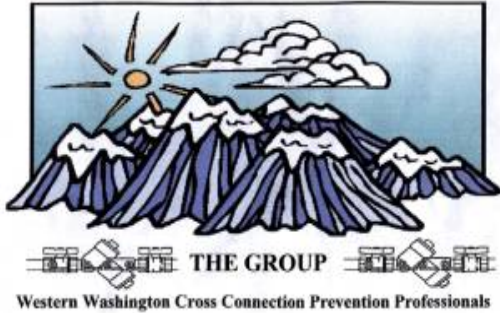


BAT FORUM



MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER

The Group

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Attendance 3-19-14

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Cantwell, Tim	Woodinville Water Dist	425-487-4125	tcantwell@woodinvillewater.com
Cook, Frank	City of Stanwood	360 629 9781	frank.cook@ci.stanwood.wa.us
Eastwood, Robert	SPU	206-233-2635	BobEastwood@aol.com
Fallgatter, Mark	Sea-King Co Public Health	206 263 8504	mark.fallgatter@kingcounty.gov
Foreman, Fred	City of DuPont	253-377-4971	fforeman@ci.dupont.wa.us
Freeman, James	North Perry Ave Water	360-373-9508	j.freeman@northperrywd.org
Gamman, Tom	B A T Master	425-397-0275	test@backflowservice.net
Gibson, Matt	Snohomish Parks & Rec	425 508 6617	matt.gibson@snoco.org
Gray, Deni	Operator Cert. DOH	360-236-3140	Deni.Gray@doh.wa.gov
Hallenberg, Scott	City of Tacoma	253 502 8215	shallenb@cityoftacoma.org
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Lee, Mike	City of Bellingham	360-778-7738	mlee@cob.org
Little, Courtney	North Perry Water	360 373 7508	c.little@northperrywd.org
Lucas, John P	Coal Creek Utility Dist	425-235-9200	jlucas@ccud.org
Main, Robert	On-Site Testing	360-671-1557	onsitetesting@yahoo.com
Markham, Tim	City of Everett	425-257-8833	tmarkham@ci.everett.wa.us
Mattimore, Kate	Backflow Mgmt Inc	800-841-7689	bmi@bmibackflow.com
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Notestine, Terri	Wa State DOH	360-236-3133	terri.notestine@doh.wa.gov
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Peredo, Tony	Rainier View Water Co	253-537-6634	tony@rainerviewwater.com
Risto, Don	City of Battleground	360 342 5361	don.risto@ci.battle-ground.wa.us
Salter, James	Pops Backflow	206 551 5174	popsbackflow@gmail.com
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The 2014 BAT Meeting was again a great success. Our chair Tim Cantwell opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking all in attendance. As you can see, we had a sizable turnout of members, but not as many BATs as we had hoped for.



We sure appreciate what a good job Tim did presenting speakers and keeping things organized. If it weren't for the State flag behind him, I'd swear we were at a Karaoke bar!

This year we tried a new approach to obtain reliable information from the professionals in our field of Cross Connection Control. We recruited a panel consisting of folks specializing in different aspects of our occupation.



From left to right: Dave Cantrell; King County Public Health Chief Plumbing Inspector, Terri Notestine; CCC Program Manager, Dominic MacLaughlin; Wa Cert Services Proctor, Scott Hallenberg; City of Tacoma CCS, Pat Nelson; BAT Business Owner, Bruce Springer; Labor & Industries, Deni Gray' Waterworks Operator Cert Program Manager, and Rachel Neville; Wa Cert Services BAT Program Manager.

We would like to thank all of these people that helped to make the event an informational gold mine for everyone.

Deni and Terri spoke of the final Operator Certification Rule. It describes some substantial changes for all BATs and CCSs, including a new description of duties for both, field test report contents and new enforcement rules. Attached is a copy of the new Operator Certification Rule presentation, and it may benefit all of you that have not seen it to take a look.

A question arose that is worth noting; Some BATs are unclear as how much information they are required to share with the purveyor on test reports. Pat Nelson asked how a BAT is expected to be aware of each jurisdiction's specifications, because they are all different. This is especially true when it comes to the selection of devices required for the hazard, such as dishwashers. The general answer is, if you are testing an assembly and are not sure if it meets the demands of the hazard, just make a note on the report for the CCS. Although they are not inspectors they still need to make comments relating to the problems they may notice. This will simply alert the CCS and then it would be their responsibility to take corrective measures. Our friend and member Dale Baxmann said it best:

Basically I just quoted what's in the WAC about the duties and responsibilities of a BAT, being a person who inspects, tests and monitors backflow assemblies. Part of the monitoring is submitting test reports and reporting things that we know to be incorrect as BATs, or that "just don't look right". By doing so, we hand off the questions and ownership of the problem to the CCS/water purveyor for them to follow up on should they choose to do so. All of the other things that were being discussed are good to talk about, but fall outside the role of a BAT and should be addressed by plumbing inspectors, the water purveyor or other AHJ.

As we all know, there are still often times that the CCSs and the AHJs (Authority having jurisdiction) do not see eye to eye. Dave Cantrell reported that the building

code council have added many amendments to the Uniform Plumbing Code in the efforts to help bring a better mutual understanding between the two. These amendments will be published next month and Dave promised to get the information to the Group when it is available. Dave also reminded everyone of the new lead-free rule and all though it is adopted, it does not go into effect until April 1st of this year. Lead-free assemblies are only required on potable systems.

Bruce Springer from L & I discussed the proper licensing required for different duties pertaining to repairs and replacements of assemblies. If you do any repairs or even cleaning on a device inside a building you must have a plumbing license. He had much more detailed explanations on what type of work requires what type of license. If you have questions for him, you can email him at sprb235@LNI.wa.gov

A new question arose, that maybe you have considered and maybe not: How can purveyors identify marijuana grows? Dave stated that the local health department has not considered this a huge issue, so far. The State Liquor Control Board would be the issuant of the operating license, and you may be able to access that information at their website. (I have not tried) Terri said that she would probably consider a growing operation as a table 9 facility.

Rachel spoke about the changes in format in the certification exam for the BATs. If you are already certified, nothing will change, but the new applicants will first be required to take the hands on testing through Washington Certification Services and then apply to take the written exam through the testing company AMP. Locations for the written exam can be booked way out, so keep that in mind and consider different locations. Contact Rachel when you need specific information on all of this.

I would like to thank John Sizemore and Bob Hubbert, both from Bellevue, for allowing us to use their facility and providing the refreshments.

Much appreciated, guys!



I couldn't resist adding this picture of Deni and Rachel-----**How cute are they??**



Dominic Mclaughlin and Tim Markham taking care of business.

Other business: Terri wanted all of the CCSs to be aware that they were having some challenges in setting up the website for the Annual Summary Report. It should be available very soon and you will be notified by email when it is ready.

The CCS Public List is now available at www.doh.wa.gov/ccspubliclist This is a list of all certified Cross Connection Control Specialists that would like to make themselves available to assist water systems that may not have a CCS on board. If you'd like to be on this list, go to the website and sign up.

Just for fun, we'd like to congratulate our Group member Ben Ames from Fruitland Water for winning the prestigious award of having the best tasting water supply in a five-county region.



That's my new supervisor, Laurelin Ward, doing the pouring!

In closing, I have a message to all of the Washington State Certified BATs from our Chairman Tim:

It is vital for a BAT to establish a good working relationship with the purveyors or districts they test in. Make connections with your CCSs and know how to get in touch with them. As a BAT, it is your best way to ensure you are doing your part in monitoring the assemblies you are testing. Take pictures of questionable items and forward them to the appropriate entities. Remember that you are working for public health and your comments and observations are crucial. You are the eyes and ears, not the enforcers.

We have no details for the April meeting yet. I will email when we know.

Kathy Caldwell

Group Secretary



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