
Dates TBD

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.



Lloyd Rainey
lloyd@midamericamktg.com

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TBPA Board Meeting Update - April 3, 2019

- **Treasurer's report:**
Account Balance \$7,237.29
- **TBPA 2019 Conference: TBD**
Conference to be held in Murfreesboro, TN on Oct. 11.
- **Web site:** Ryan is continuing to make updates to the TBPA web site. Thank you Ryan for all of your hard work.
- **Facebook:** Make sure to stay up to date with our Facebook page! Thank you to Bill Jennings for acting as our social media ambassador.

<https://www.facebook.com/tnbackflow/>

Old Business:

A one day conference will be held on Oct. 11th in Murfreesboro, TN. Exact location TBA. \$100 admission fee for members and \$200 for vendors.

Possible speakers to include:

1. Health Department
2. Enforcement of Testers
3. Ben Rodriguez
4. Fire Service Contractor
5. Backflow Direct
6. Bradleny Tomlin and Kent Bowman

ABPA Membership online form is not working correctly. Please use the physical ABPA Membership Form included on Page 2 of this newsletter if needed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Abbie Woodson named editor of the newsletter.

- **Newsletter:** Abbie Woodson has taken over as editor of the newsletter. Any changes/adjustments regarding the newsletter please reach out to Abbie at abbie.woodson@amwater.com.

- **Next Board meeting:**
Murfreesboro - July 10, 2019

New Business:

Board voted to donate a \$50 gift card to the ABPA auction, as well as two \$25 gift cards to the TAUD expo that took place on May 16th.

We now have official TBPA Business Cards! These will be given to Ben Rodriguez and others to pass out in various classes offered.

Repair class with possible partners ARI, Wilkins and Watts is in the works for November. Details to come.

Not official minutes

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For questions or more info on classes, please visit or call us today!
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TAUD Training Station
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East Tennessee News

I hope everyone has had a great spring. It is hard to believe that summer is here!

As we all know, a hose bib can easily contaminate our water supply. I came across a new install that had the hose bib before the backflow. I explained to the homeowner how dangerous this could be, and he assured me that it would be changed to the other side of the backflow by the end of the week. Yesterday, I saw a bottle attachment meant to be used as an outdoor house cleaner that hooks onto your water hose. I noticed the label indicates that it is not safe for kids and animals. I know we all have seen many commercial business that have a cut-off water hose at the mop sink that stays immersed in the mop bucket! (I see so many that I think I need to buy stock in water hoses!) All of these examples pose potential dangers for our customers. Some municipalities have codes of protection on hose bibs, but we have to remember that there are some who do not. This is why it is important to educate our customers. It is the responsibility of utilities, inspectors and testers to make the public aware of the danger that could be at the other end of a water hose.



Educating our customers about what we do is very important. A couple months ago, I was testing a backflow at a store while an employee stood beside me and watched. When I cut off the #2 shut off valve, she asked me if I could describe what I was doing. I explained to her that the valve shut the water off from where we stood to the store. I showed her the #1 shut off valve and a ball valve before the backflow, and explained that if she needed to turn the water off in case of an emergency she could try any of those 3 instead of waiting for the utility to shut the meter off. She was grateful and commented, "Where were you a few weeks ago when the store was flooding and nobody knew where or how to cut the water off?!" Hopefully this story will remind us all that it never hurts to show people how to cut their water off in case of a emergency.

I will have more information in the next newsletter on the repair class that the TBPA will offer in the fall. Make sure to check the TBPA website and Facebook page for the latest details. If anyone has any questions or ideas for the class, please send me a email or a give me a phone call.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer!

-Kent Bowman

East TN Director, TBPA

kentbowman@comcast.net
(865) 258-2800

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.

Backflow Direct BAVCO TAUD Backflow Control

Backflow Specialty Company

Wilkins Zurn / Ben O'Neal Company

Mid America Marketing (Watts / Ames / Febco)

American Backflow

ARI - United Backflow Solutions, Inc.

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

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Roger Crane
Instrument Technician

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	City of Springfield	Springfield, TN
James Jackson	City of Springfield	Springfield, TN
Steve Berkley	Jackson Energy Auth.	Jackson, TN
Jaren Gowan	Jackson Energy Auth.	Jackson, TN
Steven Fitzgerald	Pleasant View Utility	Pleasant View, TN
Norman Eichmann	City of Kingsport	Kingsport, TN
Tommy Heaton	A Georgia BF Tester	Acworth, GA
Jamie Love	Hallsdale Powell Utility	Knoxville, TN
Josh Rau	Clarksville Gas & Water	Clarksville, TN
Steve Ryan	Keeling Company	Knoxville, TN

West Tennessee News

I hope everyone is doing well. I would like to remind you all about our upcoming TBPA Conference which will be held on October 11, 2019 at the Marriott in Murfreesboro, TN. Make sure to mark this one-day event on your calendar! It will be a great opportunity to see new products and services and to meet many people in our field who help ensure the safety of public drinking water. This year's Conference will be a day filled with information, education and fellowship. I look forward to seeing everyone there!

-David Wright
West TN Director, TBPA

Middle Tennessee News

Once again, summer is here! As we spend more time outside this season testing, make sure to stay hydrated and wear sunscreen. For me, as it does for many of us, this time of year represents irrigation testing- a time we get more interaction with our residential customers. I usually take this opportunity to educate our customers about Backflow Prevention and the dangers of Cross Connections.

I hope to see everyone at the upcoming annual conference this October in Murfreesboro. Make sure to check the website www.tnbackflow.com for more information.

Last but not least, I would like to congratulate TBPA for winning another Pace Award at this year's ABPA Conference. Way to go!

Have a safe and happy summer.

-David P. Risner
Middle TN Director, TBPA

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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

Visit Our New Facebook Page!

<https://www.facebook.com/tnbackflow/>

ABPA Harrington / Arthur Memorial Scholarship

2019 - 2020 Essay Contest Topic: *Explain backflow prevention and why it is important in protecting potable water supplies. Discuss some of the hazards that could be a threat to our drinking water, and the types of backflow prevention to protect against them.*

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 \$1,500 scholarship. Winners of under this competition are not eligible to win more than once. Entries must be received by 11:59 EST on January 31, 2020. Visit the web site for Complete Rules and Content information - www.abpa.org.



TBPA

Tennessee Backflow Prevention
Association
Abbie Woodson
c/o Tennessee American Water
109 Wiehl Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403