



Okaloosa County News Release

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Okaloosa County Extension Agents Recognized

Okaloosa County Extension Agents were recognized with the following awards at the 2008 Extension Professional Associations of Florida Conference:

- **Gerald Edmondson** received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. Less than three percent of agents nation wide receive this award. Edmondson completed a three year term as treasurer of the Florida Association of County Agricultural Agents.
- **Larry Williams** completed the first year as National Chair of the NACAA Communications Award Program. Williams was responsible for overseeing the judging and ranking of 703 nation wide entries as well as organizing the award program at the National Meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina in July 2008.
- **Jennifer Heady** received three awards for work done on the 4-H 101 OWL (Orientation Web Lessons) online training course – a team of two other agents and Jennifer developed this course using new technology and the University's e-learning system. They received the Florida Association of Extension 4-H Agents Media Presentation Award, the 4-H Innovator Award and the Educational Technology Award. The award applications were sent on to the **Southern Regional level** where they won in the 4-H Innovator and Educational Technology categories.
- **Elaine Courtney** received the 25 Year Award from Epsilon Sigma Phi the National Extension Fraternity. She was part of a team that submitted two abstract presentations: Florida Saves promotes Asset Building and Young Investor Website: UFYoungInvestor.org
- Extension Sea Grant Agent **Brooke Saari** was co-presenter of an abstract dealing with "Turtle Friendly Beach Lighting in Northwest Florida." This abstract was selected by the Florida Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals from statewide nominations and printed in conference proceedings.
- **Sheila Dunning** was elected President of the Florida Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals. Duties of the position include: serving as the Executive officer of the Association; presiding at all Board of Directors, Executive Committee and General Membership meetings; and appointing all standing and all select committees. As the President of FANREP, Sheila will also represent members at other multi-state Natural Resource and IFAS conferences over the next two years.

Okaloosa County and University of Florida Extension Office provide education classes on agriculture, marine sciences, family and consumer sciences, horticulture, natural resources and water quality, as well as 4-H, and other youth programs. For more details, visit <http://okaloosa.ifas.ufl.edu> or call 850-689-5850.

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