



38th Annual Ceremonies

Honoring Florida's Great Agriculturalists



February 14, 2017

Special Events Center
The Florida State Fair



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President	Ray Hodge
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Jake Raburn

Master of Ceremonies

Rep. Jake Raburn was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2012. He was recently reelected for a third term in the Florida Legislature, representing District 57 in southeast Hillsborough County.

During his time in the Florida House, Rep. Raburn has served as Vice Chairman of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee and is currently Chairman of the PreK-12 Education Quality Subcommittee, Vice Chairman of the PreK-12 Education Appropriations Subcommittee and Chairman of the House Agriculture Caucus. He has been recognized with awards for his service from several statewide agricultural organizations, including Florida Farm Bureau, Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association, Florida Nursery Growers and Landscapers Association, Florida FFA Association and the Florida Forestry Association.

Rep. Raburn was recognized in 2015 with the UF/IFAS Legislative Leader award. In the private sector, he works for Hinton Farms Produce, Inc., as the Director of Marketing. Hinton Farms was founded in 1952 by his wife's grandfather, 1994 Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame Inductee Elton Hinton.

Rep. Raburn and his wife Melissa Hinton Raburn, both graduates of the University of Florida's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, have three sons: Jackson, Mason and Clayton.





2017 Program

5:30 p.m. Reception
Special Events Center

7:00 p.m. Dinner
Special Events Center

Welcome

Ray Hodge, President
Florida Agricultural
Hall of Fame Foundation

Master of Ceremonies

Rep. Jake Raburn
District 57
Florida House of Representatives

Presentation of Inductees 2017

Honorable Adam H. Putnam
Commissioner of Agriculture



2017 Inductees



Eugene Badger

Eugene Badger was born in Hastings and grew up on his family's potato farm. This early connection to agriculture grew into a lifelong commitment of advancing and advocating on behalf of Florida agriculture.

Badger graduated from the University of Florida in 1949 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture economics/education and was a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. Following graduation, he began teaching agriculture at Palatka High School. In 1952, Badger enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and after receiving an honorable discharge in 1955 with the rank of Captain, he then began his career as a salesman and sales manager for Southern Farm Bureau Insurance in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Badger accepted a management position with the Western Palm Beach County Farm Bureau when he returned to Belle Glade in 1972, and was able to actively advocate for farmers across the state. Though not a farmer, Badger's selfless mission has always been to mentor farmers to be spokesmen of the industry on local, state and national issues.

President George W. Bush selected Badger as head of the state Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, now known as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency. Badger worked diligently to honor and serve Florida farmers by identifying pitfalls in the Federal Crop Insurance Program and pursuing opportunities to showcase Florida's specialty crops. Badger's strong advocacy and dedication to Florida farmers was underscored in 2008 by Senate Resolution 1366, recognizing Badger for his lifetime accomplishments in agricultural leadership and service to the residents of Florida.





William Cook

William Cook was born in Tallahassee, where he graduated from Leon High School. Cook then moved to Callahan to join his uncle's timber dealership in 1947. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he returned to Callahan in Nassau County, where he began building his forestry legacy through the acquisition of the Callahan Timber Company, of which he became president in 1965, and the creation of Great South Timber and Lumber in 1985.

Since joining his family's timber dealership 70 years ago, Cook has seen the operation evolve from hand-loading trucks to leading the way in cutting-edge technology, diversification and integration. Cook has shared his passion for forestry by playing a crucial role in increasing the industry's involvement in the legislative process and improving public outreach.

Cook is a past president of the Florida Forestry Association and has continuously served on its Board of Directors since he was elected to the position in 1974. Cook remains an icon in the forest industry, respected for his acumen, his integrity and his vision.



Joe Marlin Hilliard

Joe Marlin Hilliard was born in Fort Myers and grew up in Hendry County, where he graduated from Clewiston High School in 1961. Following graduation, Hilliard began working on Hilliard Brothers Cattle Ranch, which was founded by his grandfather in 1906, and later owned by his father and uncle in the 1920s.

After joining his uncle and father in managing the ranch in 1961, Hilliard took a major leadership role in the Hilliard Brothers enterprises. He implemented numerous innovative practices to propel his operation forward. Hilliard developed thousands of acres of native pine and palmetto woods into pasture by allowing farmers to clear and farm the land for two years, then planting improved grass. He also collaborated with UF/IFAS to educate farmers in South Florida about the tropical soda apple weed.

Hilliard was one of the first producers to grow sugar cane on sandy soil. Beginning in 1970, he created research projects with the IFAS Immokalee Research Education Center to advance his knowledge on this endeavor, and helped form the South Florida Agricultural Council. Hilliard revolutionized the industry by introducing mechanical harvesting to the area through the Sugarland Harvesting Cooperative, ultimately resulting in an industrywide adoption of the practice.

Hilliard's leadership skills have provided major advances in the cattle, citrus and sugar cane industries. Hilliard has served as an officer and President of the Florida Cattlemen's Association, a member of the Florida Citrus Commission and as a member and Chairman of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.



W. Bernard Lester

W. Bernard Lester was born in Havana, Florida, and grew up on a shade tobacco farm that produced the outer wrappers for cigars. Lester was involved in the Havana High School's Future Farmers of America, earned an Eagle Scout designation and received the Service Award from the American Legion.

Following his service in the Army Reserve program, Lester attended the University of Florida where he majored in agriculture economics and poultry science and was a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. Lester received his master's degree in agricultural economics from University of Florida in 1962 and his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Texas A&M University in 1965.

Lester returned to Florida in 1967 and began his career as a research economist with the Florida Department of Citrus. Lester was named Economic Research Director for the Department in 1969, where he was responsible for administering and conducting all economic research activities for Florida citrus products. He was promoted to Deputy Executive Director then Executive Director of Department in 1979.

In 1986, Lester took a position with Alico Inc. as Deputy Executive VP/COO. He served as President and COO from 1997 until his retirement in 2005. During this time he joined the Gulf Citrus Growers Association and was actively involved in all aspects of the association's mission. He also served on the Boards for Alico Inc., Orange-Co Inc., Agri-Insurance Company, Saddlebag Lake Resorts, Sugarland Harvesting Company and Florida Land Council.

2017

Scholarship Winners

Gianna Arcuri
Olivia Doyle
William Donaghy
Michael Fioretto
Angello Gutierrez
Kelsey Newsome
Taylor Proctor
Colton Rucker
Jeremy Smith
Gresham Stephens





FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL HALL of FAME

1980 Edwin Hall Finlayson
Thomas Gilbert Lee
Nathan Mayo
Henry Oscar Partin
Hoyle Pounds
Egbert Norman Reasoner

1981 Irlo Overstreet Bronson
Gilbert Andrew Tucker
J. Francis Cooper
Louis E. Larson
Pliny Ward Reasoner
Don A. Storms Sr.

1982 Willard M. Fifield
Robert G. Pitman Jr.
Dr. Herman J. Reitz
James N. Watson

1983 Dr. Raymond B. Becker
John M. Fox

1984 Alan James Norden

1985 John Duda,
Andrew Duda Jr.
Ferdinand Duda
Clinton Huxley Coulter Sr.
Doyle E. Conner

1986 Louis G. MacDowell
Edwin L. Moore
Cedric D. Atkins
Lena Smithers Hughes
B. Edward David Jr.

1987 Ben Hill Griffin Jr.
Anthony T. Rossi
J.O. Pearce Jr.
James S. Wershow

1988 Paul Beary Dickman
John Buckner Boy Sr.
Ruth Springer Wedgworth

1989 Peter S. Harllee
Charles P. Lykes
Donald L. Wakeman

1990 Dr. Robert Henry Harms
Raymond P. Oglesby
Carl G. Rose
Dr. E.T. York Jr.

1991 Doyle E. Carlton Jr.
Dr. Tony J. Cunha
Julian B. Lane
Joseph M. O'Farrell Sr.

1992 Edward J. Campbell
N. Curtis Peterson
Edgar H. Price
Vance V. Vogel

1993 Karl Albritton
Wm. Travis Lofton
Dr. John Mortensen
Dr. Julia Morton
Dr. Marshall O. Watkins

1994 Elton L. Hinton
Dr. J. Wayne Reitz
Latimer H. Turner
George H. Wedgworth

1995 Leroy Baldwin
Dr. Clarence L. Campbell Jr.
Latimer "Latt" Maxcy
William H. Stuart Sr.

1996 Neal Palmer "Pal" Brooks
Snead Young Mathews
Davis
Henry Gatrell
Barnette E. Greene Jr.
Gov. Wayne Mixson

1997 William "Bill" H. Krome
J.R. "Jack" Spratt
Raymon F. Tucker
Robert Billingsley
Whisenant
Stephen Monroe Yoder

1998 Miles Edward Groover
Edna Pearce Lockett
Maxey D. Love Jr.
Elliott L. Maguire
Mabel M. Simmons

1999 Alto Lee Adams
Bert J. Harris Jr.
Kenneth F. Jorgansen
Copeland D. Newbern
John Powell Wallace

2000 Tom B. Adams
Jack Monteith Berry
William A. "Bill" Graham
Henry F. Swanson

2001 Al Bellotto
Copeland Griswold
Fountain H. May Sr.
Bert Edward Roper

2002 Bernard A. Egan
Carl B. Loop Jr.
J.R. "Rip" Graves
George F. Sorn

2003 Arlen Neil Jumper
Oma Richard Minton Sr.
Dr. Martha Rhodes Roberts
Dr. Kenneth Ray Tefertiller

2004 Thomas Richard Barber Jr.
Vick and Faye Blackstone
Donald Fariss May
Fred Y. Montsdeoca
Robert Nelson "Bob" Morris



2005 Dr. James M. Davidson
Paul J. DiMare
William D. "Billy" Long
Jo Ann Doke Smith
Frank "Sonny" Williamson Jr.

2006 Charles R. "Chuck" Smith
Dudley Adelbert Putnam
James Neville McAuthur
Lillie "Belle" Jeffords
Roy Gene Davis

2007 William R. Boardman
Albert Greenberg
Carroll Wayne Hawkins
Berryman "Buster" Longino Jr.
Ed and Imogene
Yarborough

2008 Otis Odell "Pete" Clemons
Hugh Malakowsky English
Fritz Stein Jr.
Alto Alfred Straughn

2009 Dr. James Griffiths
Richard Kelly
Kay Richardson
Mason Smoak

2010 Ben Hill Griffin, III
Rudy Hamrick
Dan McClure
Richard Alger

2011 Bill and Trudy Carey
Pat Cockrell
Paul Lyrene
Joseph Orsenigo

2012 Laurence Paul Cutts
Robert Fuchs
Gerald M. Mixon, Sr.
Sidney L. Sumner

2013 Daniel A. Botts
Charles H. Bronson
Paul L. Nicoletti
Eugene E. Trotter

2014 Scottie James Butler
Dr. Robert Bruce Christmas
Dr. Elver Myron Hodges
Dallas Barton Townsend

2015 Edward, Ferdinand S.,
and Joseph Duda
Robert Blake Whisenant
Dr. Alvin C. Warnick
Pat Wilson

2016 Thomas H. Braddock
Dr. Charles "Chip" F. Hinton
Dr. Joseph C. Joyce
Billy Kempfer



2017 Ag Hall of Fame Membership

A. Duda & Sons, Inc.
 ABAC
 Adams Ranch, Inc.
 Alger Farms, Inc.
 Artesian Farms, Inc.
 Bank of Belle Glade
 Ben Hill Griffin, Inc.
 Brooks Tropicals
 Carey Cattle Company
 Chemical Dynamics, Inc.
 Cutrale Citrus Juices USA
 DiMare Tampa, Inc.
 English Brothers
 Fancy Farms
 Farm Credit of Central
 Florida
 Farm Credit of Florida
 Florida Cattlemen's
 Assoc.
 Florida Citrus Mutual
 Florida Dairy Farmers, Inc.
 Florida Farm Bureau
 Federation
 Florida Feed Assoc., Inc.

Florida Fertilizer &
 Agrichemical Assoc.
 Florida Fruit &
 Vegetable Assoc.
 Florida Nursery, Growers
 & Landscape Assoc.
 Florida Peanut
 Producers Assoc.
 Florida Poultry
 Federation, Inc.
 Florida State Beekeepers
 Association, Inc.
 Florida State Fair
 Authority
 Florida Strawberry
 Festival
 Florida Strawberry
 Growers Assoc.
 Florida Tomato
 Committee
 Florida Tropical Fish
 Farms
 George H. Odiorne
 Insurance Agency, Inc.

Greater Jacksonville
 Ag Fair
 Growers Fertilizer
 Corporation
 Helena Chemical
 Company
 Hillsborough County
 Farm Bureau
 Hinton Farms Produce, Inc.
 Hundley Farms, Inc.
 Larson Dairy, Inc.
 Long Farms
 Lykes Bros, Inc.
 M & B Products, Inc.
 Marion County
 Farm Bureau
 Nelson & Co., Inc.
 Oglesby Plants
 International
 Peace River Valley Citrus
 Growers Assoc.
 R. J. Nathe & Sons, Inc.
 R.C. Hatton, Inc.
 Rabo Agrifinance
 Rocking S. Farms

Sarasota County
 Farm Bureau
 Smoak Groves Inc.
 Southeast Milk, Inc.
 Stallings Crop Insurance
 Straughn Farms
 Sugar Cane Growers
 Cooperative
 Syfrett Feed Co.
 The Story Companies
 TOC Land Services, Inc.
 Tropicana Products, Inc.
 United States Sugar
 Corporation
 Volusia County
 Farm Bureau
 Mr. Richard Alger
 Mr. Sidney M. Banack Jr.
 Mr. T. Richard Barber, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. Reginald &
 Lanita Brown
 Mr. Scottie J. Butler
 Mr. Doyle Carlton, III
 Ms. Sarah Childs

Mr. & Mrs. Pete &
 Susanne Clemons
 Dr. Joan A. Dusky
 Mr. Robert F. Fuchs
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob &
 Adele Graham
 Mrs. Hariot Greene
 Mr. Ben Hill Griffin, IV
 Mr. Martin C. Griswold
 Mr. & Mrs. Bobby &
 Patsy Hall
 Mr. Bert J. Harris, Jr.
 Mr. Drew Hawkins
 Dr. & Mrs. Chip &
 Jemy Hinton
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob &
 Lisa Hinton
 Mr. Ray Hodge
 Mr. & Mrs. Arlen &
 Celeste Jumper
 Mr. Danny Kushmer
 Mr. & Mrs. Earl J. Lennard
 Mr. & Mrs. W. Bernard
 Lester
 Mr. Maxey Love, Jr.

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 Mr. & Mrs. Keith &
 Marie Mixon
 Mr. Gerald Mixon, Sr.
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 Mr. Robert M. Morris, ARA
 Mr. & Mrs. John &
 Kay Norris
 Mr. Earl Raulerson
 Dr. Martha Roberts
 Ms. JoAnn Doke Smith
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward &
 Anne Smoak
 Ms. Denise Stembridge
 Mr. & Mrs. Dallas &
 Doris Townsend
 Mrs. Gale &
 Ms. Dottie Trotter
 Mr. Lane Wetherington





Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame

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www.floridaaaghalloffame.org





Special thanks to the Florida Department of
Agriculture and Consumer Services for assistance
with the program booklet.

