

**Extension Comings and Goings**  
**From the Office of the Dean for Extension**  
**February 2008**

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**Streaming Presentation by Alan Long**

This edition's streaming presentation is a Forestry Extension Update by Alan Long, School of Forest Resources and Conservation. Viewing the presentation requires the Microsoft Explorer browser, Windows Media Player 9 and a relatively fast Internet connection. However for those using dial-up access, a modem version is also supplied, which plays an audio version of his presentation.

[Comings and Goings March -- Alan Long](#) (DSL or High Bandwidth Access)

[http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/ComingsGoings\\_Feb08/index.html](http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/ComingsGoings_Feb08/index.html)

[Comings and Goings March -- Alan Long modem](#) (Modem or Dial-up access)

[http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/ComingsGoings\\_Feb08\\_modem/index.html](http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/ComingsGoings_Feb08_modem/index.html)

**New Faculty** - Please welcome the following new faculty:

Barton Wilder, Ag/Natural Resources Extension Agent I, Alachua County, 02/08/08

Brooke Saari, Sea Grant/Marine Science Extension Agent I, Okaloosa/Walton County, 02/15/08

Timothy Pehlke, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent I, Orange County, 02/25/08

Courtney Davis, 4-H Extension Agent I, Glades County, 02/29/08

Also, please welcome Teresa Olczyk to her newly appointed position as Ag/Commercial Ornamental Horticulture in Miami-Dade County.

**Resignations** - We want to wish the following faculty the best of luck in their endeavors:  
Camille Reynolds, Orange County, Environmental Horticulture Extension Agent II, 02/22/08  
Devesh Nirmul, Pinellas County, Urban Environmental Sustainability Ext. Agent II, 02/29/08

**Retirement** - After many years of service and dedication Mary Jo Oswald (Sarasota County FCS Extension Agent II) has retired. We want to thank her for all of her contributions to UF/IFAS Extension.

### **Meet Your Specialist - Cliff Lamb**



*G. Cliff Lamb, Ph.D. (photo)*

*University of Florida - North Florida REC - Marianna*

*Email: [clamb@ufl.edu](mailto:clamb@ufl.edu) Tel: (850)482-9904*

Cliff Lamb came to the University of Florida from the University of Minnesota, where he was an Associate Professor/Beef Cattle Specialist focusing on reproduction. His specialty is in the reproductive efficiency of beef cattle and he also takes special interest in nutritional and stress-related influences on reproductive performance. In 1998, he received his Ph.D. in Reproductive Physiology from Kansas State University.

"My primary interests are spending time with my wife and three kids - especially when we are at our cabin relaxing in the water or on the boat. In my spare time, I have a keen affinity to almost any sporting endeavor such as golf, running, racquetball, scuba diving, and many extreme sports. As a native of southern Africa, I also spend time trying to keep up with the South African cricket and rugby teams."

**What Do They Do After the Fair?** - It's often a problem to get youth and parents to realize that a market animal project does not end on the last day of the fair. To increase the educational component of 4-H market animal projects, a new activity has been added to the Charlotte County livestock program - meat shopping and cooking. Fifty-three youth completed a fair-to-table experience by learning how to prepare different cuts of meat in several ways. Teams of members with beef projects practiced grilling, stir-frying, broiling, pressure cooking and roasting. Pork project member teams prepared meat by grilling, pan frying and oven roasting. All of the prepared dishes were shared by club members and their parents. In addition to learning which cuts of meat do well with different cooking techniques, this event provided an excellent opportunity to teach food safety, consumer skills, and teamwork. [Contact: Pamela Phillippe]

**One Wet Clean Up** - The Collier County Sea Grant Agent organized and coordinated a reef clean up on one of the county's most heavily fished artificial reefs after receiving feedback from local fishing guides. Cast nets, fishing line, anchors, and other gear accumulated on the Santa Lucian Reef for years creating hazards for marine life and anglers who visited the site. Partnering agencies included the county's Coastal Zone Management Department, the City of

Naples, Rookery Bay Reserve, and the Isles of Capri Fire Control District. Besides the fire district's search and rescue boat, two local guides donated the use of their boats to transport divers out to the site. Despite having to cut the clean up short because of rough conditions, the agent and eight other volunteer divers removed over 300 pounds of abandoned fishing gear off the reef. The agent also invited the local press to cover the clean up to help raise awareness about the hazards of abandoned fishing gear. As a result of the successful collaboration between the guides and participating agencies, future clean ups are currently being scheduled for the Santa Lucia and other reefs in the county. Both print and television media ran stories about the event and highlighted the importance of reef stewardship. [Contact: Bryan Fluech]

<http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2008/jan/14/tough-work-volunteers-divers-take-waters-clean-san/>

**Early Literacy Matters** - Literacy begins at birth and continually evolves through interactions with others and the environment in which a child lives. In partnership with the Family Support and Resource Centers, Extension conducted eight-week early literacy workshops for preschoolers and parents at three different locations in Hillsborough County. Twenty nine parents and thirty children, ages 3-5, participated in a total of 24 workshops that focused on teaching parents how to get their child ready to learn to read and write in English. Each lesson focused on letter recognition and sound identification. Activities to improve skills such as hand-eye coordination, small and large muscle development, communication and social proficiency were also included. The workshops also included a weekly parenting topic and discussion that related to the weekly children's book. For example: the book, *"Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed"* included a lesson on effective discipline for preschoolers, followed by a parent discussion on discipline. Seventy-five percent of the participants were Spanish-speaking families, so the workshops included tips on encouraging the use of English in daily life for the children so that he/she may be more successful when they enter kindergarten. A lending library was established. Sixty-five percent of the participants attended all eight sessions. Forty percent of the children increased their recognition of letters by 50%. The second series of the Early Literacy Program began in February at three locations. (Contact: Diana Converse)

**Little Organ Annie and Andy have been adopted by Pasco County!** - Thanks to a grant from the Kellogg Foundation, Annie and Andy and all their friends, "Organ Wise Guys," have found homes in Pasco County. The grant provided agent training, 4 large dolls with removable body parts (plush character toys representing heart, lungs, kidneys, etc.), and 3,520 educational materials/activity books with a total value of **\$28,000**. This information covers nutrition, health, physical activity, coping with disasters and other tragedies. These "Emotions Kits" were featured at the Pasco County District School Board's "Community Networking Event" in October, which 200 teachers and 100 school VIPs attended (including school guidance counselors, social workers and nurses). So far, 17 schools are piloting the materials in Pasco and reports with success stories are just starting to come in. [Contact: Betsy Crisp]

**Hispanic Partnerships: Educating the Green Industry** - The University of Florida/IFAS Sarasota County Extension sponsored their first ever, Spanish Version of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) Training and Certification Seminar. This program focused on water quality and non-point source pollution issues within the landscape. The event was attended by 36 Hispanic individuals from the local and surrounding counties. The event was coordinated by Sarasota Extension with the assistance of Alberto Chives, Rookery Bay, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Cesar Asuaje, Regional UF/IFAS Extension Specialist -Palm Beach County. Of the 36 participating individuals, two were qualified as future Spanish BMPs Trainers. Once the trainers have completed their training, they will instruct Hispanic audiences: landscape maintenance, irrigation and pest control technicians and managers. These two individuals have agreed along with their respective companies to provide instructional assistance free of charge to Sarasota County UF/IFAS Extension. This relationship will assist the Agent in meeting a critical educational need for Sarasota County. This unique partnership demonstrates the close relationship and goodwill both UF/IFAS Extension and the Green Industries share both locally and statewide. Encouragingly, it demonstrates the focus and responsibility that both identities share in educating the Green Industries. [Contact: Don Rainey]

**Reaching Out to High School Students** - Young people need to learn the issues and current research going on today so that they are prepared to enter college and choose a course of study that will impact our lives in the coming decades. Each summer, high school youth from across Florida comes to Florida 4-H Congress to interact with faculty and to learn about campus life. Florida 4-H Congress will be held July 21 - 25, 2008, on the University of Florida Campus. To make this a successful event, we need your help to provide innovative, cutting edge workshops on Thursday, July 24th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Workshops should be designed for an audience of 4-H members 14 to 18 years of age and be presented through an interactive, experiential learning approach in your classroom, labs, and in field experiences. For ease of helping youth select, we categorize each seminar into one of the following areas: Ag Literacy, Animal Sciences, Career Development and Workforce Prep, Citizenship and Leadership Education, Communication and Expressive Arts and Sciences, Environmental Education, Family and Consumer Sciences, Healthy Lifestyle Choices, Plant Sciences and Entomology, or Science and Technology.

This year the theme of Congress is *It's a Green Thing*, and we are focusing sustainability and conservation of our natural resources. Even though the Thursday workshops are centered around other programs areas, we would like for all the workshops to contain positive messages about the importance of our environment.

A Request for Workshops form is available by calling 846-0996 and asking for Daniel Meyers. Think about how you can recruit our next generation of scientists and professionals.

Extension Comings and Goings is a monthly newsletter distributed by the Office of the Dean for Extension via e-mail and on the Extension web site at <http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu>. If you have any suggestions or would like to submit your own recognition or short article of interest, please send them to Liz Perez at [lizann@ufl.edu](mailto:lizann@ufl.edu).