

# BUGBYTES

By Valera Jessee

## GEORGIA PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION

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

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### Regulatory News

#### New Commission Member –

Derrick Lastinger took his seat at the table July 13, appointed to represent the Department of Agriculture on the Structural Pest Control Commission. Jim Harron 'stepped down' from his position effective June 30, 2010. To commemorate his service to the industry, GPCA's president Scott Eubanks presented Jim with a plaque.

Elections were held and Jimmy Allgood was elected by the Commission to serve the coming year as Chairman and Maurice Redmond, representing the Department of Human Resources, will serve as vice chair.

#### Out of State Inspections

Josh Wiley reported that for the first time, GDA inspectors are checking companies who are physically located out of state, but doing treatment in Georgia. Companies in Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, North and South Carolina, while licensed to do business in Georgia, have not been inspected. Inspectors are finding multiple violations and in many cases a lack of understanding of Georgia's rules and regulations.

#### Department's Objective

Derrick reviewed GDA's written objective plan in working with the pest control industry:

- 1) *Unlicensed operators*
- 2) *More evenly monitor all companies including out of state companies.*
- 3) *Priorities for the next three years – Compliance, Monitoring, Enforcement*
  - a) *Compliance assistance. Not all inspections lead to enforcement action. Inspectors will work more diligently to advise operators during an inspection of efforts that can be made to comply with regulations.*
  - b) *Monitoring progress with compliance assistance.*
  - c) *Targeted inspections in certain areas, in line with EPA priorities such as health care, day care facilities and schools.*
  - d) *Routine inspections – special emphasis on pesticide use and recordkeeping requirements.*

### GPCA SUMMER CONFERENCE

Everything is packed and ready to go. We have a great turnout for the meeting with a fantastic program planned. From international pest control (speaker from Great Britain) and establishing a green program for your company, a wide variety of topics will be covered. If you didn't make plans to come this year, you

should think about coming in 2011. The summer conference is a great 'business vacation' that unites families, provides timely education/training and offers our members a chance to grow their association.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY**

Next week, GPCA welcomes Ronnie Smith as trainer for 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. Ronnie's programs will be hazard communications and squirrels – programs that you don't hear everyday. Don't miss this opportunity to earn a couple of CEU's and learn some valuable information from an interesting presenter. Call 770/417-1881 to register. There is no charge for GPCA members to attend this program at the GPCA office.

#### **FALL TRAINING**

GPCA has so many training opportunities starting in September that you're going to need a calendar to keep track of everything!

PCO Course – Norcross – Starts September 13 and meets every Monday and Thursday nights through October 25 (skips Thursday October 7).

CRAM Day – Norcross – Friday, September 17

NW GA. CONFERENCE – Dalton – Wednesday/Thursday, September 15-16 – 6 hours HPC Wednesday, 6 hours WDO Thursday.

SOUTH GA. CONFERENCE – Tifton – Thursday/Friday, October 7-8. 12 hours HPC, 12 hours WDO, 2 day CRAM program, Fumigation.

We'll be posting this information soon on the GPCA website or you can call the GPCA office for additional information. Just mark your calendar now so you don't miss these great training opportunities.

#### **GPCA CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

### **SAVE THE DATE – GPCA CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT AUGUST 24, 2010 HAMPTON GOLF VILLAGE, CUMMING**

*We've already got a lot of foursomes sold – many to our allied members and company members. Be sure to take this opportunity to reward your employees and do a good thing for others. This charity tournament raised over \$14,000 last year to benefit Leukemia/Lymphoma Research. Additionally, it supports the Burnett Scholarship Fund.*

*Contact the GPCA office (770-417-1881) or the  
Committee co-chairs for additional information:*

*Kim Floyd (UNIVAR) 678-640-0286  
Brantley Russell (Arrow Exterminators) 706/863-5404*

#### **Condolences:**

Sincere sympathy to Tony and Kenneth Hill. Lelia A. Hill, mother of Kenneth Hill and Grandmother of Tony Hill (Owners) of Best Pest Control, Inc. passed away Saturday July 10. The funeral was July 12 in Dalton.