

FARMERS COOPERATIVE

FARMING NEWS

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Offer Free Lessons

Quilters Blanket Charities

By: Heather Kelley

Every Tuesday Mrs. Gean McCullough and about twenty-four of her friends get together to do some extraordinary work. This is when the ladies of the Pine Tree Crafts N Quilters meet to create beautiful quilts and blankets to send to one of the several local charity organizations.

This non-denominational group meets at the United Methodist Center on the Valdosta Highway at about nine or nine-thirty each Tuesday morning. Each of the ladies brings a covered dish for lunch.

THESE CREATIVE ladies have several ways of making these wonderful quilts. Some of them use sewing machines, while others quilt by hand at a long arm frame.

Each of the ladies tries to make at least one quilt per month. Any additional quilts are always welcome. These quilts are then given to different organizations. These include Healthy Start in Madison and Perry and The Pregnancy Crisis Center.

The quilts are made into a bundle of charities. Each bundle includes a receiving blanket, socks, onesies, a boy or girl outfit, and a toy tied in the quilt. If they have extra quilts they give them to immigrants through The Catholic Church

and the Lakota Indian Tribe. They also send quilts to the V.A. Hospital and have made quilts for Hospice.

PINE TREE CRAFT N Quilters will be having their quilt show and brunch fundraiser on February 21, 2009. The fundraiser will be held at the United Methodist Center. There will be many crafts and quilts on hand to purchase. The event will kick off at 9:00 am and last until around 1:00 pm.

The group accepts monetary donations, which are used to buy supplies such as sewing machines, batting, thread, needles, and anything else that they may need. They also accept non-monetary donations such as fabric, thread, and yarn.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, Mrs. McCullough and the others also offer free lessons in quilt making on Thursday mornings. The Pine Tree Craft N Quilters

would like to welcome anyone interested to joining the group. There are no dues for becoming a member of the group.



Gean McCullough

Banana Bread

1/2 cup oleo or butter	3 or 4 ripe bananas (mashed)	1 cup chopped nuts
1 teaspoon vanilla	1 teaspoon baking soda	1 1/4 cup sugar
2 eggs (beaten)	2 cups all purpose flour	1/4 teaspoon salt

Cream sugar and oleo or butter then add the eggs and then the bananas. Combine the baking soda, salt and flour together then add to mixture. Next add the nuts and vanilla. Bake at 350° for about 45 minutes or until brown. (You can also add raisins or dried cranberries.) - Mrs. Gean McCullough

Save Money

Our 5% advance deposit program will be available through January 31, 2009.

For our patrons who are not familiar with the Co-op's 5% advance deposit program, we will offer a 5% discount on Fertilizer, Seed, and Chemicals when you deposit a cash advance during the month of January 2009.

The 5% discount does not apply, however, to equipment construction contracts.

WHEN YOU HAVE decided just how much money you will need to spend at the Cooperative for the calendar year, 2009, please stop by your Co-op at Live Oak or Madison and we will be happy to assist you with your farming needs.

So, if you are really interested in getting the most of your money, our advance deposit program will give you an even greater savings than the 5% discount.

WATCH For Our Website

Come see our new website at www.farmerscooperative.org. The new site will include features such as our monthly specials, newsletters, and special money saving coupons. Remember see these features and much more at:

www.farmerscooperative.org



Ladies Group Quilters (L-R): Gean McCullough, Ila Willis, Hilda Dixon, Mary Dees, Susy Krause, Dot Heirs, Sally Hubbard, Ruth Bishop, Jeanette Mitchell, Irene Rowell, Beth Dees, Kay Hudson, Millie Leonardson, Betty Sirmon, Judy Placzkowski, Sara Freythe, Lauretta Bottomley

What is your Soil PH?

With the rising cost of fertilizer it will be beneficial to correct the PH on your farm. Using the table below you can see the dollar benefit of making sure your soil has the correct PH. The example used is a blended fertilizer costing \$625.00 per ton. Applied at a rate of 350 lbs. per acre or a cost of \$109.38 per acre. With a PH of 4.5 you would also be losing \$78.03 per acre.

To help you with your PH needs Farmers Cooperative is offering the following Specials on dolomite. Kilibrew 20 ton load and spread - \$26.00 per ton. Tail dumped 40 tons and spread - \$23.00 per ton. Prices good through Jan. 31, 2008.

Call us today for your dolomite needs or to schedule a soil sample for your farm

at (386) 362-1459. Soil samples on five acres or more: \$20.00

Now is the "time to lime" to get your crop or pasture started off right in the spring.

Does the liming of acid soils pay? Correcting soil acidity by the use of lime is the foundation of a good soil fertility program. Lime does more than just correct the soil acidity. It also (1) supplies Ca and Mg if dolomitic lime is used, which are essential plant nutrients. (2) it makes other essential nutrients more available; and (3) it prevents elements such as Mn and Al from being toxic to plant growth.

Source: Phosphate and Potash Institute

Limestone Makes Fertilizer Work Fertilizer Efficiency Goes Up As Soil Acids Go Down

SOIL ACIDITY	NITROGEN	PHOSPHATE	POTASH	FERTILIZER WASTED	DOLLARS LOSS PER ACRE
Extremely acid 4.5 pH	30%	23%	33%	71.34%	\$78.03
Very Strong Acid 5.0 pH	53%	34%	52%	53.67%	\$58.70
Strong Acid 5.5 pH	77%	48%	77%	32.69%	\$35.76
Medium Acid 6.0 pH	89%	52%	100%	19.67%	\$21.52
Neutral 7.0 pH	100%	100%	100%	0%	\$0.00

Float Takes First Place

Special recognition to Farmers Cooperative's team of Barry Long, Todd Lawrence, Kelli Hall, Larry Deas, Michael Grand, Caleb Herron, Sheryl Chauncey, Brian McDonald and Wendell Feagle.

Farmers Cooperative's great team of workers volunteered their time and built a first place winner for Suwannee County's Winter Wonderland Christmas Parade Float on December 6, 2008.

Brantley and Blaine Roberson are enjoying roasting marshmallows on the fire, Others on the float include Makayla Hall, Brent Long and Lisa Long.



Farmers Cooperative 1st Place Winner

For The Past Quarter

NEW CO-OP MEMBERS

LIVE OAK STORE

Brian Eugene Harper, Live Oak
Lori Alban, Live Oak
Glenn Burd, Live Oak
David F. Wall, Live Oak
Tammy Law, White Springs
Philip Bailey, White Springs
Eddie Robinson, Live Oak
H&B Quail Farm, Inc., Jasper
L. Keith Von Hall, Jasper
Rayne Cooks, Madison
Debra Hughes, Lake City
R. Grady Greene, Lake City
Chris Barfield, McAlpin
Rodney Sheive, Live Oak
Suw. Co. Sheriff's Dept.,
Live Oak
Alicia & Chris Furst, Live Oak
Marie Smith, Bell
Amber McDonald, Madison
Don Stewart, Lake City
Andrew T. Carter, O'Brien
L. Minier Farm, O'Brien
Travis Tuten, Live Oak
Gene Wynn, Jasper
Jimee Wilkie, Lake City
Jack Frazier, Ft. White
Patricia Warren, Live Oak
Dwight Stipes, Palm City
Catheryn Mellinger,
Dowling Park
Howard Davine, Jennings
Eduardo Contreras, Live Oak
Tracy Quintana, Lee

Richard C. Adams,
Carthage, NC
Dewey Allen Cribbs, Jasper
Tom Ankers, O'Brien
Chris Taylor, Lake City
Saul Melchor Hernandez,
Live Oak
Richard W. Simmons, Live Oak
Kara Shafer, Lake City
Browning Strickland,
Lake Park, GA
Jarrett Jarvis, Live Oak
James Driscoll, McAlpin
Jose Tejado, Jr., Live Oak
Bruce Hogan, II, Live Oak
Michael A. Mauro, Lake City
Arlo Rissman, Live Oak
David Riker, McAlpin
Reuben A. Law, Live Oak
Bonnie J. Lee, Lake City
Sharon D. Lovett, Live Oak
David W. Young, O'Brien
Jack E. Hazen, Jr., Wellborn
Mercelyn McCrea, O'Brien
Charles E. Umstead, Live Oak
Lafayette FFA, Mayo
Emily E. Shadrix, O'Brien
Efren Olivia, Live Oak
Donald W. Yates, Mayo
Mark & Lori Evans, Jacksonville
Rene Reyes, Jennings
Cheryl & John Scaff, Jasper
Lynn Hagan, Live Oak
June Manwell, Orange Park

White Oak Dairy, Mayo
Lecture Ashton, Live Oak
Angela Mucienko, Live Oak
Richard J. Murray, McAlpin
Gregory J. Schutte, Live Oak
Paula Carter, Jennings
Doyle & Debra Welk, Jennings
Larry Rodgers, Valdosta, GA
Betty Jordan, Live Oak
Varda J. Walters, Live Oak
Roberts Rentals, Live Oak
Ronald Liphart, Live Oak
Paulette Gardner Walker,
Live Oak
Anthony Corpora, McAlpin
H.S. Robertson, Live Oak
Byron Eugene Thomas,
Live Oak
Ruber Mirando, Live Oak
Chia's Hot Dogs, Live Oak
Carol Selph Deas, Live Oak
Jay George, Live Oak

MADISON STORE

Jack C. Grey, Lee
Scarpinaro Enterprises, Inc.,
Sarasota
Juanita Kinsey, Monticello
Amanda Vasquez, Pinetta
David & Sheryl Hudson, Perry
Troy Crandall, Lee
Cornell Proctor, Jr., Melbourne
Wayne Hamrick, Greenville
John H. Pace, Naples

Ruth S. Herndon, Pinetta
Tom Wooten, Monticello
Amber McDonald, Madison
Bruce VonStetina, Madison
Joseph Vandenberg, Monticello
Dustin Ellison, Lee
Thomas S. Pappas, Winter Park
John W. Dodson, Pinetta
Yancey H. Baker, Jr., Live Oak
Faye Holder, Madison
James & Sheena Reddy
Ronnie Hedrick, II, Lakeland
Frank Rosario, Madison
James Groover, Jr., Madison
Theron O'Quinn, Greenville
Glenn Noble, Clearwater
Raymond Ganey, Pinetta
Ricky & Ruth Taylor, Madison
Angela Drummond, Madison
Robert Fleming, Mayo
David Bailey, Perry
B. Vaughn Lee, Pinetta
Live Oak Pest Control, Inc.,
McAlpin
Mary J. Kinard, Pinetta
Rick Boler, Ray City, GA
R.J. Merritt, Madison
John E. Bowling, Madison
Cathy Olmstead, Lee
Charles Starling, Madison
Chuck Strickland, Fort White
Leon Kenneth Bennett,
Monticello
Robert Schramm, Greenville
Anthony Humphries, Madison

Annual Meeting

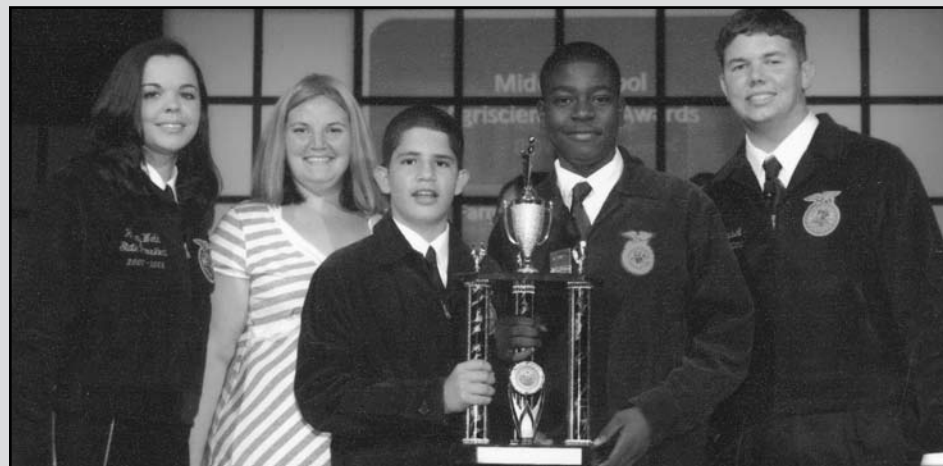
Farmers Cooperative's 62nd Annual Membership Meeting was held at Live Oak Church of God in Live Oak, October 18, 2008. Following registration, the meeting started at 10:00 a.m.

Several door prizes were awarded to the 123 members attending the Annual Membership Meeting.

General Manager Lawrence reported annual sales volume of \$11,054,197 for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 and a net profit of \$452,028.00 to be paid as follows: 40% in cash, \$180, 811.00 and 60% notified equity, \$271,217.00. Additionally, Farmers Cooperative's Board of Directors retired 1980 equity in the amount of \$72,291.69.

FERTILIZER volume, \$3,300,353, Refund \$57,652 or 3.8%; Feed and Animal Health volume, \$1,742,429, Refund \$57,652 or 3.31%; Crops volume \$611,513, Refund, \$12,547 or 2.05%; Ag Chemical volume, \$663,543, Refund \$27,531 or 4.14%; Farm Supplies volume, \$1,737,083, Refund \$58,692 or 3.37% and LP Gas volume \$2,999,276, Refund \$170,168 or 5.67% or 14.38 cents per gallon.

Patronage Refund for 2007-2008 checks were mailed in December, and should also be included in your 2008 tax return.



2008 Florida FFA Agriscience Fair Division III Middle School

Hillary Webb, State FFA President, Kristen Wood, Kennedy FFA, Advisor, Sebastian Sarmiento, winner, Kennedy FFA, Michelot Michael, winner, Kennedy FFA, Jamie Fussell, State FFA Secretary

FFA Member Wins FFA State Officer

"Looking Back, Moving Forward" is the theme for the 80th Annual FFA Convention this year.

ORLANDO, Florida was the host site for Florida FFA Association for the State FFA Convention held on June 10 thru June 13, 2008 at the Caribe Royale Orlando Resort with more than 3,000 FFA members, guests and supporters attending the convention. During this convention several thousand awards and scholarships were presented to many deserving FFA participants.

This year Farmers Cooperative co-

sponsored 2008 Florida FFA Agriscience Fair Division I and III Middle School Awards.

FARMERS Cooperative is always proud to be a part of this rich heritage of agriculture leadership program with students being inspired into leadership roles that will motivate them to be successful individuals for a lifetime.

Our own Suwannee County Adrienne Boyette was elected to the Florida FFA State Officer Team as Vice President, Area II.

Non-Profit Clubs

Turn Feed Bags To Cash

Farmers Cooperative sells a lot of Southern States Feed. In fact, Farmers Cooperative Live Oak and Madison stores were listed as 14th and 15th out of the largest top 500 equine retailers nationwide in the November/December Equestrian Retailer Special Issue 500 Top Retailers Magazine.

NOW IS A GOOD time for you to turn these empty feed bags into cash with Southern States Special Horse Organization Winner (SHOW) Program. The SHOW Program was developed to provide all non-profit horse associations and clubs their very own sponsorship tool.

First, you must register your organization with Southern States Home Office and submit proof-of-purchase seals found on the back of each horse feed bag (feed tags are not accepted). Over 400 groups are currently earning money through the SHOW program thereby turning their feed bags into cash for horse show events.

FOR EXAMPLE, YOU can earn 10 cents for each proof-of-purchase seal from Reliance feed bags and 25 cents for Legends or Triple Crown feed bags. If you have questions about SHOW or want to enroll, call 804-281-1481 or send an email request to SHOW@sscoop.com.

Farming News

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