



## The Peach Press **Publication** Deadlines

Fall 2010 Issue

Publication Date: Oct/Nov

Winter 2011 Issue Deadline for Articles: Jan 21 Publication Date: February

Deadline for Articles: Mar 31 Publication Date: April

## 2009-2010 Membership

Northeast: 25 Northwest: 43 Southeast: 33 Southwest: 29 State Staff: 21 Life Members: 59

**TOTAL: 210** 

As of 12/31/2009



# Spring 2010 Edition

Editor

Casey Hobbs, Walker Co CEA chobbs@uga.edu Brought to you by

**GAE4-HA Media Committee** 

# A Message From the President



As my year as president comes to a close, I want to thank everyone that has made this year a success. The board has worked hard to make GAE4-HA an organization in which to be proud.

I recently read a book by John C. Maxwell, Developing the Leader within You. One quote that Maxwell uses is, "It is not the position what makes the leader. It is the leader who makes the position." We all have skills which make us good leaders, but together we are great. Individually and collectively, we have unique skills and abilities. We have to identify the passion within us and know "Why we do, what we do!" For me, it is the simple smile of excitement when a young person achieves their goal or completes a task with complete satisfaction. I challenge each of your to find your passion this next year and develop the leader within you.

It has been a phenomenal year - yes, even with the challenges! We have had key supporters of Georgia 4-H and Cooperative Extension reaffirm their support and commitment to us, by being our VOICE. I personally, have identified key people in my community which stepped forward to ask me what they can do. I tell you – be ready! Empower the people around you, from the volunteers to the ball players. We do that by being sincere, caring about others, and then putting it into practice.

Just last week, someone asked me, what is GAE4-HA? I responded .... GAE4-HA is the collection of outstanding youth educators, striving for professional excellence, as they empower the leaders of tomorrow. We each know that perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence. So this year, I hope you are ready with your glove on - to catch what your passion is and achieve excellence.

Thanks for an Amazing Year, Rebecca

Webpage Under Construction At: www.georgia4h.org/gae4-ha/



## Walton County 4-H'er excels at Goat Grooming

Walton County 4-H'er, Hannah Harbin show off her welding skills in front of the Monroe Tractor Supply during the Paper Clover Campaign. She learned to weld in a 4-H welding class taught by Glen Blair. Hannah made a goat grooming stand to hold her goats while clipping their hooves and grooming her goats for the shows. Good job Hannah.













# Goats to School?

Glen had a "Little Goat"; it followed him to school several days. According to Glen Blair, 4-H Agent in Walton County, the teachers expect us to bring baby goats to the club meetings in April. Not wanting to disappoint them we haul goats to 48 fifth grade classes. We teach how goats fit into the agricultural scene by supplying milk, meat and fiber. I am not sure whether the students or teachers like this lesson best. The goats are always glad to get back home to see momma.





## **ALERT! ALERT!** There IS Life After Retirement



## 4-H'ers Pave the Way to a First Ever Junior Board of Directors in Evans County Stephanie Myers

"We need to provide leadership development for the county's youth and we hope that after they finish their secondary education, they'll come back to the community and take active leadership roles." The aforementioned comment by the Executive Director of the Claxton-Evans Chamber of Commerce, and statements similar in context regarding the lack of local leadership development opportunities for the youth of today, resound throughout Evans County on a regular basis. Community leaders, school administrators, educators, parents, and the alike, routinely comment on the need for local youth leadership development opportunities to help assist in fostering the leadership skills needed for today's youth to become successful and contributing citizens of tomorrow.

Unfortunately, in our small rural community, few leadership opportunities exist to help students gain the skills necessary to become productive leaders. In the past year, Evans County senior 4-H members have worked diligently to help implement youth leadership opportunities - one such initiative is the 1st ever establishment of a Junior Board of Directors at a local bank. Students feel that a Junior Board of Directors would help local youth enhance their business/leadership skills while learning about the financial industry.

With the help of 4-H Agent Stephanie Myers, senior 4-H members prepared a PowerPoint presentation that provided an overview of the entire proposal, researched information on how a financial literacy program could be built into this leadership opportunity with classes, workshops, and seminars to help youth learn the importance of managing personal finances responsibly and researched/ prepared a written report on how the Junior Board of Directors could be implemented at a local bank by giving pros/cons of implementing a Junior Board of Directors, sample guidelines for an implemented Board, sample selection processes and

sample monthly meeting criteria based off of information they acguired from other financial institutions that have such a Board in place. 4-H Agent and members arranged a meeting with the President of a local bank to present their Junior Board of Directors proposal. Their proposal was well received and Evans County 4-H Agent Stephanie Myers and the senior 4-H members were invited back to present the proposal to the Board of Directors at the bank. Two months later, the group received word from the bank President that the Board of Directors "were extremely impressed with the proposal and the presentation of the proposal and that the board had voted to approve the establishment of a Junior Board of Directors for their bank beginning with the next academic school year." 4-H Agent Stephanie Myers has been working with the bank President and staff to draw up member criteria and application processes for this newly created youth leadership opportunity in Evans County.

Ask any retiree and you will find that we are almost as active as present employees. The first thing you will want to do after retirement is join GAE4-HA Life membership. Then, join the UGA Extension Retiree Association. Dues are only \$10 a year but well worth it just to join in on the activities of retirees. Along with a yearly meeting, we sponsor a couple of 4-H projects, help with the things the Dean needs help on (as the recent contacts on Budget Cuts), volunteer for county programs, receive twice yearly newsletters and in general try to promote Extension in any way possible.

Dot Cofer also has a list of all Extension retirees on her Ext-retiree e-mail list. We keep up with what each other is doing, share successful projects, learn technical information from state specialists, and of course, share information on sicknesses and deaths of not only retirees but also present staff. When you retiree, contact dcofer@uga.edu to be added to the e-mail list.

## 4-H 101



Terri Thompson, Liberty County

March 29th thru April 2, 2010 I was invited to Columbia, Maryland by the University of Maryland for the 4-H101 Reset Training for Military Partnerships. I represented the University of GA and GA 4-H. I was invited because I am in a county with a Military Garrison: Ft. Stewart. Throughout

the week we collaborated with other Military garrison and learned more about the partnership with USDA, Military and 4-H. We also came back to our perspective county with an action plan to help better serve the youth in our county military and civilian.



## Walton County Poultry Judging



Walton County Junior Poultry Judging Team Place placed First in the Crawford contest. (Blair Caldwell. Jeshua Moore, Michael Mappes, Andrew Mappes, Jacob Mappes and Sierra Cox)



The Senior Team placed Second. (Andrew Byrne, Maggie Polson, Jessica Polson, Katie Brooks, Mitch Hubbard and Davin Moore) Way to go Walton County.







# Great American Cleanup Day on the Delta



Greg Hickey, McIntosh County

Twelve McIntosh County 4-H'ers and two adult leaders expended 42 man hours on April 14, 2010 cleaning 3 miles of roadway on the Delta between the Altamaha and Darien river bridges. Keep America Beautiful Inc. and donors sponsored the Great American Cleanup providing promotional banners, trash bags, psa's and coupons for 20 free cases of Nestle® bottled water.

Keep McIntosh Clean and Beautiful commended the 4-H'ers for their efforts which ensured the southern Gateway to the city of Darien was inviting for this weekends 42 annual Blessing of the Fleet festival.

89 pounds of trash were picked up along with a recliner, downed road signs, 2 boat trailer tongues, 2 coolers, a chain saw blade, a cell phone, CD, roofing tin,

a kitchen knife and parts and pieces of a lot of blown out tires. After two 4-H'ers drug up 2 dead turtles and a dead bird Mr. Hickey explained that we did not need to pickup the road kill. The coiled up dead moccasin was left in the middle of the road as were several opossums and a raccoon. It was a great community service and learning experience for all involved.

## Looking for Oceans of Fun Volunteers!



Kasey Reid, OOF Chair

Calling all GAE4-HA members who are looking to get away for a few days to Jekyll Island while being involved in some PR work for your favorite professional organization! "Oceans of Fun" will be held July 11-13, 2010 in conjunction with the annual GAEL (Georgia Association of Educational Leaders) summer conference, and I'm looking for volunteers to help make this year's event a success!

We need GAE4-HA members to help with teaching and/or providing supervision during classes and tours, setting up and serving an impressive continental breakfast for the GAEL attendees, assisting parents with registration, and interacting with our youth participants and their parents while representing our association.

If you're interested in being a part of our work team, please make plans to attend the OOF committee meeting. If you have other commitments during that time, please make sure you see me at the OOF exhibit or any time during our meeting to pick up an interest form and survey. If you won't be at the state meeting, you can send me an e-mail at <a href="mailto:kcreid@uga.edu">kcreid@uga.edu</a> and I'll send a form to you.

# Are You Engaging Your Audience?



OK, I've got an agenda...great! Now, let's get some markers...how many will I need? Where's the flip chart....and the ease!? Now, I need an icebreaker... an opener, an energizer and maybe a review....just in case. Index cards...do I really need them.....oh, I might as well throw them into the box. What else may be cool? I'll grab some tennis balls, some stickers, a small stand. Anything else I may can use?

Have you ever found yourself in this situation? Perhaps it was early in the morning or even late in the afternoon as you pack up for an early meeting the next day. We have all had hundreds! The really secret to great facilitation is not props and equipment that can be seen or touched. So, if facilitation isn't about markers and pretty chart drawings, what is it?

I define facilitation as a way to teach and deliver the information by engaging the audience with a very neutral position. Although we seem to cross boundaries at times when we deliver the information, most students or participants are excited to share personal stories and answers.

When the students can draw from their own personal experiences, they are taking the class-room concepts and applying it to the real world. It's the "ah-ha" moment when you know the light bulb has just been turned on in their mind and they embrace the learning process.

There is no doubt that Kim Anderson was a great mentor to me when she worked closely with Georgia 4-H. I took one-on-one facilitation lessons from her that shaped my teaching style. Even though I had taught in the school system before Extension, I learned so many tools to help with facilitation. Below are some personal objectives I have incorporated into my presentations and programs.

- **1.) Warm-up:** This may be an introduction, game or a quick review. I always want to create an open, upbeat atmosphere. Getting everyone's attention is my main focus. Some suggestions "who can remind us?" "what do you know about? "who has something to add?" or who wants to tell us?"
- **2.)Introduction:** I like to introduce a vocabulary word or state a situation and ask for responses or shout-outs. The objective is to make students comfortable saying answers without necessarily having to be right. It's setting the stage and encouraging participation.
- **3.) Teaching the Content:** Most 4-H club meetings have a lesson plan from which we teach. It's always better if we are prepared and know the material before we conduct the meeting. Keeping your hands paper-free will open your body up visually to the students to encourage participation. You will also show confidence and this will allow you to write notes on the board or flipchart. Keep in mind there are 3 types of learning: visual, auditory and kinesthetic.
- **4.) Connect the Dots:** Ask a student a question as to how the material being taught can be incorporated into his daily life. This is a way to label an experience. Be positive and even expand onto the answer to help bridge the gap into reality. This will help re-engage them and reaffirm their contributions.
- **5.) Wrap-up:** Have quick reflections on the material. Students can create quick bumper stickers to summarize what they have learned from the lesson. Ask what questions are still out there? Reach inside the reflection process with something like "you may be thinking..."

I like to be enthusiastic, clear and encouraging. I am certainly not an expert on facilitation, but I hope to have shared some tips that I have found to be useful in my experiences whatever the audience. So, make an agenda, grab some stickers and colorful markers and just go for it!

## 4-H Archery

Glen B lair, Walton Co

The 2010 Walton County 4-H S.A.F.E. Archery team has been preparing for the State Match at Rock Eagle on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Twenty five team members participated in Godfree/Jackson Memorial tournament on March 27<sup>th</sup> where they took 9 – 1<sup>st</sup> places, 5 - 2<sup>nd</sup> places and 3 - 3rds places. Way to GO Walton County!! We have also participated in the 4-H Archery E-match and in the Gainesville Archery Club Tournament.





# Spotlight on Northwest:



## Riché Nicole Ivie, CEPA 4-H

Riché has worked in extension for 2 years. She resides in Morrow with Amairillis Ivie (4 years old). She is a member of Higher Living Christian Church. She enjoys walking, reading and dancing and hopes to own a cat one day. If she wasn't in extension, she "would still be working to influence and motivate our youth to become the best and all they can BE, for they are our future decision makers."

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.

Each day has enough trouble of its own." ~ Matthew 6:34

## Favorite Movies:

The Water Boy, Transformers 1 & 2, Pirates of the Caribbean 1, 2, & 3

Favorite Music

R & B, Gospel, Pop

Favorite TV Shows:

House, 24, and Glee

Philosophy on Life

"If we treat others the way we would like to be treated, then things would run a lot smoother."

# Shanna Davis, CEA 4-H

Shanna has worked in extension for 3 years. She resides in Glennville with her husband Joe, daughters Allison (12) and Madison who is the mother of Shanna's grandson Rueben Cash. She has a bull mastiff named Tank, a chocolate poodle named ZsaZsa and her pups Gigi and Zorro, as well as a white poodle named Dusty. She is a member of Glennville United Methodist Church. She enjoys sewing, reading, making jewelry and spending time with her girls and grandson. If she wasn't in extension, she "working for the USO. I would love to coordinate events to celebrate our soldiers and our military."

The photo to the right is of Davis with program assistant, Becky Stewart ("everyone says we look like sisters")

"If life gives you lemons, make lemonade....but the older I get, the more I want to add to my lemonade!"

Favorite Movies:

Tombstone

Favorite Music

Country, Old Rock n Roll, Rascal Flatts, Lynard Skynard

Favorite TV Shows:

Glee, Two and Half Men

Favorite Actor/Actress:

Meg Ryan, Patrick Swayze

Philosophy on Life

"I have a stressful life and people always say if it could happen it could happen to Shanna, but I never let it get me down, but I just get over it and smile, because something else is going to come along. So, work hard and be happy, because you can't change most of what happens anyway."



Spotlight on Southeast:





# Spotlight on Southwest:



## Melinda Miller, CEC 4-H

Melinda has worked for 10 years in extension. She lives in Valdosta with her husband, Tony (of 14 years), daughters Janey and Elizabeth (5) and son Jon Jon (3.5) and Misty the cat. She attends the Redland Baptist Church where she works in the nursery, as a children's church volunteer and AWANA assistant. Her favorite thing to do is spend time with her husband and children at home or the beach with no time commitments or deadlines with her very limited leisure time. If she wasn't in extension, she would ..... "be a social science instructor at a college or university."

"People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within." ~ my friend Alisa

## **Favorite Movies**

The Wizard of Oz

#### Favorite Music

Praise & Worship, Easy Listening, some Country, Classic Rock

## Favorite TV Shows:

None—I believe our TV was designed to stop only on Fox News and Nickelodeon

## Favorite Actor/Actress:

Harrison Ford

## Philosophy on Life

"I learned a long time ago that pleasing everyone is absolutely impossible. My overarching goal in all I do is to listen more than I talk, be fair and honest in my decision making...and accountable for those decisions."

# Kasey Reid, CEC 4-H

Kasey has worked in extension for 10 years. She resides in Monticello where she is a member of Monticello Baptist Church. She has one younger sister Ryann whose is expecting their first son in August with husband Nick. Kasey is excited to be an aunt! She enjoys running in 5K races, traveling, attending Alabama football games (we won't hold that against her), listening to the radio and going to concerts. If she wasn't in extension, she "would be working in youth or children's ministry at a church."

"If you believe in yourself and have dedication and pride—and never quit, you'll be a winner. The price of victory is high but so are the rewards." ~ Coach Bear Bryant

## Favorite Movies

The Blind Side, Steel Magnolias, A Prairie Home Companion, The Firm, & Gone with the Wind

## Favorite Music

R.E.M., Paul Simon, Sugarland, Norah Jones, Paul McCartney, Neil Halstead, & Tift Merritt

## Favorite TV Shows:

Biggest Loser, Criminal Minds, Law & Owner SVU, The Office, & Clean House

## Favorite Actor/Actress:

Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon

### Favorite Authors

Nicholas Sparks and John Grisham

Philosophy on Life

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you've imagined." - Henry David Thoreau



# Spotlight on Northeast:





# Spotlight on State Staff:



# Marcus Eason, Operation Military Kids Program Coordinator

Marcus has worked in extension for 5 years of which 3 of those was as a camp counselor. He resides in Athens with his cocker spaniel, Sadie, and new wife Jodi, married September 19, 2009! His parents are Mark & Jane Eason and he has a brother, Nathan. He enjoys hiking and fishing. If he wasn't in extension, he "would be a deep sea welder."

"Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far ." - Theodore Roosevelt
"The difference between Genius and Idiocy... Genius has its limits." - bathroom stall in Yellowstone
"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift." - Steve Prefontaine

Favorite Movies:

Forrest Gump

Favorite Music

Eighties hair bands

Favorite TV Shows:

Bones

Favorite Actor/Actress:

Clint Eastwood

Philosophy on Life

"My brother gave me a plaque that says, 'I've survived damn near everything'."

# Clyde Taylor

Clyde worked in extension for 37 years in Whitfield County. He resides in Rocky Face with his wife Nancy and their dogs and cats. He has a son, Wes, and a daughter, Shari. He attends First Baptist Church in Dalton. He enjoys gardening, fishing, and shadetree mechanics.

If he wasn't in extension, he "would have worked in environmental health."

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Favorite Movies:

Blazing Saddles

Favorite Music

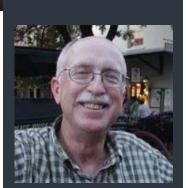
60's

Favorite TV Shows:

Castle

Philosophy on Life

"Live life so that at the end of the day you have no regrets."



Spotlight on Life Member:









# 4-H: A Blue Ribbon Organization



There once was a child that, although talkative, couldn't find the words to say when it came to public speaking. She was a perfectionist and never seemed to find her perfect speech. One day she was able to compete in a competition that required her to speak in front of an audience and showcase her love of bicycles, but it wasn't until the second year, that she finally got her blue ribbon! That blue ribbon meant so much to her! What a prideful moment to have excelled in something that she was interested in. For many years after that, she competed in the same contest, each year, always seeming to fall a bit short of that blue ribbon each time, but she kept trying. It became fun over the years, and winning didn't matter much anymore; it was the experience. She never did get another blue ribbon. Later in life, she returned to that little competition to help other children find their happiness. Whether it was holding that blue ribbon, or maybe it was just seeing the gleam in a child's eye when she told them "great

job!," nothing meant more to her than to give back to the contest that helped her develop into a public speaker and a leader. So, how do I know so much about this girl? That girl, was me. A 4th grade Walker County 4-H'er that grew up to be a 4-H agent. (see photos of my 5th grade Rock Eagle camp in Muskogee land Cabin #30)

4-H is that one organization where badges don't matter, when winning isn't about 1<sup>st</sup> or last, it is about the work and fun times in between. Maybe you remember a time in your past when you won a blue ribbon or trophy for the first time and felt that feeling of mastery in your veins. Now, think about what you can give a child by volunteering for one small thing. Whether it is volunteering for 4-H, or just spending time with your children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews, what you teach matters! 4-H is a *Blue Ribbon Organization* where 4<sup>th</sup> always feels like 1<sup>st</sup> and competition isn't about winning, it's about the journey.

## A Day In The Life Of a 4-H Agent



By Nichole Winter, Turner Co 4-H'er

I got the opportunity to spend the day with my wonderful 4-H agent Lynn Davis. My school gave us one day to spend with a person of a job that we were considering to have in the future. I chose a 4-H Extension Agent because I am an active 4-H'er and want to continue to be involved in 4-H for a very long time. Agents also work with youth on a daily basis and because I love children, this would be an ideal career for me.

To be an agent, you have to be willing to sacrifice your time for your career. I have learned that oh so well. Sometimes you may have to stay late to help children with their portfolios or projects. Before you even get to the office, work may be done VIA text message, phone call, email, etc. Agents take week-long, weekend-long, and day-long trips across the state, and sometimes across the country.

Throughout the day I spent with Lynn, I helped her organize some projects, clear out the conference rooms, and attended a meeting. The whole time I was there, I kept thinking, "So this is what an agent does? Hmm it's not at all what I thought." I thought this because every time I saw my agent was later in the day after school when she wanted to kick back, relax, and have fun. Little did I know how much work she does throughout the day leading up to the point when I see her.

If I had the chance to relive that day, I would. Before I went and shadowed Mrs. Lynn, I wanted to be a 4-H agent. After shadowing her, I STILL want to be a 4-H agent. Though the day is long, and the work is hard, 4-H is still my number one priority. Hopefully it will be even when I grow to be an adult.

\*Nichole Winter, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade 4-H'er, wrote this perspective of a day in the life of a 4-H Agent after job shadowing me through a school program. It's amazing to me how young people view our role in their lives and the expectations they have of 4-H. We never know what difference we will make in a person's life. For some youth, 4-H <u>is</u> their life and this is a wonderful testimony all by itself! Lynn Davis

## 4-H20 Pilot Curriculum a Success



Terri Kimble, Newton

The Newton County 4-H Home School club studied the 4-H2O pilot curriculum from Melanie Biersmith this year. Two senior 4-H'ers in the club taught about the watershed we live in, one month utilized an Enviroscape borrowed from Keep Covington Newton Beautiful, and another month featured the Project WET water cycle game.

The game was favorite as even the youngest pre-4-H'ers were able to take part in rolling the dice, running around the "water cycle" (yard), and collecting beads on their bracelets for reflection afterward.

Another month had 4-H'ers taking home water evaluation techniques to either try out at home or create a poster on to share.

As their service project, the 4-H'ers each chose a local park or other area with a water feature to clean up as part of the Great American Clean Up. Pictured are three of the families who teamed up to clean a beaver pond and a stretch of drainage ditches. They collected 11 bags of garbage!

Club president Mary Collart reported, "As far as I know, none of us litter, but it definitely gave us a new appreciation of all the work it takes to clean up the roads!"

Next fall's National Youth Science Day experiment is supposed to feature 4-H2O, so consider it as an addition to your curriculum for special clubs next year.



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sonyaj@uga.edu
Zona Medley, Chair-Elect, Colquitt
zonamed@uga.edu

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Dorothea Graham, Douglas Co dholt@uga.edu

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Elizabeth Conway, Clarke Co ebarber@uga.edu

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Maria Bowie, State Staff mbowie@uga.edu

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Sondra Fortner, Johnson Co sfortner@uga.edu

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Casey Hobbs, Walker Co chobbs@uga.edu

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Melinda Miller, Lowndes Co mdmiller@uga.edu

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Lauren Healey, Oconee Co laureng@uga.edu

## DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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Jenny Brown, Senior, Butts Co butts4h@uga.edu Particia Martin, Junior,Richmond Co

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paj@uga.edu

Kimberly Taylor, Senior, Cobb Co kmcdonal@uga.edu Julie Kennedy, Junior, Meriwether

kennedyj@uga.edu

Shivone Wilson, Junior, Rockdale shivone@uga.edy

#### SOUTHEAST

Ginger Boatwright, Senior, Ware Co gingkco@uga.edu Cheryl Poppell, Junior, Toombs Co

cashburn@uga.edu

#### SOUTHWEST

Kate Whiting, Senior, Peach Co whitingk@uga.edu Emmy Reid, Junior, Dooly Co etreid@uga.edu

# STATE STAFF

Casey Mull, Senior, State Staff mullcd2@uga.edu

Mary Ann Parsons, Junior, St Staff mparsons@uga.edu