

Tennessee Backflow News

Winter 2021



NEXT BOARD MEETING

January 5, 2022

Contact David Wright for zoom meeting access

Upcoming Events

Schedule: ABPA National Conference

May 2-4, 2022 in person, Las Vegas, Nevada

More info on ABPA 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.

President's Message

Hello Members of the TBPA,

I hope that all of you, your families and co-workers are staying COVID free and healthy in our current situation. I also hope that everyone had a great holiday season too.

I have enjoyed my time being a TBPA board member for the past 4 years, although the last 2 years have been a trying time for all of us. We hope that in moving forward, TBPA can get back to in person meetings and conferences in 2022. We sure miss being able to see our members in person and network with everyone at our annual conference to compare stories and discuss the world of backflows.

TBPA would like for all of our current members to spread the word about our association and encourage others to join too. We hope that 2022 is the turn around year and we can have our conference again in October and get back to normal operations.

I am in the process to have a repair class possibly in early spring here in the Nashville area and encourage all of our members to participate in our 1 day class. Stay tuned for more information on our website and social media.

Be sure to check out our website www.tnbackflow.com and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/tnbackflow for news and information from the TBPA. REMEMBER: This is your association and the success of it depends on you and your involvement.

Sincerely,

Bill Jennings, TBPA President

TBPA Board Members



Name	Affiliation	Phone # - Email	Fax #
Jared Gowan President	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7347 jgowan@jaxenergy.com	
Bill Jennings Past President	City of Brentwood Water Services Brentwood, TN	615-371-0080 bill.jennings@brentwoodtn.gov	
Bill Jennings Vice President	City of Brentwood Water Services JBrentwood, 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	
Frank Snyder ABPA President	Snyder Testing Pleasanton, TX	830-399-3431 snyder75@karnesec.net	

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
6672 S 1570 W
West Jordan, UT 84084

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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ABPA DUES: \$65.00

TBPA DUES: \$20.00

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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:

2103 Cross Connection Control Basic Workshop

Duration: 3 days • Class Fee: \$335

Murfreesboro

Jan 5-7

Jan 19-21

Feb 8-10

Feb 16-18

March 9-11

March 23-25

3102 Cross Connection Control Renewal

Duration: 1 day - Class Fee: \$170

Murfreesboro

Jan 4

Feb 15

March 8

Fleming Training Center Notice

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

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.

Basic Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro

Jan 5-7

March 30-Apr 1

Kingsport

March 16-18

Jackson

Feb 2-4

Clarksville

Jan 26-28

Chattanooga

Feb 16-18

Renewal Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro

Jan 4

March 29

Clarksville

Jan 25

Kingsport

March 15

Jackson

Feb 1

Chattanooga

Feb 15

Fleming Backflow Repair Workshop #3300 \$125

Feb 11

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
Kim Pritchett kimberly.pritchett@amwater.com



Lloyd Rainey
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TBPA Board Meeting Update - Oct 6, 2021

- **Treasurer's report:** Account Balance \$9061.27
- **Roll:** present by phone: D. Risner, D. Wright, B. Jennings, K. Bowman, J. Gowan, M. Robeson, K. Pritchett, K. Vaughn
Guests: Quentin Clark (D.Wright's manager, Wayne Osborne, Chris McCormick, Matt Justice, & Mark Synder
Absent: B. Ogles

Old Business:

Conference- The group discussed having the conference in 2022 and having it in Gatlinburg. There was discussion on advertising free admission with membership in 2022. Everyone was asked to start thinking about speakers for conference next year.

New Business:

Bill talked about having a class similar to the one David Wright has in Memphis. The testers and installers would attend for free and be shown how to fill out reports and install irrigation devices.

The board discussed the digital test kits that Labtronx has been selling (Maco). You would need to call Ben Rodriguez at Fleming to see if they are approved for testing backflow devices in TN.

The TBPA board election was discussed for West director and VP. Kitty told board she needs names by first week in December. D. Wright will run for West Director again.

Next Meeting will be January 5, 2022 and we will try to meet in person if possible.

- **Web site:** Ryan and Michael are continuing to make updates to the TBPA web site. Thank you Ryan and Michael 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/>
- **Newsletter:**
All newsletters are being posted to our website. If you would prefer a physical copy, please contact a board member. Please direct any questions regarding changes or adjustments to editor, Kim Pritchett, kimberly.pritchett@amwater.com
- **Next Board meeting:**
Jan 5, 2022

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East Tennessee News

Hi Everyone !

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, a safe New Years and that everyone has a blessed 2022. Well, another 2 years has passed, and we now have a new president! I would like to say thanks to Bill for his hard work the past 2 years. I know it has been difficult for Bill with all the uncertain times that we had with covid.

Unfortunately, as we all know covid is starting up again so the TBPA will have to make a decision on the 2022 conference in the coming months. I know I speak for everyone when saying we will do our best on making the decision to keep the TBPA members and their family safe. So keep checking back on the TBPA website for any updates. I also want to say Thank You to Kitty Vaughn for her years of her service as the TBPA secretary. She has gone above and beyond of her duties as the secretary to help keep the TBPA going strong ! I will say this, I have acted up and she would put me back in my place (you know like our mom or teachers use to try to do) but I will admit that at times I would act up just to get her going. Kitty is retiring from Tennessee American Water and is stepping down as the secretary for the TBPA. Enjoy your retirement! As bad as I hate to tell you, I will really miss you !!

A few weeks ago, I had 2 new backflow assemblies installed and both had pipe dope on the threads on the PRV, wye strainer and the males on the ball valves of the backflow assembly. When I went to test both of them, they failed ! One was on PVC pipe with no unions and the #1 check valve had the pipe dope all in it. The #2 shut off did not close tight so we think it has it in the shut off valve also. The 2nd assembly is on copper pipe pro press and no unions and the #1 check valve had the pipe dope on it and then I had to make a 2nd trip because more of the pipe dope came off the threads. Who knows if more will come off the threads and get back on the check valves later on?? I understand some put the pipe dope on it because they don't want it to leak but my personal opinion the pipe thread tape works great. The reason I said neither had unions is, if they did you could take it off at the unions and clean the threads off and start all over but now if they don't go back will more pipe dope come off the threads and cause the #1 check valve to fail again ?

I hope everyone stays safe and covid free.

Thanks,

Kent Bowman
East Tn. Director

Middle Tennessee News

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I can't believe its December and new years is only a few days away. This year has flown by. I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and has a happy New Year.

In the coming months, the board will be exploring the possibility of having a conference in 2022. If you as members have any suggestions for speakers or subject matter, do not hesitate to contact a board member. I also welcome any information you would like to share in the TPBA newsletter.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

David Risner
Middle Tennessee Director

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*thank you
so much!*

BACKFLOW LINKS

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

Check Out Our Website!

www.tnbackflow.com

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2022 ABPA conference May 2-4 Las Vegas,
Nevada

Registration fee \$200 and can register online
Visit ABPA website www.abpa.org



TBPA

Tennessee Backflow Prevention
Association
Kim Pritchett
c/o Tennessee American Water
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