



# NCPMA 2018 – 2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

BY BRUCE ROBERTS, NCPMA PRESIDENT



## Dear Member Companies,

As we wind down another membership year, I'd like to thank you once again for your continued support in advancing our industry through the efforts of our association. It's been an honor to serve as President of NCPMA. As I reflect on the last 12 months, it's with great pride that I can say we have achieved a lot together. For all those I had the chance to meet and to those long-time colleagues I got to see around the state, I appreciate your friendship and hospitality. I'm also pleased to report that the future of the association is in good hands, with a strong leadership and a suite of new projects and resources that are being developed on your behalf.

Below are just a few of the many accomplishments that we achieved this year, which were a direct result of the hard work of the NCPMA members.

**Fall Conferences:** Similar to past years, NCPMA continued to offer Fall meetings across the state for CCU's at no charge to technicians of member companies. This year we were able to get all the dates announced at the mid-Atlantic summer conference, so everyone had the ability to make plans to attend well ahead of time.

**Leadership Conference:** In November, we held our biannual United We Stand meeting which delivered a great platform for learning from industry experts for those in attendance. This year we featured many national industry icons, including the three Jenkins Brothers, Phil Cooper and incoming NPMA President, Chris Gorecki.

**PCT 2019:** In January, we hosted the PCT school in Raleigh with more than 1,000 people in attendance, breaking records and making this the largest conference in the association's history. Outside of the NPMA PestWorld, this is the largest gathering of industry folks in the nation. We spent a lot of time and effort recruiting some of the best speakers in the industry and offered new content, including a hands-on class, a full-day wildlife accreditation course and a new "Speakers Corner," allowing attendees to spend additional time with instructors. These additional courses will better equip our technicians to understand how to break down a compressed sprayer and clean it properly, calibrate spray rigs and spray units for the correct dosage, and properly follow the label.

Additionally, the NC Chapter of the Professional Women in Pest Management (PWIPM), continued to give back to the community through a coat drive while also launching the inaugural Administrative Professional of the Year award.

**Premier Technician Program:** With the success of our hands-on class, we researched and investigated Master Tech Programs in other states and are preparing our own Premier Technician Program which will launch at the summer conference in Myrtle Beach. The goal of this program is to increase industry knowledge for members of our association. This course will include a classroom and hands-on training component to further advance knowledge and understanding of pest management techniques.

**First Annual Legislative Day Reception:** Nearly 50 NCPMA Members joined us in Raleigh for the first annual NCPMA Legislative Reception, in which we had the chance to introduce ourselves to many new and tenured legislators in the state Capital. This forum allowed us the opportunity to not only build relationships with our elected leaders but also introduce folks to the important work our industry does to protect public health for the citizens of North Carolina.

**Leadership Planning Meeting:** The incoming Board of Directors met for two days this Spring to discuss the future goals, action items and projects that will take place during the 2019 – 2020 membership year. This planning meeting allowed us to begin work on the association's budget and make appointments for the many committees that undertake the work for NCPMA. If you are interested in getting more involved in NCPMA, I encourage and welcome you to serve on a committee this year.

**Spring Workshops:** In early Spring, we continued with our Spring workshops across the state, taught by Patty Alder of North Carolina State University (NCSU) to provide free CCU's and education in multiple locations so attendees can learn close to their offices.

**NCSU Endowment Fund:** Over the past few months we have had multiple conversations with representatives from NCSU. Our goal is to create an endowment fund that our industry and association can support to ensure the long-term future of pest management efforts by the faculty at the NCSU entomology department.

Again, I am honored to have served as President of this great organization this year and look forward to seeing you around over the next year.

Thanks,

*Bruce Roberts*

President NCPMA

