

Bug Bytes

By Valera Jesse

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GPCA.ORG

Issue 5 – April 15, 2009

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- Botanical Products
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Neil Parker

1 - COMMISSION MEETING

What a great Commission meeting Tuesday. Everyone was there and we heard lots of interesting news. Here's a recap:

ILLEGAL OPERATORS – As Jimmy Allgood reminded everyone, the primary purpose of licensing the pest control industry in 1956 was to get rid of unlicensed operators. Yet, our industry – and the public – continues to be plagued with this group who fly under the radar.

Earlier we reported that Josh Wiley was searching the internet and collecting a rap sheet on illegal operators. However, the critical issue of 'what authority does the Department have' always stymied the process. Solution: utilize the Department's 4 authorized, badge wearing, gun-toting Homeland Security officials to step in. When an illegal operator is caught, he is handed a \$10,000 administrative order. He has 10 days to contact Josh. Likely he will receive a reduced fine. However, if the applicator fails to respond, this \$10,000 judgement is filed on his public record.

So far, 100 illegal operators have been identified; 30 are in the process of some type action by the Department and Homeland Security; two have been caught in a sting operation.

Kudos to the Department for this effort to clean up a problem that has been around for over 50 years!

UNIVERSAL SERVICE TICKET – Although we didn't get to 'hold' the sample ticket prepared by Commission member Chris Gorecki (Orkin) we were pleased to learn that the service ticket is making progress. The service ticket will help solve the problem that most operators are experiencing of identifying specific areas and listing post precautionary statements.

Basically, Chris took the 75 most commonly used products/chemicals. He assembled the post precautionary statements and boiled them down to 5 that can easily be included on a service ticket.

We eagerly look forward to this effort moving forward to help resolve a big problem for our operators. Thanks to Chris and his Orkin network for all their effort to help produce a workable solution.

INSURANCE ISSUES – When we heard this one, we just groaned. Apparently, the Department sent out a bunch of letters to a bunch of pest control companies advising that their insurance certificates were not up to date. The Department was requesting that these PC companies get a current certificate from their insurance company and send it to GDA. Remember – this letter wasn't sent out to ALL pest control companies – just the companies who needed to update their certificate.

One insurance company (note – it was not GPCA's endorsed insurance provider BB&T) didn't understand what the Department was doing. So, they sent a letter to every one of their insured pest control companies telling them that they needed to update their certificate and send it to the Department. This has created a huge amount of unnecessary work, confusion and delay.

What do you need to do? If you got a letter from the Department of Agriculture asking that you update your certificate, contact your insurance provider. They will be happy to assist in providing the necessary update.

BOTANICALS – This was discussed at the Commission meeting, but no action is planned. The green products – or 25B pesticides that have been named by EPA as minimal risk pesticides – sometimes go overboard with advertising. The ad discussed by the Commission focused on Cedar Oil which claimed to be "safe" enough to bathe puppies and children. Since the "Dose Makes the Poison" we all know that anything can be lethal if not used correctly. The Department will be watching this issue.

SCHOOLS – The Department still is finding problems with pesticide application at schools, but the overall issue is moving to the side. The Commission has expressed their concern that schools now are doing much of their applications "in-house" rather than have a trained pest management professional do the work. To this end, GPCA is helping co-ordinate further action with the State School Superintendent.

RESTAURANTS AND OTHER FOOD HANDLING ESTABLISHMENTS – Since schools are moving to the side, the next big great gorilla in the corner is going to be treatment of restaurants and any place where food is prepared. We caution you BIG TIME to check the label of the products you are using. If it says may not be applied where food is being prepared, you might want to reconsider your application technique. Even a mop stand in the back of a restaurant could be considered vulnerable since technically, 'food is being prepared' in the general area. Start checking your tickets, products.

2 - MORE TRAINING AVAILABLE!

The support of the GPCA Road Shows has been overwhelming!!!! We have had great crowds at all the programs offered so far – but there are more still planned.

All programs (except Gwinnett) offer 6 hours training [3 HPC and 3 WDO] for \$10! For class information go to GPCA.org or call GPCA at 770-417-1881.

Don't miss these training opportunities to get those final hours for your employees:

April 16	Thursday	Augusta
April 29	Wednesday	Rome
April 30	Thursday	Gwinnett (8 hours - \$20 per person)

3 - NEXT TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM

GPCA has the only state approved Train the Trainer program available. The next class dates have been set:

Monday	May 4	1 – 5
Monday	May 11	1 – 5
Monday	May 18	1 – 5
Tuesday	June 2	1 – 5

Classes will be held at the GPCA office in Norcross. Instructors include Dennis Judy, Hal Coleman, Craig Goodwin and Charlie Pate. Cost for the program is \$475 per person. See link with these BugBytes for application and further course information.

Note – the Guardians provide one scholarship for a deserving person to attend the Train the Trainer.

4 – GPCA FIELD TRIP

Ever wanted to see what research is up to? Spend a day with GPCA on our annual field trip – this time in Griffin, Georgia. Cost for the full day is only \$45

5 – GPCA FAMILY

Hey everyone,

As you read this email my father Neil Parker and his friends are cycling across America. They left “Dog Beach San Diego CA” on March 31 and are heading to St. Augustine FL. May 10th with the dipping of the front wheel in the Atlantic Ocean. The group has a daily blog with photos and stories of the ride please see below. Also on the website below you can read about the store behind the ride and info on the riders. Each of the riders is riding for a charity as well, if you would like to donate to one of these great charities please do so. I have also included my father’s charity below. If you would like to contact Neil during this ride he will be checking his email periodically at neil@bugbustersusa.com.

The site for daily progress is http://www.crazyguyonabike.com/doc/?o=3Tzut&doc_id=4688&v=30

Neil Parker’s charity:

Neil Parker is riding for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Light the Night Walk. Light The Night Walk is The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s evening walk and fundraising event. It is the nation’s night to pay tribute and bring hope to thousands of people battling blood cancers and to commemorate loved ones lost. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) funds lifesaving research that has contributed to major advances in the treatment of blood cancers and treatments for other types of cancer, such as chemotherapy and stem cell transplants. These treatments have helped patients live better, longer lives. You can make a donation by visiting Neil’s fundraising page at : <http://pages.lighththenight.org/ga/Atlanta09/nparker> Perhaps consider what you can do on a per mile basis. For example 3 cents a mile is \$92.55 or 5 cents a mile is \$154.25 based on 3,085 miles.

Court Parker, BugBusters

Calendar of Events and Training

April 15 , 2009

GPCA Office 770/417-1881 or 800/465-9827

April 2009

- April 16 – Augusta** – Augusta Road Show will be held at the Best Value Inn, 3023 Washington Road, Augusta, GA. 30907. The Road Show will offer 1 HPC program, 2 IPM programs, 1 PTX program, and 2 WDO programs.
- April 16 – Brunswick** – Region 16 Meeting from 7:00-9:00 pm at Captain Joe’s in Brunswick. Dan Givens with Univar will be the speaker, 1 hr IPM & 1 hr PTX. Free to all GPCA members. Please R.S.V.P. to Forester Scarboro at 912-634-2666.
- April 21 – Lawrenceville** – Region 9 Meeting from 6:00-8:00 pm at Kacey’s Home Cooking, 520 W. Pike Street, Lawrenceville, GA., speaker will be Rob Cooper with Prentiss Inc., offering 1 hr IPM & 1 hr HPC. No RSVP in necessary.
- April 21 – Valdosta** – Region 18 Meeting from 12:00-2:00 pm, The Gold Plate Restaurant, 1104 South Patterson Street, Valdosta, GA. Steve Sullivan with Bell Labs will be the speaker, 2 hrs HPC/IPM credit, Please RSVP to Manuel Snipes at 229-241-9372.
- April 23 – Fayetteville** – Region 6 Meeting from 4:00-6:00 pm at Int’l House of Pancakes (IHOP), 705 Jeff Davis Drive, Fayetteville, GA., speaker will be Walt Weinwurm with Bayer, 1 hr WDO & 1 hr PTX. Please R.S.V.P. to Mark Wyrosdick at 404-353-5423 or Mark.wyr@gmail.com
- April 27 – Marietta** – Region 4 Meeting from 4:00 – 6:00 pm at Cook’s Pest Control office, 777 S. Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA., speaker will be Tom Nay with BASF, 2 hrs IPM credit. Please R.S.V.P. to Ted Veitch at 770-424-8888.
- April 28 – Norcross** – GPCA 4th Tuesday program, 9-11 am, speaker Jose Dolagaray, 2 hrs WDO. Free . Call GPCA 770-417-1881 to register. CLASS FULL – CALL FOR ANY CANCELLATIONS
- April 29 – Rome** – Rome Road Show will be held at the Civic Center, 601 Broad Street, Rome, GA. 30161. The Road Show will offer 1 IPM program, 2 WDO programs, 1 HPC program, 1 PTX program and 1 program of WDO or HPC which may be IPM or PTX, call for more information.
- April 30 – Gwinnett** – Gwinnett Road Show will be held at Gwinnett Technical College, 5150 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Building 600- Room 104, Lawrenceville, GA. 30043. The Gwinnett Road Show will offer 1 HPC program, 4 IPM programs, 2 WDO programs, and 1 PTX program.

May 2009

May 4 – June 2 – Norcross – Train the Trainer

- May 19 – Lawrenceville** – Region 9 Meeting from 6:00-8:00 pm at Kacey’s Home Cooking, 520 W. Pike Street, Lawrenceville, GA., Dan Hill with Ensystem will be the speaker with 2 hrs PTX credit. No R.S.V.P. is necessary.
- May 21 – Valdosta** – Region 18 Meeting from 12:00-2:00 pm, The Gold Plate Restaurant, 1104 South Patterson Street, Valdosta, GA. Walt Weinwurm with Bayer will be the speaker, 2 hrs HPC/IPM credit, Please RSVP to Manuel Snipes at 229-241-9372.

Regularly Scheduled Region Meetings

Region 2 - 2nd Monday every month except November, December and January

Region 5 - 2nd Tuesday every other month

Region 11 - 4th Thursday every odd month

Region 13 - 3rd Thursday every month.

Region 17 - 2nd Tuesday as announced

Region 18 - 3rd Thursday as announced

TRAINING NOTES

- REMEMBER – YOU CAN NOT GET CREDIT FOR THE SAME COURSE TWICE DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR – YOU WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO GET CREDIT ONE TIME.
- IF YOU ACCRUE MORE IPM HOURS THAN NEEDED, THEY WILL COUNT TOWARD YOUR HPC REQUIREMENTS.
- IF YOU ACCRUE MORE PRETREAT HOURS THAN NEEDED, THEY WILL COUNT TOWARD YOUR WDO REQUIREMENTS.
- CHECK YOUR HOURS ONLINE AT WWW.KELLYSOLUTIONS.COM.