

Extension Professional Associations of Florida

“Charting Your Course for Success”

Renaissance Resort at World Golf Village—St. Augustine

21st PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACTS

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

8 am - Noon

Carrie Stevenson (Escambia County), Co-Abstract Chair and Co-Editor
Theresa Friday (Santa Rosa County), Co-Abstract Chair and Co-Editor

EPSILON SIGMA PHI – ESP Clay Olson (Taylor County).....	Ballroom E
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS – FACAA Pam Brown (Pinellas County)	Ballroom F
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS- FAE4-HA Bill Heltemes (State 4-H Office).....	Ballroom G
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES – FEAFC Kathy Bryant (Volusia County).....	Legends 2
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS – FANREP Andrew Diller (Escambia County) & Alyssa Dodd (Palm Beach County).....	Legends 1

EPAF offers our thanks to:

- **Dr. Larry Arrington and Dr. Millie Ferrer** of the UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service who funded the printing of this book and support professional improvement of Extension faculty.
- **The Abstract Chairs of ESP, FACAA, FAE4-HA, FEAFC and FANREP** who had the difficult task of reviewing and selecting abstracts to be presented.
- **All Extension faculty who submitted abstracts** – continue the excellent work!

MAP OF CONFERENCE FACILITIES

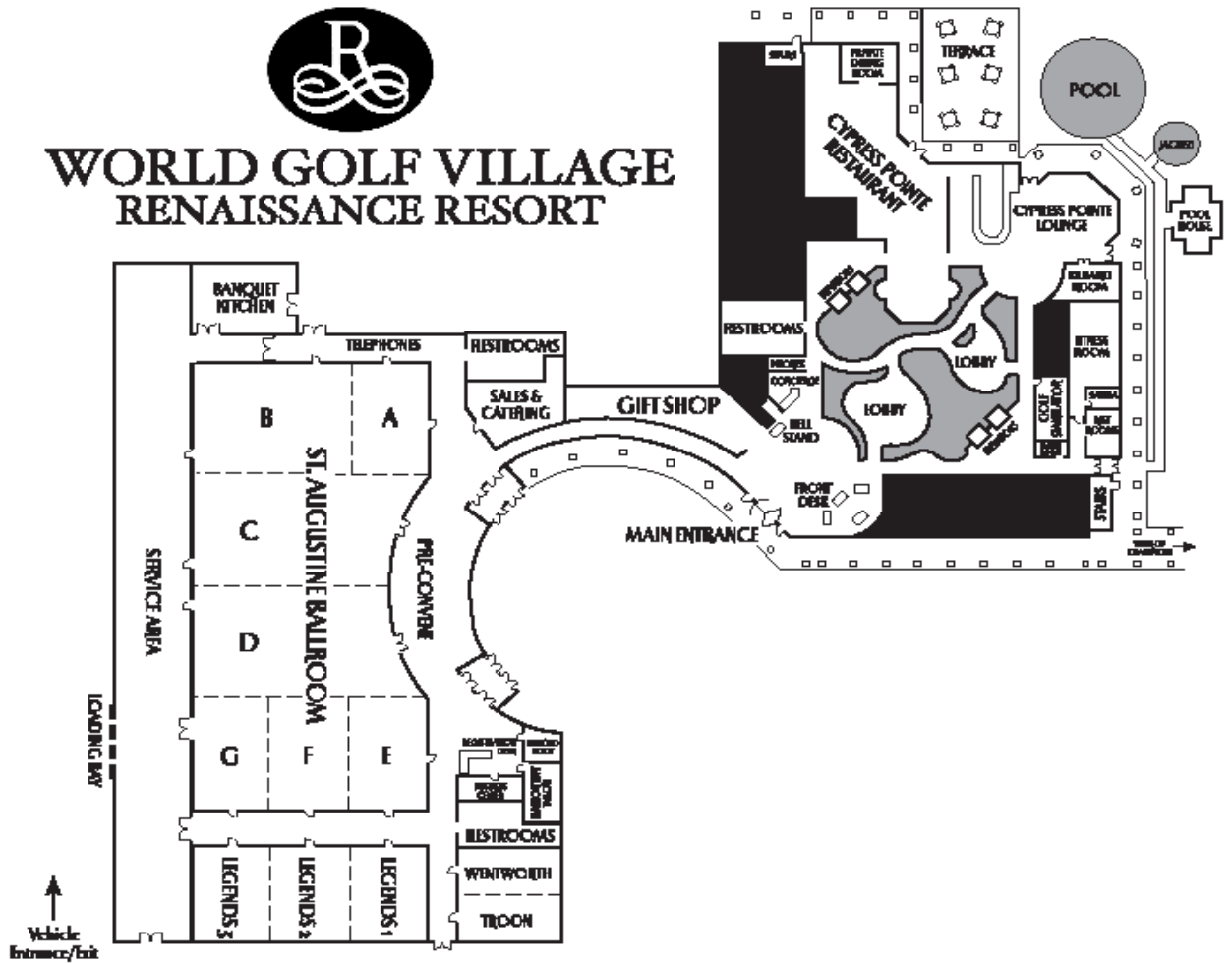


Table of Contents

Topic	Page
Map of Facilities.....	2
Schedule at a Glance	4-5
ESP Schedule	6
ESP Abstracts	7-13
FACAA Schedule.....	14
FACAA Abstracts.....	15-21
FAE4-HA Schedule.....	22
FAE4-HA Abstracts.....	23-29
FEAFCS Schedule.....	30
FEAFCS Abstracts.....	31-37
FANREP Schedule.....	38
FANREP Abstracts.....	39-45

Visit the EPAF website at <http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/> for an online version of this abstract book.

Conference archives include previous year's abstracts.

<i>Wednesday</i>	ESP	FACAA	FAE4-HA
TIME	Ballroom E	Ballroom F	Ballroom G
8:00	Introductions	Introductions	Introductions
8:15	Extending FYN Program Outreach for "Wait and See" Learners, T. Becker, p. 7	An Alternative Crop Study Tour—Visiting the "Price Makers", D. Mullins, p. 15	YES to Science After School Programs, J. Butterfield & H. Futch, p. 23
8:30	Capacity Building with Teen Mothers and Agency Staff Using Participatory Action Research Methodology, E. Bolton & A. Guest-Jelly, p. 7	Enterprise Lessons from the 2007 Small Farms Study Tour, G. Harrison & C. Adcock, p. 15	Clay County Jumping for 4-H, J. Schrader & B. Carlisle, p. 23
8:45	Collaborative Approach to Develop a Board Manual for a County 4-H Foundation, E. Bolton & L. Spence, p. 8	Small Farms Study Tour: Livestock and Marketing, J. Walter, R. Elliott, & N. Wilson, p. 16	High Content, High Context Youth Life Skills Development Through 4-H Vegetable Gardens, C. DeCubellis, p. 24
9:00	Small Farm Study Tour Evaluation Used to Identify Success Factors & Strengthen Cross-discipline Extension Program Planning, J. Breman, p. 8	The Broward County Mobile Extension Office: Simultaneous Events Countywide, J. Pipoly, III, p. 16	Junior Fitness Challenge: A Community Solution to a Community Problem, A. Galdames, p. 24
9:15	Break	Break	Break
9:30	America Saves Week Enhances Extension Programs, E. Courtney & L. Leslie, p. 9	Master Gardener Customer Service Program, E. Thralls, p. 17	4-H Middle Management Organizational Structure, R. Gore & K. Heimstra, p. 25
9:45	Polycom® Videoconferencing Expands and Enhances Extension Events, S. Park Brown & M. Andreu, p. 9	Manatee and Sarasota Commercial Horticulture—Expanded Outreach Program, D. Rainey, p. 17	Effective Volunteer Management for Area Horse Shows, B. Carlisle, p. 25
10:00	Election Day Outreach Opportunity, B. Jarvis, p. 10	Use of Two Predators in the Control of Flower Thrips, S. Shives, p. 18	What is a 4-H Project?, K. Henry & S. Hensley, p. 26
10:15	Get Checking: Extension Involvement in a National Initiative, A. McKinney & L. Leslie, p. 10	Methods for Providing Bee Programming Through Extension, R. Zerba, p. 18	4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Program Evaluation Study: A Teacher's Perspective Study, J. Hink, K. Fogarty, & D. Smith, p. 26
10:30	Break	Break	Break
10:45	Marketing Extension at the County Level, B. Miller & D. Marshall, p. 11	ReLeaf Osceola: An Educational and Tree Giveaway Program, J. Welshans, p. 19	Manners for the Real World, H. Kent, p. 27
11:00	Online Survey Websites Simplify Your Work, M. Norman, J. Jordan & D. Meyers, p. 11	First Annual Volusia County Wildflower Festival, D. Venrick, p. 19	GIS/GPS Mapping: Science Programs for Youth, A. Toelle, J. Stanford, & D. Nistler, p. 27
11:15	"Bodacious" Bluebird Project, R. Elliott, p. 12	Utilizing Volunteers to Implement Mosquito Control Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Practices in Bradford County Florida, J. DeValerio, p. 20	Maximizing Resources to Reach More Youth through the Gadsden County 4-H Summer Educational Day Camps, Y. Goode, p. 28
11:30	Incorporating 4-H Into Camp Barkly Day Camp, T. Tesdall, p. 12	Quail and Turkey and Deer, Oh My!, J. Selph & L. Halsey, p. 20	4-H Rain Gardens, J. Heady, p. 28
11:45	Defining Scholarship for County Faculty, M. Williams, p. 13	Pastured Poultry Production: A Viable Alternative, B. Burbaugh & E. Toro, p. 21	A 4-H Puerto Rico and Florida Exchange of Cultures, K. Roberts & I. Valentin, p. 29

<i>Wednesday</i>	FEAFCS	FANREP
TIME	Legends 2	Legends 1
8:00	Introductions	Introductions
8:15	"Super Hand" Hand Hygiene Program, E. Shephard , p. 31	Let it Role! Exploring Land Development, J. Gellermann & A. Dodd , p. 39
8:30	Partnerships Can Make a Difference—We are not Alone Anymore!, B. Hughes , p. 31	People-friendly Landscapes: Creating Environmentally Responsible, Therapeutic Environments, J. Sullivan , p. 39
8:45	Financial Management According to the Life Cycle, B. Williams , p. 32	No Woods Left Behind Day Camp, M. Boston , p. 40
9:00	Guiding Good Choices: Helping Parents Guide Their Children Through Early Adolescence, M. McAlpine , p. 32	Woods Walks—Real Outdoor Education, E. Foerste , p. 40
9:15	Break	Break
9:30	Consumer Choices: A Skill for Life, L. Royer , p. 33	Strengthening Natural Resource Partnerships and Outreach Efforts within County Government, J. Bradshaw , p. 41
9:45	WOW Homeownership Program, J. Gibson , p. 33	Festival Activities to Educate Children, J. Bargar , p. 41
10:00	Opening Doors to Asian Culture: The 2006 Food Safety & Quality Technical Tour in Thailand, C. Hill, R. Law-McCumber, A. Simonne, & E. Simonne , p. 34	Implementation of a Community-Based Boater Outreach Program, B. Fluech , p. 42
10:15	Orange County Healthy Kids Partnership Fitness & Nutrition (F.A.N.) Club, C. Mondelus , p. 34	Follow Your Fish: Redfish Tracking Project, E. Staugler , p. 42
10:30	Break	Break
10:45	World's Greatest Baby Shower, G. Whitworth, E. Shephard, K. Allen, & M. Bonsett , p. 35	Utilizing County Web-based GIS Tools to Conduct Virtual Site Visits, S. Jackson, B. Cameron, & S. Dunning , p. 43
11:00	Stealth Nutrition Programming Through Cross-Discipline Programs, J. England , p. 35	Design a Wildlife-Friendly Learning Station, T. Becker , p. 43
11:15	Real Colors: Exploring the Diversity of Temperaments, K. Headlee , p. 36	Developing the Tampa Bay Watershed-Forest Working Group to Enhance Sustainable Forest Management in a Rapidly Urbanizing Region, M. Andreu & R. Northrop , p. 44
11:30	Building Common Ground: Revitalization of Orange County Home & Community Education, M. S. Kennington , p. 36	First Detector Training in Florida: Educational Efforts to Promote Early Detection of Exotic Pests, J. Gillett , p. 44
11:45	Fun, Food, and Reading in Leon County, J. Shuford-Law , p. 37	Mangrove Appreciation, A. Post , p. 45

ESP Schedule

Ballroom E Clay Olson, ESP Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:00	Introductions & Procedures	Moderator—Clay Olson
8:15	Tom Becker	Extending FYN Program Outreach for “Wait and See” Learners
8:30	Elizabeth Bolton & Anna Guest-Jelly	Capacity Building with Teen Mothers and Agency Staff Using Participatory Action Research Methodology
8:45	Elizabeth Bolton & Lynda Spence	Collaborative Approach to Develop a Board Manual for a County 4-H Foundation
9:00	Jacque Bremen	Small Farm Study Tour Evaluation Used to Identify Success Factors and Strengthen Cross-discipline Extension Program Planning
9:15	Break	
9:30	Elaine Courtney & Lisa Leslie	America Saves Week Enhances Extension Programs
9:45	Sydney Park Brown & Michael Andreu	Polycom® Videoconferencing Expands and Enhances Extension Events
10:00	B. J. Jarvis	Election Day Outreach Opportunity
10:15	Anita McKinney & Lisa Leslie	Get Checking: Extension Involvement in a National Initiative
10:30	Break	
10:45	Betty Miller & David Marshall	Marketing Extension at the County Level
11:00	Marilyn Norman, Joy Jordan, & Daniel Meyers	Online Survey Websites Simplify Your Work
11:15	Roger Elliott	“Bodacious” Bluebird Project
11:30	Tracy Tesdall	Incorporating 4-H Into Camp Bark-ly Day Camp
11:45	Mary Williams	Defining Scholarship for County Faculty

Extending FYN Program Outreach for 'Wait and See' Learners

T. Becker*, Lee County Extension

Objectives: After completing a three-hour Florida Yard & Neighborhood class in Lee County, a homeowner is admonished to adopt nine FYN concepts when caring for their yard. Unfortunately, many adult learners need more to get started.. These 'wait and see' or transitional learners often request additional hands-on classes. **Methods:** FYN staff initiated two new learning experiences/exhibits for these learners. First, extension staff and master gardener volunteers constructed a new demonstration landscape consisting of nine, carefully laid-out learning stations. Second, a new, day-long advanced learning conference was planned at the start of the season. **Results:** 36% of the 132 conference attendees had previously attended an FYN class or tour. Only five percent were landscape professionals while 95% were home/condo owners. All were Lee County resident. **Conclusions:** One out of every three adult learners seeks additional help before adopting new yard Florida-Friendly practices. Learners attending the conference also showed a preference for informal learning and three, 30 minute breaks during the day to interact with volunteers stationed in the demonstration landscape. Both methods of outreach, the demonstration garden and the weekend conference, worked leading to 95 learners identifying 142 Florida-Friendly actions to save and improve water in their own yards. Practices identified are Right Plant, Right Place (43 practices), water efficiently (36 practices), fertilize appropriately (30 practices) and managing yard pests responsibly (23 practices).

Capacity Building with Teen Mothers and Agency Staff Using Participatory Action Research Methodology

E. B. Bolton*, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences; A. Anna Guest-Jelly* Graduate Student, Department of Family Youth Community Sciences.

This abstract highlights the theme of capacity building through the use of participatory action research (PAR) in a family literacy program involving teen mothers, agency staff, community stake holders and a graduate student in the UF Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences. The program is being developed at a residential nonprofit organization for homeless teen mothers in Alachua County, Florida. **Objectives:** To develop a collaborative network that utilizes the agency staff to improve the literacy and parenting skills of teen mothers residing in a nonprofit residential site. **Methods:** Participatory action research is the link that connects the literature, the methods, and the participants in the project to provide a cohesive program. Feminist methodology answers the call for a collaborative, learner-centered program through its emphasis on women's lives and the connections drawn from them. **Results:** The results are not yet definitive as the project is in progress although the PAR methodology provides for increased motivation and program participation. The collaborative of agency staff, outside expert, UF graduate student and teen mothers provides an effective network. **Conclusions:** The project is ongoing but the indications thus far are that the involvement of multiple educators and community participants will make a difference in the parenting skills and the reading accomplishments of the teen mothers. The implication for extension is the utilization of PAR methodology to approach complex situations involving multiple target audiences.

Collaborative Approach to Develop a Board Manual for a County 4-H Foundation

E. Bolton*, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences; **L. Spence***, Graduate Student, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences; **M. Morris**, Sarasota County; **J. Haley**, Sarasota County 4-H Board Member.

This abstract details the development of a Board of Directors Manual for Sarasota County 4-H Foundation. It was developed using the methodology of participatory action research (PAR) in which practitioners and researchers work together to resolve issues using the inputs from a broad set of perspectives. **Objective:** To develop a manual for 4-H Foundation Boards which could be used for member recruitment, board development, and organizational continuity. **Methods:** The collaborative approach of PAR was used to involve local 4-H staff and volunteers, a UF professor and graduate student, 4-H Board Members and Officers. Following contact by the UF faculty, the graduate student and the 4-H Foundation Secretary developed the components of the Manual over a period of 9 months. The components included: History; Board Composition with officer responsibilities, committees and duties; 4-H Staff with contact information and responsibilities; Strategic framework with mission and vision statement, current annual operating plan and strategic framework; Financial Overview including prior year report, most recent audit report, current annual budget, form 990, and other items; Fundraising model, and Controlling documents including articles of incorporation, bylaws and IRS determination letter. **Results:** The project was presented at the 2007 CYFAR Conference and the interest among 4-H professionals indicated the need for such a manual. The presentation and the response served to validate the need for the project and the generic contents provided as an example. **Conclusion:** County 4-H Foundations need an operating manual which can be tailored to their specific needs which may vary by county.

Small Farm Study Tour Evaluation Used to Identify Success Factors and Strengthen Cross-discipline Extension Program Planning

J. Breman*, Union County Extension; **R. Hochmuth**, Multi-county Vegetables & Small Farms Agent; **Danielle Treadwell**, Horticultural Sciences; **Linda Landrum**, Regional Specialized Agent - Marketing

Objective: Twenty UF-IFAS faculty from diverse disciplines and counties participated in a week-long in-service training of 24 successful southeastern small farms in order to strengthen Small Farms and Alternative Enterprise extension programs. **Methods:** To assess the impact of knowledge gained on future educational programming for Florida small farms (SF), faculty completed a written survey to identify key factors common to successful SF and to direct extension planning. A qualitative evaluation instrument included six questions: 1) Which factors were conducive to SF success? 2) What were SF constraints? 3) What were faculty short-term SF program goals? 4) What were their short-term goal restraints? 5) What were faculty long-term SF program goals? 6) What were their long-term goal restraints? **Results:** Ninety five percent of the faculty planned to modify current and future programs as a result of what was learned from the SFST, with consumer education being a common theme. The key identified constraints for Florida SF producers were regulatory. Extension constraints centered on infrastructure and staff support. **Conclusions:** A qualitative evaluation instrument can be used to record key factors leading to SF success, and guide a cross-discipline effort by faculty, when approached from

an extension programming perspective. Communicating results vertically and laterally within extension is important to program success.

America Saves Week Enhances Extension Programs

E. Courtney*, Okaloosa County Extension; **L. Leslie***, Hillsborough County Extension

America Saves is a national initiative to motivate people to build their financial wealth and reduce their debt. Nationally, the initiative is being coordinated by Consumer Federation of America with partnerships from many agencies including Extension. America Saves Week is designed to highlight the importance of savings and building wealth. **Objectives:** 1) Promote financial actions of savings and debt reduction; 2) Enroll "Savers" and offer them motivational/educational support; & 3) Promote UF/IFAS Extension as a source for financial education. **Methods:** Hillsborough and Okaloosa County Extension coordinate Tampa Bay Saves & Okaloosa Saves Coalitions. America Saves Week provided an opportunity to promote savings and debt reduction. Activities included: direct mail, media outreach, exhibits and displays, community workshops; Okaloosa Saves Piggy Bank Beauty Pageant, and two financial fairs. **Results:** Saves Week 2006 results from both counties: 461 savers enrolled (set wealth building goals); \$5800 donated toward Extension programs; 31 exhibitors at community financial fairs attended by 500 people; 27 workshops were held; publicity included TV, radio, newspaper, and newsletters. Thirty-five organizations/businesses partnered with Extension to support Saves Week events. Seventy-six youth participated in the "Okaloosa Saves Piggy Bank" contest and savings bonds worth \$1000 were awarded. Extension's involvement in Saves has led to funding and support for several series of in-depth financial education classes in both Counties. **Conclusions:** Extension involvement in the national Saves initiative has boosted the profile of Extension financial education programs and is fostering outreach to an increasing number of residents.

Polycom® Videoconferencing Expands and Enhances Extension Events

Park Brown, S.*, Environmental Horticulture Department; **Andreu, M.***, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Objective: To provide inexpensive educational training to an expanded audience using Polycom® videoconferencing technology. **Methods:** Two conferences were planned and conducted: A 3-day Master Gardener College (MGC) and an Urban Forest Inventory Systems Symposium (UFISS). Through the power of Polycom®, numerous sites were linked and Extension Specialists and professionals from around the state provided training without leaving their base of operation. Similarly, conference participants only needed to travel short distances to attend. **Results:** These programs can draw large audiences: 371 Master Gardeners from four counties received advanced training and the UFISS attracted 120 natural resource professionals from the public and private sector statewide. The UFISS conference was delivered at the Plant City campus but over 50% of the audience was at remote sites. Speakers incurred minimal time and travel commitments, and conference participants benefited from minimal travel and registration costs. Evaluations from the MGC showed that 58% felt that the reasonable cost of the program (\$5/session) affected their participation. 68% felt that training via videoconferencing was more, or as effective, than

traditional training. 92% stated they would attend future training if videoconferencing was used. The UFISS had similar outcomes. **Conclusions:** Extension events are often planned that are relevant to a statewide audience, but travel costs and time limit the availability of speakers and the number of participants. One way to overcome this challenge is to make the event available via Polycom® videoconferencing at multiple sites. A new EDIS publication on how to organize a videoconference is now available.

Election Day Outreach Opportunity

B. Jarvis*, Pasco County Cooperative Extension

Objectives: Many cooperative extension offices are co-located with polling centers including Pasco County. During the mid-term election of November 2006, CED/Horticulture Agent developed a Florida-friendly landscaping tabletop display and placed it in the garden near the only entrance to the polling station. **Methods:** As soon as the display was installed, voters began visiting the information table, taking brochures, asking questions and strolling through our garden. The display was in place from apx. 8 am until 12:30 p.m. when it started raining heavily. The Agent spoke with many who toured the demonstration garden, answering questions and providing educational materials. In addition, rain gauges, magnets, and Solutions for Your Life bookmarks were distributed. **Results:** Many positive responses were received as a result of the display. Numerous brochures were distributed. One elementary youth, conducting a science experiment, came to Extension for information later in the year. Many pests and plant problems have come for identification and recommendations, commenting that they “learned” about Extension at this display. And one local resident has become a Master Gardener as a result of this display. **Conclusions:** In the future, this concept could be improved by having the display up for the entire polling hours (7 am to 7 pm and praying for no rain), and staffing with a Master Gardener volunteer to answer more questions to invite participation. These can be incorporated at the next primary and/or general election anywhere in the State where the Extension office is co-located with a polling place.

Get Checking: Extension Involvement in a National Initiative

A. McKinney*, Duval County Extension; **L. Leslie***, Hillsborough County Extension

Get Checking is national program designed to help people who have mismanaged checking accounts and lost checking accounts privileges reestablish access to mainstream financial institutions. **Objectives:** 1) Enable un-banked residents to develop the financial management skills to successfully maintain a checking account, follow a budget, and use credit wisely. 2) Guarantee “Get Checking” class graduates access to a checking account. **Methods:** Participants attend a six hour class. The curriculum for the class, developed by Wisconsin Extension, covers: choosing and managing a checking account, budgeting, and credit. Students who complete the class and pass a competency test are eligible to open a checking account at participating financial institutions. Duval County Extension is the lead agency and educational partner for First Coast Get Checking in Jacksonville. Hillsborough & Pinellas County Extension serve as members of their local Get Checking coalition and are two of the four educational partners in their counties. **Results:** 327 people have graduated from these Get Checking classes in 2005 and 2006. It is estimated that un-banked

individuals spend \$200 per year in check-cashing and bill-paying fees. The cumulative economic impact to the 327 graduates for one year is estimated to be \$65,400 and much more over their lifetimes. Duval Extension has received \$10,000 in contributions and materials fees. Hillsborough & Pinellas Extension have received \$4,000 dollars in grant funding. **Conclusions:** Get Checking helps residents reestablish access to mainstream financial services. Extension involvement has also boosted the profile of Extension financial management programs in their communities and nationally.

Marketing Extension at the County Level

B. Miller*, Leon County Extension; **David Marshall***, Leon County Extension

As the looming property-tax issue threatens the existence of Extension at the county level, the Leon County Extension marketing plan moves into high gear. **Objectives:** To make citizens, county commissioners, and legislators aware of the impacts and cost effectiveness of our educational programs and of the nature of the partnership with UF-IFAS. To motivate clientele groups to get involved in the governmental process and communicate with the leaders. **Methods:** Convene County Director's Work Group including faculty, staff, advisory committee members, and volunteers to develop infrastructure and strategy. Communicate the impact of proposed budget cuts to identified advocates and provide them with talking points that they can use on our behalf. Foster and expand media relationships. Involve volunteers, through sub-working groups, in public relations work to publicize events and programs. Keep Leon County Extension in the news. **Results:** Leon County Extension survives the first threat of extinction. Advisory members and volunteers have established two-way communications with legislators and county commissioners. A quarterly media, *eXtension today*, has been created to provide a united message. **Conclusions:** It is critical that individual County Extension Offices move marketing our programs to the top of our priority list. Simply doing good work is no longer enough. Furthermore, it is critical that UF-IFAS Extension market County Extension Offices on a statewide basis so that citizens, legislators, and county commissioners understand the nature of the partnership.

On-Line Survey Websites Simplify Your Work

M. Norman*, State 4-H Office; **J. Jordan***, FYCS; **D. Meyers***, State 4-H Office

The availability of on-line survey companies shows great opportunity for use in Extension needs assessments and evaluations. With the United States Internet penetration rate at over 69.6% (Nielsen, November 2006), it is now possible to ask many Extension participants to assess and evaluate beyond the face-to-face encounters. For individuals without access to the Internet, a paper-based survey may still be entered for in-depth analysis on line. **Objectives:** This seminar will engage participants in learning about SurveyMonkey.com and provide a review of the analyzed results for informal and formal studies conducted during the summer of 2007. In addition, several on-line survey tools will be shared for use by faculty **Methods:** Participants will observe the on-line steps of survey construction, data entry, analysis, and use of filters on specific variables. **Results:** Faculty will receive written summaries of two completed studies: 4-H In-Service Needs of 4-H Agents and CEDs, and Summer 4-H Camp Evaluation. **Conclusions:** Constructing and analyzing program evaluation, needs assessment, or customer satisfaction through on-line survey websites can be an effective use of faculty and staff time.

“Bodacious” Bluebird Project

R. Elliott*, Escambia County Extension; **K. Brown**, Escambia County Extension; **J. Dillard**, Washington County Extension; **N. Crawson**, Holmes County Extension; **C. Adcock**, Washington County Extension.

Objective: Train two Master Gardeners and five Camp Timpoochee summer staff personnel. Pilot program on cavity nesting birds with an emphasis on Blue Birds with 100 4-H Youth. Develop and implement specific hands-on educational programs that will include nest box construction, nest box cut-out and assembly, habitat, site selection criteria, non-native species competition, recognizing Blue Bird eggs and nest construction, maintenance of nest boxes and trails, nest boxes hazards, and proper use of binoculars. **Methods:** An environmental education partnership was formed to develop a 4-H, field based, hands-on, service learning enrichment project to pilot at 4-H camp. Master Gardeners were recruited to cut out nest boxes and trained to help teach this program. Summer Camp Staff members were trained to help 4-H campers assemble nest boxes. They learned background information to enable interpretive instruction in the field. **Results:** Program piloted with 110 4-H campers from three counties at 4-H Camp Timpoochee during the summer of 2007. Surveys indicated that 100% of 4-H participants learned at least three things about bluebirds, and 82% indicated that it was their most favorite part of summer camp. Volunteers and summer staff all indicated they had increased their knowledge of blue birds. **Conclusions:** 100% of the extension agents involved indicated that they would continue 4-H blue bird projects in their individual counties. Each agent involved realized a need for a statewide curriculum in order to continue the project throughout the year with community based clubs as well as school enrichment.

Incorporating 4-H Into Camp Bark-ly Day Camp

T. Tesdall*, Leon County Extension

Objective: To combine the knowledgebase of an already existing day camp (Camp Bark-ly) and to integrate 4-H and positive youth development principles into the program. **Method:** Camp Bark-ly is a 5-day camp lasting two weeks (6-8 year olds, week 1; 9-12 year olds, week 2) coordinated by TREATS, Inc (an animal welfare nonprofit) and Leon County 4-H. For the previous eight years, the camp was coordinated by TREATS and the Tallahassee-Leon Animal Service Center. By partnering with Camp Bark-ly, 4-H was incorporated into the daily schedule. A 4-H youth development environment was created by meeting the needs of the youth through belonging, mastery, independence and generosity. The 4-H pledge was said each day, 4-H project books, including cat, dog, pets, rabbit and horse books, and the experiential model were used to teach concepts of animal care and the motto for the week: “protect, respect and never neglect your pet.” A camp counselor job description was developed and the Counselors received training in advance, along with counselor meetings following each day of camp. Pet and animal 4-H curricula to reinforce guest speakers were used. **Results:** Fifty-two youth, ages 6-12, four adult volunteers and seven teen volunteers participated in the day camp. Some problems the camp experienced in the past were eliminated through counselor training and taking into account the needs of youth. **Conclusions:** This was a natural partnership. It was a successful day camp that met the needs of the youth while meeting the expectations and requirements of TREATS and 4-H.

Defining Scholarship for County Faculty

M. Williams*, **A. Thien**, **S. Gaul**, **R. Jordi**, **M. McAlpine**, Nassau County Extension

The University of Florida expects that county faculty will engage in scholarship and participate fully in the promotion and tenure process. Nassau County developed a systemic team approach to the preparation for promotion and tenure, the classic demonstration of recognized scholarship. **Objectives:** Examine the promotion and tenure process and the scholarship of engagement as it relates to the role description for county faculty. Prepare county faculty to present a diversified portfolio of scholarly work in the tenure process.

Methods: The County Director orchestrated a series of monthly faculty development workshops to review and compare concepts of scholarly work for the county educator. We did a literature search for relevant support materials, and found Journal of Extension articles that helped us shape our own concept of scholarly Extension work. Each agent was responsible for teaching mini-workshops on current Florida expectations for successful promotion. Agents began a search for traditional and alternative publishing opportunities to enhance scholarly sharing for future promotions. **Results:** All agents reviewed writing samples and provided interactive constructive critique to the two agents writing their packets this year, and the two younger agents created frameworks for developing and demonstrating their own scholarly efforts. **Conclusion:** We can create a culture for scholarly continuity and sustainability by mentoring our new colleagues in county, district, and state teams. Successful retention of talented faculty will depend on their successful demonstration of scholarship through the promotion and tenure process.

FACAA Schedule

Ballroom F Pam Brown, FACAA Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:00	Introductions & Procedures	Moderator—Linda Seals
8:15	Dan Mullins	An Alternative Crop Study Tour—Visiting the “Price Makers”
8:30	Les Harrison & Collin Adcock	Enterprise Lessons from the 2007 Small Farms Study Tour
8:45	Joe Walter, Roger Elliott, & Nola Wilson	Small Farms Study Tour: Livestock and Marketing
9:00	John Pipoly, III	The Broward County Mobile Extension Office: Simultaneous Events Countywide
9:15	Break	
9:30	Ed Thralls	Master Gardener Customer Service Program
9:45	Donald Rainey	Manatee and Sarasota Commercial Horticulture—Expanded Outreach Program
10:00	Sylvia Shives	Use of Two Predators in the Control of Flower Thrips
10:15	Raymond Zerba	Methods for Providing Bee Programming Through Extension
10:30	Break	
10:45	Jennifer Welshans	ReLeaf Osceola: An Educational and Tree Giveaway Program
11:00	Dana Venrick	First Annual Volusia County Wildflower Festival
11:15	Jim DeValerio	Utilizing Volunteers to Implement Mosquito Control Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Practices in Bradford County Florida
11:30	Jim Selph & Larry Halsey	Quail and Turkey and Deer, Oh My!
11:45	Brad Burbaugh & Elena Toro	Pastured Poultry Production: A Viable Alternative

An Alternative Crop Study Tour – Visiting the “Price Makers”

D. Mullins*, Santa Rosa County Extension

Producers of conventional agricultural crops are facing serious financial challenges. Sale prices have fallen over the past several years, particularly for agronomic commodities, while the costs of production have continued to rise. This dilemma has caused many producers to seek alternatives. The study tour was designed to obtain information that will be helpful to producers as they consider transitioning to, or establishing alternative enterprises.

Objectives: To locate operations that have successfully established or transitioned to alternative agricultural enterprises. Schedule tour stops for each selected site and obtain production and marketing information. Deliver information to those who are considering alternative enterprises that will aid in the decision making process. **Methods:** The study tour was made possible through a six month professional development leave awarded by the University of Florida. Extension Agents in various locations were contacted asked to schedule two to three days of visits with the most successful, or most unique, alternative agricultural businesses in their area. A list of questions and points for discussion were prepared prior to each visit. The study tour included 99 site visits in 14 states and two Canadian provinces. Over 12,000 miles were traveled, and the experience was documented through 60 single spaced pages of notes and 1,050 photographs. **Conclusions:** Those who have successful alternative enterprises are good to excellent marketers and/or provide something unique. They tend to think like customers in making production and marketing decisions, not like farmers. By providing unique products or experiences they are “price makers”, not “price takers”.

Enterprise Lessons from the 2007 Small Farms Study Tour

G. Harrison*, Leon County Extension; **L. Seals**, Brevard County Extension; **C. Adcock***, Washington County Extension ; **L. Felter**, Mid-Florida Research and Education Center, Apopka

Objectives: To identify the characteristics which typify an economically successful small and/or limited resource farm. **Methods:** To visit a selection of successful small and limited resource farms in the southeastern United States with condition similar to Florida. **Results:** Every production unit visited during the 2007 Small Farms Study Tour had identified specific and narrowly defined target market segments which had several features: The market segment(s) sought a commodity that was feasible to produce locally; production inputs were obtainable and priced at an acceptable level; the market segment could be served while producing an acceptable economic return (profit); the market segment has an economically sufficient number of consumers with economic resources and obtainable price expectations; established or accessible marketing methodologies exist to communicate with the prospective target segment(s). The ultimate marketing objective for every producer was to sell all available production at a maximum price. Marketing strategies were tailored by each producer for the individual target market segment(s). Common elements in all marketing strategies were: Alerting the targeted market segment to the availability of the product(s) in demand; positioning the product(s) in the market place against other, if any, competitors; establishing the value to product purchasers; and promoting the benefits of the available packaging size(s). **Conclusions:** Small and limited resource farmers must identify and serve specific markets to maintain economic viability and continue their production activities.

Marketing, pricing and product availability were all subject to adjustments and changes based on the demands of the market segment served.

Small Farms Study Tour – Livestock and Marketing

J. Walter*, Brevard County Extension; **F. Beckford**, Lee County Extension; **R. Elliott***, Escambia County Extension; **N. Wilson***, Marion County Extension

Objective: To increase agents' awareness and knowledge of innovative successes of small farmers in other states. Agents will implement innovative strategies pertinent to their county.

Method: During the week of May 14 to 20, 2007, 20 Extension Agents toured 25 various small farms in Georgia, South and North Carolina. *This team* focused on the livestock aspect, with the intent to gather relevant information which could be used to benefit small livestock farming interests in Florida. Observations on all aspects of enterprise management including: production systems and techniques, financial, market sources, and marketing techniques. Farm managers were questioned about all aspects of enterprise and whole farm management to ascertain the economic and environmental conditions and influences under which they conducted business. **Result:** Eight livestock farms and a farmers market were visited. Agents will use ideas and situational analyses gathered during the tour to develop benchmarks for a comparative analysis of livestock development, farming trends and needs in Florida. The analysis gathered will be used to inform small farm decision makers, to develop niche marketing ideas and techniques, to formulate program strategies for small farm development and improve livestock productivity. **Conclusion:** This small farm tour far exceeded expectations of the agents and provided an educational experience that could not be gained at a traditional in-service training.

The Broward County Mobile Extension Office: Simultaneous Events Countywide

J. Pipoly III*, Broward County Extension

Broward County Master Gardeners (MGs) number in excess of 100 on the active roster, with approximately 20 being added annually. Last year, MGs donated over 5,600 hours of service while assisting over 5,000 clients in the office, on the phone and through emails. The MG program instituted a speakers' bureau composed of Master Gardener volunteers and Urban Hort staff, who jointly counseled, held clinics for, and spoke to over 23,000 residents in 2006. **Objectives:** To geometrically increase Program Impact. **Methods:** "Mobile Extension Offices (MEOs)" are being provided to a local (city) MG volunteer Coordinator, usually a MG mentor, who then stores the "mobile office" at their home, where it can easily be accessed to deliver programs on our behalf. The "MEOs" include a filing box with the latest reference materials from EDIS on gardening, FYN materials, FEPPC reprints, *Flora of Florida* news, and the author's original research reprints. Each MEO has a 1 GB flash drive with targeted talks for elementary and secondary schools, garden clubs, homeowner associations and others. Talks include "Things That crawl," "Butterfly Gardening," "Broward Native Plants and Their Habitats," "Basic Pruning," "Landscape Design," "Dealing with Drought," and "Backyards as Wildlife Habitats." **Results:** This approach allowed us to have 11 simultaneous programs this past Earth Day, serving over 1,700 clients. This system increased our impact geometrically, heightened local

communities' recognition of Master Gardeners and opened advisory board positions to them, while enhancing community appreciation for Extension's work.

Master Gardener Customer Service Program

E. Thralls*, Orange County Extension

Objectives: With a move to a new facility, the Orange County Master Gardener Coordinator wanted to improve office automation for Master Gardener Volunteers and remove bulletin boards cluttered with miscellaneous notes and documents. It was desired that access to the most commonly used Electronic Digital Information Source (EDIS) documents be retained onsite in the event of loss of service to the Internet. **Methods:** A hypertext markup language (html) program was created to provide single "point and click" access to documents stored on a computer hard drive. All documents were created in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF). Up to date, most commonly used EDIS documents were downloaded in PDF format to the computer hard drive. Veteran Master Gardener Volunteers actively participated with validation and quality control of the program. **Results:** Speed of service has improved. The office looks more professional. Should there be a loss of connectivity to the Internet, more than 250 most commonly used EDIS documents are readily available and can be provided to customers. **Conclusions:** The "learning curve" was slower than expected as some volunteers were reluctant to change the way of doing business. Once trained on the new program volunteers are thankful to have information they normally use at their fingertips, as information is no longer in file cabinets or thumbtacked on a bulletin board. The files are easily updated and better maintained than with previous methods.

Manatee and Sarasota Commercial Horticulture— Expanded Outreach Program

D. Rainey*, Sarasota County Extension; **P. Dessaint**, Manatee County Extension

Objectives: Employees of commercial landscape and pest management companies in Manatee and Sarasota counties will have expanded access to professional development training in UF/IFAS Extension through a more efficient two-county outreach program. **Methods:** 1) Engaged in extensive joint planning, teaching and evaluation with county and state faculty, industry representatives, and advisory committees. 2) Focused on Green Industry business needs—Continuing Education Units for pesticide applicators, certified arborists, and golf course superintendents; and Best Management Practices certification for new Sarasota County Fertilizer Ordinance. 3) Trained support staff to produce uniform registration and other administrative procedures. 4) Improved marketing by developing the *GatorSheet*, an easily identified listing of semester offerings; and coordinated joint bulk mail-outs. 5) Took turns hosting events in each county, and shared responsibilities for implementing event details. 6) Posted the registration forms and training information on the Web. **Results:** For 2006 program year, and winter/spring 2007, 1,522 participated in 26 training events. Evaluations and follow-up surveys showed high levels of satisfaction, knowledge gained, and practices changed. **Conclusions:** Based on increased number of participants compared to previous years and positive evaluation results, our extensive collaborative efforts resulted in a successful Expanded Outreach Program. We plan to build on this success by further streamlining delivery methods and offering new teaching venues.

Use of Two Predators in the Control of Flower Thrips.

S. Shives*, Manatee County Extension; **K. Oliver**, Manatee County Extension.

Thrips are becoming a greater problem in the blooms of plants in ornamental nurseries. Chemical sprays are inadequate because they cannot penetrate into the blossoms where the thrips are protected; many chemicals cannot be applied to the blossoms without causing damage; and thrips species resistant to chemicals are becoming established.

Objective: To evaluate the value of using two beneficial insects, *Amblyseius swirski* (Swirski mite), and *Orius isidiosus* (Minute Pirate Bug) as control agents for flower thrips.

Methods: Releases of Minute Pirate Bugs and Swerski mites were made on plots of Gardenias and Oleanders which were heavily infested with flower thrips. One-hundred flowers of each species were examined weekly and a count was made of flowers positive for the presence of thrips. Data was entered into an Excel spreadsheet and graphed. **Results:**

Thrips populations in the gardenias and oleanders dropped dramatically following the initial release of predators. Excellent control was maintained in the oleanders. Although thrips' numbers increased again in gardenias, the predators kept the thrips' numbers at low levels.

Conclusion: Based on this preliminary study, the use of these beneficials can be a very useful tool in controlling flower thrips. More trials are planned to back up these results and to identify the effectiveness of each bio-control agent separately.

Methods for Providing Bee Programming through Extension

R. Zerba*, Clay County Extension

Objectives: In light of the pending arrival of Africanized Hybrid Bees to North Florida, there was a need to provide more information to the public on bees so they did not over react to this new honeybee strain by banning beekeeping from portions of Clay County. This was made difficult because of people's natural fear of stinging insects – how could you get them to a program on honeybees? Approaching the topic through a “backdoor approach” made sense. **Methods:** Using local beekeepers conducted a Honey Appreciation Day. Presented material that brought an understanding of how important honeybees are to our food

production through their pollinating activities (responsible for 1/3 of the food we eat) as well as producing a natural agricultural product (honey) – at the same time calming fears about honeybees seen in their landscape. **Results:** At this one day program 55 residents learned about honey, and bee products while also being introduced to what will happen when AHBs arrive in our area. A survey documented a satisfaction level of 9.4 out of 10.0 with 94.6% of respondents stating they felt less threatened from managed bees and 94.6% stating they better understood the AHB situation as a result of this program. 100% said they would be sharing information learned. **Conclusion:** This program was judged successful based upon feedback from those attending. It should be repeated in future years and encouraged in other portions of the state.

ReLeaf Osceola: An Educational and Tree Giveaway Program **J. L. Welshans***, Osceola County Extension

The tree canopy of Osceola County was significantly diminished due to the three hurricanes that passed over the region in 2004. **Objectives:** To provide free trees to homeowners, homeowner associations, and private businesses to renew the tree canopy of Osceola County. **Methods:** University of Florida IFAS Osceola County, with funding by the U.S. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Grant and Florida Division of Forestry, developed a countywide program entitled, ReLeaf Osceola. The ReLeaf Osceola program is designed to reestablish the tree canopy in the county through an educational and tree giveaway program. In order to receive a free tree, residents must attend one of the educational programs. The educational programs contain information on the recommended trees for Central Florida, tips on selecting a good quality tree, how to correctly plant the tree in the landscape, and proper tree maintenance procedures, including pruning. After the program, participants receive a voucher for a free 3-15 gallon tree to redeem at one of the local participating nurseries. **Results:** Nearly 4,000 trees will be distributed to residents, homeowner associations, and other private property owners through the ReLeaf Osceola program by the end of the grant period in November 2007. **Conclusions:** From attending the educational programs, participants gained knowledge on the proper planting and establishment of trees, which will increase the survival rate of the newly planted trees and in turn reestablish the tree canopy of Osceola County.

First Annual Volusia County Wildflower Festival

D.M. Venrick*, Volusia County Extension; **D.T. Griffis**, Volusia County Extension

Objectives: The primary objective was to have a Wildflower Festival in Volusia County. Secondary objectives were to demonstrate to growers how to plant wildflowers for profit and to encourage plantings of wildflowers by homeowners. **Methods:** A committee of 17 people was formed in June, 2006 representing Volusia County Extension, County of Volusia, River of Lakes Heritage Corridor, FDOT, Volusia Master Gardeners, and eight other organizations. The committee applied for a Florida Wildflower Advisory Council grant. Wildflowers were grown at the Volusia County Agricultural Center. Speakers were scheduled for educational sessions, vendors were asked to bring industry products, and field trips were arranged. A winning children's art contest drawing was emblazoned on wildflower T-shirts. Over \$1,900.00 was spent on advertising. Numerous articles appeared in the media. **Results:** A \$2,815.00 grant was awarded by the Florida Wildflower Advisory Council. The Wildflower Festival was held on Saturday, March 31, 2007 at the Volusia County Fairgrounds. Over 250 people, growers and homeowners, listened to four different guest speakers, visited 16 different vendors buying over \$1600.00 of wildflower seeds/potted plants/T-shirts, or went on three different field trips. Attendees saw a beautiful display of wildflowers. **Conclusions:** The Wildflower Festival was a great success. The team effort between the Florida Wildflower Advisory Council, Volusia County Extension, River of Lakes Heritage Corridor, and many others demonstrated to large numbers of growers and homeowners, through outstanding publicity and attendance at the festival, how to grow wildflowers for profit and how to use them to beautify roadsides and landscapes.

Utilizing Volunteers to Implement Mosquito Control Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Practices in Bradford County Florida

J. DeValerio*, Bradford County Extension; **R. Connelly**, UF/IFAS Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory

Objectives: The objectives for the volunteer program were to assist county mosquito control efforts and to enhance public awareness regarding mosquito control. **Methods:** The volunteer group "BUZZ BUSTERS" implemented IPM strategies by collecting larvae and adult mosquitoes for identification and quantification by the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory. The volunteers worked under a certified mosquito control applicator so they could apply *B.t.i.* (a bacterial strain used specifically for the control of mosquito larvae) and Agnique (a surface film that prevents adult mosquito emergence from the aquatic habitat) when surveillance indicated that the timing was appropriate for these methods. When mosquito populations reached critical thresholds, the mosquito control agency was notified as to which zones needed to be sprayed for adult mosquito control. *Gambusia* minnows were reared with the assistance of Bradford County Schools. The minnow rearing provided learning opportunities in the classroom and were used for biological control of mosquito larvae. **Results:** Volunteer recruitment and public awareness were accomplished using a variety of media including print, radio, workshops and personal instruction. The equipped volunteers collected mosquito samples throughout the county for the entire mosquito season. **Conclusions:** The BUZZ BUSTER program was successful in that technology was transferred from the university to the citizens of Bradford County which resulted in better mosquito control and an increased sense of community that was created by citizens working with a variety of agencies toward a common good.

Quail and Turkey and Deer, Oh My!

J. Selph*, DeSoto County Extension; **L. Halsey***, Jefferson County Extension; **W. Giuliano**, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Department; **W. Sheftall**, Leon County Extension; **K. Candelora**, DeSoto County Extension

Interest in managing lands for improved wildlife habitat has increased, as evidenced by USDA WHIP programs and by advisory committee input reflected in county Plans of Work. County and State Extension faculty seek to deliver high impact/high quality educational programs to assist in improving habitat and wildlife management. **Objectives:** Events to educate landowners, managers, hunters, and other wildlife enthusiasts on the ecology and management of bobwhite quail, white-tailed deer and turkey in Florida. **Methods:** Quail Shortcourses (Arcadia, 2005; Monticello, 2006) and Deer/Turkey Shortcourse (Arcadia, 2006) were hosted. Information presented was science-based from many sources: landowners, the hunting industry, academia, non-governmental organizations, and natural resource agencies. Planning for North Florida course included Georgia border county agents. Shortcourses (Deer & Turkey/Quincy, Quail & Dove/Arcadia) are scheduled, fall, 2007. **Results:** Of respondents in three evaluations, 94.9% indicated they would share information gained with others. 78.3% intended to implement wildlife management programs. In a one-year follow-up survey (Quail/Arcadia), 71% replied they had indeed implemented new management practices. Streaming video or written transcripts of Shortcourses are available at <http://wildlifeandag.wec.ufl.edu/assistance/Courses.htm>. **Conclusions:** Level of attendance, enthusiasm and evaluation comments, and quality of

program presenters have been high, warranting continuation. Downloadable proceedings and taped presentations allow larger audiences to benefit from Short courses.

Pastured Poultry Production: A Viable Alternative

B. Burbaugh*, Duval County; **E. Toro***, Columbia County

Pastured poultry production offers real opportunities to increase farm income in ways that are environmentally sustainable. However, there is little information or training available on alternative poultry production and farmers are forced to spend valuable time and resources climbing the learning curve and making costly mistakes. **Objectives:** Develop pastured poultry information and training for small farmers and Extension Agents. **Methods:** A resource kit was developed and distributed to county offices throughout the state. The kit was designed to provide Extension Agents and Farmers with up-to date pastured poultry resources. The kit contains publications, fact sheets and a CD. The topics in the resource kit include: poultry system options, materials and equipment needed, production basics, strategies to maximize foraging and marketing opportunities. Additionally, hands-on training sessions held in different locations trained farmers in all aspects of pastured poultry production. **Results:** The resource kit proved to be a valuable asset to new and potential pastured poultry producers, providing information on how much money and time they can expect to invest in this enterprise. It also gave them the tools to overcome challenges in marketing and processing their poultry. **Conclusions:** Pastured poultry can be an excellent supplementary enterprise (under 1,500 birds per year) on diversified farms, particularly if these farms already direct market other farm products. The success of primary pastured poultry enterprises depends on several important off-farm variables including access to state or federally inspected processing facilities and effective marketing mechanisms.

F AE4-HA Schedule

Ballroom G Bill Heltemes, FAE4-HA Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:00	Introduction & Procedures	Moderator—Bill Heltemes
8:15	Judy Butterfield & Heather Futch	YES to Science After School Programs
8:30	Jackie Schrader & Bridget Carlisle	Clay County Jumping for 4-H
8:45	Chris DeCubellis	High Content, High Context Youth Life Skills Development Through 4-H Vegetable Gardens
9:00	Anna Galdames	Junior Fitness Challenge: A Community Solution to a Community Problem
9:15	Break	
9:30	Renne' Gore & Kelley Heimstra	4-H Middle Management Organizational Structure
9:45	Bridget Carlisle	Effective Volunteer Management for Area Horse Shows
10:00	Karen Henry & Sarah Hensley	What is a 4-H Project?
10:15	Jean Hink, Kate Fogarty, & Diana Smith	4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Program Evaluation Study: A Teacher's Perspective Study
10:30	Break	
10:45	Heather Kent	Manners for the Real World
11:00	Andrew Toelle, Jevetta Stanford, & Debbie Nistler	GIS/GPS Mapping: Science Programs for Youth
11:15	Yolanda Goode	Maximizing Resources to Reach More Youth through the Gadsden County 4-H Summer Educational Day Camps
11:30	Jennifer Heady	4-H Rain Gardens
11:45	Kathie Roberts & Ivette Valentin	A 4-H Puerto Rico and Florida Exchange of Cultures

YES to Science After School Program

J. Butterfield*, Central District RSA; **H. Futch***, Hamilton County Extension

The YES to Science After School Program was initiated by a 5-year grant awarded through the Children, Youth and Families at Risk Initiative. The program has completed its 3rd year of funding and is making an impact on the disadvantaged youth of Bradford County.

Objectives: 1) improve homework skills; 2) provide homework tutoring; 3) improve science grades through programming. **Methods:** A needs assessment was conducted; results showed that the community wanted to see homework help and a safe place for children to go after school. The program targeted 3rd-5th graders from 2 schools where over 55% of student were on free/reduced lunch. With 5 youth in regular attendance and two program assistants, the program taught science skills in plants, foods and nutrition and rocketry.

After the first year, program administrators met to assess how to reach larger numbers and decided to move to a larger and more accessible venue. After the 3rd year, regular attendance was 22. Faculty have put in a garden, hatched "chicks", and taught sewing.

Results: Teachers and parents have observed improved pro-social behaviors at home and school. Teacher survey reported improved grades, punctuality and accuracy in homework.

Youth formed a 4-H club and have become more involved. **Conclusions:** As a result of this program, youth have increased science skills; learned to cooperate with one another; and increased decision making skills. They have learned better study habits, goals setting and communication skills. Community members are supportive of this program, and are working on a sustainability plan.

Clay County Jumping for 4H

J. Schrader*, Clay County Extension; **B. Carlisle***, Clay County Extension

Objectives: To raise a substantial portion of our operating budget each year and increase current savings for the Clay County 4-H Foundation. Develop affiliations with other organizations in the county to promote 4-H and add new members and leaders. **Methods:** This fund-raiser, in partnership with North Florida Hunter Jumper Association, is a one day event beginning with a carnival and ending with an International Grand Prix Horse Show. The day begins with 4H members selling hand stamps for carnival rides and manning the rides to check these stamps. These rides are for young children such as blow-up slides, face painting, and pony rides as seen at bazaars and similar functions. Hand stamps are sold for \$5.00 each and this entitles purchaser to unlimited rides. 4-H clubs can also set up their own fund-raising or marketing exhibits to advertise their club. The evening horse show is televised and 4H members are encouraged with prize incentives to be in attendance.

There is no horse show admission but all must pay \$5.00 to park. **Results:** In January, 2007, this event raised \$20,036.00 for the Clay County 4-H Foundation which represents 49% of the operating budget. **Conclusions:** Working in partnership with local organizations is a successful way of marketing the program and raising funds. These organizations provide volunteers and ideas that add to the quantity and quality of our success.

High Content, High Context Youth Life Skills Development through 4-H Vegetable Gardens

C.D. DeCubellis*, Gilchrist County Extension

Objectives: Sponsoring a county 4-H vegetable garden project is an excellent way to provide a high content, high context life skills development opportunity for youth. **Methods:** Following a garden plan, youth are provided seeds to plant a 20 foot by 26 foot vegetable garden. Youth purchase six tomato plants to include in their garden. Youth learn how to select a garden site, how to take a soil sample for IFAS testing, how to properly prepare and amend their soil, proper fertilizing techniques, proper irrigation techniques, and cultural practices to care for a spring vegetable garden in Florida. Youth are encouraged to keep a garden record book, and do a demonstration at the club level on their garden. 4-Hers are evaluated through garden judging, exhibiting vegetables, and record books. Results are given at an awards assembly following vegetable display judging. **Results:** 4-Hers learn a variety of life skills through gardening including decision making, record keeping, enhanced self-esteem through success in the project, the project helps develop a work ethic in the youth, and the project promotes a healthy lifestyle through developing an enjoyment in gardening as well as youth learning how to utilize the fresh vegetables they raise in their family's diet. **Conclusion:** A vegetable garden project is a good choice for youth that draws on the very roots of 4-H. Success with a vegetable garden can help young people develop life skills, learn and practice horticultural skills, and can be a part of a healthy lifestyle.

Junior Fitness Challenge: A Community Solution to a Community Problem

A. Galdames*, Collier County Extension

Experts agree that child obesity is a multi-faceted problem. **Objective:** Decrease and prevent child obesity by promoting opportunities for physical activity, while increasing access to health, nutrition, and fitness education for youth and their families. **Methods:** A triathlon including a swim, bike, and run was designed for youth participants. Following the event, several health partnerships in Collier County assembled education booths to present information on topics such as nutrition, portion distortion, healthy snacking, and bicycle maintenance. Program sustainability was increased by providing four training sessions leading up to the event, including demonstrations regarding the importance of proper nutrition and hydration during exercise. Twenty-five bikes were donated from the impound lot of the Collier County Sheriff's Office and repaired by a local organization called Bikes for Tykes for underprivileged youth in need of bikes. **Results:** The Junior Fitness Challenge had approximately 160 youth between the ages of 6- 14 years old participate by swimming, biking and running. The 4-H program was advertised on ABC and NBC news, and the Collier Citizen paper. Awareness of 4-H was increased by reaching out to a different audience and intertwining health and education in a way that will positively affect youth and provide more resources in the community. **Conclusions:** Additional 4-H Healthy Lifestyles Clubs are being developed. Current discussions are also underway with a local coalition and the non-profit housing group in Immokalee to provide youth with training on repair and use of bikes.

4-H Middle Management Organizational Structure

R. Gore* 4-H, Brevard County Extension, **K. Heimstra***, RSA North West

Objective: The objective is to educate 4-H volunteers and agents on an organizational structure of the County based 4-H Program. It enlightens them to areas where volunteers can contribute and take ownership in a middle management system to facilitate the program delivery in single agent or larger urban counties. **Method:** Presentations to 4-H Volunteer groups, Volunteer Leader Training, Agent Trainings to educate them about an option in structuring the county based 4-H Program that allows volunteers to be recruited and take ownership for middle management roles to help the county program reach a wider range of youth with quality positive youth development program implementation.

Results: The 4-H advisory boards, volunteer leaders, parents and agents have a better understanding of the organization of the 4-H Program to assist the agent in the delivery of a quality positive youth development program thus increasing the involvement in the program and maximizing the agent's time as an extension educator as opposed to a activity coordinator. **Conclusions:** When Agents and Volunteers use the middle management system they are more comfortable with delegation of responsibilities in a team approach under the supervision of the county 4-H Agent. Volunteers can participate more fully as a team with agent to impact positive youth development. Use of such a system can provide program stability.

Effective Volunteer Management for Area Horse Shows

B. Carlisle*, Clay County Extension; **B. Heltemes**, Northeast District Extension; **S. Kraatz**, Duval County Extension; **D. Nistler**, Duval County Extension; **G. Sachs**, St. Johns County Extension; **L. Simmer**, St. Johns County Extension.

Area 4-H horse shows help in achieving the goals of the 4-H horse program. The planning, execution, and evaluation of an area horse show requires a team of individuals that are willing to make significant contributions to the process. **Objectives:** To involve horse leaders in the planning, execution, and evaluation of the area horse show. **Methods:** Horse leaders from each of the counties that comprise Area B are invited to attend Area Horse Advisory Committee Meetings. The committee is comprised of one adult and one youth voting delegate from each county. At these meetings, volunteers share horse programming activities in their counties and exchange ideas. Volunteers are fully involved in the planning, execution, and evaluation of the area horse show. **Results:** Nearly 100 youth participate in the Area B 4-H Horse Show. A total of approximately twenty volunteers are utilized in the execution of the horse show. Four Extension Agents oversee the planning, execution, and evaluation of the show. Volunteers have ownership of all aspects of the area horse program. **Conclusion:** By including volunteers in all aspects of the area horse program, volunteer utilization is maximized. Agents are able to oversee and manage the program, but the actual functions are carried out by volunteers. This partnership allows for a more successful area horse show, minimizes conflict, and allows agents more time to focus on other 4-H programs in addition to the horse program.

What is a 4-H Project?

K. Henry*, Osceola County Extension; **S. Hensley***, Sumter County Extension

The purpose of this abstract is to share with Extension staff the importance of the “4-H Project” and to provide a better understanding of *What is a 4-H Project?*. **Objective:** For Extension agents to have an understanding of the essential elements of a “4-H Project” and be able to apply that information to county programming efforts. **Methods:** To define a 4-H project, to demystify myths pertaining to what is a 4-H project, to provide examples of appropriate uses of the 4-H project terminology, to share examples of experiential learning techniques that can be used in volunteer leader training and to share the importance of linking events and activities to 4-H project work. **Results:** Extension agents will be able to identify the essential elements of a 4-H project and apply these principles to his/her county programming. **Conclusion:** Participants will understand the importance of relating all Extension youth programming to a research based model that includes having activities that follow 4-H project work. “What is a 4-H Project” fact sheet will be given to attendees as well as a reference sheet.

4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Program Evaluation Study: A teacher’s perspective Study.

J. Hink*, Pasco County; **K. Fogarty***, State Specialist; **D. Smith***, Manatee County.

Objectives: The goal is to share how a simple survey of the 4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Program can assist agents, and school administrators with program evaluation and accountability. **Methods:** A simple evaluation tool of youth life skill outcomes measured six different communication skills: (1) making a presentation; (2) listening carefully to what others say; (3) clearly stating thoughts, feelings and ideas to others; (4) improving self-confidence; (5) comfort in standing in front of a group; and (6) organizing their thoughts. **Results:** In 2006, 95 teachers in Pasco County participated in an evaluation of this program and in all six communication skill sets; pre- and post-test measures indicate a statistically significant improvement via paired sample t-tests. According to open-ended responses in the evaluation, the most important gain reported was the self-confidence that children developed through presenting speeches that they can organize and express their thoughts into a concise presentation in front of a group. **Conclusions:** The results of this partnership are evident in the confidence displayed by young people in making prepared or extemporaneous presentations later in their school and professional careers. By teaching effective speaking skills, students develop poise and self confidence, an important characteristic at such a young age. They will continue to develop these skills as they prepare for higher education and the challenges of everyday life. The 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program offers young people this opportunity and teaches them to be better communicators - a skill which will benefit them throughout life.

Manners for the Real World

H. Kent*, Jackson County Extension

Objectives: The objective of this program was to teach youth communication skills such as introductions, polite conversation, electronic etiquette and social skills such as sportsmanship, flag etiquette, table manners, and responsible citizenship. These marketable skills are necessary for work and life. **Methods:** This program was loosely based on the 4-H project curriculum called "Manners Matter" by North Carolina Extension. Fifteen skill-a-thons stations were developed by the agent to supplement the curriculum. Each station included an introduction to the topic, hands-on activity and experiential learning questions. To pilot the program, a 3-day day camp was held. Each day focused on a different etiquette topic (communication skills, table manners, and public manners). Activities were taught by teen counselors. On the last day, a reception was held for the parents and 4-H participants to practice party manners. **Results:** The program was evaluated using pre and posttests to measure knowledge gained, and a follow-up survey measured behavior change. The pre and posttests indicated that youth's subject matter knowledge increased by 87%. Seventy-three percent of youth indicated that they planned to use the skills they learned at home, at restaurants, and with friends. Seventy-one percent indicated that the program helped them make better decisions about manners. Fifty-eight percent of parents indicated that they had seen an improvement in their child's manners since attending camp. **Conclusion:** This program was a fun way to teach marketable skills to youth, and the format could easily be adapted for after school or club programs as well.

GIS/GPS mapping: Science programs for youth

A. Toelle*, Duval County Extension, **J. Stanford***, Duval County Extension, **D. Nistler***, Duval County Extension

Objective: Students will learn how to use a handheld GPS unit and the basic concepts of GIS mapping. **Methods:** A curriculum and program was developed as part of a GIS/GPS grant and six classes were conducted in a school setting to teach youth the basics of GIS/GPS. These lessons covered how GPS works, the basics of GPS, introduction to GIS mapping, Basics of GIS mapping and developing your own map. A teacher was recruited to learn and team teach the program with the agent. J. Stanford assisted in developing the GIS portion of the curriculum. Youth learned how to utilize handheld GPS units and the basic of GIS mapping. **Results:** Youth demonstrated through field exercises and classroom computer work how to: enter and locate way points in GPS hand held units, utilize GIS maps, and develop personal maps. **Conclusions:** This program was well received by both students and teacher. The teacher reported that students were more engaged in science lessons when the information was related to the GIS/GPS program. This program would be difficult to replicate without an external source for funding. The computer software and GPS units cost \$3,000.00 or more. Computer power is another concern. Older computers had great difficulty running the GIS program.

Maximizing Resources to Reach More Youth through the Gadsden County 4-H Summer Educational Day Camps

Y. Goode*, Gadsden County

Desiring to increase the number of youth reached through the 2006 Gadsden County 4-H summer educational day camps, an alternative approach needed to be found. **Objectives:** 1) Partner with other summer youth programs to reach at least 200 youth with a minimum of six hours of hands on education. 2) Offer educational day camps at an economical price that would cover the cost of the educational activities. 3) Select one day camp group for formal evaluation. **Methods:** Day camp packet was developed. It included the cover letter, day camp topic flyer, and summer request form. The packet was sent out to other youth programs, churches, and recreation departments in Gadsden County. **Results:** 1) 350 youth were reached through hands on education in four life skills areas. 2) Enough money was raised through “fee for service” to cover the cost of the program. 3) Evaluation of one aerospace group (n=17) of 10-12 year olds; 76% had an increase in knowledge and 94% built and had a successful launch. **Conclusion:** More youth can be reached through partnering with other summer youth programs. Fees can be lower when supporting other summer programs versus 4-H self run day camps. Provides Extension agents an avenue to teach and provide subject matter expertise.

4-H Rain Gardens

J. Heady*, Okaloosa County; **S. Dunning**, Okaloosa County

Youth can actively participate in the reduction of polluted run-off simply by planting a Rain Garden in the appropriate area. Rain Gardens are an infiltration technique in which water is captured in a garden designed to allow storm water to slowly filter into the ground, decreasing the amount of non-point source pollution entering waterways. **Objectives:** To reduce non-point source pollution from parking areas. Youth will learn how non-point source pollution enters the water cycle. Youth will learn techniques in landscape design. **Methods:** Through collaboration, the Horticulture and 4-H departments adapted a curriculum from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to use the Experiential Learning Model. The curriculum was broken down into 6 learning modules which included a variety of instructional strategies for optimal learning. Methods included lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on activities. Each 6 hour class was designed to reach between 10-15 youth. **Results:** Twenty-two youth participated in the two classes which resulted in two Rain Gardens being designed, installed and maintained. Evaluations showed that 100% of participants could identify the correct definition of a Rain Garden, 91% could name common non-point source pollutants, and 86% could define the word “aquifer”. **Conclusion:** Youth took pride in creating the Rain Gardens and contributing to their communities. The Rain Garden project encourages environmental stewardship development in youth. Success can be attributed to the teaching strategies that incorporated the Experiential Learning Model into each learning module, engaging the youth in the learning process.

A 4-H Puerto Rico and Florida Exchange of Cultures **K. Roberts*, I. Valentin***, Miami-Dade County Extension

The Florida 4-H Foundation provided a grant in support of the following **Objectives:** (1) Puerto Rican agents and volunteers will gain knowledge in the use of three different Florida 4-H curriculums; (2) Participants in an exchange program will gain knowledge, understanding and appreciation of two diverse cultures and (3) Participants will see 4-H as a world wide youth organization with the same mission. **Methods:** Miami-Dade 4-H agents traveled to Puerto Rico and conducted curriculum training for Butterfly WINGS, "On My Own" Finance and Food Safety. A Puerto Rican delegation of 17 traveled to Miami, stayed in member homes, attended local environmental field trips and participated in 4-H Camp Cloverleaf with Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. **Results:** Curriculum training with 69 participants resulted in the establishment of three new school clubs and a summer WINGS camp for 90 children. The forty participants in the exchange indicated they gained new appreciation of each others culture and are eager to continue such exchanges. Seventeen members from the Puerto Rican delegation indicated they gained new knowledge and appreciation of the South Florida environment through field trips and camp attendance. **Conclusion:** Puerto Rico has a unique 4-H program and culture that should be understood, supported and appreciated by other Florida 4-H participants. Miami-Dade 4-H agents will help facilitate a Puerto Rico exchange with other Florida counties in order to strengthen our ties with our Caribbean neighbors.

FEAFCS Schedule

Legends 2 Kathy Bryant, FEAFCS Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:00	Introduction & Procedures	Moderator—Kathy Bryant
8:15	Elizabeth Shephard	“Super Hand” Hand Hygiene Program
8:30	Barbara Hughes	Partnerships Can Make a Difference—We are not Alone Anymore!
8:45	Brenda Williams	Financial Management According to the Life Cycle
9:00	Meg McAlpine	Guiding Good Choices: Helping Parents Guide Their Children Through Early Adolescence
9:15	Break	
9:30	Laura Royer	Consumer Choices: A Skill for Life
9:45	Jacquelyn Gibson	WOW Homeownership Program
10:00	Celia Hill, Rita Law-McCumber, Amy Simonne, & Eric Simonne	Opening Doors to Asian Culture: The 2006 Food Safety & Quality Technical Tour in Thailand
10:15	Cyndy Mondelus	Orange County Healthy Kids Partnership Fitness & Nutrition (F. A. N.) Club
10:30	Break	
10:45	Gayle Whitworth, Elizabeth Shephard, Katherine Allen, & Monica Bonsett	World’s Greatest Baby Shower
11:00	Julie England	Stealth Nutrition Programming Through Cross-Discipline Programs
11:15	Karen Headlee	Real Colors: Exploring the Diversity of Temperaments
11:30	Mary Kennington	Building Common Ground: Revitalization of Orange County Home & Community Education
11:45	Jo Shuford-Law	Fun, Food, and Reading in Leon County

“Super Hand” Hand Hygiene Program **E. Shephard***, Brevard County Extension

In 2003 Brevard County Elementary Schools suffered outbreaks of Shigella and other gastrointestinal illnesses. Absenteeism of both students and teachers interrupts productivity and learning. Parents depend on a healthy child that stays in school to prevent changes in family priorities and schedules. Investigations revealed that Shigella outbreaks came from schools that had poor proper hand hygiene. **Objectives:** To develop an effective, easily implemented and sustainable program to reduce the spread of harmful pathogens through good hand-washing technique; promote hand washing as a positive health skill and change behavior to utilize this skill. **Methods:** Four videos, each approximately 2-3 minutes long, were designed to be played during morning announcements. The videos featured “Super Hand” giving the students important information about germs and hand washing. Offering a variety of 4 different “adventures” allows the prevention message to be delivered again and again without growing stale. This was supported by posters hand washing supplies, and brochures for parents. **Results:** No outbreaks of Shigella or gastrointestinal illness have occurred since implementation representing approximately 20,000 children and over 1500 faculty. Absenteeism is the lowest rate compared to peer counties. Steadily declining numbers of school clinic visits for ear/nose/throat and GI ailments among students. Over 50% of students increased their knowledge of germs and proper hand hygiene by 85%. **Conclusions:** The school-based program has effectively eliminated outbreaks in schools. The Brevard County School Board reports high satisfaction with outcomes and ease of implementation.

Partnerships Can Make A Difference – We Are Not Alone Anymore!

B. Hughes*, Seminole County Extension; **S. Wilkens**, Seminole County Extension

Objectives: Plan a Christmas event for low income families with many different partnerships in order not to duplicate holiday programs and gift/food giveaways. **Methods:** Shelda and I are on the Seminole County United Board which held this event. The Sheriff’s Office is in charge of this Board. We sent special invitations to all of the families from: Sanford Housing Projects, Harvest Time International, Sheriff’s Child Protective Services families, and Community Based Care of Seminole (Foster Families). We had car shows, sold Teddy Bears, and had other activities to pay for the event. We collected toys from mid-November through December. At the event, we had a medical care unit for parents to check out their health. Low income health insurance booths were available for families to learn about their health options. There were seven hours of entertainment on stage. **Results:** 728 Families were served (2,500 people). Most appreciated the efforts. Gave away 50,000 toys. More organizations want to get on board next year and put their event into this one large county event. Families went away with food baskets, wrapped gifts for children, kids made gifts for their guardians, and families had more knowledge of services available to them. **Conclusions:** This is the beginning of trust and meeting families in need. Our low income family issues are large but not insurmountable with partnerships. We can no longer work alone.

Financial Management According to the Life Cycle

B. Williams*, Alachua County Extension

Objective: Designing, planning and marketing Extension financial management programs can be confusing and overwhelming for many agents. By designing a matrix that matches life cycle needs and issues with the topics of financial management, the agent can better design, plan, and market Extension programs for targeted audiences. **Methods:** This agent has developed such a matrix and would like to share it with other agents. Included will be outlines of topics in each cell of the matrix, IFAS materials and other resources. Also shared will be tips on issues and trends for financial planning that will be helpful to the individual agent as well as program clientele. **Results:** This agent has been conducting programming in financial management to mainly county employees and the general public. Response to programs has been positive with additional agencies and groups requesting that the agent provide programming for their clientele. This matrix approach should assist agents in continuing to encourage participation by both previous attendees as well as new clientele by appealing to specific interests/needs at the proper life-cycle period. **Conclusions:** Providing a matrix approach to financial management programming will provide possible partnering-agencies with an overview of the systematic progression of programming possibilities available with Extension. It also provides an opportunity for the presenter to share gained knowledge through courses taken for a Certificate in Financial Planning.

Guiding Good Choices: Helping Parents Guide Their Children Through Early Adolescence

M. McAlpine*, Nassau County Extension

Guiding Good Choices is a research-based parent program that provides parents with the knowledge and skills needed to guide their children through adolescence. **Objectives:** Parents learn how to increase positive family interactions, improve parent-child communications and anger management skills and to teach their children skills to resist drug use and other problem behaviors. **Methods:** Five (5) two-hour sessions, conducted weekly, for five (5) consecutive weeks is required. Parents learn to set clear family guidelines about tobacco, and other drugs, as well as learn and practice skills to strengthen family bonds and to increase their children's involvement in the family. During each session, parents prepare for a family meeting as one way to transfer what they have learned in class to their family environment. **Results:** The program was repeated three (3) times, with a total of 42 participants. Average attendance was 94%. Post program surveys indicates that 100% of participants reported improved family interactions, 90% stated their ability to talk and listen to their children improved, 100% improved their ability to recognize their anger, calm down, and communicate their frustrations effectively, and 100% reported learning "refusal skills" and in turn taught their children these skills. **Conclusions:** Guiding Good Choices is an effective parenting program. It helps families increase family bonds, develop clear values and rules about drug use and other behaviors while weakening factors that can make drug use and other problem behaviors available and tempting for their children.

Consumer Choices: A Skill for Life

L. Royer*, Osceola County

Every year research shows that youth have greater access to money allowing them to spend an average of \$159 billion a year. With their spending behavior and limited understanding of managing money, they are at risk of making costly mistakes. Even more, they are an increasing target of marketing and credit campaigns enticing them to spend money they may not have. **Objectives:** To improve the financial management skills of youth by increasing knowledge of product and price comparison resulting in better consumer practices. Youth will adopt at least three consumer skills: researching consumer products, price comparison and public speaking. **Methods:** Using the Consumer Choices curriculum, 12 workshops are conducted each year. The comprehensive experience includes a variety of instructional strategies for optimal learning. Teaching methods include lecture, hands-on activities, situational analysis and field trips. Volunteers are utilized to provide feedback for public speaking practice. **Results:** In the past five years, 70 classes have been taught to 1,510 youth ages 8 to 18. Participation in this program has resulted in 82% placing in the top ten at the Central Florida Consumer Judging Contest with several of them placing in the top three. In 2006, all three consumer judging teams placed 1st and several individuals placed in the top three in their category. Due the success of their experience, youth have returned multiple years and recruit others to participate. **Conclusions:** Success can be attributed to the innovative teaching strategies that match the interest and energy of youth.

WOW Homeownership Program

J. Gibson*, Miami-Dade County

Homeownership is the “the” American dream. In South Florida the real estate market is especially challenging for first-time buyers. In addition, other barriers, such as lack of savings or down payment, credit blemishes, low credit scores, and lack of knowledge, may discourage potential buyers. **Objectives:** To put as many constituents as possible on a path to homeownership, and increase the rate of minority homeowners. **Methods:** Identify participants for the program during a WOW Homeownership Conference. Participants receive individual counseling, which includes a review of financial documents and credit reports. Upon qualifying for the program, the enrollees complete a series of seminars that are designed to guide participants through the entire homebuyer process. When the classes are completed, the goal is to have each participant secure pre-approved loans. **Results:** Last year 392 people received individual counseling and attended educational seminars; 364 participants graduated from the program. Seventy families closed on loans and purchased homes through the WOW program, and received \$17 million in mortgages. **Conclusion:** The WOW program provides a unique opportunity to increase minority homeownership and wealth.

Opening Doors to Asian Culture: The 2006 Food Safety and Quality Technical Tour in Thailand

C. Hill*, Lee County Extension; **R. Law-McCumber***, Seminole County Extension; **D. Peacock**, Hernando County Extension; **A. Simonne***, University of Florida FYCS; **E. Simonne***, University of Florida Horticultural Sciences Department.

As Extension agents in Florida we are increasingly exposed to more cultures we do not understand. We may know a variety of ways to implement processes, but choose those familiar to our own culture. International travel allows one to experience how others cultures achieve comparable results using different methods as well as facilitates exchange of ideas and research that assist all parties in program outreach. **Objectives:** 1) Broaden knowledge of another culture, 2) increase knowledge of food systems, fresh produce marketing and production practices, and share the UF Extension System and its programs with Thai professionals. **Methods:** The UF faculty team traveled to Thailand during a two week period in July – August 2006. The trip included visits to two major universities (Naresuan in Phisanulok and Kasetsart in Bangkok) as well as attending a pre-conference technical tour of the King's Agriproject to experience local culture, food and traditions, and the International Conference on "Managing Quality in Chains-Post Harvest Technology." **Results:** Extension professionals became aware of other cultures and of tropical and subtropical produce that may be integrated into extension client's nutrition recommendations, practical applications for energy conservation, cultural differences and similarities. **Conclusions:** Participating in international travel provides for cultural exchanges and experiences that enhance our teaching methods and makes us more sensitive to clients of diverse cultures.

Orange County Healthy Kids Partnership Fitness and Nutrition Club (F.A.N Club)

C. Mondelus*, Orange County Extension

Objective: The F.A.N (Fitness and Nutrition) Club program provided through the Orange County Healthy Kids Partnership was the result of ten agencies coming together to address the issue of childhood obesity in Orange County. The Orange County Healthy Kids Partnership presented F.A.N Club to students and families of the Boy's and Girl's Club of Apopka, FL. The goal of Extension in this program was to approach the entire family with effective seminars and activities promoting nutrition and physical activity. **Method:** F.A.N club was a three-phase after school program having six lessons per phase using curricula pulled together from Extension sources and the American Heart Association (AHA) Healthy Recipes Kids Love Cookbook. Healthy snacks were given at the beginning of each lesson and students tasted samples of recipes from the AHA cookbook at the end. Fifteen students learned about nutrition and physical activity in Phase I and II, respectively. Phase III was dedicated to puppet shows created by students demonstrating knowledge they have gained from the program. Parents also participated in nutrition workshops in Phase I. **Results:** Program evaluations reported 87% (13 students) of the participants were trying to choose healthier foods. All the students (100%) reported that they thought exercise was important and that they had learned a lot about nutrition. The evaluation also showed that 80% (twelve students) wanted to try new foods. **Conclusion:** F.A.N Club was effective in introducing healthy options to children and families that would improve nutrition practicing and overall quality of life.

World's Greatest Baby Shower

G. Whitworth*, Brevard County Extension; **E. Shephard***, Brevard County Extension; **K. Allen***, Citrus County Extension; **M. Bonsett***, Citrus County Extension

Objectives: The World's Greatest Baby Shower is an event that is held for expectant, new, and adoptive moms and dads, as a way to improve birth outcomes by showcasing the organizations and agencies that are available in the county to provide resources and support during pregnancy and after birth so that they can utilize them. **Methods:** Events are organized each year. The events include non-profit and for-profit vendors who have booths. Participants can visit each booth to learn about the services/products. Each county individualizes the event. In some counties participants can also attend break-out educational sessions on "hot" topics in pregnancy and early childhood. Topics have included such things as: Infant Brain Development, Child Passenger Safety, and an "Ask a Doctor" panel. Each participant is given a "goodie bag" filled with resources in addition to the ones they collect at the booths. Light refreshments may be served and all registered moms are entered into a drawing for door prizes. **Results:** In Brevard from 2003 until the present, seven events have been held, reaching 1132 moms and 1819 other guests. Citrus County has 11 years of Baby Shower experience and in 2007 they had approximately 314 moms and 700 participants. Evaluations have shown that participants enjoyed the event and received information that they could and would use. **Conclusions:** The World's Greatest Baby Shower offers a way for Extension FCS agents to collaborate with community agencies and to provide resources to meet the needs of expectant, adoptive and new moms and dads.

Stealth Nutrition Programming Through Cross Discipline Programs

J. England*, Lake County Extension.

Objectives: To achieve knowledge gain of basic nutrition and healthy lifestyles in youth and adults by conducting programs in conjunction with horticulture agents. The message of the MyPyramid Food guidance system was combined with the promotion of horticulture and Florida agriculture to reach audiences that might not normally attend a nutrition program. **Methods:** The FCS agent worked with commercial horticulture agents in her county and a neighboring county to present programs that incorporated horticulture and nutrition. Youth programs were presented at the Lake County Extension office and Mid-Florida Research and Education Center Horticulture Camp. Florida Autumn Harvest and Start a Kitchen Garden were conducted as part of the Villages Life Long Learning College targeting elder adults. Start a Kitchen Garden was also presented as part of the Lake County Library's Festival of Reading to an audience of youth and adults. All programs stressed the importance healthy eating and daily physical activity as well as promoting gardening and Florida agriculture. The youth programs included a food preparation activity and information on food safety. **Results:** Thirty four youth and approximately sixty adults attended the programs. The parents of the youth attending the horticulture camp were especially enthused as nutrition had not been included in the program before. The parents requested a similar program be conducted the following year. **Conclusions:** Working with agents in other disciplines gives each an opportunity to increase their audience and spread their message.

Real Colors: Exploring the Diversity of Temperaments

K. S. Headlee*, Lee County Extension

At one time or another, everyone has reached a point where they can only shake their head and wonder, "Why do people do the things they do?" Research has shown that personality is comprised of four distinct temperaments. Real Colors curriculum provides workshop participants the opportunity to identify their personal strengths and learn to recognize the strengths and differences of others. **Objectives:** Using the Real Colors temperament assessment tools, participants were able to quickly and accurately identify their own temperament and that of others to enhance communication skills and to appreciate the diversity of temperaments in others. **Methods:** Agent Headlee used the Real Colors curriculum/assessment tools to discover the values for the participant's temperament colors (blue, gold, green or orange). Once their color values were identified, the participants were divided into groups and Agent Headlee facilitated several group exercises that stressed the participant's strengths and challenges when communicating. **Results:** One hundred and fifty three participants attended the 8 workshops Agent Headlee has conducted; partnering with 6 county agencies/volunteer groups – Lee County 4-H Leaders, Community Soup Kitchen, Master Gardeners of Sarasota County, Lee County Park & Recreation, Child Care of Southwest Florida, Inc. and Cape Coral Parks & Recreation Youth Programs. **Conclusion:** Ninety eight percent of the Real Colors workshop participants felt the training provided information useful in communicating with and understanding themselves and others on their job, with their families and with their friends.

Building Common Ground: Revitalization of Orange County Home & Community Education (OCHCE)

M.S. Kennington*, Orange County Extension

Objectives: In 2006, Orange County HCE officers voted to bring to the general membership the proposal to disband. Club and Association membership had been declining due to aging issues of members and difficulty finding officers. HCE had been an active and vital part of Orange County Extension FCS programming since the 1920's. Orange County Extension planned to move into its new office building in January 2007. The FCS agents felt it was important for HCE to be part of the new Extension Education Center, and that the association's purpose still met needs. Our goal became to reform Orange County HCE to meet the changing leadership and membership challenges, while continuing to provide support to the FCS program. The challenge was to establish a new HCE organizational structure that could maintain and revitalize the HCE Association for at least one year. After achieving success in the new educational center, HCE might grow and reach new audiences. **Methods:** Agent Kennington conducted a special *Building Common Ground: Exploring Opportunities for Revitalizing HCE* workshop. The workshop consensus was to move HCE forward by merging community clubs into one association club. This would require only one set of officers instead of seven. Neighborhood Outreach Units would conduct community service projects. **Results:** OCHCE has had a success year with a full slate of officers, including two new officers. New members have joined. The FCS Agent created a HCE newsletter and a marketing brochure. The VP writes newspaper announcements. **Conclusions:** The revised HCE structure is demonstrating success.

Fun, Food and Reading in Leon County **J. Shuford-Law***, Leon County Extension

A variety of factors, including today's busy lifestyles contribute to the much publicized problems associated with poor nutrition and literacy. Establishing reading routines and finding ways to incorporate literacy into everyday activities, including "reading about eating" may improve children's nutrition and reading habits. **Objectives:** For children to identify the MyPyramid food groups, recall the importance for each food group and identify lower fat/sugar food choices from each of the groups. **Methods:** The *Food, Fun and Reading* nutrition and literacy education program developed for pre-kindergarten through grade two by the University of Vermont Extension (UVM) was used as a resource guide. Five 1-hour lessons were planned and taught to kindergarten children. Daily objectives focused on one of the MyPyramid food groups. Daily activities included the preparation of individual snacks, discovery games, and reading a children's storybook appropriate for the lesson. The books included: *COW, Zac's Lunch, Pancakes, Pancakes!, If You Give a Moose a Muffin* and *Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables from A to Z*. Parents received weekly take home letters and a final packet including laminated recipe pages. **Results:** A total of 13 children participated in the lessons. Eleven completed the pre/post assessments included in the UVM education program. An average percentage of test scores indicated knowledge gained. Completing the instrument was difficult for many of the children. Individual verbal responses to instrument questions often revealed correct answers. **Conclusions:** Educational materials that prepare children for reading and activities that spark children's interest in learning are critical to helping them master life skills.

FANREP Schedule

Legends 1

Andrew Diller, FANREP Abstract Co-Chair

Alyssa Dodd, FANREP Abstract Co-Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:00	Introduction & Procedures	Moderator—Andrew Diller
8:15	Jeff Gellermann & Alyssa Dodd	Let it Role! Exploring Land Development
8:30	Jessica Sullivan	People-friendly Landscapes: Creating Environmentally Responsible, Therapeutic Environments
8:45	Marcus Boston	No Woods Left Behind Day Camp
9:00	Eleanor Foerste	Woods Walks—Real Outdoor Education
9:15	Break	
9:30	Joan Bradshaw	Strengthening Natural Resource Partnerships and Outreach Efforts within County Government
9:45	Janet Bargar	Festival Activities to Educate Children
10:00	Bryan Fluech	Implementation of a Community-Based Boater Outreach Program
10:15	Betty Staugler	Follow Your Fish: Redfish Tracking Project
10:30	Break	
10:45	Scott Jackson, Bryan Cameron, & Sheila Dunning	Utilizing County Web-based GIS Tools to Conduct Virtual Site Visits
11:00	Tom Becker	Design a Wildlife-Friendly Learning Station
11:15	Michael Andreu & Robert Northrop	Developing the Tampa Bay Watershed-Forest Working Group to Enhance Sustainable Forest Management in a Rapidly Urbanizing Region
11:30	Jennifer Gillett	First Detector Training in Florida: Educational Efforts to Promote Early Detection of Exotic Pests
11:45	Annemarie Post	Mangrove Appreciation

Let It Role! Exploring Land Development

J. Gellermann*, St. Lucie County Extension; **A. Dodd***, Palm Beach County Extension.

Objectives: Land use in south Florida is changing rapidly, impacting the economy, environment, and quality-of-life of Florida residents and visitors. “*Let it Role! Exploring Land Development*” is a role play exercise developed for high school students. This exercise challenges youth to consider land use around them, learn about the land use development process, develop their communication skills, consider conflict situations and emotional dimensions of changing land use, and see the situation from another person’s point of view.

Methods: Participants are asked to provide examples of land uses in their community and define the term stakeholder. Next, the role play facilitators “set the stage” and ask participants to take on stakeholder and decision-maker roles. Finally, all participants take part in a community meeting where stakeholders provide public comment on a proposed land use change. After all views are shared, participants playing decision-makers roles must respond to the public comments and vote. A final land development decision must be made!

Results: From January 1, 2006 through June 15, 2007 over 200 high school students in St. Lucie County participated in the role play exercise (facilitated by the co-authors). More than 95% of the students surveyed felt they learned something about land use planning and enjoyed the exercise. **Conclusions:** As a result of using this material and learning about the land development process high school students become more aware of land use changes and learn they have an opportunity to raise their voice and participate in the decision-making process.

People-friendly landscapes: creating environmentally responsible, therapeutic environments

J. Sullivan*, Osceola County Extension

Objectives: To protect natural resources by encouraging an appreciation of the natural environment through accessible, therapeutic landscapes. **Methods:** The Florida Yards & Neighborhoods program in Osceola County works with local schools, healthcare facilities, and senior centers to promote therapeutic, environmentally responsible landscapes. Information on subjects such as proper plant selection, therapeutic garden design principles, and accessible landscape features is provided to the facilities. Staff training is provided through workshops and consultations to support the continuation of successful gardens and gardening programs. Training classes cover the benefits of gardens, basic landscaping principles, and how to use gardening as a therapeutic activity and teaching tool. **Results:** Several therapeutic and learning landscapes have been created as a result of Florida Yards & Neighborhoods programming. **Conclusions:** By blending the principles of environmentally responsible landscaping with therapeutic elements, people can enjoy landscapes more fully, while protecting the environment.

No Woods Left Behind Day Camp

M. Boston*, **S. Rosenthal**, **W. Sheftall**, Leon County Extension

In Leon County and across the country many school age youth are suffering from what has been described as “Nature Deficit Disorder”, and are spending an increased amount of time “indoors”, while the time spent “outdoors” is on a rapid decline. A collaboration with the Leon County 4-H Agent, Forestry, and the Natural Resource Agent resulted in an environmental education program during public school spring break that would literally leave No Woods Left Behind. **Objective:** The objective of this camp was for its participants to learn how to enjoy being outdoors and develop an awareness and appreciation of our water systems, and wildlife habitats in Leon County. **Method:** Youth participants performed lab experiments on the PH level, dissolved oxygen, and nitrogen levels founds in Wakulla Springs. A trip down the Wakulla River gave youth an opportunity to identify and learn about the various forms of wildlife that make this habitat their home. The campers also took educational field trips where they learned how “Sinks” are formed as well as how to collect and identify macro-invertebrate and use them as water quality indicators. **Results:** Pre and Post evaluation were given at the beginning and end of the camp and reflected a 95% increase in overall knowledge of each subject matter area covered during the week. **Conclusion:** By providing this fun educational program, its participants have increased their knowledge in each area covered and have greater appreciation of our environment and how to protect and preserve it.

Woods Walks – Real Outdoor Education

E. Foerste*, Osceola County Extension

Osceola County’s new residents are unfamiliar with local ecosystems. Outdoor enthusiasts have few opportunities locally to learn about our natural world. If individuals don’t have positive experiences outdoors, they will not know the value of our natural systems, and they are not likely to want to protect them. **Objectives:** Guided nature walks will help participants develop an appreciation for the outdoors, understand the significance of diversity in our ecosystems and share the experience with others.

Methods: Woods Walks are conducted on nature trails in Osceola County during the day, at sunrise and sunset. Interpretive walks last from two to three hours at a leisurely pace. Participants observe changes in topography, temperature, vegetation and soil moisture to help them recognize common Central Florida ecosystems. The importance of fire, invasive species, plant and animal interactions and human impacts are discussed. **Results:** All participants have been excited about their experience and indicated they would tell others. Follow-up surveys indicate participants recall examples of key ecological concepts. The county recognized the value of the walks for health and approved them for wellness credits entitling participating employees to incentive payments up to \$200 per year. The success of the program inspired Osceola County to support a new position to provide similar experiences on an ongoing basis, using Extension as a resource. **Conclusions:** Real outdoor experiences are a great way to teach about the real outdoors.

Strengthening Natural Resource Partnerships and Outreach Efforts Within County Government

J. Bradshaw*, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando and Pasco County

Extension is a key contributor within county government but its educational role is frequently misunderstood. To enhance the educational role of extension and to strengthen partnership of allied county government departments, this agent formulated the Citrus County Conservation Committee (CCCC) in spring of 2005. The committee consists of representatives from Citrus County Extension, Water Resources Department, Solid Waste Management, Aquatic Services, Southwest Florida Water Management District and Keep Citrus County Beautiful. **Objectives:** To improve natural resource education and outreach efforts in Citrus County, the committee determined that a comprehensive publication be developed to encourage water conservation, recycling, prevention of stormwater runoff, and Florida-friendly landscaping. **Methods:** Monthly CCCC meetings were held and it was determined the greatest audience could be reached via a newspaper tabloid which would be distributed to 30,000 people. The theme for this *Keep Citrus County Green, Clean and Pristine!* This agent obtained a \$5,000 community education grant which was utilized to pay for printing and distribution costs of the 10 page newspaper insert during the Memorial weekend. **Results:** The success of the newspaper insert was assessed by readers' responses to an online survey as well as responses from those obtaining free rain gauges and from those completing the water crossword puzzles included in the publication. **Conclusions:** Through the process of planning and developing the newspaper insert, Citrus County Departments now recognize the significance of Extension educational and outreach role in county government as well as the public became more informed on methods to "*Keep Citrus County Green, Clean and Pristine!*"

Festival Activities To Educate Children

J.B. Bargar*, Indian River County Extension

An environmental center in Indian River County has an annual themed festival. Local organizations, including the Indian River County Extension Service, are invited to participate and asked to provide a hands-on activity for children that incorporates the theme. Three activities were created over a three year period for this festival with the following themes: Indian River Lagoon, Insects, and Florida Ducks. **Objectives:** Educate children ages four to ten years old about clean water as an important habitat component for wildlife, plants, and insects. Create activities with specific objectives and supporting materials tying the festival theme to water quality. **Methods:** Seagrass Stalk, Water Lovin' Bugs, and Duck Habitat Hat activities were created and designed to take five minutes or less in order to maintain interest. While children completed the activity, the agent and volunteers discussed how water impacts the organism's habitat, food, and survival. Accompanying handouts were developed to discuss the theme in further detail and as a way for children to educate their parents about the topic. **Results:** Approximately 900 children and adults participated in the activities from 2004 through 2006. Due to the festival format, formal evaluation tools were not able to be implemented. **Conclusion:** Based on the number of participants and their responses, the activities were a good way to introduce water quality concepts to children. In addition, the take home crafts served as a reminder of the discussed concepts.

Implementation of a Community-Based Boater Outreach Program

B. Fluech*, Collier County Extension

Objectives: The Collier County Marine Agent collaborated with the local boating industry and resource management agencies to initiate a community-based outreach program targeting recreational boaters in Collier County. The goals of the program are to educate boaters on sustainable boating practices and to collaborate with local businesses to support and promote outreach efforts. **Methods:** The agent organized monthly meetings and a one-day workshop to prioritize issues, define program goals, and develop an action plan to accomplish the identified goals. The agent also received a \$14,000 Florida Boater Improvement Program Grant to help support the development of the program. **Results:** Based on input from participating agencies, the group agreed to model their outreach efforts on the Team O.C.E.A.N program used in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The program involves trained volunteers conducting one on one outreach with boaters on the water, at boat ramps, and at public events and collaborating with local businesses to enhance outreach efforts. The agent, with funds leveraged from partners, hired a full-time coordinator to oversee outreach efforts. The agent's grant helped support the creation of a portable exhibit that highlights boating safety and sustainable boating practices. Funds were also used to support travel costs and to purchase promotional items associated with the program's implementation. **Conclusions:** The partnership will begin outreach efforts this summer to educate recreational boaters on actions they can take to protect Collier County's coastal resources.

Follow Your Fish: Redfish Tracking Project

E. Staugler*, Charlotte County Extension; **R. DeBruler**, Charlotte County Environmental & Extension Services; **N. Brennan**, Mote Marine Laboratory; **K. Edwards**, Charlotte County GIS; **K. Hanlon**, Charlotte County Environmental & Extension Services; **C. Neidig**, Mote Marine Laboratory; **C. Armstrong**, Progress Energy

Catch and release fishing tournament have increased in popularity in coastal areas over the last several years. Tournament fish are often caught many miles away from the weigh in location, meaning they are caught, handled, held in a live-well, transported, handled again, and then finally released into a new location, often of very different water quality and habitat conditions. **Objectives:** Our primary objective was to determine the fate of tournament caught and released redfish. Our secondary objective was to relay information learned to children participating in the tournament, their adult captains, and citizens at large in an understandable and a readily accessible format. **Methods:** We established 15 underwater listening units within Charlotte Harbor in mid April, 2007. Tournament participants learned about project objectives and sonic tracking prior to the April 28th tournament. During the tournament, 20 redfish were surgically implanted with sonic tags and released. Sonically tagged redfish are actively monitored weekly using mobile tracking units. Underwater units are downloaded bi-weekly. Recorded observations are transformed into Macromedia Flash maps and uploaded to a "Follow Your Fish" educational tracking website. Results are also relayed monthly via print media. **Results:** Seventeen of the twenty tagged redfish have been observed to date. One month after the tournament most of the redfish are still being recorded within close proximity of the release location. **Conclusions:** Anglers are able to

follow their own tournament caught fish, thus enhancing ownership and interest in the tracking results. The tracking website had over 500 visitors during its first month.

Utilizing County Web-based GIS Tools to Conduct Virtual Site Visits

S. Jackson*, Okaloosa and Walton Counties Extension; **B. Cameron***, Bay County Extension; **S. Dunning***, **G. Edmondson**, Okaloosa County Extension **M. Goodchild**, and **B. Ward**, Walton County Extension

Objectives: To improve timeliness and quality of information provided by Extension Agents to their clientele. **Methods:** Many Florida Counties routinely provide web-based GIS tools free to the public via the Internet. This affords Extension Agents opportunity to “virtually visit” clientele and gather information on-line. In some situations, site specific information can now be dispensed without leaving the office or may be provided from almost anywhere the Internet is available. Additionally, these web resources arm Agents with extensive background information prior to traditional on-site visits. **Results:** Extension clientele and agents from many program areas have benefited. Horticulture Agents provided Golf Course Superintendents and Athletic Field Managers estimates for turf fertilization. Farm Pond owners received estimates on aquatic herbicide application rates and costs. Forestry resource managers identified and mitigate potential neighboring hazards in preparation for prescribed burns. Agriculture Agents provided targeted recommendations for pasture management, livestock operations, and crops. Travel cost savings are also being realized through fewer on-site visits and less need to re-visit sites in person. **Conclusions:** In general, Web-GIS interface is intuitive and very easy to use, even for the technically challenged. These new tools provide applications, such as measuring area, that are on par with commercially available software at the fraction of the cost. A higher level of personalized service is now being provided to Extension Clientele.

Design a Wildlife-Friendly Learning Station

T. Becker*, Lee County Extension

Objectives: Design a large and diverse wildlife learning station from an area within a busy South Ft Myers park. Once developed, the lawn area is converted into a Florida-Friendly demonstration landscape for trained FYN volunteers to use weekly to educate new residence. In addition, a wildlife learning station will provide an area for self-study tours to communicate FYN practices, proper planting and low maintenance landscaping within the park system. **Methods:** FYN staff and master gardener volunteers provided 1240 hours to design and construct a new wildlife-friendly landscape demonstration area. The area was one of nine learning stations showing innovative Florida-Friendly landscaping practices. The project at a Staff Support Facility for Lee County Parks used a \$22,000 SFWMD water conservation grant to hire a project leader to design, plan and accessorize the landscape demonstration. **Results:** The wildlife station provides 25 ways to ‘attract wildlife including ‘limiting lawn,’ planting a butterfly garden, adding pods of vegetation, increasing vertical layering, providing water, snags, shelters, an owl burrow and several nesting boxes within a large area planted with Florida native vegetation. **Conclusions:** After 8 months of very dry, seasonal weather, native plants and wildflowers established quickly. As a result, the wildlife

station has become the lynchpin for the FYN program staff to tailor outdoor environmental education activities that attracts resident to weekly tours and FYN classes.

Developing the Tampa Bay Watershed – Forest Working Group to enhance sustainable forest management in a rapidly urbanizing region

Andreu, M.* School of Forest Resources and Conservation; **Northrop, R*.**, Hillsborough County Extension; **Friedman, M.** Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Plant City

Objective: To bring together stakeholders from multiple disciplines and jurisdictions to learn and exchange information about the sustainable management of the forests (rural and urban) within the ecological boundaries of the Tampa Bay watershed. **Methods:** The Tampa Bay Watershed - Forest Working Group is composed of individuals from federal, state, county and local municipalities that seek scientific solutions to management problems. The group has been in existence for nearly one year and has already helped to sponsor a symposium on urban forest inventory systems and will be producing a DVD to be distributed nationwide. **Results:** The group has acquired funding to begin a long-term ecological assessment of the urban forest within and immediately surrounding the sub-basin watershed by installing nearly 500 permanent plots. The existence of these permanent plots has generated interest from other researchers to: conduct social investigations (measuring homeowner response to trees and correlating to plot data), calculate post-hurricane forest waste expectations for FEMA projects, estimate biomass yields from urban forests for bio-fuel production, and research soil and water quality across the urban to rural continuum. Finally, the group will be hosting a training session of flatwoods restoration from the Natural Areas Training Academy in order to provide educational opportunities for managers in the area. **Conclusions:** The success of the Tampa Bay Watershed Forest Working Group is one model for how to begin solving problems associated with sustainable forest management in the face of rapid urbanization. We believe this model can be applied statewide and throughout the nation.

First Detector Training in Florida: Educational Efforts to Promote Early Detection of Exotic Pests

A. Hodges, FPDN, SPDN, Entomology & Nematology Dept., **J. Gillett***, IPM Florida, Entomology & Nematology Dept.; **C. Harmon**, FPDN, SPDN, Dept. of Plant Pathology; **T. Friday**, Santa Rosa County Extension; **L. Halsey**, Jefferson County Extension; **M. Lamberts**, Miami-Dade County Extension; **A. Hunsberger**, Miami-Dade County Extension; **T. Momol**, FPDN, SPDN, Dept. of Plant Pathology, NFREC; **J. Cuda**, Entomology & Nematology Dept.; **L. Osborne**, Entomology & Nematology Department, MFREC; **T. Smith**, FDACS-DPI, CAPS; **A. Silagyi**, USDA-APHIS-CAPS

Objectives: The Florida node of the Southern Plant Diagnostic Network (SPDN), the Florida Plant Diagnostic Network (FPDN), launched its education and training program for First Detectors during 2002 to 1) promote awareness concerning the threat of agricultural bioterrorism 2) encourage proper sample submission and 3) provide diagnostic educational material on invasive plant pests relevant to Florida. FPDN/SPDN activities are conducted in collaboration and partnership with state specialists, IPM Florida, FDACS-DPI, USDA-APHIS, and the Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey program (CAPS). During 2007-08, the

FPDN/SPDN First Detector program specifically plans to further expand activities by providing targeted train-the-trainer educational materials for educators involved in 1) Master Naturalist 2) Master Gardener and 3) general homeowner/commercial horticultural education. **Methods:** Information dissemination will occur via various presentations, publications, and displays. Lesson plans for conducting First Detector training sessions will be provided to Master Naturalist educators at the statewide conference during November 2007. Approximately 4-6 First Detector training sessions are planned for Florida during 2007-08. Pre-and post-test workshop evaluations will be prepared for upcoming training sessions. **Results:** Over 300 First Detectors/First Detector Educators have been trained in Florida to-date at numerous training sessions. Previous evaluation methods (2002-06) averaged approximately 10-20% knowledge gained, but test revisions will assist in further localizing and improving training efforts. **Conclusions:** Revised and enhanced information through collaborative efforts will strengthen the overall program efforts and serve as a model for national activities.

Mangrove Appreciation

A. Post*, Sarasota County Extension

Objective: The Extension Service receives many questions concerning mangroves (identification and regulations) from industry professionals and government employees. In addition, Sarasota County Resource Protection Department, which is in the process of signing an MOU with FDEP to assume mangrove violation inspecting responsibilities, had sought Extension help in designing effective joint educational programs. **Methods:** The primary targets for the programs were industry professionals and government employees serving in positions that bring them into contact with mangroves. The strategy undertaken to reach this group was hosting a seminar that covered "The Biology of Mangroves," "Mangrove Protection and Enhancement" and "Mangrove Pruning" in 2006. This seminar was organized by Sarasota and Manatee County Extension, Florida Sea Grant program, and Sarasota County Resource Protection Department. To ensure optimum attendance, CEU's from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) were requested and received. A similar seminar was conducted in January 2007. **Results:** The evaluation results of the mangrove seminar of February 2006 indicated that the knowledge increase was 32% – 39% for the topics covered. In addition, in the follow-up survey for this program, in January 2007, 69% of those surveyed indicated that the 2006 program "improved my ability to educate clientele regarding mangrove biology and health;" 62% indicated it "increased my knowledge base allowing me to better educate clientele on State and County Mangrove Protection Regulations;" and 69% indicated they "developed a greater appreciation for shoreline vegetation and its benefits." **Conclusion:** The success of these seminars has convinced the organizers to plan coastal areas seminars annually.

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

