

# Tennessee Backflow News

Spring 2024



## NEXT BOARD MEETING

July 10th, 2024

Last meetings  
minutes  
attached  
below -  
April's  
meeting.

## Upcoming Events

TBPA Conference  
October 17-18th  
2024

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### Letter from the President

Hello Fellow Members of the TBPA,

I hope that all of you, your families and co-workers are ready for some warmer weather as Spring has now sprung. It's now time for irrigation systems to startup and for most of us, our busy season is now upon us. "Weather" or not it is now time for it...

The 2024 ABPA national conference was held recently in Charlotte on April 22-24. I was an attendee along with 3 other current TBPA board members, one former board member and possibly other members too. We will have more details and stories from that adventure in the coming newsletter and on our Facebook page, stay tuned.

The TBPA would like for all our current members to spread the word about our association and encourage others to join too. We hope that you have marked your calendars and hope to see you at our conference, October 17th & 18th in Downtown Chattanooga. And if anyone would like to suggest any topics for speakers at the conference, please let us know.

At this time, we have Sgt. Backflow of South Carolina on our list of speakers. Along with Walter Idol from UT-Knoxville. Ben Rodriguez with Fleming Training Center will also be speaking on updates within the State of TN cross connection program too. Please join us in Chattanooga this fall.

Stay tuned for more information on our website and social media.

Be sure to check out our website [www.tnbackflow.com](http://www.tnbackflow.com) and our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/tnbackflow](http://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 #
Bill Jennings President	City of Brentwood Water Services Brentwood, TN	615-371-0080 bill.jennings@brentwoodtn.gov	
David Risner Vice President	Murfreesboro Water & Sewer Murfreesboro, TN	615-848-3222 drisner@murfreesborotn.gov	615-848-3244
Jared Gowan Director, West TN	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7347 jgowan@jaxenergy.com	
Catie Williams Secretary	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7371 Cwilliams@jaxenergy.com	
Sherry Hayes Treasurer	Clarksville Gas & Water	931-553-2497 sherry.hayes@cityofclarksville.com	
Michael Robeson Director-At-Large / Membership	Morristown Utility Morristown, TN	423-317-6316 mrobeson@musfiber.net	
Josh Rau Director, Middle TN	Clarkville Gas & Water	931-553-2489 josh.rau@cityofclarksville.com	
Kent Bowman Director, East TN	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	
Blake Anderson International President	West Bountiful City	801-381-1869 banderson@wbcity.org	
Frank Snyder International Past President	Snyder Testing	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:  
Catie Williams - Jackson Energy Authority  
731-422-7405

## TBPA / ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

*Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association*  
*American Backflow Prevention Association*



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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**  
**6672 S 1570 W**  
**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/](http://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

May 14th-16th - FULL  
May 28th-30th - FULL  
June 11th-13th - FULL  
July 9th-11th - FULL  
July 23rd-25th

## 3102 Cross Connection Control Renewal

Duration: 1 day - Class Fee: \$170

May 1st  
May 17th  
June 14th  
June 26th  
July 12th  
July 26th

**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](http://www.taud.org) or contact TAUD (615)898-8283.

## Basic Cross Connection Class

Duration: 3 days Class Fee: \$370 member \$390 non-member - class time: 8:30am-4pm

Murfreesboro - June 19th  
Chattanooga- July 17th

## Renewal Cross Connection Class

Duration: 1 day Class Fee: \$225 member \$260 non-member - class time: 8:30am-4pm

Murfreesboro - May 18th  
Chattanooga- July 16th

## **Fleming Training Center Notice**

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

# 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



Lloyd Rainey  
lloyd@midamericamktg.com

901-795-0045 Phone	P.O. Box 750960
800-365-6154 Toll Free	Memphis, Tn 38175
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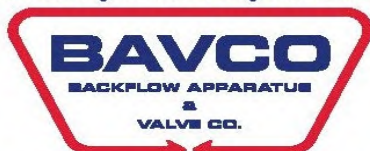
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*Roger Crane*  
 Instrument Technician

# **East Tennessee News**

**I hope everyone is doing good and me personally I am glad it is spring even though for most of us this time of year gets even more busier.**

**I have already got calls of leaking backflows or bursted pipes and I am sure as time goes on more will have issues.**

**I would like to say Thank you to David Wright for all he has done for the TBPA over the years he was the West Tn. Director. He was very involved with the TBPA and did a great job with MLGW. David has moved on to another job away from MLGW and I am sure they will miss him as much as the new place will be thankful to have him.**

**The board has made a few changes and since David has left, he has stepped down as the West Tn. Director and Jared has moved over to take his place until the next election. David Risner has stepped down from the Middle Tn. Director to the new VP and that spot has been filled but Josh Rau. Josh attends many of our board meeting and conferences and I am sure he will be active as the Middle Tn. Director. At the end of this year my term will be up as the East Tn. Director I have been the East Tn.**

**Director since 2002 all but 1 year and I am not going to run for the next term. I told one of my fishing friends I feel like a college or pro coach it comes a time when after all these years they become stale and time for new blood.**

**So, anyone in the East Tn area that would be interested in running for the East TN. Director can reach out to me if you have any questions.**

**I hope everyone has a Blessed and safe Spring!**

**Thanks,  
Kent Bowman**

**East Tn. Director TBPA**

# **West Tennessee News**

**Hello members of the TBPA,**

**I hope that everyone is doing well. Looks like warmer weather is here which means it won't be long until everyone is wide open with irrigation testing along with finishing up domestic testing. I know we are continuing to see a boom in growth. We now have over 40K water connections in our system.**

**The board has already been working on having some really informative speakers at the conference this year. The conference will be in Chattanooga this year for those that may not have been aware of that. 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 by attending the conference.**

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

**Jared Gowan, TBPA West TN Director**

# TBPA Board Meeting Update - April 10, 2024

- **Treasurer's report:** Account Balance \$11,773.26 including savings (\$5.00)

- **Roll:** Adrian P., Kent B., Michael R., Sherry H., and Bill J. (Catie W. and Jared G. on Zoom)

## Old Business:

Presidents (or other board member) cost be paid to attend national conference (will have to be voted on each instance)

Having remote speaker at conference if able

Talk of recertification and repair classes to be held at conference (will have definite answers after February 9th) - Confirmed with Ben R. that he can speak on Friday @ conference

Recording of board meetings so members are able to watch/listen if interested

Touring of Aquarium @ conference

David Risner is now Vice President, Jared Gowan is West TN Director, and Josh Rau volunteered to fulfill in the remainder of David Risner's term as Middle TN Director.

- **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, Catie Williams, [cwilliams@jaxenergy.com](mailto:cwilliams@jaxenergy.com)
- **Next Board meeting:**  
July 10, 2024

## New Business:

Conference updates - valet parking, \$23 per day fee to park, also other parking options/locations nearby for less

Confirmed speakers - Steve Fox (Sgt. Backflow) from South Carolina, Walter Idol from UT Knoxville, and Ben Rodriguez with TDEC-Fleming Training Center  
Brent Ogles will teach the re-certification class on Friday for those wanting to renew their cross connection certification.

Bill J will contact Fox Sales in Nashville to teach a Wilkins repair class on Friday OR Kent will contact Jim with BAVCO if Fox Sales cannot.

David Risner and Sherry Hayes volunteered to attend operator expo in Lebanon to operate TBPA booth on May 16th.



# THANK YOU TO OUR VENDORS

**We would like to say a special "Thank You" to the Vendors that continue to support our association. The success of our association depends on you and we want you to know how much you are appreciated.**

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**TAUD**

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**Bowman Backflow**

**Backflow Devices Testing & Repair Co.**

**Mid America Marketing (Watts / Ames / Febco)**

**Fox Sales, Inc.**

**Safe-T-Cover**

**Backflow Control**

**Astra Industrial Services, Inc.**

*thank you  
so much!*

## BACKFLOW LINKS

For more backflow information check out the American Backflow web site: [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org)

Check Out Our Website!

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