

Tennessee Backflow News

Summer 2023



NEXT BOARD MEETING

September,
13th,
2023

Last meetings
minutes attached
below - July's
Meeting.

Upcoming Events

Next board meeting:
September 13th, 2023 -
5:30pm
in Gatlinburg

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Hello members of the TBPA,
I hope that everyone is doing well as we near the end of summer. Irrigation backflow testing is wide open and we are finding that many are not in use. We are still seeing an explosion of the commercial developments in our area which means new customers and new backflows too be tested. This can be a struggle with everyone being short staffed.

I would like to invite our members to attend our conference this year. It will be in Gatlinburg at the Marriott downtown September 14th and 15th. We are having a renewal class and/or a repair at the conference this year. You can also receive CEU credit toward your Operators Certifications also by attending the conference.

I look forward to meeting more of you over the next couple years and I encourage each of you to encourage people to become members for the future of our association.

Jared Gowan, TBPA President

TBPA Board Members



Name	Affiliation	Phone # - Email	Fax #
Jared Gowan President	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422- 3 gowan@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 Brentwood, TN	615-371-0080 bill.jennings@brentwoodtn.gov	
Catie Williams Secretary	Jackson Energy Auth. Jackson, TN	731-422-7405 cwilliams@jaxenergy.com	
Sherry Hayes Treasurer	Clarksville Gas and Water Clarksville, TN	931-553-2497 sherry.hayes@cityofclarksville.com	
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 Region 3 Director		704-293-6859 kriley@ci.charlotte.nc.us	
Blake Anderson International President		801-381-1869 banderson@wbcity.org	
Frank Snyder International Past President	Snyder Testing	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: Catie Williams

TBPA / ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
American Backflow Prevention Association



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West Jordan, UT 84084

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

Sept. 19-21

Oct. 10-12

Oct. 24-26

Nov. 14-16

Nov. 28-30

Dec. 5-7

Dec. 19-21

3102 Cross Connection Control Renewal \$170

Sept. 22

Oct. 13

Nov. 9

Dec. 1

Fleming Backflow Repair Workshop #3300 \$125

Nov. 17

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 TAUD (615)898-8283.

Basic Cross Connection Class

Duration: 3 days Class Fee: \$350 member \$370 non-member

All classes below will be from 8:30am- 4:00pm

-Jackson - September 27, 28, & 29th

-Memphis - October 4, 5, & 6th

-Kingsport - October 18, 19, & 20th

-Murfreesboro - November 15, 16, & 17th

Renewal Cross Connection Class

Duration: 1 day Class Fee: \$215 member \$245 non-member - all classes below are from 8:30am - 4:00pm

- Jackson - September 26th

- Memphis - October 3rd

- Kingsport - October 17th

- Murfreesboro - November 14th

Fleming Training Center Notice

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

Memphis Light Gas & Water

For information and to register for classes contact David Wright 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 Lonnie Coomes at (901) 368-0900 or lonniec@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
Catie Williams cwilliams@jaxenergy.com



Lloyd Rainey
lloyd@midamericamktg.com

901-795-0045 Phone P.O. Box 750960
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TBPA Board Meeting Update - July 19, 2023

- **Treasurer's report:** Account Balance
- **Roll:** Bill Jennings, David Risner, Brent Ogles, Catie Williams, Jared Gowan, Cavin Gudet, Michael Robeson, Kent Bowman, Wayne Osborne, Josh Rau and David Wright (on phone), Kathy Riley (on phone)

Old Business:

- Conference - Day 1 just a talking day that could count as continued education
- Day 2 maybe a renewal and/or repair/rebuild class would only be able to do about 30 people time for renewal
- New paypal account approved per the board
- Conference will be held again in Gatlinburg this year
- Bill is checking with Marriott about conference
- Panel discussion if we do not end up with enough speakers
- Electronic submissions

New Business:

- Any nominations for TBPA awards need to be sent to David Risner or Kent Bowman
- \$150 member \$230 non-member conference cost
- Re-certification fee \$60
- Vendor fee \$300
- New PayPal approved
- Renewal would take up Friday - repair class if not renewing (this would be a 1/2 a day Friday morning)
- Brent Ogles will be teaching classroom for renewal since Ben Rodriguez will not be able to attend this year.
- Need someone to do for repair class (3- hour class)

- Moving quarterly meeting to Brentwood instead of Murfreesboro - has more options for ones that cannot physically attend meetings.
- Possibly breakfast and snacks hotel for conference but lunch time given a time frame to get lunch and come back.
- David R. checking about credit hours for conference.
- **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 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, Catie Williams - cwilliams@jaxenergy.com
- **Next Board meeting:** September 13, 2023

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East Tennessee News

I hope everyone is having a great summer and it is hard to believe it is already September. For me not just the weeks and days but hours seem to fly by.

I have seen this problem over the years with the Febco 825Y 3/4"-1" and I have had to repair 2 this month already. The problem is a tester will test the relief valve and it will open below 2.0 and the customer will call me and what someone has done is, they will put 2 diaphragms in the relief valve and the relief module cannot operate correctly with that extra diaphragm in it. One that I repaired this month when I took one diaphragm out and put the cover plate back on it would drip around the plate and diaphragm no matter how tight I tightened the relief valve bolts so I had to order a new relief valve cover plate. I remember years ago a guy told me the relief valve cover plate tried to warp and he would take a rubber hammer and hit around the whole outside of the cover plate and then put it back on and it would not leak. I know sometimes when we are out in the field, we have to do what it takes to get the customer back in water, but I would not try that myself because if it had a drip or two, when I got finished hitting it, I would have 7 more leaks around it. I do not know if they do warp because of the cold weather or what but maybe in the next newsletter maybe one of the Mid America reps could tell us more of what the reason could be why that happens. In the 22 years I have been testing backflow assemblies I may have seen 20-25 have two diaphragms in them and I have had other testers say they have tested them with two in them and they pass but we all know two is not the correct repair.

Michael Robeson sent me a text a couple weeks ago about the "Wilkins" repair kit I talked about in past newsletter, and he sent me a picture of the repair kit and it says "compatible" with Zurn Wilkins 975XL and XL2. I like to give Michael a hard time over everything I can, and he really enjoyed sending that info to me about the repair kit so then I was trying to get him back or one up him and then he told me he was a 2-time winner of the Golden Eagle award from the ABPA so what do I say to top that!

I do thank Michael for all the things he does for the TBPA and ABPA and most of the things he does is things unseen to most of us. If anyone ever gives him a hat, make sure it is a size 4X or larger. Just funning with you Michael "or am I"?

I hope everyone has a great rest of the summer.

Thanks for your time for reading this.

Kent Bowman
East TN Director

Middle Tennessee News

David Risner.....Middle Tennessee Director

West Tennessee News

David Wright....West Tennessee Director

Celebrate National Backflow Prevention Day | August 16

National Backflow Prevention Day is dedicated to calling attention to our critical need for backflow prevention and cross-connection control.

The American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) encourages everyone to take time out that day, to thank all professionals involved in protecting our nation's drinking water for their role in keeping us healthy and safe.

These professionals include: backflow prevention assembly testers, cross-connection control specialists, public water supply operators, plumbers, inspectors, lawn and fire sprinkler installers, engineers, building maintenance staff, regulators, administrators and others in our industry.



**LOOKING FORWARD TO EVEN BIGGER
AND BETTER IN 2024!!!!**

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 Facebook Page!

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



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