



APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER

The Group

PO Box 94551

Seattle, WA 98124

www.backflowgroup.org

OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

Chair: Tim Cantwell <u>tcantwell@woodinvillewater.com</u>	Woodinville Water District	Phone: 425 487 4125
Vice Chair: Tony Peredo <u>tony@rainierviewwater.com</u>	Rainier View Water Co.	Phone: 253 537 6634
Treasurer: James Salter 5174 <u>popsbackflow@gmail.com</u>	Pop's Backflow Testing	Phone: 206 551
Secretary: Kathy Caldwell 2847 <u>kcaldwell@redmond.gov</u>	City of Redmond	Phone: 425 556
Past Chair: Dennis McLaughlin 9531 <u>mclaughlinbackflowtesting@msn.com</u>	McLaughlin Backflow	Phone: 206 364

The April 16th Group meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM by Chair Tim Cantwell.

Those in attendance were Dennis McLaughlin, Dale Baxmann, Gary D. Brown, Larry Holmes, Chic Nessly and Kathy Caldwell.

The intent of the meeting was to start the discussion and planning for the October seminar. Due to the lack of attendance we spent most of the time reviewing the new website. It is on line now, so check it out; www.backflowgroup.org

Our web designer, Jeffrey Nelson has done a superb job. The name of his company is NelSoniq Design.

Keep in mind when you look at the site, it is still in construction mode. The membership list is not correct, but will be soon. The vendors or sponsors are not officially on, but just used as an example of how the advertisements will appear. Dennis will soon be contacting all of our known vendors and sponsors to offer a spot with a fee of \$100.00 per year. If you know of anyone interested in this advertising space, let them know that they can either contact Dennis McLaughlin or submit an online sponsorship form under the dropdown of membership, become a sponsor. We are in the process now of getting all of our Group documents and history to Jeffrey so that he will be able to continue to build the site.

That is all there is to report from the meeting so I thought it would be a place to insert a little training information;

Our member Dale Baxmann wanted to share this:

Recently we had to remove a sewage ejector pump for repair inside Allen Computer Science. This caused me to review how we go about actually doing this work, and specifically, what are we doing to make sure we are using a "safe" source of water for this. That then led to a concern about how we do this in other buildings. I reviewed the site at CSE and used that as a basis for the attached white paper which provides some more details, a brief history and some recommendations. I

Briefly, what I am looking for is:

- An evaluation of all sites that have these types of pumps and potential sources of cross connection
- Shop review/education with those crews that may work on these systems

- Installing some additional equipment to ensure a “safe” source of water and storage of related items needed for this work

See the attached document to read his conclusion.

Next, Deni Gray from the Department of Health asked that I send this information out one more time to all of our members, the link will also soon be available on our website:

The Waterworks Operator Certification program was recently authorized to develop and maintain a list of cross-connection control specialists that were interested in helping water systems with their cross-connection control issues. The list is voluntary and a CCS that would like to be included must submit a completed CCS Public List application form to the Department of Health.

Services offered can include:

- Developing or updating a written CCC program plan, policies and procedures
- Implementing a new or existing CCC program
- Performing initial or periodic CCC hazard surveys
- Inspecting backflow prevention assemblies or air gaps.

The application form allows the CCS to choose which services he or she is willing to provide and choose which counties to offer their services in. The list available to the public includes only a contact phone number and email address for the CCS. No other contact information is available to the public. If you have any questions about the CCS public list, please contact Larry.Granish@doh.wa.gov or call him at 1-800-525-2536, extension #1.

To add your name to this list, go to www.doh.wa.gov/CCSPublicList

Another item of interest for the month was something I came across in my City last week. I’m sure many of you are aware of this, but because I am not a BAT, I had no idea that pipe supports and earthquake straps could cause such a problem. Maybe I can save someone else a headache.



This is a 6" Ames/Colt 200 DCVA on a fire system. To access the internal checks, the outer sleeve is loosened and actually slides left. The bracing is mounted in concrete on the floor and even if the top of the bracket is removed, it is still not possible for this sliding action due to the bottom of the brace. The Watts 957 RP is designed the same way, and I suppose others. Needless to say, the placement of pipe supports are very important when these types of assemblies are installed.



Anyone for a little escargot? No extra charge!!

Member Erik Pedersen wanted to share:



I have been coming across a lot of this during reoccurring inspections of facilities listed in our database as Premise Isolation (accepted inside the building). This plumbing modification was constructed with good intention. Replacing the companion flange plug with a hose bib & hose makes it easy to conveniently flush the collected strainer debris into the sewer. Periodic flushing of the strainer maintains optimum flow and purges debris upstream of the backflow assembly that may otherwise jam an assembly valve and create a fail.

If backsiphonage were to occur and the backflow assembly worked the way it is suppose to, all of the backsiphonage energy would be directed to the unacceptably attached bib & hose. When I walked into this facility the hose was down into a floor drain (sewer).

My requirement(s) directed to the responsible party are to immediately remove the hose. The hose bib shall be replaced with the original plug a.s.a.p. On the best of occasions the companion flange was replaced with a blind flange or the companion flange plug was actually “sweated” in place permanently.

Kathy, if you think this is worthy information to pass along to the rest of The Group you have my appreciation and approval to “Forward” on. I learn C.C.C. best from interaction with other C.C.S.’s 😊

Thoughts, opinions, ideas welcome,

Erik W. Pedersen, C.C.S. *Cross Connection Inspector*

Environmental Engineering | Public Works Department

220 Fourth Avenue South, Kent, WA 98032

Phone **253-856-5659** | Cell **253-740-0944**

ewpedersen@KentWa.gov

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Also attached to the newsletter is the most current membership list. If your name is not highlighted in yellow, we have not received your dues payment for 2014.

The detail for the May meeting have not been finalized as of yet. I will send a notice out as soon as I hear.

