

# Bug Bytes

*By Valera Jesse*

## GEORGIA PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION

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[GPCA.ORG](http://GPCA.ORG)

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### ATHENS – DOWN TO THE WIRE!

In just 10 more days, we'll kick-off the granddaddy of all pest management conferences. The 53<sup>rd</sup> annual Athens Conference starts on January 13 and offers 2 ½ days of consecutive training in HPC and WDO, a full exhibit hall and fantastic food for breaks, breakfast and lunch.

If you can't come for the whole conference, come for one day. We have Dr. Jeff Tucker (*thank you Whitmire MicroGen*) who will be presenting two fantastic programs: *Commercial Kitchens and Food Service – your next nightmare* and *Fleas – We Want Our Money Back*. Both programs are geared to today's pest control issues:

- 1 Food service and commercial kitchens – this nightmare is already here for many of our pest management team. Overlooked for years by Regulation, this area of treatment is now suffering from catch-up, wake-up and compliance issues.
- 2 Flea control – this used to be a really good money making service that consumers demanded. With veterinary involvement, many businesses saw this portion of business decline rapidly. There is hope, however, that flea control may be returning to the pest control industry – we want it back!!

There are so many other reasons to come to Athens. If you have any questions, please let us know. Hope to see you soon!

### FOOD DRIVE PRODUCES GREAT RESULTS

Although the GPCA Public Relations committee is heavily involved in the GPCA - Leukemia/Lymphoma outreach project, when the committee met in early December, they felt they needed to do something more. News of empty food pantries and homelessness promoted the PR committee chairmen Danny Nix and Julie Ramirez (Arrow Exterminators and Forsyth Exterminating respectively) to see what they could do in a short time in their local area. Danny and Julie, whose companies are located in Forsyth, called area shelters and banks set up collection points throughout the county and within one week, they had collected a truck load of food to donate to The Place, an emergency assistance facility in Forsyth County.

Danny Nix was especially grateful to many people at his office who donated their Christmas gift cards to the food drive. Julie made contact with many local stores asking if collection boxes could be placed at their location. She said the response was wonderful and helped show the involvement of our industry in the local community.

During the next year, the PR committee will work to help set up other local food drives throughout the state. If you would like to be involved, please contact Danny (770-751-0118) or Julie (706-216-7378).

### GET WELL GRADY

Good well wishes are extended to Grady Tabb, Tabb Pest Control (Evans) who is undergoing radiation treatment. Grady said this would be the first year he had missed Athens in 25 years. He sent his best wishes for a great conference and said he would be there next year!

## **99a and 99b**

This is news direct from NPMA who works with HUD on their forms:

### ***NPCA 99a and 99b Expired Nov 30; Pretreaters Should Continue to Use Current Forms Until Reauthorized***

*NPCA 99a and 99b are the New Construction Builder's Guarantee and the Soil Treatment Record and have been in use since 1997. Every three years, these forms must be reviewed by the federal government prior to reauthorization. The current forms expired on November 30, 2008. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is currently in the process of receiving public comments, which are due December 24, 2008 and will submit these to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for consideration. NPMA has received calls from members and lenders requesting guidance since the forms have expired.*

*NPMA has received direction from HUD that the current (expired) forms should continue to be used until the forms are reauthorized. When the forms are reauthorized, NPMA will notify members. If members find that builders or lenders raise this question and this notice will not be sufficient, they can contact HUD at 202-708-2121 for verification. NPMA expects action by OMB in early 2009. Members who have questions can contact NPMA's Greg Baumann at [gbaumann@pestworld.org](mailto:gbaumann@pestworld.org) or [click here](#) to view this information online.*

## **FUMIGATION CLASSES IN ATHENS**

If you hold a category 28 license (Fumigation) you know that finding credit hours is an ongoing challenge. GPCA will offer four hours of credit on Thursday, January 15. Eric Hobelman (DowAgroScience) will deliver a two hour Vikane Stewardship program in the morning and Jim Chase will offer 2 hours of fumigation in the afternoon.

In addition to four hours of category 28, Chase's two hours has also been approved for Commodity Fumigation – category 38.

## **A LITTLE BIT OF SUMMER?**

Sometimes anticipation is one of the best ways to get through the cloudy, dark, cold days of winter. We encourage you to mark your calendar for the GPCA Summer Conference, July 19 – 22 at the beautiful Ginn Hammock Resort. The property is located between Jacksonville and Daytona right on the Atlantic Ocean. The Resort offers 1 bedroom suites and 2 and 3 bedroom full condos.

If you liked Panama City last year for its diversity of housing and beach access, you're going to LOVE this year's selection. In addition to its ideal location consider this:

- It's got multiple pools, including a waterslide and adults only pool
- They have four restaurants on property
- This is a RESORT – it is run like an upscale hotel with room service, pool bar, children's programs.
- The rooms are larger than your first apartment! They are spacious and beautifully decorated.

We know you are working on your budget and trimming costs where it is possible. But everyone needs a vacation – even if only for a few days. By coming to the GPCA summer conference, you get a business trip, tax deduction, time with your friends and family at a beautiful location. Check out the attached flyer!

# Calendar of Events and Training

Tuesday 30, 2008

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

## Events in 2009

### January 2009

**January 13-15 –Athens** – GPCA Winter Conference will be held at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education at UGA. Three day conference that will offer 15 HPC programs, 13 WDO programs, and 5 fumigation programs. Registration material will be available late fall.

**January 20 – February 26 – GPCA PCO Course** – Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00-9:00 at the Cooks Pest Control office in Marietta, GA. For more information please call the GPCA office at 770-417-1881.

**January 20 – Lawrenceville** – Region 9 Meeting from 6:00-8:00 pm. at Kacey's Home Cooking, 520 W. Pike Street, Lawrenceville, GA. The speaker will be Azalea Pederigan with Dow AgroSciences, and will receive 2 hrs WDO.

**January 27 – Lawrenceville** – GPCA 4th Tuesday program, 9-11 am, speaker Randy Martin, 2 hrs HPC. Free. Call GPCA 770-417-1881 to register.

**January 29 – Savannah** – GPCA Road Show, Savannah, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

### February 2009

**February 11 – Dahlonega** – GPCA Road Show, Dahlonega, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

**February 12 – Macon** – Region 8 Meeting from 4:00-6:00 pm. at Macon Farmers Market, 2055 Eisenhower Parkway, Macon, GA. The speaker will be Mark Hunter, 1 hr PTX & 1 hr IPM. Please R.S.V.P. to Greg Vines 478-272-6271.

### March 2009

**March 10 – Albany** – GPCA Road Show, Albany, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

**March 25 – Macon** – Road Show, Macon, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

**March 26 – Statesboro** – Road Show, Statesboro, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

### April 2009

**April 16 – Augusta** – Road Show, Augusta, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

**April 29 – Rome** – Road Show, Rome, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

**April 30 – Gwinnett** – Road Show, Gwinnett, 6 hours credit. Information available at GPCA office, 770-417-1881.

### 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](http://WWW.KELLYSOLUTIONS.COM).