



## WASHINGTON STATE PEST MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

4600 Village Circle SE I Olympia, WA 98501

www.WSPMA.com I tbaker@wspma.com

# General Membership Meeting

March 1, 2018

Hood River, OR

Present: Many members

Call to order: 3:30pm

### Legislative Day Update

WSPMA President Luke Rambo along with Billy Olesen, Alfie Treleven and Larry Treleven represented Washington State Pest Management Professionals during this year's Legislative Days in Washington, DC. While there, they had the privilege of meeting with many WA legislators including Derek Kilmer and Denny Heck. They were able to discuss with them the important stance of pest professionals regarding mosquito control, bed bugs and many business taxes. Billy Olesen brought it to our attention that a partnership with legislation regarding bed bug assistance programs could be on the horizon. Olesen also noted that the NPMA Form 33 is being updated.

In addition to meetings, Luke was able to attend the Pest Management Foundation Gala along with the Treleven's. It was there that substantial monies were raised to help fund research projects.

Larry's full legislative report is below.

### NPMA At-Large Board Member Nomination

NPMA Members please vote for Billy Olesen for NPMA At-Large Board Member. It would be great to have him representing us on the National level.

### NPMA/WSPMA Relationship

While attending Legislative Day's Luke organized a meeting with some NPMA staff - Andy Architect and Kelly Harris. This meeting was designed to help repair a relationship between our two Associations that was wounded several years ago when the WSPMA declined NPMA's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Prior to the MOU, there were 110 WSPMA Members that were also Members of NPMA; that dropped to 29 after the MOU was rejected. With that behind us, the WSPMA Board is hopeful in being able to discuss and brainstorm ways to bridge the gap with NPMA while not sacrificing the foundation of the WSPMA.

Since the MOU, NPMA has restructured (yet again) their dues structure and a new rate structure will go into effect July 1.



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### WSDA Updates

#### Testing

The WSDA's fight to digitize continues! Before proceeding, there are WACs regarding the cost of the test that must be rewritten. To help combat the huge overload as the pest industry ramps up for Spring, the WSDA has arranged to host a large-scale test day on March 26 at the Red Lion in Olympia.

#### Ant Bait

There was a question posed to the WSDA regarding leaving ant bait for customers to put in place themselves. There was much discussion with the final thought being - don't leave product for the customer as it diminishes the value of the work we are doing.

#### Compliance and Ride-Alongs

Tim Baker, Luke Rambo and Corey Chantry have set up a meeting with WSDA to build the relationship between them and the WSPMA. Our goal is to help the WSDA understand our industry through some hands-on learning.

### Committee Reports

#### Education

Nick Grisafe will be speaking on pollinator health and pyrethroids at the March Workshop (Monday, March 18 – Kent).

Rick Mix has secured Fred Whitford and Mike Potter to speak at our Fall Seminars (Eastern: Thursday, November 14 and Western: Saturday, November 16). The show will be a big draw as always.

Our Leavenworth meeting is scheduled for August 22-24 and the events are plentiful.

#### Financial

Our revenue is up, our assets are up; all is good!



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### Government Affairs

Larry misses Hood River for first time since 1971.

"Legislative Day had another Wonderful Turnout in terms of contact, content, and participation. We had 5 people from the Northwest there: Alfie, AJ, and Larry Treleven, Billy Olsen, and Luke Rambo. We appreciate their time and effort on Capitol Hill. We visited 12 Legislative Offices which included Senator Murray and Senator Cantwell. We met directly with Congressman Derek Kilmer and Denny Heck. The purpose of our meeting was five-fold: 1: to thank them for their help in passing the 2018 Farm Bill which was a benefit for the Pest Management Industry. We asked them for their continued help on items that got stripped out of the Bill during the compromise deliberations such as NPDES Permits, Preemption, and modernization of the Endangered Species Act. WOTUS -waters of the United States - is particularly contentious because in was the intent of the Obama Administration to expand the jurisdiction of EPA and the various Environmental Coalitions to extend Federal and State control over ponds, ditches, and retention ponds, and irrigation systems. This is very restrictive to our industry as well. Especially for mosquito control. Last year there were 137 deaths from West Nile Virus alone. Those NPDES Permits are very costly, time consuming, and render control methods less effective. We also approached Congress for additional Bed Bug research. We thanked Congress for approving the 2018 revisions but they Sunset in 2026. We would like them to be permanent. We were able to raise an additional \$100,000.00 for the NPMA for the Research Fund and we increased our Political Action Funds to well over \$250,000.00. There are many more amazing, outstanding promotions that PPMA is conducting to promote the Pest Management Industry and each firm NEEDS to support this worthwhile endeavor."

### Conclusion of Business Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:25pm.