

"TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

November 2016

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Inside This Issue...

- The Case Of The Elusive Ants 1
- Rave Reviews! 2
- West Nile Threat Continues 3
- President's Economic Stimulus 3
- Fun Facts About Thanksgiving! 3
- The Mystery "Mite" Be Solved 4

The Case Of The Elusive Ants

Several years ago on a hot summer day in Orange County, Termite Terry got a call from a client who said that he had ants everywhere in his house and needed help. They discussed the problem for a couple of minutes and scheduled an appointment.

Termite Terry arrived at the house later that afternoon and asked if the client would show him around. They saw ants in almost every single room. When they went outside, large trails of ants could be seen crawling on the walls and all around the house. Termite Terry told the client that this was not going to be an easy job and asked for permission to inspect the house.

Termite Terry started his inspection by making a drawing of the home. He went back through every room and all around the house, noting all of the areas where he saw ants.

After he finished his inspection, Termite Terry showed the client what he had found. They both agreed that this home needed to be put on a monthly pest control service plan.

Termite Terry knew this project was going to be tough, so he scheduled a time when he could meet with his technician to do the initial service.

They both worked together and did a very detailed treatment on the inside of this home. Safety is always a top concern, so they only applied the pest control products in all of the cracks and crevices where the ants were hanging

out. They didn't put anything down in areas where the family members or pets could be exposed to these products.

When they went outside, Termite Terry told his technician that the first thing they needed to do was to find the nests where these ants were coming from. This takes a lot of time because you've got to keep following trails of ants until you find the source. Every time they found a nest, the tech would simply apply his product directly into the hole where the ants were living. By doing this type of treatment, they were able to eliminate many thousands of ants. This targeted type of treatment is also better for the environment because less insecticide is needed.

They left the house several hours later, thinking that they had done a pretty good job.

The client called a couple of days later and said that he was still seeing ants inside of his home. Termite Terry told the client that this sometimes happens and he scheduled a time to go back to do more treatment.

When Termite Terry and his tech got back to the client's house, they started by inspecting the exterior because Argentine ants live outdoors and usually only go into homes for food and water. The good news was that no ants were found on the outside – their exterior treatment had been successful. The bad news was that there were still some ants on the inside. Worse yet, they could not find

(Keep on readin!)

100 Years Ago . . .

Ruth Handler was born on November 4, 1916. She was an American business woman, co-founder of the Matel toy company and creator of the Barbie Doll. Over one billion Barbie Dolls have been sold since their introduction in 1959.

A Quote From Will Rogers

"A man only learns in two ways, one by reading, and the other by associating with smarter people."

Will Rogers, born November 4, 1879

Rave Reviews!

"I just wanted to thank you so very much for your inspection. Skip really educated me on termites and how to get rid of them. I really believe he cares about his work and wants to do the very best for the consumer. He showed me things that were very interesting about subterranean termites. When he showed me where I had them when I purchased the house, he could very easily have told me they were still there since the termite company who had tented the house didn't remove the little mud tunnels that were left after the tenting. Skip said they should have removed them so that I could see if new ones were there now. He showed me that there were none and knocked down the dirt tunnels. I really respect a company who is so dedicated to educating the homeowner even when they did it for free. The part that was amazing was that he said I had no new termites and that he would notify me next year for a check up.

Thank you so much and believe me, I am sure you will be getting referrals from me."

Janet Stapleton
Santa Ana

"I had Termite Terry Pest Control come out and give me an estimate for having my house fumigated. Both Terry and Jeff did a full walk through of my house and did their measurement on the outside. They explained the full procedure of getting my house fumigated, from start to finish. I thought their price was fair and I liked the guarantee they gave me with the estimate. They took care of everything that comes with getting your home fumigated. I thought they were professional and knowledgeable and their office coordinators were very professional, too. The fumigation was a success. Thank you!"

John Wendell
Huntington Beach

where the ants were coming from.

Terry and his tech did some additional treatment that day and told the client to let them know if the problem persisted.

Unfortunately, the problem did not go away and they wound up having to go back and do several more treatments.

After several weeks of these repeated visits, the client told Termite Terry that he was fed up and that he was going to call another company for help.

This ant problem puzzled Termite Terry and he was upset with himself for not being able to get rid of these ants. He apologized to the client and asked for permission to try one more time.



*"Termite" Terry
as Columbo*

Termite Terry and his tech went back to the house, determined to find the source of these pests. Again, there were no ants on the outside where you'd normally find them. The only places they could see ants were in the bath and kitchen downstairs and the second story shower. Termite Terry said to his tech, "There must be a connection here – the problem seems to be plumbing related. Let's go back up stairs and look at that shower."

Finding ants in the shower did not make sense because this shower was located in the middle of the house. There were no ant trails to follow in the shower when they looked and they

couldn't figure out how they were getting in there. By this time, Termite Terry was really getting upset and he could feel another migraine coming on.

They went up and down the stairs, looked outside of the house and still found no evidence of ants. They went back upstairs to the shower and just stared. Termite Terry then said, "Give me a screwdriver. I'm going to take the valve off and look inside of the shower wall." He carefully removed the shower valve and the wall literally exploded with ants.

It is no wonder that they couldn't see the ants before as they were completely hidden in the wall. "Okay, we found the ants. All we have to do now is to find out how they are getting up here," he said.

They went back downstairs to look for evidence but none was to be seen. Termite Terry said to his tech, "There is nothing here. All we see are covered walls. But, we do know that there is a shower located above us and we know there is a plumbing drain running down through this wall."

Terry and his tech carefully measured where they thought the plumbing drain was located and asked the client for permission to drill a small hole in the wall.

The client gave his okay and they fired up the electric drill. The ants did not like being disturbed and immediately started coming out of this hole, located at the bottom of this wall in the center of the house.

By this time, Termite Terry was feeling relieved that they had located the source. The areas were treated with a special insecticide foam that looks similar to shaving cream when applied. This type of foam is dry so it won't harm the wall. It also expands and spreads well into a hollow wall so as to provide good coverage.

They did the treatment in this wall and repaired the hole. They also went back upstairs, used the

also went back upstairs, used the same product to treat inside of the shower wall and replaced the shower valve.

The last treatment was successful and this client's home has remained ant-free for years, since.

Ladies and gentlemen, do you have a tough problem with pests? **Call us at (949) 631-7348** and we'll be happy to send someone to "investigate" your case.

Threat Of The West Nile Virus Continues

Fall is here, the weather is cooling off and you'd think that things would finally start to quieten down. But, in spite of the change of seasons, we are continuing to see an increase in West Nile virus and invasive mosquito activity.

The Orange County Vector Control District (OCVCD) is reporting that in 2016, they collected 403 mosquito samples that tested positive and found 82 birds killed by West Nile. There have been 27 human infections reported in Orange County.

Statewide, the number of infections is now at 306, up from 300 last year.

Experts predict that many more cases will be reported before the year is over and they are encouraging people to avoid mosquito-infested areas, especially at dawn and dusk. They also strongly recommend that you use a mosquito repellent if you are going into an area where you suspect mosquito activity.

The OCVCD is asking for your help in fighting this disease and you can start by looking for any signs of standing water around your home. Clogged rain gutters, buckets, cans, flower pots and old tires should all be drained. Pools, spas and bird baths need to be maintained on a regular basis or drained. They also ask that if you do find neglected pools or dead

birds, you should call the District at (714) 971-2421 and report them.

President's Economic Stimulus

The presidential candidates are in their final days of campaigning before the big election. President Termite Terry is doubling down on his Economic Stimulus Plan because he believes it's what we need to bring our economy back.

Here are just a few of your fellow citizens who have benefited from his Economic Stimulus Plan:

- Keith Kliner of Huntington Beach referred us to his parents, Norman & Karen Lane of La Palma.
- John & Tanya Campbell of Huntington Beach referred us to their neighbor, John Wendell of Huntington Beach.
- Troy & Diane Scott of Long Beach and Paul & Beth Janich of Huntington Beach, referred us to Mr. & Mrs. Sherrard of Huntington Beach.
- Susan & Danny Eun of La Mirada recommended our service to Lisa Ruel of Tustin.
- Mrs. Ferris of Los Alamitos referred us to her neighbor, Joe Ferrara, of Los Alamitos.

The President's plan is easy! All you have to do is simply refer us to someone who needs a termite treatment, wood repairs or a monthly pest control service. And, if they hire us, we'll send you a **\$50.00 Gas Card**. That is real economic stimulation you can bank on!

VOTE

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Fun Facts About Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving is coming up on the 24th of November, so let's take a look at some fun facts for this holiday.

- The first Thanksgiving took place in Plymouth County in 1621.
- Abe Lincoln declared Thanksgiving as a national holiday, thanks to the tireless efforts of a magazine editor named Sara Josepha Hale. She is also known for writing the nursery rhyme, "Mary had a Little Lamb".
- Turkey was not on the menu at the first Thanksgiving. Instead, they had items like lobster, fish, venison, cabbage, fruit, pumpkin and squash.
- The first time the Detroit Lions played football on Thanksgiving was in 1934.
- Benjamin Franklin campaigned for the turkey, not the bald eagle, to be our country's national bird.
- You can thank the Thanksgiving holiday for TV dinners. In 1953, the folks at Swanson misjudged the number of frozen turkeys it would sell on Thanksgiving. They had 26 tons of turkeys left after the holiday and someone came up with the brilliant idea of slicing the meat and packaging it as a meal with all the trimmings.
- Did you know that Black Friday is the busiest day for a plumber? No shopping for them that day – they are too busy cleaning up the mess!
- In case you were wondering, only male turkeys gobble. The females cackle.
- Did you know that turkeys have heart attacks? According to the Air Force, when they conducted test runs and broke the sound barrier, fields of turkeys would drop dead!
- Americans consume over 675 million pounds of turkey on Thanksgiving Day.
- Our oldest Thanksgiving parade is The Dunkin Donuts parade in Philadelphia. It was started in 1920.

A FREE Monthly Newsletter for Friends and Clients of:

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The Mystery Of Children Being Bitten “Mite” Be Solved

A mysterious rash outbreak occurred in mid September of this year at an elementary school in Orange County. The school district reported that about 30 students and 10 faculty members had been afflicted with this strange rash. I saw shocking photos of one student who had this rash and his back had a number of gross-looking red scars on it. Those photos were gross!

The Orange County Vector Control District was called in to investigate the situation and they quickly determined that the problem was not caused by bed bugs or mosquitoes. They did a further assessment the next day, but the results came back negative. The school district decided to have a pest control treatment performed on the entire campus later that weekend.

After treatment, the problem seemed to diminish but it was still present. At that point, they decided to bring in a person who specialized in mite control to look further.

The mite specialist did his inspection and discovered that one of the school’s playgrounds had wood chips that were infested with Mesostigmata mites. This specie of mite is a known blood-feeder.

School officials said that the wood chips were delivered in July of this year, but they are still not sure if the wood chips are the source of the problem or if the mites were just concentrated in that area. School officials have now started removing the wood chips from all of the areas where children play. They have also scheduled for more pesticide treatments to be performed.

No one knows for sure, but they “mite” have this problem solved. Let’s hope so because none of us wants to see anyone in our schools having to suffer with this problem any longer.



“Termite” Terry Singleton