



Southern California Chapter Newsletter

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**Interested in joining ABPA?
Contact your County Director listed above.**

7th Annual Conference Scheduled for October 25

The Southern California Chapter will hold its 7th Annual Conference on October 25, 2000, from 8:00 - 4:00 at the Holiday Inn, Long Beach Airport. The Conference promises to be the Chapter's biggest and best ever, focusing on current issues in backflow prevention and cross-connection control.

An exciting panel of speakers has been prepared, including:

-  **Henry Chang** from USC FCCCHR, demonstrating the field test procedures for the RP, DC, PVB and SVB
-  **Steve Govero** from O'Connor Sales, speaking on installation materials and tools for large backflow prevention assemblies
-  **Kathleen Coates-Hedberg**, State of California DOHS, presenting Title 17 and Title 22 updates
-  **Bob Mattson**, Padre Dam Water District, speaking about recycled water and your cross-connection control program
-  **Jack Poole**, ABPA National President, covering operation of fire sprinkler systems and the need for backflow prevention. He will also present an update of ABPA activities.
-  **Paul Schwartz**, USC FCCCHR will talk about the USC 10th edition, and provide an update of the AWWARF National Assessment of the Impact of Cross-Connections in North American Water Supplies.

Exhibitors will display the latest in backflow prevention assemblies, test gauges and other accessories starting at 7:00 am, so plan to arrive early to register and check out the exhibits. Vendors interested in participating in the Conference should contact Pete Peters at (909) 987-2591.

The registration fee for the 7th Annual Conference is \$60.00 for ABPA members or \$75.00 for non-ABPA members who enroll **by October 16**. After October 16, the registration fee is \$70 for ABPA members and \$85.00 for non-ABPA members. A registration form is provided with the Calendar of Events on page 3 of this newsletter.

For further information, contact Tiffany Johnson at (310) 639-5231 or Larry Crane at (213) 740-2032.

Testers Corner



This is a new section of the newsletter where we are asking for your input, ideas and comments dealing strictly with backflow testing and repair - how to's and how not to's. You can ask anything about backflow or express any opinions in this column. With the participation of our members, this column can be very helpful to new testers just entering the field. Testers that have been in the profession for some time are especially encouraged to share unusual situations encountered in the field. So send your questions and comments to Glenn Leeks, phone: (858) 694-2121/fax: (858) 694-3105/e-mail: gleekseh@co.san-diego.ca.us.

ABPA Web Site

The ABPA web site is a valuable resource for backflow and cross-connection control information. The site, maintained by Les O'Brien, is at <http://www.abpa.org>.

One of the best features at the site is the Backflow Prevention Links section. There are dozens of links to backflow-related articles and publications, along with links to city, state and federal agencies with cross-connection control programs. There are links to companies with web sites offering repair parts, backflow software and test gauges. For kids, there are links to the Buster Backflow Comic Book and to the EPA's Water Explorer's Club.



The Discussion Forum is a new addition to the site. You can post a cross-connection control or backflow related question or comment and receive feedback and/or suggestions. There are currently discussion threads covering lawn irrigation systems, RPs on fire systems, trap primers and several threads on cross-connections.

You can find information regarding the ABPA Tester Certification Program, including:

Frequently Asked Questions
Tester Program Rules
Application Form
Available Training

All of this is on the world wide web, accessible through your internet provider. However, what about those of you that still do not have a personal computer? Fear not, just stop by your local library (you know - that place your parents used to send you for punishment time) and use a computer for free.

Really, the ABPA site is good and is getting better - and like this newsletter - you can add your own comments/observations.

Calendar of Events

- September 7, 2000 Northern Calif. Backflow Prevention Association Vendor Picnic
Alameda County Fairgrounds
- September 22 - 23, 2000 National ABPA Board of Directors Meeting
Vancouver, BC
- September 25-28, 2000 CA/NV AWWA Fall Conference
Sacramento, CA
- September 28-30, 2000 Tri-States Conference
Laughlin, Nevada/Contact Randy Hines at (760) 337-1522 or
Annette Duarte at (520) 740-6539
- October 2-4, 2000 4th Annual ABPA Western Regional Backflow Conference
Las Vegas, Nevada/Contact Patty Fauver at (801) 536-4136 or
Mike Moss at (801) 536-0089
- October 25, 2000 Southern California Chapter 7th Annual Conference
Long Beach, CA/Sign up below!**
- December 5, 2000 3rd Annual Backflow Industry Product Fair
Friendship Auditorium, Griffith Park (details in next newsletter)



7th ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM



October 25, 2000

Long Beach, CA

Complete the registration form and return with your payment (check or money order only made payable to Southern California Chapter ABPA) to:

**Southern California Chapter - ABPA
PO Box 712
Cypress, CA 90630**

Before October 16:

_____ \$ 60.00 Pre-Registration, ABPA Members _____ \$ 75.00 Pre-Registration, Non-ABPA Members

After October 16:

_____ \$ 70.00 Late Registration, ABPA Members _____ \$ 85.00 Late Registration, Non-ABPA Members

ABPA Membership

_____ \$ 42.00 ABPA Membership, includes local and national dues (please include a separate check)

Name: _____ Title: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

One applicant per form - please make copies for additional applicants.

Chapter News



The Southern California Chapter held an Officers and Directors Planning Meeting on August 3, 2000 at Marie Callender's in Garden Grove. Plans for the upcoming October 25th Conference and December 5th Backflow Industry Product Fair were discussed. Also, the Chapter will expand our newsletter from four to eight pages, beginning with the first 2001 issue.

The Chapter is interested in hosting the 2004 ABPA National Conference in the Southern California area. A proposal will be submitted to the ABPA National Board at their September meeting. More information will be available in the next newsletter.

Bill Laird, Board Member from San Diego County, has contacted Lego Land to arrange a field trip for Southern California Chapter members. If the field trip is confirmed, it will be scheduled before the park opens (sorry, no rides). In addition to the use of recycled water on the site, the potable water system is protected by numerous backflow prevention assemblies installed by the owners of Lego Land to protect their customers. It is an excellent example of corporate responsibility in the use of backflow prevention assemblies (however, we have not found any backflow assemblies constructed out of Lego blocks).

The next Board meeting will be held on October 19, 2000 at 6:30 pm at Marie Callender's Restaurant, 13252 Brookhurst in Garden Grove.



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