

The Direct Connection



A newsletter dedicated to Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention www.abpa-sa.org

APRIL Vol. 34 Issue 4

Cross Connection Control – Utilizing Testing Software to Enhance Program Enforcement

With this article we will focus on a few things about how Backflow Prevention Assembly Testing programs can control and utilize Software Tracking Programs to assist with Quality Control and Enforcement for the benefit of customers and the protection of the potable water system.

Backflow prevention assembly testing is actually one fifth of the entire Cross Connection Control Program. This portion of the program is very important and basically utilizes independent Backflow Prevention Testers from outside the Water Purveyor and/or Plumbing Inspection Department.

Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers become the “eyes and ears” of those enforcing the Cross Connection Control Program. They rely heavily on testers and companies that employ testers, to provide detailed accurate information to enforcement on assemblies being tested. Enforcement can have issues with what is being reported on Test and Maintenance Report forms and necessary follow-up corrective actions as noted by testers. Additionally, routine periodic review of Test and Maintenance (T&M) Report forms being submitted is a must and software can be enhanced, in some instances, to assist with enforcement in assuring assemblies are actually being tested and not falsified. Hard Copy T&Ms submitted may be continually reviewed by enforcement, which can easily pick up on necessary corrective measures, unlike those submitted into some software programs.

Monitoring Testing Ethics: Software Programs can be modified to assist enforcement in eliminating falsification issues. Those enforcing Cross Connection Control Programs have struggled with this falsifying issue forever, by both testers and company owners. Thankfully, this is not a common occurrence. However, this can be easily corrected through the software program with such things as the tester values being submitted. The software program could flag T&M’s with the same values being submitted over time for follow up by enforcement to ensure tester is actually performing test and not falsifying the test. Another flag is testers passing or failing extremely high numbers of BFPA’s. This is where an enforcement agency could review, with the tester, any number of things such as the Tester’s Procedures – Accuracy of Gauge – Backflow preventer(s) issues in an area due to water quality issues.

Another flag - Number of backflow prevention assemblies being tested within a time period. A single tester, testing 20,000 assemblies a year, as an example, should be flagged by software to notify enforcement. The time backflow prevention assemblies are tested is another flag. As an example, testing 10 backflow prevention assemblies in 10 minutes.

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Gauge testing for members starts at 5:00 PM at SAWS

April meeting Details

Meetings of the San Antonio Chapter ABPA are held the second Thursday of every month except December. Dinner and refreshments are served at 6:00 p.m. sharp with the meeting starting at 6:15. The next meeting is:

Date: Thursday April 11, 2024

Time: 6:00 PM Pre-registration only required to receive a meal

**Loc: SAWS Bldg. 2 Conference Room
2800 US Hwy 281 North.**

Program: Michelle Bever & Jody Hill to present the training on the BSI T&M input software.

Meeting Sponsor: BSI Online

No alcoholic beverages allowed

Next Meeting: May 9, 2024

Big Thanks to

John Milton with Miller Mays & Associates for sponsoring the March meeting and Matthew Sires & Tommie McDonald from Zurn Wilkins for providing the training.

Miller Mays for providing a \$100 gift card for the raffle.

April Agenda

- 5:00 p.m. General discussion and quorum confirmation
- 5:15 p.m. Call Meeting to order.
- 5:16 p.m. Secretary's Report. Read and approve the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 5:20 p.m. Treasurer's Report. Discussion and approval of the treasurer's report.
- 5:25 p.m. Supply Officer's Report
- 5:30 p.m. Vice President's, Directors', and any other reports for the good of the chapter. Comments, new business, any discussion.
- 5:40 p.m. Training Report. Training & Meal Sponsors
- 5:45 p.m. Webmaster Report
- 5:50 p.m. President's Report. New & old business
- 6:00 p.m. Meal is served.
- 6:15 p.m. General Membership Meeting & Training
 1. Report from the Directors Meeting. President
 2. City, regional, and national reports. James Cantrell and/or any City personnel present.
 3. Training program for the evening.
 4. Raffle prize drawing.

Ongoing Goals of ABPA-SA Chapter

1. Educational Outreach with public by presenting at PHCC meetings, engineering firms, schools, and neighborhood associations. Continuing goal.
2. Greater use of TCEQ website. Tracking of CEUs, Services available. Personal education.
3. Increase member awareness of importance of chapter meetings. Increase attendance and public awareness.
4. Increase website resource information. More detailed links to more information like TCEQ, COSA, and any place that would be helpful to our members

"Direct Talk" by the President

The April 11th meeting will be held in the SAWS conference room in the Tower II building located at 2800 U.S. Hwy. 281. Gauge testing starts at 5:00 PM and is iffy after 5:30 PM. The meal will start at 6:00 PM and the meeting will start at 6:15 PM. You may attend the meeting **without** pre-registering, however, if you would like a meal, you will have to register via the email you received about 10 days before the meeting. Thank you to those who participated in the Spring Bloom at SAWS. Stay safe.

Trinidad Chaires

Here is a good website for emergency information: www.sanantonio.gov/emergency/

Chapter Chatter

Greg Shean, April Missing in Action, Chapter Secretary

Missing in Action

Yes, my wife and I will be on vacation and will miss the very important April meeting. Why important? Read Agenda Item 10 about the 3rd party T&M reporting company, BSI, that SAWS has selected to replace their in-house web-app. Now is the time to ask questions about the new software.

Gauges Part Dux

Bac-Flo Unlimited is donating a gauge again this year at the ABPA Charlotte Conference. There will be a model BAC-FLO-5 Backflow Test Kit in the silent auction. It is a private labeled Mid-West 845-5 Test Kit that is utilized by many across the United States. It comes certified for accuracy with a calibration certificate dated the day of purchase. Bac-Flo Unlimited also provides all the necessary and popular apparatuses for testing backflow prevention assemblies. Go to their website, <http://bacflo.com>, for additional information.

This is in addition to the Mako Master Pack backflow digital gauge that was described in the March Chapter Chatter. Go to <http://arbiterbackflow.com/shop>

Chapter's President's Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE) Submission

National has a strict format submission. There is a 10 page narrative maximum, which we always take full advantage. Most important is paragraph **I.A. Net membership gain/retention**. Here is our response to that paragraph. Your membership is still "our most important product." The chapter cannot do it without you.

The Chapter was able to continue our in-person meetings again at the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) conference room from January thru November 2023. The following are for 2023 with 2022 numbers in parentheses. We now have 97 (100) members for the year 2023. Based on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is that we lost 47 Backflow Preventer Assembly Tester (BPAT) licensed members but 22 retained their BPATs. Our lost members have been purchasing classes to obtain their CEUs mostly from Bac-Flo Unlimited and online. The good news is that we gained 37 members with 32 having current BPATs. The losses may be attributed to the TCEQ deciding not to pursue the high hazard classification for backflow preventers on residential irrigation. They have asked for failure and incident data on irrigation low hazard systems, which will take some time to compile. The VEPO test and maintenance software that is used by many communities does collect this information. The good news may be attributed to the SAWS Backflow Section personal contact with those who have not had their high hazard backflows tested by SAWS June 30th deadline. The move back to SAWS for our monthly meetings with the concurrent gauge testing, chapter encouragement, and increased SAWS emphasis on hazard assembly testing will hopefully increase membership in 2024. In 2023 we continued our policy for qualifying for Bac-Flo Unlimited's free Hands-On Backflow Refresher Training Course, a TCEQ required course to renew a BPAT license, by requiring 16 training CEUs over a three year license renewal period in addition to also requiring attendance of not less than 5 monthly meetings for each of the three previous years. The problem stemmed from members obtaining 16 CEUs in one year to receive

their free training and then not renewing their Chapter membership until the third year when they would receive their free training. We had sixteen members attend the September 2023 training, which is still conducted under strict COVID-19 restrictions. The BOD voted to raise dues back to \$60 starting January 2022. Letters were sent to our “lost” members about this and published in our monthly newsletter. The response has been encouraging. Our losses 47 (28) were more than gains 32 (8) from 2022 to 2023. We had our traditional December directors’ only meeting.

All of the following may help increase chapter membership: SAWS Backflow Section now have more support from the San Antonio City Council who gave approval for SAWS Backflow Department to begin enforcing fees on SAWS customers who fail to have their backflow assemblies tested, annually, by the June 30th deadline. The fees will be assessed on the account associated with the backflow prevention assembly. Enforcement has not been successful by only sending notices. SAWS inspectors now visit those holdouts. They want to educate the user rather than enforce. SAWS opened and filled two positions for this additional enforcement program. The Backflow Section is still rejecting incomplete Test & Maintenance (T&M) reports. TCEQ takes great exception for incomplete T&M reports. The “Remarks” section of the T&M Report, will now receive much more attention.

**MINUTES
SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER-ABPA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Thursday, March 14, 2024**

Trinidad Chairez, President, presided over the meeting. The ABPA San Antonio Chapter meeting started at 5:58 PM in the Tower 2 Conference Room at SAWS HQ.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS – PRESENT	EXECUTIVE OFFICERS – ABSENT
Trinidad Chairez – President	Jeff Stricker– Vice President
Greg Shean – Secretary	
Art Trejo – Treasurer	
Keith Waldrep – Past President	
OFFICERS SPECIAL TO THE CHAPTER – PRESENT	OFFICERS SPECIAL TO THE CHAPTER – ABSENT
Carl Michaud – Gauge Testing/Certification	Supply Officer - Vacant
Bill Hamrick – Membership and Newsletter	Jim Cantrell – Liaison to SAWS
Joe Young – Program Director	
Matthew Wilgen – Webmaster	
Jeff Meeks – Sgt. At Arms	

DIRECTORS AT LARGE – PRESENT	DIRECTORS AT LARGE – ABSENT
Bruce Rathburn – 2 years	Robert Stricker – 2 years
Fred Baird – 1 year	
Jeff Hoffman – 2 years	
Bob Clark - 1 year	
Guests: Miller Mays & Associates. Zurn Wilkins: Mathew Sires, Paso Robles CA, Tommie McDonald, Sanford, NC. John Milton, San Antonio, TX	

Agenda Item #1. Trinidad started the meeting at 5:58 and then asked for a moment of silence. He recognized that it was Carl Michaud's birthday (age not disclosed). He then went through the February minute open items. INFO.

Agenda Item #2. Secretary's Report: February minutes were in the newsletter. Keith made a motion to accept. Seconded. Passed. INFO.

Agenda Item #3. Treasurer's Report: Art reported the amount in our checking account. Jeff made a motion to accept. Second. Passed. INFO.

Agenda Item #4. Supply Officer's Report: Vacant. Art brought a selection of styles and colors. Still need a volunteer. Trini asked for a volunteer. No takers. OPEN.

Agenda Item #5. PACE Award: President Award for Chapter Excellence. Greg reported that the ABPA has received our PACE submission. Portions of it will be in the Chapter Chatter. He wants members to see how important their membership is to our future. CLOSED.

Agenda Item #6. Meeting Sponsor: ZURN – Miller-Mays sponsored the meeting. INFO.

Agenda Item #7. Meal: ZURN – Miller-Mays sponsored the meal of Firehouse Subs Box Lunches of turkey, beef, or ham subs with potato chips, pickle spear, and a cookie. Art Trejo provided the water and sodas for the meeting. INFO.

Agenda Item #8. Raffle: ZURN – Miller-Mays provided a \$100 Bass Pro Shop gift card. There is a Bass Pro Shop in The Rim shopping center. INFO.

Agenda Item #9. Webmaster. Website does not work with the host's upgraded software. Matt is "reconstructing" it. OPEN.

Agenda Item #10. SAWS: Dan Crowley, Director - Governmental Relations and Regional and Federal Affairs, which includes the Backflow Section, said SAWS has found a 3rd party vendor to process the test and maintenance (T&M) reports. SAWS selection was BSI. The selection committee was across SAWS functional areas and BSI had the highest rating. SAWS will add customer service at their end. This will "elevate the level of service". Dan recommended inviting BSI for the April sponsor to make a presentation and answer questions. Dan predicts a 120 day roll out, but was not sure when it will start. BSI will charge a nominal fee of less than \$10 but SAWS is not taking any part of the fee. All is going to BSI. Reports are free for now. The contract will include T&M and Customer Service Inspections (CSI) processing. It was questioned if there will still be a "hard June 30th" date to complete all backflow testing. Dan said they are working on schedule as it can be done better. A rolling 12 months is better than a "hard date" in the middle of the year. SAWS is working on that issue. Dan suggested getting reports done by June 30th before BSI comes on line. All data will be digital with a TCEQ approved form. Dan said to go to BSI for problems. OPEN.

Agenda Item #11. San Antonio Irrigation Association (SAIA): SAIA had a table at SAWS Spring Bloom right next to our table. Keith and Art manned the irrigation display table. Keith said that SAIA will have an irrigation competition in late fall. There will be two set ups. More information will be distributed via email. INFO.

Agenda Item #12. ABPA National: Bruce reported that the Education and Trade Show is really shaping up to be a very good show. He said that he, Fred, and ABPA have been exchanging emails on "what's going on in the membership?" How can membership go from over 4,000, when Bruce was ABPA president, to just less than 1,000 today? "How is the ABPA to continue to function in the backflow world"? "What questions can we ask members why they left and how to get them back". Bruce wants to know how to grow the membership. ABPA is re-establishing memorandums of understanding (MoU) to get all the water purveyors and trade organizations back together. Bruce said it starts with the members. Other chapters are going through the same membership issues as our chapter. He confirmed that our

chapter is still the largest chapter in ABPA. We got our trademark back for the Buster Backflow comic book. Bruce said the backflow manual is finally done – a work in progress for over 10 years. The manual addresses everything related to backflow. It is now in agreement with USC. OPEN.

Agenda Item #13. SAWS Spring Bloom at SAWS HQ: The Bloom focus is on the homeowner gardener who shops for free plants and advice. Plants were for sale at very reasonable prices. It was an incredibly attended program. The line started two hours before its 9 AM opening. All items were given away or bought by noon with a 1 PM closing time. Many helpers put this together. Keith insured we had a very short “direct connection” to an AC outlet. Bruce got all the table items from Troy. This included our chapter sign, Bill’s constructed hose bib vacuum breaker (HBVB) demonstration, literature, cozies. Joe Fazekas brought the miniature candy bars (kid bait). Bruce explained the HBVB for about 10 minutes. Trini and Trenten Rathburn took over and never asked for help from Bruce, Joe, or Greg. Our guests were impressed with the need for the HBVB, took pictures of them, and planned to go shopping at Lowes or Home Depot. We do need to replenish our backflow literature. CLOSED.

Agenda Item #14. City of San Antonio (COSA) Plumbing Inspection: Mike Morales, COSA Plumbing Inspections, said he has not heard of any glitches on their T&M processing. It’s “Going smooth.” Call COSA if anything is in violation. They will work with SAWS. He thanked us for what we are doing. INFO.

Agenda Item #15. Membership: Bill reported that we have 87 members. Ten memberships will expire next month. He is sure most will renew. Three expired in February. Bill sent letters to those whose membership expired in February and will expire in March. Bill asked the members to check their ABPA account for their e-mail addresses. Some members use their company addresses where they may not receive chapter correspondence. Members, if possible, should use their personal e-mail addresses. Bill is working with ABPA so members can have two e-mail addresses – company and personal. Please email if you have any questions or concerns. Freddie Zavala introduced Carlos Tovar as a new SAWS backflow inspector and chapter member. INFO.

Agenda Item #16. Gauge Testing: Carl reported, in a happy birthday mood, that there are no problems. Be there at 5 PM to have your gauge tested. Carl said, ‘We’re here, we’re set up – we’ll take care of you.’ INFO.

Agenda Item #17. Training: Matthew Sires has been with Zurn for 13 years. The title was: Backflow Prevention – Overview. The presentation was organized to explain backflow overview, valve types, reduced pressure assembly (RPA) function, installation requirements and troubleshooting, relief valve discharge curves, and connectable products. His explanations were very comprehensive and understandable.

Backflow is the undesirable reversal of flow of water or mixture of water and/or other liquids, gases, and contaminants into the potable water system. Backflow can occur during conditions of back siphonage or back pressure. Backflow assemblies must protect against back pressure, must protect against back-siphonage, protect against low health hazards, protect against high health hazards, must be testable and repairable and must be isolatable.

He then simplified back siphonage as using a straw to suck juice from a juice box. Think “pull”. This could be caused by water main break, under-sized pipes, pipe breaks, and vacuums created by high withdrawal rates, such as firefighting. Back pressure is like squeezing the juice box so the juice flows out the straw. Think “push”. This could be caused by pumps, thermal expansion, and elevation.

He defined high and low hazard. High hazards may cause severe sickness or death and are usually caused by fertilizer and temporary connections. Low hazards will not cause severe sickness or death. The situation impairs water quality such as discoloration, smell, and taste. He described the typical applications and hazard levels – 9 for high hazard and 3 for low hazard.

For backflow to occur, a cross-connection must be present. Cross-connection refers to any unprotected actual or potential connection between the potable water system and any other source through which a substance, other than potable water, may be introduced. Examples are a garden hose connected to a hose bib, jumper connections, removable sections of piping, and by-pass arrangements

Since backflow conditions cannot be eliminated, and cross-connections cannot be prevented, we must protect drinking water systems from the hazards of backflow occurrences through cross-connections. Air gap must be 2X the diameter of the outlet or at least 1"- whichever is greater. An air gap is not always the most practical means of backflow prevention. Mechanical backflow prevention would be a more practical means of protection against cross-connection hazards.

He summarized check valve types, features, and benefits because all affect the flow. More parts give greater failure chances. It only takes a small particle, such as sand, to cause a problem. He showed and described how backflow is more likely to occur in a static condition.

Double check assemblies (DCA) features two spring loaded check valves designed to close drip tight. Pressure loss is approximately 5-10 psi static. DCA have no indications of failure which can only be determined by testing. The reduce pressure assembly (RPA) has a failure indication. Check valve #1 is the most common failure. He then showed how to do a quick check to determine area of failure which greatly simplified how the reduced pressure assembly works.

He showed an animated cut away RPA to show, in different colors, how and why the pressure changes from input to output and in the zone. The RPA zone is between the two checks. The relief valve (RV) checks input pressure. It remains closed if higher pressure is on the input. The RPA pressure drops in flow. The RPA has two flow paths - back pressure pushes its way back and out the RV if check valve #2 fails. The other flow is forward out the RV if a check valve #1 fails. The relief valve can discharge as much as total flow through the assembly. The RPA still has a pressure drop even during flow to hold the RV closed. The zone pressure equals the input pressure minus the #1 check valve spring pressure. The #1 check valve must have a minimum 5 PSI. Manufacturer spring tolerances are not designed to have critical tolerances so actual #1 check pressure will be above 5 PSI and less than 10 PSI at best. He described how fire protection can have a too high assembly loss and will need an expensive booster pump. He went through how debris sizes, rubber O-rings, worn parts etc. will result in a commensurate reduced RV flow. Gauge test will show which one is the problem.

He then described the stainless steel valve advantages. They are corrosion resistant which are ideal for liquids corrosive to copper alloys such as post-mix beverage machine and areas where aggressive drinking water exists. Key features are two spring loaded check valves designed to close drip tight. Pressure Loss is approximately 5-10 psi static

DC detector assemblies provide low hazard protection from back-siphonage and back-pressure, including a metered by-pass to detect leaks and unauthorized water use in unmetered fire sprinkler systems. The by-pass valve provides an equal level of protection. RPA detector assemblies provide high hazard protection from back-siphonage and back-pressure, including a metered by-pass to detect leaks and unauthorized water use in unmetered fire sprinkler systems. The bypass valve provides an equal level of protection. Matthew had a cut away of three backflow assemblies with a by-pass where the flow were static, less than 5 GPM, and greater than 5 GPM. The assemblies showed the flow when the main check valves were open or closed, the bypass check valve if water was flowing or not, and the "tattletale" meter on what it was registering under each of the flow situations.

He had a slide of a cut-away of three pressure vacuum breakers showing the flow when the assembly is unpressurized, pressurized and flowing, and pressurized and not flowing. He described how the float and check operate in each.

He reviewed backflow valve device type properties for the single check (ductile iron), single check, dual check, dual check with an intermediate atmospheric vent, carbonated beverage RP, and atmospheric

vacuum breaker. He then went through each for the hazard protection, back-pressure or back-siphonage, type and common sizes.

He explained valve accessories including visually indicating shut-off valves, strainers, tamper switches, and air gaps and what they do and how they work.

There were several installation slides concerning steps and approved orientations, step-by-step how to install, winterization, approved orientations (in-line), approved orientations in n & z patterns, gate valve rotation, valve assembly rotation, adding spools & modifying assemblies, and a commercial installation example. Wow!! He gave two examples for a "Go or No-go" decision.

He reviewed RPA troubleshooting which is the most challenging. When a relief valve discharges intermittently, it can almost be assumed that the assembly is functioning correctly and that the discharge is caused by system problems such as inlet pressure fluctuation or water hammer due to quick closing valves. He reviewed three problem areas: sudden or rapid spitting, light intermittent drip, and continuous discharge. He described the possible causes and corrective actions. The amount of discharge is proportional to the degree of fouling. Most problems occur in the #1 check which is where debris first enters the backflow assembly.

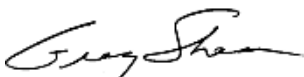
Steps to simple RPA troubleshooting. 1) Observe discharge. Close the #2 shutoff valve, creating a static condition. If discharge stops, the problem is a fouled second check with backpressure present. 2) If discharge continues - open #4 test cock creating a flow condition. If the discharge stops (or is reduced), the problem is a fouled #1 check. 3) If discharge continues - the problem is most likely in the relief valve. 4) Final solution - Close the #1 shutoff and #4 test cock. Disassemble and clean affected components and remove debris from the backflow preventer.

He then presented the small backflow assembly discharge rate curves for the 1/4", 3/8", 1/2", 3/4" and 1". The zone pressure was on the vertical axis from 0 to 200 PSIG. Horizontal was in 0 to 250 gallons per minute. He had the large backflow assembly discharge rates for 2 1/2" to 6" and 8" to 10". Vertical axis was from 0 to 200 PSIG. Horizontal axis was from 0 to 800 gallons per minute. It is incredible how quickly water is lost. It is a function of pressure and backflow assembly size.

Solutions for the above are for flood prevention. Flooding is the highest cost of property damage. RPAs are designed to discharge large volumes to protect water supply sources. You also need to also track data to monitor water consumption and pressure data trends to know more about your water system and usage. This is done through flood control monitor & shut-down. 1) Real time detection where sensor detects minute openings of relief valve and instantly calculates discharge flow rate and volume. 2) Water shutoff system automatically shuts off water if relief discharge is beyond set tolerances to prevent catastrophic flooding. 3) Pressure monitoring the zone alerts you when the pressure deviates from desired range. 4) Flood control is the automatic water shutoff at your preset severe threshold to prevent flooding of basement due to discharge overwhelming floor drain.

This is best for buildings where RP Backflow is in the basement and catastrophic flooding could occur due to relief valve discharge or outside where excessive water discharge could erode landscape or flood stadiums.

Adjournment. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM for the raffle.



Greg Shean - Secretary ABPA San Antonio Chapter



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Enforcement Software Review and Notification: How is the software program established? Can anyone submit the T&M or does the tester have to submit it?

Many companies employing testers will treat backflow testing as any other work order. That is, once the job is completed, someone in the office will finalize and submit an invoice and the T&M paperwork. We have seen this create issues with falsifications of Test and Maintenance Report forms. Software could be developed or modified to have the tester actually signing each T&M submitted. Question - Electronic signatures, who is really signing? Some software programs require only a one-time electronic signature at the time the tester registers with the local enforcement agency. This leads to falsifying T&M's or data submitted by other than the tester.

These are just a few things that enforcement could review with their Backflow Prevention Assembly Testing software program. Enforcement agencies should be reviewing and possibly requiring various things as mentioned above to ensure the integrity of their testing program. Think there are many more ideas local enforcement agencies have used and can think of for future quality control of their testing program. *Basically - Enforcement controls software - software programs do not control the backflow testing program.* Blind Note: Additionally, enforcement may consider an annual notification of testers and company owners employing testers, of their responsibility and liability involved with Cross Connection Control and backflow prevention assembly testing. This could include a required signed statement to that affect.

Fred Baird (f.baird@att.net) – Involved in developing and enforcing San Antonio Water System's Cross Connection Control Program in the early 1970's. Enforced program for approximately 30 years before retiring. Currently co-owner of Bac-Flo Unlimited, Inc.

Quote of the Day

“Backflow World - What we have learned and know about this field - is that - the more we know the more we realize we don't know!”

After over 50 years in the Backflow World - I came to realize this. Are there really - any experts in this field?

Fred Baird



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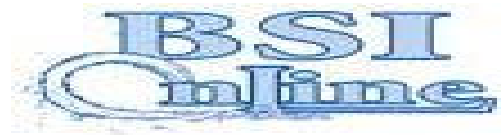
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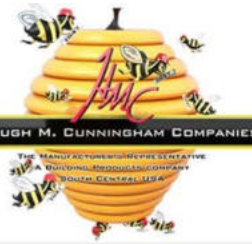


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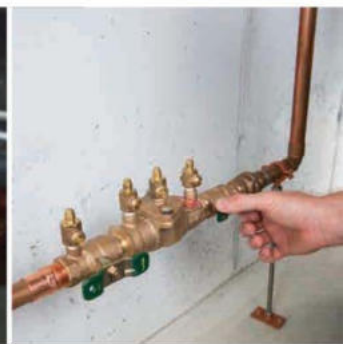
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How to join the ABPA-SA Chapter

There are two ways to join the San Antonio Chapter of the American Backflow Prevention Association.

The easiest way is to click on the QR Code and follow the instructions to set up your account and be presented with an invoice that you can pay with a credit card on-line or check the box to pay with a check. If you don't use QR Codes, click on this address. <https://www.abpa.org/page/Join> **IMPORTANT** Be sure to select the chapter/s (San Antonio Chapter) you want to join before selecting the payment method. If you elect to pay with a check, you will be able to print the invoice so you can send it with your check to the address on the invoice. If you pay with a credit card on-line, you will be able to print a receipt.

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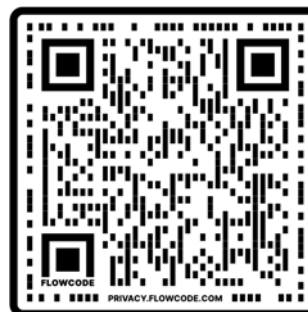
The other way is to print the Membership Application on the next page and send it to the address at the bottom of the page with your check.

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There are two ways to renew your San Antonio Chapter membership of the American Backflow Prevention Association.

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To join the American Backflow Prevention Association, simply fill out the membership application form and mail it with your check to the address listed below, or if paying by credit card you may fax the completed form to 979.846.7607. Local chapters have additional fees. Below is a listing of chapters by region. To find out if there is a local chapter in your area, please review the chapter information on our website at abpa.org or call the National Office at 979.846.7606. **Membership in the Association constitutes paying National dues.**

Sustaining Member:

- Must be a company or organization
- Assign only one person as the member of ABPA
- A Sustaining Member must submit a letter that designates their Voting Representative.

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Additional Information

How would you like to receive your Membership Renewal Invoice Notification? Email US Mail (Not available for International Membership)

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<p>REGION 1</p> <p>New England \$12.00 Rhode Island 18.00</p> <p>REGION 2</p> <p>Virginia \$25.00</p> <p>REGION 3</p> <p>Carolinas \$10.00 Florida Suncoast 12.00 Peach State "1788" 30.00 Tennessee 20.00</p> <p>REGION 4</p> <p>Arkansas \$10.00 Central Texas 20.00 Corpus Christi 23.00 Lower Rio Grande Valley 25.00 North Texas 23.00 San Antonio 60.00</p>	<p>REGION 5</p> <p>Colorado \$15.00 Utah 12.00</p> <p>REGION 6</p> <p>Arizona \$20.00 Central Coast 10.00 Central Valley California 10.00 Hawaii 23.00 Silver State 23.00 Southern California 15.00</p> <p>REGION 7</p> <p>Oregon \$20.00 SRC4 20.00</p> <p>REGION 8 (USD)</p>	<p>REGION 9 (USD)</p> <p>REGION 10</p> <p>REGION 11</p> <p>Indiana BPA \$25.00 Michigan 40.00 Northern Illinois 23.00</p> <p>REGION 12</p> <p>Eastern Nebraska \$10.00</p>
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