Summer heat is beginning to hit Arkansas as we dry out from the spring rain and storms. I hope this edition finds you and your team seeing a lot of new customers. Whether ants or mosquitoes, summer brings profits for the teams that are ready for them. Hope that includes you.

This issue, I want to use this space to call out for a new key member of the Association’s team. As I write, we just paused as a nation for Memorial Day, to recognize the men and women who’ve given their lives in service to our country. We all owe them and all those who are and have served our country. One of the ways we can honor that sacrifice is employing our veterans.

In that vein, I want to introduce you to an initiative of NPMA called PestVets. It was created to actively promote recruitment of veterans. I encourage you to explore the website: http://pestvets.org. I would like to see our APMA establish a “PestVets Liaison” role to coordinate and communicate with the national organization. This would be a simple way to keep us connected. A PestVets liaison is added to the PestVets community site and is the conduit between the group and APMA. There isn’t much of a time commitment – other than sharing any activities with the state as either an article or a report. NPMA has approximately 20 liaisons right now – and growing!

If you or someone on your team would be interested in talking about this, please email me, c/o the Association at: office@arkansaspest.org.

Vance Walker,
APMA President
Top ten benefits of membership.

+ Targeted education
+ Complimentary human resource consulting
+ Employee recruitment tools
+ Fleet management
+ Royalty-free professional pest pictures at no charge
+ Background screening
+ Collections services
+ NPMA community web site
+ National consumer exposure to help grow your business
+ Coming soon: Health insurance exchange

Questions on any of these programs? Email npma@pestworld.org for information or visit the online member center at npmapestworld.org.

DON’T FORGET TO UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE!

You can:

• Identify the topics that are important to you so that we can send you information you want to hear about
• Update your service area zip codes for Find-a-Pro
• Add or remove employees from your company roster
• Download your membership certificate
Sometimes I wonder if we as Arkansans realize just how blessed we are to live in “The Natural State.” We have some of the best lakes, rivers, and streams scattered all across Arkansas. I think I’d rather be fishing with my twelve year old grandson this time of year than just about anything I know of.

We have a pond on our land that we like to go to where the bream and crappie are always biting. I try to make sure that I have enough fishing line on hand just in case we get lucky and a big ole catfish decides he’s ready for a snack. That’s usually when the nylon fishing line breaks and I have to take the time to re-string my pole. You see, that fishing line is only guaranteed to hold about 15 pounds. I wouldn’t think of using that same strength line to anchor my boat, but hundreds of those little strings woven together can make a nylon rope that will get the job done.

Just as those little threads are joined together for a bigger purpose, the APMA and NPMA gain strength in numbers, too. As the Vice President of the Association and Chairman of the Membership Marketing Committee, I’d like to encourage all of our current members to invite their employees and co-workers to join the APMA and NPMA in order to assure the future of our Association. There IS strength in numbers!

John Force,
APMA Vice President
Walking around your home or your garden enclosure you may have noticed, sometimes in a not so pleasant way, the upside down umbrella shaped home of the paper wasps.

These umbrella shaped wasps nests are built of gathered fibers from dead wood and plant stems. They mix those ingredients with their saliva which they then use to create water resistant nests that appear to be built from gray or brown paper like material. These nests are found under the eaves or protected locations around a structure. Most social wasps only use their nest for one season.

Males and queens are produced in an active colony in late summer. They mate and the new queens will overwinter in a protected site. The new queens will emerge in the spring and seek a protected site where construction of a new nest begins.

Once the new nest is constructed, eggs are laid in separate cell chambers. As the eggs hatch and the new larvae develop, they are fed pieces of insects by the queen and later by the workers. When the larvae reach their optimum size, they then spin a cap on the individual cell in which they pupate, to later emerge as a new adult member of the wasp colony.

These social wasps are not overly aggressive, but can be very protective of their nest site if they feel threatened. They are more aggressive protecting the nest in the fall as the new queens are developed.

Paper wasps are generally considered to be beneficial due to the fact that they feed the young a wide variety of insects, but can also be quite a nuisance when their nests are built near living areas.

Almost all species of paper wasps have colonies that die at the end of the season and do not survive the cold of winter. Only the newly inseminated females will survive the cold by finding a protected site in which to overwinter and emerge in the spring to start a new colony. Typically, nests are used only for one season and are abandoned in late fall as the new queens seeks to find an overwintering site. Only the dominulus paper wasp will reuse its old nest. By doing so, these nests can get quite large in size.

Paper wasps will hang their nests from twigs and branches of trees and ornamental shrubs, and these locations can cause concern when trimming hedges or picking fruit. Check these areas carefully before trimming or picking fruit to avoid interaction with defenders of the nest site.

If it is found that control efforts may be necessary, personal safety should be the first consideration. Protective clothing, heavy gloves and bee suits are recommended. Nests should be treated at night when possible or early morning when all members of the colony are present, using appropriately labeled insecticides. The continual removal of nests from structures over the warm months will reduce the likelihood of paper wasps being around in the fall to overwinter.

Use of professional pest control service should always be considered, as some species of paper wasps release an “attack pheromone” when they feel the nest is threatened. This can lead to a mass attack on the intruder resulting in multiple, painful stings.

Dwight Reynolds
APMA Secretary/Treasurer
Terminix International
(All photos courtesy of Terminix)
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# 2017 Committees

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# 2017 Calendar of Events

**General Membership Meetings (11:00 am)**
- July 21
- September 19
  *(to be held during September School)*

**Board of Directors Meetings (10:00 am)**
- July 21
- September 18
  *(to be held during September School)*

**All General Membership and Board Meetings**
- to be held at the Hampton Inn & Suites
- 1301 S. Shackleford Rd., Little Rock, AR 72211

**September Recertification & Trade Show**
- September 19-20
- Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, North Little Rock
  *For more details on events, please visit [www.arkansaspest.org](http://www.arkansaspest.org)*

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**Family-owned and operated since 1964,**
Atlanta-based Arrow Exterminators has grown to become the 6th largest pest control company in the United States with revenues exceeding $170 million. Now with the third generation of the Thomas family at the helm, Arrow is poised to achieve our vision of becoming the largest privately held pest and termite control company in the country.

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**Randy Nader,**
Business Development Manager
Former owner of Nader’s Pest Raiders
With great power comes great flexibility. Temprid FX has the powerful, co-milled, dual-active combination formula you trust for rapid and long-lasting control of hard-to-kill pests. And now you can use it in more places. This strength and flexibility gives you the added confidence to take on the toughest jobs. That’s bound to make you a hero.

Learn more at backedbybayer.com

Temprid FX OFFERS UNMATCHED STRENGTH WITH A NEW LABEL THAT’S MORE FLEXIBLE THAN EVER.

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The right product is just the beginning.*

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