

# BUGBYTES

By Valera Jessee

## GEORGIA PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION

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### IN THIS ISSUE

#### **ELECTRONIC RENEWALS ONLY –**

*In response to the BugBytes #28 published earlier this week – Derrick Lastinger, Georgia Department of Ag, had the following additional information:*

*“In 2010 the Georgia Department of Agriculture was moving forward with the development of an online license renewal program that was scheduled to begin in 2011. Unfortunately, the project has been presented with several unexpected challenges and implementation has been delayed. We still plan to offer online renewals in the future but don’t expect to have the online license renewal program fully implemented for the June 30, 2011 renewal. The new time frame may change if the online program implementation moves faster than currently anticipated.”*

*So, for now – it’s business as usual. We’ll be sure to let you know if there are any changes.*

#### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

*At the Commission meeting earlier this week, we learned some interesting information for instructors:*

- 1) *Remember to submit all your classes to receive a 2011 course number. 2010 numbers expire on December 31, 2010.*
- 2) *Earlier this year, the Commission had advised that speakers could lose their ‘approval’ to teach after 1-1-2011 if the program they offered:*
  - a) *didn’t have the content approved*
  - b) *didn’t run for a full 60 minutes*
  - c) *was more of a sales promotion than a technical training program.*

*Some changes to this plan – during 2011 programs will be audited and monitored for content, time and presentation. If a program is lacking in any one area, the speaker will be offered “compliance assistance” but there will not be any enforcement action taken during 2011. Speakers will not lose their ability to teach – but they might receive some feedback from inspectors and UGA proctors. At the end of 2011, the Commission will decide what needs to be done.*

*The criteria that will be essential:*

- *Course must be 55 to 60 minutes in length (no more short classes!!!)*
- *Course covers what the outline submitted planned*
- *Verification of training – did the students sit through the class, leave early, get their course numbers without earning them.*

**AFRICANIZED HONEYBEES**

*Jim Harron reported that another infestation of Africanized honeybees has been confirmed – making a total of three now for our state. And – for clarification – IT IS OKAY to kill honeybees under a HPC license!*

**KUDZU BUGS**

*Also, more comment about the treatment of Kudzu bugs. Jim advised that if you are working to eradicate the kudzu bugs – not the kudzu – you can treat them with your HPC license - without a Lawn & Ornamental license (24).*

**ATHENS – FREE BUSINESS SEMINAR**

*In addition to all the great things at the Athens Conference, Winston Briggs is offering our attendees a free business seminar on Monday afternoon.*

**Free Legal Seminar and Cocktail Party**  
**by W. Winston Briggs Law Firm**

**January 10, Center for Continuing Education, 3 - 6 PM, Athens**

Winston Briggs and the W. Winston Briggs Law Firm are hosting a free legal seminar and Happy Hour Cocktail Party for all attendees and their guests to kick off the Athens "Bridging the Gap" Conference on the afternoon of Monday, January 10, 2011. What a great way to kick off the Athens Conference!

This free seminar include:

- Automobile Accidents & General Liability Claims
- Civil Lawsuits vs. Criminal Cases
- Personal Injury Matters
- Insurance Coverage
- Employer/Employee Liability
- Premises Liability & Slip and Falls
- Worker's Compensation
- Legal Damages & What is Recoverable

The end of this seminar will be dedicated to questions from the audience. What a great way to get free legal advice about your case or your situation from a seasoned well-respected attorney. Following the seminar, Winston is sponsoring a free Happy Hour Cocktail Party to boot!

Please sign up today as spaces are limited and this free seminar is sure to be well attended.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Yes, I will attend the Monday January 10 seminar*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact info (email or phone) \_\_\_\_\_

Send your confirmation to GPCA at 770-417-1419 fax or email to Valera@gpca.org.