

THE CHICK PAPERS

Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network's Monthly Newsletter



The 86th Annual Meeting

The 86th Annual Meeting was held on the first Wednesday of October. It was the first in-person Annual Meeting since 2019, and it took place in the brand new Emergency Response Building. What a beautiful day filled with many familiar faces as well as several new ones! That event is special for many of us at the lab, as we get to meet many of the customers we serve but rarely get to meet in person!

We celebrated some important milestones for 9 of our employees: 5 years for James Maddox, Katherine Muro, Kayla Jones, and Jeff Spivey; 10 years for Tyler Reed and Sara Cooper; 15 years for Jessi Kimbrell, 20 years for Drew Carter, and 25 years for Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala. Congratulations to all and best wishes for many more years at GPLN!

As tradition would have it, Mr. Massey started the meeting with introductions and his signature one-clap applause. That is always so impressive! Our chairman, Mr. David Bleth of Harrison Poultry, spoke on the successes the lab has had over the course of this last year with our AAVLD accreditation and the ability to come out under budget despite the ever-rising inflation.

Our keynote speaker was Mr. Rodney Bullard from Chick-Fil-A. He is an inspiring speaker who shared some of his experiences growing up to demonstrate that we all have the ability to influence and evoke change within the “3 feet” around us. For an industry that works to feed the world, it is worth saying good job and thank you. Good job for doing work that is necessary albeit sometimes hard and often times a downright dirty job, and thank you for not losing sight of the poultry people surrounding you who all contribute to feeding the world quality, healthy, delicious chicken!

All in all, a fantastic meeting, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next October!





LEFT: The Georgia Poultry Federation arranged for Ivester Early College to tour the lab as they learn more about agriculture in Georgia.



Bethany Coggin and Len Chappell volunteered at the Poultry World exhibit in the Georgia National Fair held in Perry. We had wonderful groups of helpers from several companies, pictured are team members from Pilgrim's, Harrison Poultry, and Perdue Farms. Thank you to all that participated!



LEFT: Dr. Emily Pittman presenting at the Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie .