

GPCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Georgia Center for Continuing Education
Athens, GA

January 13, 2016

Chairman of the Board Jeff Dunn called the meeting to order.

Jerry Baker led the invocation.

Patty Needham, BB&T, was introduced as the sponsor for this year's general membership breakfast. Shay thanked BB&T for their continued support of the Association.

Minutes of the July 10, 2015 meeting were approved as presented.

Secretary/Treasurer Roger Lemaster reviewed the budget. Approved as presented.

President Shay Runion gave the State of the Association address:

- Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the President of the GPCA this year. It is hard to believe that we are over six months into this fiscal year. I am very proud to be a part of the leading State Pest Control Association in the country.
- I want to take this time to thank the Executive Board our committee co-chairs, advisors and committee members for their support this year. We could not accomplish our goals without the grass root efforts of our Region Directors. Thank you to our Allied members who continue to support our efforts as an Association. To you our members, the lifeblood of our Association, thank you for your support and commitment to this industry that we all love so much.
- This has been a wonderful few years serving on the Executive Board. This experience has provided professional development for me personally and one of my favorite business experiences I have had. As you just heard from Roger Lemaster, our Secretary/Treasurer that we are a healthy Association. Even during a non-recertification year we are doing very well. The mortgage has been paid off and we are very thankful for that accomplishment. This took a lot of work over the past year and a half to ensure that we could reach this goal.
- Our Education Committee continues to provide timely programs that our members find beneficial. We continue to add programs that provide "added value" to our members. This continues to provide financial strength to the Association even during a non-recertification year. Adding value to the GPCA membership is key for long-term success for the Association. Now, we have L&O, wildlife, administrative and this year we will focus on more opportunities such as a Leadership Seminar, professional development courses, HR, business, sales and more!
- North and South GA Conferences were very successful this year hosting over 480 attendees. These conferences were started to help provide training for members who may not attend Winter Conference. These conferences have grown and we are proud of the success.
- Our Charity Golf Tournament provides funding for the Russell and Burnett Scholarships. In addition, we are able to donate to the American Red Cross. This year our Golf Tournament provided six scholarships and we are also able to donate \$10,000 to the Red Cross. We will present the Red Cross with their check on Thursday. A huge thanks to those of you who participated. It is always a fun event.
- Our Industry Affairs and Legislative Committee continues to keep us abreast of rules, regulations and legislation that might affect us as an industry and Association. We will have the opportunity to hear from this group of leaders during tomorrow's opening session and during the luncheon Thursday. We appreciate their input and efforts.
- Our PR committee is ramping up for Pest Control Month in April. Please be on the lookout through Bug Bytes about some of those initiatives. We will have several activities planned.
- I mentioned during the Summer Conference in my opening address to the members in attendance that Strategic Planning for the Association is a necessity. We talked about "Hope is not a Strategy." The Executive Team spent MANY hours and meetings together putting in a Strategic Plan to help serve as a working document that would help keep us on task. As part of this strategic planning, we are currently in the process of reviewing the bylaws. We should not let our bylaws get outdated to the point that they may keep us from accomplishing goals for the future. We will provide suggestions to the Board of Directors at our March meeting.

- With the changes and restructuring of the GPCA Team we made the strategic decision to have a communication coordinator and membership coordinator. With Christina's new role as membership coordinator we are working on ways to make improvements to our members database, as well as we plan to have a membership drive this year. GPCA as we all know very well can add value to a company.
- We are very grateful for the technology improvements that have been made the past year and a half at the GPCA office and we will continue to build on that foundation. Hopefully some of you were able to take advantage of our online registration. We are very excited that our website is more current, our find a company page is up and running, our social media efforts have grown and we have even incorporated on site payments through credit card with printed receipts. In addition, look around the conference and you will find charging stations, printers and more for your use! We want you to have access to technology that you might need while here at the conference.
- The GPCA is a thriving group, full of unique and talented members. We are leading the industry when it comes to pest control state associations. I commit to working very hard for the Association this next year and will continue to need each of you for support. It is an honor to serve the members and represent our Association on a state and national front. I will always be accessible to our members and will serve to the best of my ability. Thank you for this opportunity.

New Business: None

Respectfully submitted,

Connie J. Rogers

Mrs. Connie J. Rogers, Executive Director