

FARMERS COOPERATIVE

FARMING NEWS

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William Thomas Carte

Co-op Welcomes New Director

By Pauline Fletcher Cogdill

Meet Farmers Cooperative's newest Director, William Thomas Carte. William was appointed to serve on the Cooperative Board at the Feb. 7 meeting to replace retired Board Member, Archie Davis. William is the son of Shirley and Thomas Carte of Live Oak.

WILLIAM AND his dad, Thomas Carte, have been farming since William was a young man. The Cartes were poultry growers for many years until Gold Kist sold to Pilgrim's Pride and they were just one of the growers who lost their contract as a poultry grower.

It was in that time frame that the Carte's started growing peanuts for Birdsong and it's been a very successful operation for them. They also market iron clay peas with their business of Suwannee River Peas.

Almost 30 years ago, Thomas and William started their Brangus brood cows with six Angus heifers, and today they have a herd of 200 Brangus brood cows...just farming at its best.

WILLIAM ENJOYS hiking the Appalachian Trail. In fact, when he was just four years old his dad took the family on an overnight trip to Hampton, Tennessee and it's been a family tradition to hike

each year since. William recently returned from his annual trip to that massive 2,184 mile long footpath. William hiked about 10 miles a day because this year with the temperature in the 90's that's all the ground he could cover.

"Normally you would be able to travel 12-15 miles a day but the heat slowed him down," he said

This year he worked his way to the North Shenandoah Valley Blue Ridge Parkway. William's ultimate goal is to make it to the end of the trail in Baxter State Park in Mt. Katahdin, Millinocket, Maine.

William grew up with FFA being second nature to him since his mother, Shirley Carte, was very active in the Suwannee FFA Chapter and served as State President of FFA Alumni as well as President of the National FFA Alumni Board. So serving on the Suwannee-Branford FFA Advisory Committee seemed to be a natural and honorable commitment to make for William.

Mr. Carte also serves on the Suwannee Farm Bureau Board as Vice President. Additionally, William serves on the Florida Farm Bureau Advisory on the Oversight and Peanut and Cotton Committee in Gainesville, Florida.

WILLIAM IS married to Sarah Dasher (daughter of Randall and Pam

Dasher).

The Carte's are quite proud of their daughters, Maddie and Lindsleigh. Maddie

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William Thomas Carte replaces retired Board Member, Archie Davis, as of the Feb. 7 meeting.

Our Cooperative: Friends in Deed

By Ira Horne

Being one who came into the world during the Great Depression and at the same time that the co-op spirit was coming alive, I wish to share my opinion of the great deeds of the co-ops. For this statement, I will make reference to our Farmers Cooperative.

By the mid 1930s, my family along with other concerned families in the area were experiencing hopes for the coming of the co-ops. FDR's support for co-ops was heartening. Another major support was that the Southern Baptists were making great efforts to establish what they knew as the Cooperative Program.

I think that the Baptist Cooperative Program was a ground swell contribution to the cooperative concept. So now we have a great number of concerned people supporting the cooperative effort.

In October 1947, our co-op store opened as an affiliate of Cotton Producers Association. It was a very small store, but it was our Co-op Store. I am proud of the fact that as a 16 year old I made a purchase of chicken feed on the opening day of the store. Although, that purchase was in my mother's name, due to my age, I was the primary person in my family tending to the farm.

I claim to have been a patron from opening day, giving me grounds to make these statements.

I came to have the greatest respect for our store manager, Mr. Castleberry. Mr. Castleberry was the manager for a long time. The store had put him in a position to be so very helpful to farmers working hard to survive. He was a master at that endeavor. For most of his tenure, the store would buy a lot of what members produced, corn, pecans, seed crops, etc. Time changed things and Mr. Castleberry retired.

After Mr. Castleberry, the store had some short term managers and then came another manager "the right man for the job" Sam Weeks. I saw Sam as innately smart, with the right education, and the right personal disposition. Sam met all of my expectations in becoming a superb manager.

Knowing that there was a great demand for good managers, I feel that we were fortunate that Sam stayed with

our Co-op. With his leadership, we made changes and went through changes that seemed unreal, but the good service has not changed.

In the winter 2011-2012, my need for a special fertilizer mix was taken care

of by Robert Sapp with the time input and experience that I could not have obtained otherwise.

So we still have the "dear heart and gentle people, who live to love in our hometown" in our farm store.

C Bar C Ranch
C R 300 SW
Mayo, Florida 32066

September 7, 2012

Farmers Cooperative, Inc., Live Oak, Florida 32060

My name is Susan Caldwell from Mayo, Florida. We have been buying your Triple 10 horse feed for our horses. Just wanted to let you know that my two AQHA horses (Show Halter Mare and Gelding) both won first place out of 41 horses in their class at the Perry, Georgia, State Horse Show this past weekend.

We contribute their win to the Triple 10 Horse Feed we buy from Farmers Co-op. It gives them a beautiful coat, muscle, and overall it is a very good feed. Feed diet in our AQHA Halter Show Horses is very important, and you cannot get any better than Triple 10 horse feed for your horses. It's just a very balanced feed. We have tried other feed, but we feel that Triple 10 is the best for our Show AQHA Halter horses and our other five AQHA Show Western Pleasure horses.

We also show our Halter horses at AQHA shows and they are winners too. We qualified to go to the AQHA Novice World Show in October 2012. Just wanted to share this with you and to thank you for the great feed you offer. Oh yes, you have a wonderful staff at the store in Live Oak.

Attached is a photo of Just A Few White Lies, one of the winners in Perry, Georgia.

Have a blessed day,
Susan Caldwell
Mayo, Florida

Left to Right: Tom Caldwell
and Susan Caldwell



Annual Meeting Oct. 6

It's time for our Annual Meeting. Our 66th Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012, at Live Oak First Baptist Church on West Howard Street, Live Oak, FL, at 10:00 a.m.

The Annual Meeting gives a brief review of the financial condition of the

cooperative.

Following the business session, door prizes will be drawn and awarded to members present.

Make a point in marking your calendars and plan to attend your Annual Meeting on Oct. 6, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.

For the Past Quarter

NEW CO-OP MEMBERS

LIVE OAK STORE

Sonja J Gandy, Jennings
David R Bailey, Jasper
Linda Douglas, Live Oak
Paula Osborne, Live Oak
Jonathan Goodwin, Live Oak
Lisa Grace Proctor-Smale, Live Oak
Candice Davis, Live Oak
Angela R Roberts, Live Oak
Oly B Oyewole, Glen St. Mary
Philpot Tractor, Inc., Lake City
Alexis Perez, Live Oak
R F Foliage, Miami
Bryan Nazworth, Brooker
Cho Pearson Property, O'Brien
James J. Gallagher, Lake City
Ilene H Snare, Live Oak
Wide Open Farms, LLC, Live Oak
Beth Underhill, Live Oak
Dale D Beeche, Live Oak
Donald H Petrena, Live Oak
Wesley A Hill, Live Oak

Sean McCarthy, O'Brien
The Salvation Army, Gainesville
James D Shook, McAlpin
Benjamin A Sears, Live Oak
Paul D Johnson, Live Oak
Suw. County Jail, Live Oak
Brian Pless, Jasper
Alice M Parker-Blankenship, Ft White
Rob Catterton, McAlpin
George Johnson, Lake City
Drew Bell, III, Mayo
Darren Driver, Mayo
John Pinkerton, Live Oak
Amy Byers, Live Oak
Lois Glass, Live Oak
Lucy Redler, Live Oak
Earl F Suber, Jr., Mayo
Debra Odom, White Springs
Fred Hawk, Traneytown, MD
Cynthia L Rice, Live Oak
Michael Howell, McAlpin
Angelo Avozani, Miami
Robin Harris, O'Brien

John W. Glavich, Jennings
Natasha D. Frenkel, Live Oak
Joseph D. Matthews, Jr., O'Brien
Chris Yarbrough, Lake City
Darrell Copeland, McAlpin
Vince Smith, Monticello
Curtis E. Bryan, Wellborn
Megan Hotchkiss, Jennings
Paul R. John, Winfield, PA
Stuart John Caron, White Springs

MADISON STORE

Aubrey Lewis, Greenville
Louise Drye, Jennings
Robert Moral, Lee
Alden Weiss, Pinetta
Jimmie Roberts, Madison
Jeff Linzy, Madison
Steve McHargue, Lee
Eric Culbreth, Greenville
Brenda Kelley, Madison
James B. Brown, Madison

Jesus Flores, Hialeah
Diane Bachari, Lee
William Piper, Jennings
Feliscia Hinton, Lee
Terry Parker, Perry
Karen Robinson, Perry
Gary Bryant, Madison
Kevin Seago, Greenville
Michael Taggart, Lee
L & G General Services, Inc.-Gregory
B. Law, Jennings
Grace Pemble, Madison
Renee White, Miami
Guy LaCombe, Miami
Jeff Woods, Madison
Dixie Perrin, Madison
Erma Hadden Family Trust, Pinetta
Steven Carpenter, Madison
Jamie Wisenbaker, Valdosta, Ga.
Dwayne & Jackie Koeller, Perry

Co-op Continues Active FFA Support

The 84th Florida FFA State Convention was held in Orlando, Fla., in June. This is a time when the FFA members come together to celebrate the achievements won by the past and present generations of agriculturalists, while continuing to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

Honoring past and present accomplishments, FFA members, along

with advisors, alumni, parents and supporters, will be inspired and motivated to take pride in our industry, serve our communities, and become leaders for the future.

The Florida FFA Association is a premier youth, leadership organization with 16,000 middle and high school student members — as part of over 300 local FFA chapters across the state. FFA members participate in nearly 50 lead-

ership and career development events each year. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

Farmers Cooperative and the Florida Farm Bureau Federation sponsored the Ag Business Management CDE and Agriscience Fair CDE this year at the FFA convention.

WANTED

Farmers Cooperative is trying to locate the following people whose patronage refund checks have been returned from the U. S. Postal Service as "undeliverable."

Bobby Bozeman, Madison
O. K. Duke, Lee
E. L. Hadden, Pinetta
J A Corbett, Jr., Jasper
Robert S. Lawton, Greenville
Charles McKee, O'Brien
Dawson Rutherford, Madison
Billy Ray Wiles, Perry



Left to right: Haley Webb, State FFA Secretary; Ben Randolph, Williston FFA Advisor; Quincy Cason, Williston FFA Member; Ty Cramer, Williston FFA member; Samantha Sandlin, Williston FFA member; Bradley Jones, Williston FFA member; Charlie Brown, State FFA President



Firefighters attended a Propane safety class at Farmers Co-op Live Oak. Among other things, the seminar trained the firefighters to identify the emergency shut off devices on Propane delivery trucks and at storage plants.

Focused on Propane Emergencies

Co-op Offers Training Without Charge

Farmers Cooperative was pleased to be able to partner with the Florida Propane Gas Association and Propane Environmental Services, LLC to provide our area local fire departments with four hours of training related to propane emergencies.

The four-hour course was hosted by Farmers Cooperative and was conducted by Carl Weeks, President and Certified Training Instructor of Propane Environ-

mental Services, LLC.

The training was conducted in the conference room of the Live Oak store.

THE COURSE consisted of Propane Industry safety initiatives, physical properties and characteristics of propane, LP container design and construction, Bulk transportation and storage, and general emergency response procedures.

After the classroom part was completed, the firefighters were given a tour of Farmers Cooperative's storage plant and a Propane delivery truck to help them identify the emergency shut off devices that they had learned about in the classroom.

During the 2 ½ days and five different classes, over forty-five participants received training and four contact hours credit from the Florida State Fire College. The best part was it did not cost the firefighter or their department to receive these four contact hours of credit.

FARMERS COOPERATIVE'S General Manager, Todd Lawrence, said he was glad that Farmers Cooperative had the opportunity to host this kind of training for our area firefighters.

With budget cuts in most fire departments, Farmers Cooperative was pleased to be able provide this training free of charge. It allowed the firefighters to better understand how to handle Propane emergencies as well as protect the lives of our customers, employees and firefighters.

Safety is important to Farmers Cooperative and the area firefighters were able to see firsthand the safety initiatives that Farmers Cooperative has put in place to provide safety to all involved.

New Director

Continued from Page 1

is seven years old and a second grader in Live Oak. Lindsleigh is three and one-half years old and mostly helps mama.

The Cartes enjoy taking their camper to state parks and they try to find a new camp park to explore each year and teach their daughters about the natural beauty of the earth.

Sarah would like to share one of Paula Deen's delicious recipes with our patrons:

Mrs. Salter's Peanut Butter Pie

- 1 ½ cup heavy whipping cream
- ¼ cup sugar
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1 cup crunchy peanut butter
- 1 cup 4X powdered sugar
- 1 graham cracker crust

Whip cream with ¼ cup sugar. Mix all other ingredients until smooth and fold in whipped cream until well blended. Pour mixture into a graham cracker crust and chill for several hours before serving.

Farming News

www.farmerscooperative.org

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Todd Lawrence, Publisher & Editor

Co-op Directors

Kenneth Dasher, McAlpin (Suwannee County)
 Ted Henderson, Live Oak (Suwannee County)
 Eddy Roberts, O'Brien (Suwannee County)
 E. Richard Terry, Madison (Madison County)
 William T. Carte (Suwannee County)
 Tim Steichen, Wellborn (Suwannee County)
 John C. Webb, Lee (Madison County)
 Walter K. Brown (Suwannee County)
 Kevin Morgan (Hamilton County)
 Kenneth McLeod (Madison County)
 Jeff Lee (Suwannee County)