

Welcome to our New Gators

We have a lot of new staff members beginning with Mariel Gallardo, she is from Peru and received her BS from Zamorano University in Honduras. She will be working with Dr. Whitaker's program. Next is Jared Rogers, the newest member of Dr. Deng's lab. A UF grad, Jared's last position was a photographer. Then we also have Seth Jorden, who is another new addition to Dr. Whitaker's lab. Seth has experience working on his family's farm and will, no doubt, fit in well here at GCREC.



Some of you might recognize the young man photographed here with Evangelon Evans. Its Lukas Vallad, who is now working with Dr. Agehara's lab. Lukas is also a student with our Geomatics program. The final photo is of our newest student intern, Darsy Smith, who will be working with Dr. Renkema. She is a student at the Univ. of Puerto Rico. Barely escaping the hurricane, she will be here until December. *Welcome to all the new staff members!*



But Wait! That's not all! Plant City has some new Staff Members as well.



Dr. Peña-Lévano is the newest faculty member of the Food and Resource Economics Department at the University of Florida, Plant City campus. He received his PhD in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University. In Plant City, Dr. Peña-Lévano is developing the curriculum for the undergraduate program of the FRED. Dr. Peña-Lévano's diverse teaching interests cover economic theory, applied microeconomics, international trade, climate change, linear and optimization programming, quantitative analysis, land use change and environmental economics.

Meet Penny Dipalma who followed her husband Matt when he took a job with Jacobs Technology, a local defense contractor in the Tampa area. She previously worked at the main campus for over 18 years. In their free time they are both historical reenactors and can often be seen at the Tampa Bay History Center during Timeline events. Her husband Matt, a former Marine, is also a non-fiction historical author with Schiffer Publishing. Penny is the new office assistant running the front office in Plant City.



More Kittens! Farm Cat Does it Again!

Yes, our farm cat has once again delivered a litter of kittens. Meet Pins and Needles who were thankfully adopted by Becky Willis. The litter had four kittens, but because these two were moved by some people here on the farm, the mother then rejected them. So, if you come across kittens without their mother, don't automatically assume she has abandoned them. Feline moms are always on the lookout for new hiding places.

Basic Research Seminars Continue

Everyone is welcome to attend the Basic Research Seminars in the auditorium every other Thursday at 11:30 a.m. Giving students and postdocs some practice in presenting their research and allowing them to hone their skills for future presentations. Informative and fun, you can often learn some interesting research techniques and applications. The next Basic Research Seminar is scheduled for Thursday, October 12th.



GCREC Events and Holidays for the Remainder of 2017

Friday, October 6—we are closed for Homecoming. Go Gators!

Friday, October 27 – Fall Potluck in the auditorium. Celebrate the season with your co-workers by bringing a dish to share. Fun games and prizes, costumes optional.

Wednesday, November 8— 12th Annual Florida Ag Expo. **Check your email for an important announcement regarding this year's expo and staff participation.**



Friday, November 10—we are closed for Veteran's Day. Take time to honor those who have and are serving our country.


Friday, November 17—Research Matters Seminar Series. Dr. Hugh Smith presenting An Entomologist's Guide to the Galaxy.

Thursday and Friday November 23 and 24—We are closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



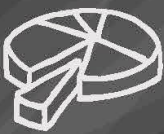
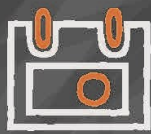


Friday, December 15, 3 p.m.—Employee Holiday Party in the auditorium. More details to come.

Monday, December 25 through Monday, January 1st—We are closed for the Winter Break.





Nominate faculty & staff with
EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE
from August 2016 - July 2017





LESSONS

Characteristics of an ideal employee

- outstanding professional
- helpful colleague
- community oriented
- diversity inclusive

HOMEWORK

- Submit a nomination packet to your local SAA authorities.
- Further details can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/UF-SAA>

SOLUTION  **CREATIVITY** **growth** 

IMPORTANT

Nominations due Tuesday, October 31st • Send packet to:
Jana Barnash, jbarnash@ufl.edu
2343 Mowry Road, PO Box 110810, Gainesville, FL 32611



GCREC Employee News

October 2017

Vallad Awarded Researcher of the Year by FFVA

Gary Vallad, professor of plant pathology at the University of Florida, was awarded researcher of the year today during the award luncheon at the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association’s annual convention. He works on several crops including tomato, watermelon, pomegranate and more.



Vallad says it is an honor to be recognized by the FFVA for all the research work that he has done. However, he points out that he could not have received the award on his own. He thanks all the professors, Extension agents and graduate students that have helped him along the way. “They’re just as deserving of this award as I am,” Vallad says. **Congratulations!**

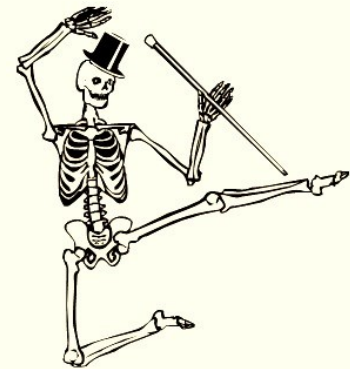
October Birthdays

- 2....Michael Hull
- 5....Kati Lawson
- 8....Jose Moreno
- 7....Mike Sweat
- 10...Saket Chandra
- 13...Becky Willis
- 13...Daniel Tompkins
- 19...Stephen Deschamps
- 20...Keri Druffel
- 22...Jialin Yu
- 24...Sadat Hwang
- 25...Zhe Cao
- 29...Dolly Cummings
- 30...Lorna Carter
- 30...Ashlee Anciro



Haunted attractions are entertainment venues designed to thrill and scare patrons. Most attractions are seasonal Halloween businesses that may include haunted houses, corn mazes, and hayrides, and the level of sophistication of the effects has risen as the industry has grown. The first recorded purpose-built haunted attraction was the Orton and Spooner Ghost House, which opened in 1915 in Liphook, England. This attraction actually most closely resembles a carnival fun house, powered by steam. The House still exists, in the Hollycombe Steam Collection.

Celebrate Autumn at our Fall Potluck Friday, October 27



Since Halloween is on a Tuesday, we’ll just celebrate early. Bring a dish to share with your co-workers. Costumes optional. We’ll have some amusing games with prizes and lots fun for everyone!

Go Blue and Orange—Homecoming is Friday, October 6 and *we will be closed*. University of Florida Football vs LSU. **Go Gators!**

