



Newsworthy Stuff

Due to July being vacation month for so many SECN staff members, this month's newsletter will be abbreviated. We will return to the full-length newsletter in August.

Dela was recently selected as a scholarship recipient to attend the international Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing to be held in Houston, Texas, this October. **Dela** was awarded this prestigious honor due to her advanced academic achievements, extracurricular accomplishments, and commitment to promoting women and underrepresented demographics in technology.

Jason and **Elizabeth Gardner** welcomed the newest member of our SECN family. **Henry Russell Gardner** was born on June 7, 2016, and mom and baby are both doing well.

Sandra and **Ava** started with the editing department in June and have hit the ground running.

Aquatic ecologist **Eric Starkey** came on board with the network in June.

A mock annual shoreline report was sent to park resource managers at **CANA**, **FOMA**, **TIMU**, **CUIS**, **CALO**, and **CAHA** for feedback.



per-se-ver-ance (noun). Steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.

Photo of pine sapling at **KEMO** by Emily Milbauer.



Beware the Hershey's Kisses! A copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix*) found at **HOBE**. Photo by Emily Milbauer.

Field Work

Upcoming in July

- Salt marsh data collection is resuming with a field trip to **TIMU** and **FOPU** June 24–July 2.
- **Eric** and **Jake** will be doing stream work at **HOBE** July 27–28.
- **Pete** and **Eric** will be travelling to **CONG** July 7–8 to repair the sonde mount, and to **CAHA** 27–28 July to recommission the fixed station water-quality site.
- **Pete** will be collecting water-quality data in Georgia and Florida coastal parks July 13–15.
- **Sarah** and **Emily** will be doing vegetation community monitoring at **CALO** July 10–August 2, 2016.

Employee Spotlight



This month's employee spotlight is on Peter Mockus, physical science technician for the Southeast Coast Network since spring 2014. Pete primarily assists with coastal water quality monitoring and freshwater well monitoring.

Pete grew up in Oak Forest, Illinois. He received a BS from Charter Oak State College in 2004, and is currently finishing up an MS degree in Geography and Environmental Studies. This is Pete's first job with the National Park Service, but he is no stranger to government work. An enlistment in the Coast Guard, a stint with the U.S. Census Bureau, and some time with the USGS have allowed Pete to take advantage of some fantastic travel opportunities before finally landing here at the Southeast Coast Network in Athens. While Pete has enjoyed his work and travel adventures, he's looking forward to finishing his MS and private pilot certificate!

Pete's mechanical background helps him maintain the network's existing water-monitoring equipment, as well as develop new methods to support the National Park Service mission of protecting and preserving special places now and for future generations, so everyone can have the same opportunities he has had to visit and draw inspiration from these places. Pete spends much of his spare time working on classic Chrysler muscle cars and enjoys upland and waterfowl hunting, camping, and all types of shotgun sports.

For More Information

SECN Home Page: <http://go.nps.gov/secn>

About the NPS Inventory & Monitoring Program:

<http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/index.cfm>

Data Downloads via the Natural Resource Information Portal:

<http://irma.nps.gov>

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