

4/15/2006

I just returned from the ABPA International Convention and Trade Show held in San Antonio Texas. I wanted to give the Region 7 membership a report while it was still fresh in my mind. The San Antonio local chapter did a outstanding job of coordinating this event with Ken Ashlock and his conference committee, every session and event was truly outstanding. As some of you know the local chapter works all year long to make these International Conventions a successful event, and they did a fine job.

The sessions are geared to bring membership up to date on the latest information on events and governmental rules that could affect the cross connection control industry. This year the power point presentation will be added to the web site under the forum section for those who wish this information to view. The web site [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org), click on other abpa quick links then click on abpa forums then under abpa business click on abpa members. You must register to use this portion of the forum, there is no charge for these forums. These forums are a unique tool and I urge the membership to make use of them.

At the Associations Board of Directors meeting on April 12, 2006 we received an update on the Associations Cross Connection Control Manual from the Chair of the committee Mr. Jack Poole, the manual is ready for technical editing and needs some more work on illustrations but this is proceeding and a new chapter on the associations new Cross Connection Specialist will be added. Mr. Poole has scheduled more meetings for the committee and will give an update at the mid year board meeting. A position paper on Backflow prevention assemblies for irrigation sprinkler systems was passed, and an Electronic Meeting Policy was passed. A name change for the newsletter committee was passed it will now be called the magazine committee, the membership committee was given some guidance as to what the board would like to see added for membership a new corporate rate and perhaps an associate membership. A request to establish a Scholarship Committee was passed and a proposal for a policy and position paper on water fed back up sump pump was passed. The Budget for the associations 2006/2007 year was passed, this years budget includes a \$30,000 contingency budget which we have not been able to do in the past. This years budget is \$470,195.00 and should fund all the committees working on ABPA functions. The 2007 International Conference and Trade Show will be held in Reno Nevada on April 29 thru May 2<sup>nd</sup> so mark your calender, also if you would like to work on a National Committee they usually meet starting the week before the Conference. More information on these meetings will be on the ABPA web site prior to the meetings.

The Western Regional Conference will be held this year in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 9,10,11 at the Orleans Hotel. The mid year National ABPA Board meeting will be held Sunday Oct 8 at the Orleans Hotel, please mark your calendars this Regional Conference covers topics that relate to our region and gives you a chance to network with fellow ABPA members in your region. I will be asking chapter presidents to help support this regional effort.

Also it is time to start thinking about your next Region 7 Director, it has been an honor to serve as Regional Director but is time to get to the next phase of my life (retirement) so please give some thought who you would like to see as your next Director, it is important that we have a voice in the National Association direction.

Floyd Hensley  
Director for Region 7