

ABPA News

Volunteer Chapter

President's Corner

Published quarterly by the Volunteer Chapter of the American Backflow Prevention Association, whose members have a common interest in protecting the drinking water from contamination through cross-connections. Opinions expressed in articles or letters are not necessarily those supported by the Chapter.

Your ideas and expertise are needed by the Volunteer Chapter ABPA to ensure a balanced approach to solving backflow problems in the State of Tennessee. Your participation will help shape the future of cross connection control across the State by providing support for a unified backflow prevention effort.

Advertisement Rates Per Issue: \$20.00 Business Card Size Make check payable to Volunteer Chapter ABPA and mail ad copy and payment to Chapter address: Volunteer Chapter ABPA % P. O. Box 5 Gatlinburg, TN 37738

ABPA annual dues are: \$27.00 ABPA National \$10.00 Volunteer Chapter \$37.00 Total Annual Dues

Make check payable to ABPA. (National membership is required for Chapter membership.)

Mail dues to: ABPA 4381 Hudson Drive Stow, OH 44224

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and what are we trying to do? Are we on target by stating that we are helping to protect and assure that Tennessee has a safe drinking water supply throughout all areas of the State?

Our interest is related with the regulatory agencies who establish the drinking water rules and oversee the local water purveyors, and the the water purveyors who assure that the finish water quality meets all regulations and is safe for our consumption. Also we are linked with engineers who design utility and plumbing/mechanical systems, the contractors who install and service the systems, and the property/facility owners who shell out big money, first to build their facility and then to maintain that facility.

Ultimately we are all water consumers. Every day of our life we are partakers of municipal or private drinking water. It should be our goal that anywhere in the State of Tennessee, we would have the benefits of a safe water supply protected by a well-informed, up to date, local, active and approved on-going Cross Connection Control Program.

As the Chapter Board of Directors wrestle with charting a course for our future, I summon you to provide your ideas, inspirations and answers to the questions presented earlier. A

membership survey and comment form will be issued soon for your input. Make your voice be heard. Submit articles of concern and ideas and opinions to the Chapter or Association newsletter. Talk to your area Director or any Chapter Officer-we want to hear from you!

I am reminded of a true story of a young child, that soon after being put to bed, fell off and landed in the floor. Tearfully, the child said to the anxious parents, "I guess I went to sleep too close to where I got in."

Let us not make the same mistake as the little child. Let's move on to the center of the action. *Get involved and make a difference!*

(Submitted by Dale Phelps. City of Gatlinburg, Gatlinburg, TN)

New Board Members

After the recent restructuring of the Board of Directors to include Regional Directors and Directors-At-Large, the Board voted unanimously to name **Larry Stinnett** (Knoxville Utilities Board) and **John Hall** (Tennessee Association of Utility Districts) as Directors-At-large. Our Association will greatly benefit from the knowledge and experience of these two fine men.

Miscellaneous

PLEASE!!!!

Articles, Technical Tips and other information are needed by the newsletter committee. If you have information or need information please call one of the committee members and they will be happy to assist you. The newsletter committee members are:

- Dale Phelps (615) 436-4681 Don Treesh (615) 594-3633 Greg Young (205) 233-2033 Becky Thompson (615) 868-5400 Eddie Agee (615)754-8284

Membership

The mail ballot election process has been concluded. All the ballots should be in the hand of the Region 3 Director for tabulation. If you did not receive a ballot in the mail recently, it is either because the Association records do not show payment of your Chapter dues, or possibly we have an incorrect mailing address. If you have any questions concerning your membership status, please contact any member of the Nomination Committee or the Chapter Secretary.

Please remember that your local dues of \$10 must be included when you renew your National Membership. Our mailing list is provided by ABPA National and your local dues must be sent directly to them.

Congratulations

At the last Board of Directors meeting, several honors were proposed and all unanimously approved.

As a Past President of ABPA, **Larry Stinnett** is currently an Honorary Life Member. In turn, the Volunteer Chapter is proud to extend to Larry a Honorary Life Membership in our State organization.

In recognition of many years of distinguished service to the people of the State of Tennessee through his work in Backflow Prevention and Water Quality, the Volunteer Chapter is also proud to extend to **Robert Lashlee** an Honorary Lifetime Chapter Membership. With this honor, the Volunteer Chapter will pay all local and national dues for Mr. Lashlee for life.

The Board of Directors was proud to learn of the recent move of **Travis Black** to the Greater Knoxville Area. Mr. Black is a former President of ABPA and an Honorary Life Member. The Volunteer Chapter is also proud to extend to Mr. Black an Honorary Lifetime Chapter Membership.

Congratulations!!



Extra Protection

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"Y" strainer and the backflow preventer. He felt he would accomplish a superior filtering system and a better guarantee that his backflow preventer would have a better chance to work without the added chance of those fine or extra fine particles reaching the device, thru cutting his cost for repairs.

After one year the double filtering system has protected his device thereby cutting his cost. Doesn't it make you wonder WHY!!! the manufacturers can not develop a method that will collect all grades of debris without the customer having to spend so much money?

This is one area that hurts the Cross-Connection Control Program so much-The Cost! We in the field deal with the small business person and see how much the cost of the repairs affects them.

WHAT DO YOU THINK!!!!!!

(Submitted by Becky Thompson, Madison Suburban Utility District, Madison, TN)