

**Extension Comings and Goings**  
**From the Office of the Dean for Extension**  
**[June 2007](#)**

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**Streaming Presentation by Barbra Larson**

This edition's streaming presentation is by Barbra Larson, State Coordinator for the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program. The presentation provided syncs streaming video of the presenter with her PowerPoint slides. 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 the presentation synchronized with their PowerPoint slides.

**[Comings and Goings June-- Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program](#)** (DSL or High Bandwidth Access)

**[Comings and Goings June-- Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program](#)** (Modem or Dial-up access)

**New Faculty** - Our Extension Family is growing. Please welcome the following new hires:

Mary Sowerby, NE Livestock/Dairy EA III, Suwannee County, 6/1/2007

Shane T. Michael, 4-H/ Youth Development EA I, Seminole County, 6/4/2007

Sarah T. Hensley, 4-H/ Youth Development EA I, Sumter County, 6/4/2007

Joy Hazell, Sea Grant/Marine Science EA I, Lee County, 6/12/2007

Holly Lyons, Environmental Hort, EA I, Indian River County, 6/15/2007

**Resignations** - We want to wish the following faculty the best of luck in their endeavors:

Elaine Davis, Pinellas County, FCS Courtesy Agent, 6/01/07

Darrin Parmenter, Palm Beach County, EA I, 6/29/07

Patricia Grace, Putnam County, Horticulture Courtesy Agent, 06/30/07

Meaghan Gullede, County Operations, 06/28/07

**Retirement** - After many years of service and dedication Joe Garofalo (Miami-Dade Extension Agent II) and Jack Hebb (St. Lucie County Extension Agent IV) have retired. We want to thank them for all of their contributions to UF/IFAS Extension.

### **Meet Your Specialist - Holly Ober**



*Holly Ober, Ph.D. ([photo](#))*

*North Florida Research and Education Center*

Dr. Ober came to the University of Florida from the Pacific Northwest where she examined food web interactions in forest ecosystems. Her specialties are wildlife-habitat interactions and she also takes special interest in the influence of vegetation management on wildlife, the influence of wildlife on plant succession, the response of wildlife to disturbance events, and meeting wildlife needs in human-dominated landscapes. In 2006, she received her degree from the department of Fisheries and Wildlife and the department of Forest Science at Oregon State University.

"I began working with wildlife in the southeast 13 years ago. After spending the past 9 years in the southwest and the northwest, I am glad to have the opportunity to return to the area that originally sparked my interest in working with wildlife. Florida (and much of the rest of the world) is currently in a period of rapid change. As the human population multiplies, the pressures Floridians place on natural resources are escalating, and many of the priorities of Floridians are shifting. As an ecologist in extension, I look forward to meeting the challenges of managing for wildlife in this rapidly changing environment, ensuring that native wildlife species remain a viable component of Florida ecosystems and a part of the lives of future generations of Floridians."

**Sea Grant Extension** - John Stevely and Don Sweat, Florida Sea Grant Extension Agents and Chuck Adams, Marine Economics Extension specialist were invited to Oregon to provide fish venting research and outreach activities at a workshop sponsored by the Oregon Sea Grant Program. They also conducted rock fish venting trials to demonstrate new techniques and tools for Oregon commercial and charter boat captains, as well as federal and state fishery managers. Florida Sea Grant Extension has pioneered these fish venting tools and techniques that have proved to lessen fish mortality for recreation and commercial fishers. Interest is being expressed for this program throughout the Gulf of Mexico and Southeastern United States.

**International Extension** - Mike Spranger, Associate Dean for Extension and Karen Blyler, 4H Marine Education Coordinator were invited by the Chinese Government to be part of an interdisciplinary team that investigated invasive species and mangrove restoration issues, explore research and extension mechanisms to deal with the issue, and develop future collaborative efforts. Other members of the U.S team were extension specialists from Oregon State University, Oregon Sea Grant Program, State of Washington Invasive Species Office, and a film crew from Oregon Public Broadcasting. During this two-week field trip, they toured a number of estuaries in the southern part of China, met with a number of provincial and national government officials and presented their recommendations to the Ministry of Forestry and Fujian Academy of Forestry.

### **State of Florida - Volunteer Administration Certification**

The Goal 3: 4-H Volunteer Focus Team is offering an opportunity for faculty to gain training in the development and management of county volunteers systems. Monthly follow up sessions designed to help you each step of the way will be offered via polycom or teleconference in 2008. The State of Florida Volunteer Administration Certification series is a cooperative effort of Volunteer Florida, the Points of Light Foundation, Florida Association of Volunteer Centers, and The Volunteer Center of North Central Florida. The series is designed to help both veteran and new volunteer coordinators organize, implement, and evaluate their volunteer programs. All participants that complete the training will receive the Florida Volunteer Administration Certificate at the completion of the course and test material. In addition this will be for in service credit. The in-service will be at Camp Ocala August 7-9. Registration information is being sent via Extension List Serv. In addition you can enroll via PDEC after July 2nd.

### **Awards and Recognitions**

**Mark Hostetler**, Wildlife Extension Specialist was the recipient of three 2007 Gold Achievement Awards from the Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals. He received the awards for Outstanding Team Award, Innovative Program Award, and Televised Conference/Videoconferencing Award for the "Living Green PBS Series" that he has developed.

**Lauren McDonnel** (School of Forestry) received a 2007 Gold Achievement Award from the Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals in the Video/DVE/CD category for her work in developing the "When Nature is at Your Doorstep," part of the Wildland-Urban Interface Project.

### **New Items for Sale at IFAS Bookstore**

[http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu/download/Visor\\_Ad.pdf](http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu/download/Visor_Ad.pdf)

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).