



March 1, 2023
Volume 2, Issue 1

THE GNOPCA NEWS



NOTE FROM THE ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENT



DAVID BILLIOT
PRESIDENT

BILLIOT PEST CONTROL

Happy New Year to my fellow association members! It's an honor to serve as your president this year. I would like to encourage each member to stay involved in all of our endeavors throughout the year. It is only with the participation of our members that we can maintain our strength as an association. I would also remind everyone to visit gnopca.com to get information regarding any upcoming events and opportunities. I am looking forward to another great year!

It is the mission of the Greater New Orleans Pest Control Association (GNOPCA) to adhere to the highest professional and ethical standards of the pest control industry. This will be reflected in all aspects of the work performed by our member companies.

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PEST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL SPOTLIGHT



ANDRE WHITE

J&J EXTERMINATING

J&J Exterminating Pest Technician Andre White has been working in the pest control industry for over 13 years. Andre started out in a Termite Production role, completing countless termite barrier treatments. He then got promoted into a Termite Supervisor role before transitioning over to the Pest Control Department. Andre is a lead pest control technician and takes care of many, many customers in the New Orleans area.

Andre is a St. Bernard parish resident and was born and raised in the Violet area. He has been married for over 20 years and he and his wife have two children. His hobbies include cooking, spending time with his family, enjoying the outdoors, and attending custom car shows.

If you would like to nominate someone for a PMP Spotlight, Employee of the Year or speaker for a meeting, use the QR code below to reach the nomination form.



NAME THAT BUG

For this specimen, please provide the common or scientific name of this insect.

Submit your guess by using the QR code or link provided below by 3/31/23 to be entered into a raffle. The winner will be announced at the next membership meeting.



forms.office.com/g/vz1t94tbJb



Visit GNOPCA's website for recertification information and to become a member: www.gnopca.com

PEST FEATURE

DOG AND CAT FLEAS (*CTENOCEPHALIDES*)

Although there are both cat fleas (*Ctenocephalides felis*) and dog fleas (*Ctenocephalides canis*), the cat flea is by far the more common household pest and feeds on both dogs and cats. Morphologically these species are very similar and require examination under high powered magnification to differentiate. Pet owners alone spend over \$1 billion annually for flea control. Fleas are not only a nuisance but also cause flea allergy dermatitis (skin irritation) and can transmit tapeworms to pets.

In New Orleans, fleas can be found year round but their abundance peaks in the spring. Adult fleas live entirely on the host animal and drop up to 20 eggs per day onto the floor and furniture. Larvae develop in the carpet or under furniture before spinning their cocoon. They can wait in this stage up to 6 months and emergence is triggered by a nearby host via vibrations, pressure, heat, noise, or carbon dioxide.

Effective flea control requires a coordinated integrated pest management plan. This includes prevention through strict sanitation that will reduce habitats for developing larvae. Additionally, chemical treatment is important on both the animal hosts and indoor and outdoor surfaces. There are also parasitic nematodes that are labeled as biological control agents against flea larvae and pupae in outdoor spaces.



ADULT FLEA

PEST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL SPOTLIGHT



CHRIS CHENEVERT

THE BUG MAN

Chris has been with The Bug Man for 32 years and was named employee of the month for January 2023. Chris is every employer's dream technician! He is always on time, has unmatched customer service skills, is a great team player, and is always willing to learn more. He knows all his customers personally, as well as their families, which is why his customer retention rate is so high! Chris started out at The Bug Man planning to work temporarily while pursuing another career. 32 years later, he's still with The Bug Man and one of our top producers and most trusted technicians.

IN MEMORIAM: TERRY BOLOTTE

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

While collecting CDC mosquito light traps at Bayou St. John last October 2022, NOMTRCB employees Eric Guidry and James Beck found this ground beetle (Carabidae) in a red imported fire ant mound. Because they did not recognize it, they submitted a picture to iNaturalist where it was identified by experts as *Tetragonoderus laevigatus*. This species is invasive in the U.S. and so far has only been found in southern Florida. This observation is the first record of this species in Louisiana.



Field Jokes:

A termite walks into a bar and asks: "Is the bar tender here?"

A dung beetle walks into a bar and asks: "Is this stool taken?"

-Jeff Addison,
Pied Piper Pest Control, Inc

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Terry Bolotte on Saturday January 14, 2023. Terry worked his entire career in the pest control industry; starting in high school with his neighbor Savvy Caboni at Savvy Chemical in Jefferson, LA. Terry then built hundreds of spray rigs at Precision Pumps in Kenner, LA before coming to Univar as a Customer Service Rep /Rig Builder.

Terry was well respected in the industry and there are still Precision and VWR Rigs in use that he built. Terry retired about 10 years ago but would still stop by for Univar/Veseris customer events and Crawfish Boils and was always a call or text away when someone had an equipment question. Terry is survived by his wife of 44 years Gwen. He was 68. Services were private.

-Mark Pellitteri A.C.E.



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE UPDATES

In November 2022, LDAF had some rule changes that allowed us to update some of our processes to be easier and more efficient. Specifically:

We now have an Online Pre-Treatment Notification Form. This allows you to submit your pretreatment notifications via the online form which then sends a pdf of the completed form to the business as well as to the department: form.jotform.com/220094887097063

We also now offer computer-based licensee exams in the Baton Rouge office every Friday.



KELLY MOORE
DIRECTOR,
STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL

LPMA WINTER CONFERENCE

The Louisiana Pest Management Association (LPMA) Winter Conference was held on January 24-25th at the Marriot Hotel in Baton Rouge. This year, the LPMA completely revamped the conference and included expert speakers from within and outside of Louisiana. The conference featured Dustin James as the keynote speaker discussing leadership tactics to increase sales and resiliency through elevated workplace performance. Other speakers included LDAF Commissioner Dr. Mike Strain, Dr. Carrie Cottone, Mr. Ed Freytag, Mr. Andy McGinty, Dr. Melissa Thompson, Mr. Harry Bryan, and Dr. Aaron Ashbrook. In addition to the scheduled talks, there were evening cocktail parties with vendors and door prizes. This conference was well received by the many participants who look forward to future LPMA events.





SAVE THE DATE: BUGFEST 2023

OCTOBER 14

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

President: David Billiot - Billiot Pest Control,
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Vice President: Joe Martin - Terminix,
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Secretary: Lauren Addison - Pied Piper Pest Control,
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Past President: Chris Caire - DA Exterminating,
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Treasurer: Frank J. Fasone - Carrollton Pest Control,
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Ira Sommers - DA Exterminating,
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GNOPCA
Suggestion
Box

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING: MARCH 2, 12:00PM

Our next meeting will feature Dr. Mark Janowiecki, NOMTRCB, speaking about termite control since swarm season is quickly approaching. RSVP is required for this **FREE** lunch meeting at :

gnopca.com/march/march-2nd-membership-luncheon-rsvp



MARK JANOWIECKI

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2, 2023 GNOPCA Membership Meeting

March 9, 2023 NOMTRCB Special Topic Webinar with Dr. John C. Carlson "Immune reactions to insect bites"

March 15, 2023: GNOPCA Recertification (in-person)

March 16, 2023: GNOPCA Recertification including licensees (in person)

March 21, 2023: NOMTRCB Vector Preparedness Seminar pt 1

April 4, 2023: NOMTRCB Vector Preparedness Seminar pt 2

April 11, 2023: GNOPCA and Vesperis Vendor Night

April 18, 2023: NOMTRCB Vector Preparedness Seminar pt 3

April 25-27, 2023: NOMTRCB/LMCA Mosquito Academy

May 2, 2023: NOMTRCB Vector Preparedness Seminar pt 4

July 13, 2023: NOMTRCB Recertification (in-person)

September 14, 2023: NOMTRCB Special Topic with Dr. Mark Janowiecki "Stick Insects of the US"

September 20-22, 2023: GNOPCA/NOMTRCB Rodent Academy

October 3-5, 2023: GNOPCA/NOMTRCB

Termite Academy

October 14, 2023: New Orleans BugFest

October 25, 2023: GNOPCA Recertification (in-person)

October 26, 2023: GNOPCA Recertification (in-person)

Golf Tournament
Save the Date:
October 26



Join or renew your membership at
www.gnopca.com/2023dues
to obtain membership benefits.