

# "TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

**TOP SECRET**

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[www.termiteterry.com](http://www.termiteterry.com)

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## A Retrospective View Of Life In 1915

Happy New Year! We expect 2015 to be a great year and we wish everyone the very best. Have you made your New Year's resolutions? Are you going to be able to keep them this time? We hope you do but before you get carried away with all of your new plans, let's spend a few minutes and look at what life was like in 1915:

- The U.S. population was only 100,546,000. Today, our population is over 318,892,000!
- The average life expectancy was about 53 years for men. Women lived an average of close to 57 years.
- One out of every 10 babies died before their first birthday. For every 1,000 births, six mothers died during labor.
- A new Model T Ford could be purchased for only \$440.00. This was the first year these cars were equipped with electric lights and they were available "in any color as long as it was black."
- There were about 2.5 million cars registered in the United States.
- The U.S. House of Representatives rejected a proposal to give women the right to vote. In case you were wondering, both chambers had a Democratic majority.
- On September 11, the Pennsylvania Railroad started an electrified commuter rail service between Paoli and Philadelphia, using overhead trolley wires for power.
- The movie, "Inspiration" was released and was the first mainstream movie in which a leading actress (Audrey Munson) appears nude.
- The first transcontinental phone call was made when Alexander Graham Bell, in New York City, called his assistant Dr. Watson, in San Francisco, on January 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Corning Glass introduced the first glass ovenware made of a new, clear, heat-resistant material they named Pyrex.
- What did union workers earn?
  - Bricklayers earned as much as 87.5 cents an hour.
  - Carpenters could make up to 65 cents an hour.
  - Painters made up to 70 cents an hour.
  - Plumbers were up to 75 cents an hour.
  - Structural iron workers earned up to 70 cents an hour.
- Few homes had indoor plumbing. It took until 1940 for the number of homes with complete indoor plumbing to reach 55%.
- Maytag added a gasoline engine to their washing machines for homes that did not have electricity.
- "Hello, Frisco" was the number one hit song by Olive Kline & Reinald Werrenrath. The song celebrated the first coast-to-coast long-distance telephone call and featured the sounds of a ringing telephone.
- Close to 60% of children were enrolled in school.

(turn the page)

### 75 Years Ago . . .

On January 31, 1940, the first Social Security check was issued to Ida May Fuller of Vermont.

### A Little Humor From George Burns

*"If you live to be one hundred, you've got it made. Very few people die past that age."*

George Burns, January 20, 1896 to March 9, 1996

## Rave Reviews!

*“Thank you again, for the outstanding workmanship in taking care of my termite problems.*

*Skip is so thorough and conscientious. I feel as though I understand the extent of my damage and the proper method for controlling my termite problems after his inspection.*

*Each time I have needed service, I always ask for Skip because I know he will assess the problem and walk the project through to the end as it should be supervised. He is patient and knowledgeable.*

*I have had two projects in the past. One was my duplex in Costa Mesa, which had extensive fascia board infestation and therefore replacement of beams which was quite scary for me to deal with since it was structural. The building’s structural damage was restored and the termites alleviated. I secondly contracted with Termite Terry for my sister’s condo in Irvine, which had live infestation.*

*I know the difference in quality, since I, unfortunately, went with the lower bid from XXXXX Exterminators on my place in Irvine, and had one worker show up and leave within the hour. I know it was not well done by XXXXX Exterminators, so in the future I will be using Termite Terry and always request my trusted friend Skip.”*

Marcia A. Gahring  
Irvine

*“Thank you very much for arranging and estimating the needed dryrot repair at my corner roof.*

*Saul and Jose did an excellent job as I could view from my driveway, and worked efficiently, expertly and harmoniously.*

*Clean up was exceptionally careful and the extra work caused by swallows was graciously accomplished.*

*I very much appreciate how Skip, Saul and Jose carried out this job for me and I will definitely call on you again should I need help.”*

Eloise Krivosheia  
Brea

Only 13% of the students earned a high school diploma.

- The yearly median household income was \$687.00.
- The average costs for these items were:
  - Round steak sold for 23 cents a pound.
  - Eggs cost 34 cents per dozen.
  - Milk was 35 cents per gallon.
  - A loaf of bread was 7 cents.
  - Coffee sold for 30 cents per pound.
  - A ten pound bag of potatoes cost only 15 cents.
  - Gasoline prices rose to 25 cents per gallon.
  - A first class postage stamp sold for 2 cents.
  - Houses were only \$3,200.00.
- Droughts are nothing new in California. In 1915, the San Diego City Council voted 4-1 to pay a rainmaker named Charles Hatfield \$10,000 if he could fill the Morena Dam reservoir. Hatfield placed his secret mixture of 23 chemicals in large galvanized evaporative tanks and the rains came down heavily for days. The Morena Dam was filled, two other dams overflowed and another broke because of so much rain (Too bad he’s still not around when we need him so badly ☺)
- Sears sold kit homes in their catalogs. For instance, you could purchase their two-story, seven room “Phoenix” model for only \$1,271.00. The kit had all the materials needed to build the house, including paint.
- The price of silver was at \$1.29 per ounce and gold was at \$20.67 per ounce.

Can you imagine living today without a bathtub, radio, TV or smart phone? As you can see, life has really changed a lot over the last 100 years!



## UC Riverside To Release Wasps For Attacking The Asian Citrus Psyllid

The Asian citrus psyllid has devastated our nation’s citrus crops and there are no known pesticides to solve this problem. Fortunately, the researchers at UC Riverside are hard at work and have come up with another possible solution for this problem.

Two years ago, a tiny wasp from Pakistan, *Tamarixia radiata*, was released in Southern California to attack the Asian citrus psyllid. These wasps will now have a cousin to help in the effort.

About 300 *Diaphorencyrtus aligarhensis* wasps, also collected from Pakistan, will be released in one of UC Riverside’s research groves.

In 2012, Mark Hoddle, a biological control expert with UCR’s Center for Invasive Species Research, began releasing the first batch of wasps into groves in Southern California. This wasp lays its eggs on the larvae of the psyllid and when they hatch, they burrow into the animal and eat out its insides.

The new wasp, being released now, will work differently. This female wasp will inject its eggs into the larvae and when they hatch, they consume the animal from the inside out.

Extensive testing of both wasp species was conducted while in quarantine to ensure they wouldn’t have a negative impact on other parts of the food chain. The *Diaphorencyrtus* was in quarantine for three years.

Researchers do not see either of these wasps as a magic bullet but they do hope that they will help keep the Asian citrus psyllids from over-running citrus plants.

The *Tamarixia* has shown promise. Mark Hoddle said, “The California Department of Food and

Agriculture has released over 800,000 *Tamarixia*. It looks like it's established itself. It Blew up in Pauma Valley and really decimated the psyllid population there."

Mark Hoddle went on to say he will be pleased to see the parasite knock down 30 percent of the psyllid population. He is betting the new wasp will take care of another 20 percent.

Florida's \$9 billion citrus industry has been impacted the most by the psyllid and has seen a 41 percent drop in citrus production. The psyllids are now seriously threatening California's \$2 billion citrus industry and we really appreciate all of the hard work that our researchers at UC Riverside are doing for all of us.

## Are Lawn Shrimp Pestering You?

Terrestrial amphipods or "lawn shrimp" are pests that many of you have seen but probably don't know by name. It is common to see dozens of them on sidewalks, patios and migrating into homes after a heavy rain in Orange County.

These small pests are usually about ½ inch long, are pinkish/brown in color and have a "shrimp-like" form. Look close and you'll see they have two pairs of antennae, two eyes and they have leg-like appendages.

Lawn shrimp are scavengers and are usually found living under stones or decaying vegetation. They do not have a waxy layer of protection over their body as do insects. That means they will lose or gain moisture from their environment. If they lose too much water, that will result in desiccation and if they gain too much water, that is also lethal. When you see them migrating out of rain soaked areas, they are trying to keep from dying by gaining too much moisture. The ones that do escape from the

excess moisture will die quickly in the drier environment found within structures or on drying surfaces. Dead lawn shrimp are easily swept or vacuumed up and discarded.

There are no insecticides labeled for use on lawn shrimp, however, an application of a residual insecticide will accelerate their mortality in homes.

If lawn shrimp are a regular problem on sidewalks, patios or in structures after rains, you'll need to find a way to help dry out the mulch or ground cover near these areas. Excessive moisture conditions can often be corrected by improving drainage and by reducing irrigation. Weather stripping on the bottom of doors will help to keep these pests out.

During rainy weather, you may also find large numbers of these pests in swimming pools and they may even cause your pool filters to clog. So, it is important that you service your filters on a regular basis. Never apply any insecticides near a swimming pool.

The key to solving lawn shrimp problems is to control moisture. By reducing moisture, you will significantly reduce their population and you'll have much less of a problem during the rainy season. Do you need help with these or other pests? **Call our office at (949) 631-7348** and we'll be happy to schedule an appointment at your convenience.



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## Celebrating Wikipedia Day

Do you remember when we all used to go to a set of encyclopedias to find detailed information about a subject? For many of us, the way we look for information changed when Jimmy Wales and Larry Sanger launched Wikipedia on January 15, 2001.

Rick Gates first came up with the proposal for an on-line encyclopedia in 1993. However, the concept of a free-as-in-freedom online encyclopedia was first proposed by Richard Stallman in December of 2000.

One of the keys of Stallman's concept was that no central organization should control editing. This principle was in stark contrast with the other digital encyclopedias, such as Microsoft Encarta, Encyclopedia Britannica and Nupedia (Wikipedia's direct predecessor), where the content was edited solely by experts.

Wales and Sanger launched Wikipedia using the concept and technology of a wiki pioneered in 1995 by Ward Cunningham. They originally intended for Wikipedia to compliment Nupedia by providing additional articles and ideas for it. However, it wasn't long before Wikipedia overtook Nupedia and became a global project in multiple languages.

Today, Wikipedia includes nearly 34 million freely usable articles in 288 languages. The site receives over 85 million monthly unique visitors from the United States, alone. They have a total worldwide readership of about 495 million and are now the world's sixth-most-popular website. This free site is supported by the non-profit Wikimedia Foundation.

While Wikipedia is fast and very convenient, they do not guarantee the validity of all of the articles because anyone can contribute or edit the subject matter. If you are doing academic research, you need to be cautious when using information gathered on this site.

Wikipedia Day is on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January – the day it all started!

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## USDA Tells Americans: Kick The Cookie Dough Habit!

Our U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued an order that most Americans will find impossible to follow: stop eating raw cookie dough.

The USDA stated in its recent bulletin, “Avoid raw or partially cooked eggs or foods containing raw eggs, such as cookie dough.”

Following their recommendation and kicking this habit is going to have a major impact on millions of lives. Just think about it; have you been in the kitchen, baking cookies and invited your kids to scoop the batter out of the bowl? Maybe you are one of those who enjoys eating pre-packaged cookie dough? Or, are one of those people who eats cookie dough found in ice cream?

If you are going to use raw eggs in your recipes, you need to take special care. The high temperatures required to bake cakes and cookies are sufficient to kill bacteria. However, the USDA tells us that the raw eggs in cookie dough may present a hazard to children, the elderly and those with certain health problems – uncooked cookie dough is not safe to eat.

You should only buy eggs sold from a refrigerated case. Inspect the eggs and make sure they are clean and the shells are not cracked. Refrigerate eggs promptly and place the carton in the coldest part of your refrigerator – not in the door where temperatures may fluctuate. Store your eggs in their original carton and use them within three weeks for best quality.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration estimates that 142,000 people become ill each year by consuming eggs contaminated with Salmonella. Knowing how to buy, store, handle and cooks eggs is key.

Well, I’m getting hungry with all this food talk. I’m going to get myself some cookie dough ice cream or maybe a smoothie with a raw egg sounds better. Oh, wait! I’m suppose to be kicking this habit. This is going to be a tougher than I thought.



“Termite” Terry Singleton