

# 2021 RAT GENOME DATABASE CALENDAR



Rat Genome Database

**Mary Shimoyama**  
*Leader, mentor, friend*



**This calendar is dedicated to Mary Shimoyama, PhD, former Principal Investigator for RGD, who passed away February 19th, 2020.**

**Mary was a strong proponent of the use of model organism data and bioinformatic methods to support research into human disease, and an effective advocate for the creation and use of data standards. She worked tirelessly for the success of RGD and of each member of her team. We greatly miss her passion, drive and vision, her enthusiasm and encouragement, her fun and funny stories, and her bountiful Friday treats that lasted through the following week!**

**This calendar is also dedicated to the rat research community worldwide. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement!**

**WITH APPRECIATION, THE RGD TEAM**



Photos of Dr. Mary Shimoyama, (far left with Dr. Akiko Takizawa) submitted by Dr. Mindy Dwinell, Department of Physiology, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, USA.



# JANUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

"I really can't stay—"  
"Sadie, it's cold outside!"

"Wild Sadie", (left) a wild rat living under Dr. Kevin Grazier's porch in New York, over time became "Tame Sadie," (right) the best of indoor pals. Photos courtesy of Dr. Kevin Grazier.

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0337207/>



# FEBRUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

"I think you're stellar.  
Will you be my valentine?"

"Space Tourists". Original painting by Drusilla Kehl,  
The Illustrated Rat. Used with permission of the artist.

<https://www.theillustratedrat.com/>



# MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Top left: "Mismarked" Whiteside, possibly with a Variegated mutation. Top right: Roan, a recessive mutation likely from eastern Europe. As adults, the coat can appear completely white. Bottom left: Dwarf Agouti Tailless (aka Manx) female, possibly recessive Blazed and Down Under. Bottom center: Whiteside tummies. On the ventral view, the belly looks banded. Bottom right: "Mismarked" female, genetics unknown, possibly with recessive belly spotting. Rats bred by and photos courtesy of Concepcion Perez, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA.



# APRIL 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Guess the rats from their candy names! Heterogeneous stock rats (NMcwi:HS (RGD:2314009): Twix (Brown Berkshire), Skittle (Brown Hooded), and M&M (Black Hooded). FHH-Chr 14<sup>th</sup>/Mcwi (RGD:1547870) consomic rats: Toffee and Peanut (Fawn). From Riff Raff Rex, a Milwaukee-based rat breeder: Hershey (Black Dumbo Rex), Rolo (Russian Blue Hooded), Snickers (Blazed Dumbo), and Heath (Agouti Silvermane Dumbo).

"Candy Rats". Original painting by Drusilla Kehl, The Illustrated Rat. Used with permission of the artist. Submitted by Karen Clark, PhD Candidate, Kwitek Lab, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Genetics, University of Iowa and Department of Physiology, Medical College of Wisconsin.

<https://www.theillustratedrat.com/>



# MAY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

“Everyone is always relaxing in our house! And often, they oversleep...”

Wistar (white) rats. Photos and caption courtesy of Dr. Tomoo Eto, Reproductive Engineering Laboratory, Central Institute for Experimental Animals, Kawasaki City, Japan.

<https://www.ciea.or.jp/en/index.html>



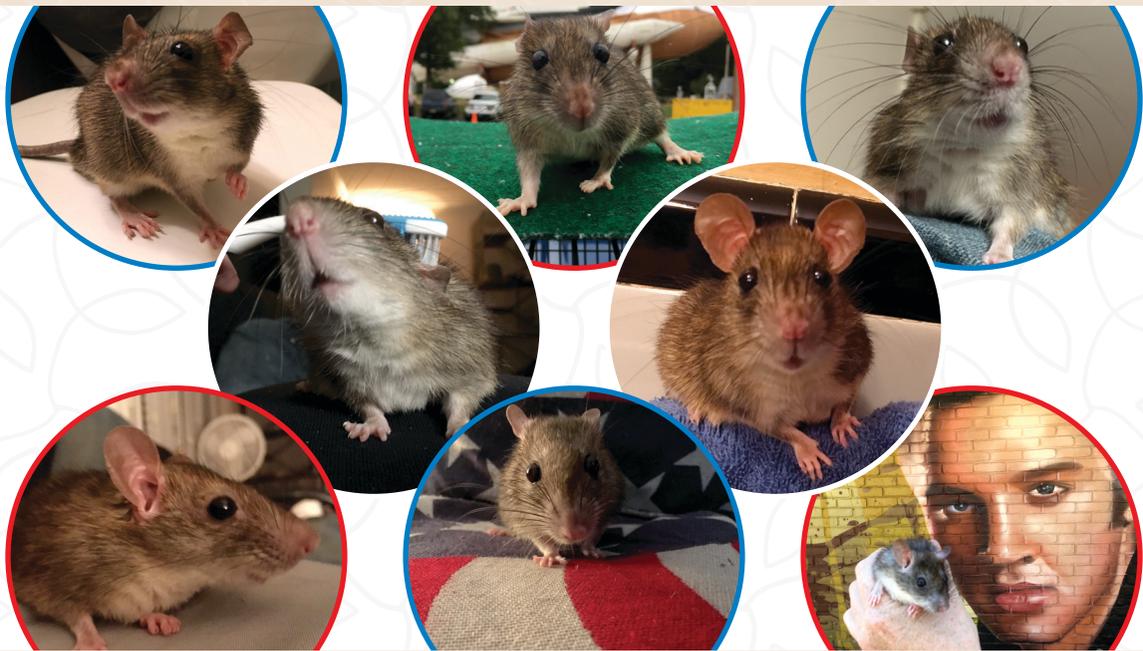
# JUNE 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30			

“What is a ground squirrel’s favorite drink to order?” - “A Marmotini!”

Thirteen-lined ground squirrels (*Ctidomys tridecemlineatus*, of the taxonomic tribe *Marmotini*).  
Photo courtesy of Dr. Akiko Takizawa, Geurts Lab,  
Department of Physiology, Medical College of Wisconsin,  
Milwaukee, WI, USA.

<https://www.mcw.edu/departments/cardiovascular-center-heart/members/faculty-and-labs/aron-geurts-lab>



# JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Anubis, a wild-born *Rattus rattus* from Chatsworth, CA. Anubis lived to an astounding >4 years old! Photos courtesy of Dr. Kevin Grazier.

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0337207/>



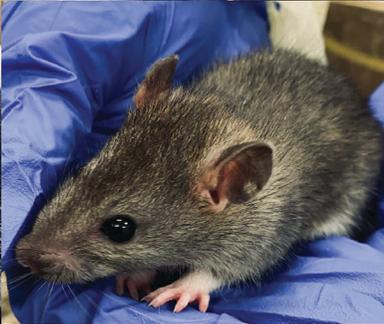
# AUGUST 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

“I’ve never seen anything like it!”

“Brown rat in art gallery”. August is American Artist Appreciation Month. Clearly, this rat likes what he sees! Original artwork created digitally in Photoshop by Dr. Stan Laulederkind, Rat Genome Database, Medical College of WI, Milwaukee, WI, USA. Used with permission of the artist.

<https://rgd.mcw.edu>



# SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30		

"Starburst Stock Rats". Pictures are of heterogenous stock (HS) rats. Photos courtesy of Alexandra DeWitt, Rat Resource & Research Center, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, USA.

<https://www.rrrc.us/>



# OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

"Augie the Candy Corn Elf", a Russian Blue Silvermane Dumbo Rex, is celebrating Halloween in a stylish candy corn... er, candy corn... hat! Photo courtesy of Sarah Hunt, MartyMouseHouse.

<https://www.martymousehouse.com/>



# NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

NMcwi:HS heterogeneous stock rats (RGD:2314009) from the colony originally maintained in the Solberg Woods Lab at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Photography by Dr. Hao Chen, Department of Pharmacology, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN, USA. Photos submitted by Dr. Chen and Dr. Abraham A. Palmer, currently at the Department of Psychiatry, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA, USA.

<https://ratgenes.org/>

<https://www.uthsc.edu/neuroscience-institute/about/faculty/chen.php>

<https://palmerlab.org>



# DECEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

“There’s no way that The Nutcracker could battle this Rat King!”

Left: “The Rat King”. Photo courtesy of Mary Kaldunski, Rat Genome Database, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, USA.

<https://rgd.mcw.edu>

Right: Wistar (white) rats and Long Evans (black hooded) rats in their holiday mugs. Photos courtesy of Dr. Tomoo Eto, Reproductive Engineering Laboratory, Central Institute for Experimental Animals, Kawasaki City, Japan.

<https://www.ciea.or.jp/en/index.html>

### Principal Investigator

- Anne Kwitek, PhD

### Co-Investigator

- Mindy Dwinell, PhD

### Project Manager (Curation)

- Jennifer Smith, MSc

### Database Administrator

- Stacy Zacher, MSc

### Systems Administrator

- Kent C. Brodie, MSMI

### Research Scientists and Curators

- Stan Laulederkind, PhD
- Tom Hayman, PhD
- Shur-Jen Wang, PhD
- Monika Tutaj, PhD
- Matt Hoffman, BSc
- Mary Kaldunski, BSc, rLATg
- Cody Plasterer, PhD
- Mahima Vedi, PhD
- Morgan Hill, MMP
- Wendy Demos, MSc

### Bioinformatics Manager

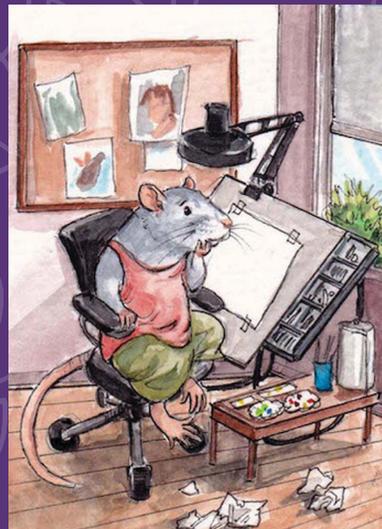
- Jeff De Pons, BSc

### Developers

- Marek Tutaj, MSc
- Jyothi Thota, MSc
- Harika S. Nalabolu, MSc
- Logan Lamers, BA
- Adam Gibson, BSc
- Ketaki Thorat, BCE, OCJP6

### PhD Candidate

- Cagatay Dursun, MSc



“Waiting for Inspiration”. Like us, this little guy is working from home, or at least trying to work if only the inspiration would come! Original painting by Drusilla Kehl, The Illustrated Rat. Used with permission of the artist.

<https://www.theillustratedrat.com/>

**Please continue to support RGD by visiting our  
website at <https://rgd.mcw.edu>.**

**Cover Collage**

**Top left:**

Anubis, a wild-born *Rattus rattus* from Chatsworth, CA. Photo courtesy of Dr. Kevin Grazier.

**Bottom left:**

"Fibbs", featuring President Fibbs & Teddy. Photo courtesy of Sarah Hunt, MartyMouseHouse.

**Center:**

"Science Milo". Original painting by Drusilla Kehl, The Illustrated Rat. Used with permission of the artist.

**Top right:**

Wistar rats. Photo courtesy of Dr. Tomoo Eto, Reproductive Engineering Laboratory, Central Institute for Experimental Animals, Kawasaki City, Japan.

**Bottom right:**

Thirteen-lined ground squirrel. Photo courtesy of Dr. Akiko Takizawa, Geurts Lab, Department of Physiology, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, USA.

**The Universal Reaction to Every Day of 2020 (below)**

Cosmo, Augie and Bean... surviving 2020! Photo meme courtesy of Sarah Hunt, MartyMouseHouse.

