

FARMERS COOPERATIVE

# FARMING NEWS

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## Want Fresh Veggies?

# Buy a 'Share' of the Garden

By Heather Kelley

Wynn's Heritage Farm in Madison Florida has been a family farm for over 61 years. Over the years the farm has produced a variety of things from tobacco to livestock. The past few years Wynn's has produced mostly vegetables. For years, Mel Wynn has shared his crop with many local people. This year he is trying something new. It's called Community Supported Agriculture or CSA.

**CSA IS BECOMING** a popular way for people to buy fresh local food direct from the farmer. The way it works is a person or family can purchase a "share" of the farm.

A "share" varies from farm to farm. In the case of Wynn's Heritage Farm a "full share" cost \$400 and the customer receives a box/bag of 6-8 different items for 3-4 people every week.

A "half share" cost \$250 and the customer receives a box/bag of 6-8 different items for two people every week for 10-12 weeks. Mel has 32 people that he "shares" his farm with. People who purchase shares are not required to work for their share.

However if one wanted to work in the field he could. Mel sure would welcome the help.



**For years, Mel Wynn has shared his crop with many local people. This year he is trying something new called Community Supported Agriculture.**

All shares must be bought before the season begins. This allows the farmer to avoid having to borrow money to get the crops started.

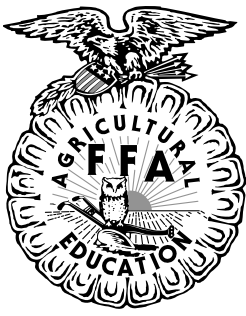
**MEL HAS QUITE** a farm. He has planted many different varieties of produce. This year he planted eight acres of gardens. He planted every thing from field corn to several different types of sweet corn. He has planted many different

tomatoes, squash, okra, cucumbers, and much more.

His gardens are planted in stages to ensure that he has fresh vegetables to fill his boxes for the full 10-12 weeks of the spring and summer garden season.

Mel is very pleased with the CSA farming idea. He stated that he has been

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# FFA State Convention

The Florida FFA Association hosted the 82nd State FFA Convention on June 14–18, 2010, at the Caribe Royale Orlando, Fla. More than 3,000 FFA members, guests and supporters attended the 82nd State Convention. During this exciting event, over 1,500 awards and scholarships were presented to FFA members.

This year's convention theme, "In Motion," symbolized all of the ways students can keep moving toward new opportunities in agriculture, leadership and success.

Students were inspired and motivated through powerful workshops, impacting sessions and career-development events. Approximately 1,500 students received awards, scholarships and recognitions funded through special projects of the Florida FFA Foundation.

Agriscience Fair winners named at the 82nd FFA State Convention include Drew Land from Suwannee County in the Engineering Category. Drew is the son of

Hal and Tammy Land, of Live Oak, Fla.

The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career

success through agricultural education.

Farmers Cooperative, Inc. sponsored the Agriscience Fair Awards, MS, and co-sponsored the 2010 State Farm Business CDE with Florida Farm Bureau.



**Left to right: Caitlin Prichard, State President; Wayne Olfke, Ft. White FFA Advisor; Sarah Chambers, Ft. White FFA; Catherine Bowman, Santa Fe FFA; Jo Ann Brady, Santa Fe FFA Advisor; Drew Land, Suwannee FFA; Travis Tuten, Suwannee FFA Advisor; Charlton Cheng, Ferguson FFA; Will Dukes, Ferguson FFA Advisor; and Joseph Tardanico, Ferguson FFA.**

## \$300 Propane Water Heater Rebate

Members of Farmers Cooperative in Live Oak and Madison can buy a new residential propane water heater and get a \$300 rebate, plus a free propane system safety check.

In the 21st Century, propane is the exceptional energy. It is clean, reliable, safe, efficient and affordable.

Installing a new, more efficient propane water heater is a great way to start saving money on your energy bill—and there's never been a better time to do it.

The Propane Education Foundation of Florida is offering the rebate on propane water heaters purchased and installed between July 31, 2010, and June 1, 2012, while funds last.

- Both tank and tankless propane water heaters are eligible for the rebate.
- A tankless water heater may also qualify you for a federal tax credit of up to \$1,500.

- A free safety inspection is part of the rebate program. After the water heater is installed, a trained service technician from Farmers Co-op will perform a complete safety check on your entire propane system at no charge.
- Eligible installations must take place in Florida. Water heaters must be propane-fueled, either a storage-type rated at not less than 30 gallons water capacity or a tankless-type rated at not less than 50,000 btu-hour input.
- No more than one rebate shall be paid per residential address, and all water heater installations are subject to audit by the Propane Education Foundation of Florida.

- Please allow 60 days for processing rebate checks.

For more information, call Farmers Co-op in Live Oak or Madison.



**Installing a propane tankless water heater before June 1, 2012, will not only save water, but will also qualify you for both a \$300 rebate and a federal tax credit of up to \$1,500.**

## For the Past Quarter

# NEW CO-OP MEMBERS

### LIVE OAK STORE

JoAnn Crump, Live Oak  
Robert C Bringson, McAlpin  
Douglas Robbins, Mayo  
Deborah Harrington, Lake City  
Windell V Green, Mayo  
Hamilton C I EBT, Jasper  
Marvin E Walker, Live Oak  
Lucile T Mizelle, Lake City  
William E Royals, Sr., Lake City  
Jorge A Delgado, Aventura  
WPS LLC dba Little Caesars, Live Oak  
Charles L Carver, Live Oak  
Linda Hovey, Live Oak  
Gloria E Urban, Live Oak  
Karen T Lane, McAlpin  
Pat Shartran, Madison  
Robert E Watson, Jasper  
Philip Hancock, Wellborn  
Dorothy London, O'Brien  
Greg Frazier, Mayo  
Nathaniel Combass, Jasper  
Donald C Harroff, Live Oak  
Scott W Messler, O'Brien  
Willie J Nelson, Live Oak  
Kathleen Petri, Live Oak  
John Schmidkofer, Live Oak  
George E Fryar, III, O'Brien  
Bishop D Clary, Live Oak  
Howard W Goff, Live Oak  
Rebecca Hall, Mayo  
Mary Taylor, Live Oak  
Dean Dempsey, Lake City  
Jennifer Dunaway, McAlpin  
Kenneth Comer, Live Oak  
Jorge Benitez, Plantation  
Ray Potetz, Live Oak

Jimmie Lou Baker, Live Oak  
Tom Loughran, Live Oak  
Kari Cohen, Jasper  
Barbara Rowe, Live Oak  
Agri-Fence Co., Branford  
A John Bird, Live Oak  
John Summerfield, Live Oak  
Willie A DuBose, Live Oak  
Maxie L Boyette, Live Oak  
Michael Lee, Live Oak  
Carol F Gaylord, Live Oak  
Greg Black, Monticello  
Jared Lee, Live Oak  
Edward Stovall, Live Oak  
Robert I Ford, Live Oak  
Jennette Haney, Live Oak  
Gincy S Thomas, Mayo  
Orlando Bueno, Ft. White  
George David Morris, Wellborn  
Lucille Henderson, McAlpin  
Barbara A Benware, Live Oak  
Bob DeVille, Naples  
Michelle Hall, Live Oak  
Robin H Talley, Lake City  
Richard A Eary, McAlpin  
Thomas Pyne, Lake City  
Karl McGee, McAlpin  
Penate General Farms, Greenville  
Kristine Boykin, Live Oak  
Terri Nutter, McAlpin  
Eli S Brown, Live Oak  
Duncan Grinstead, Branford  
Heidi Schenauer, Live Oak  
North Florida Sales, Lake City  
Michael A Leroy, Live Oak  
Sheila McCumber, White Springs  
Lester L Berry, Jr., Live Oak

### MADISON STORE

Rex J. Mangum, Jr., Greenville  
Raymond H. Luckey, Jennings  
Tim LeMay, Lee  
Amber Lastinger, Perry  
Sara Shepherd, Pinetta  
Stephen Keith, Greenville  
Larry R. Keidel, Jennings  
Uford Madden, Tallahassee  
Ann Demoss, Lee  
RVB Tree Farm, LLC, New Port Richey, FL  
Mauri Register, Greenville  
Willie Simmons, Madison  
David Hyler, Jennings  
Clifford Jewell, Madison  
Gary, Fine, Pinetta  
Robert Usina, Madison  
Joel Reynolds, Perry  
Amanda Fico, Madison  
Robert V. Wiles, Perry  
Dawn Renner, Madison  
Gene Thompson, Coolidge, GA  
Melvin, Fouraker, Callahan, FL  
Selina Jo Sherman, Madison  
Sandra Kulikousky, Madison  
Debbi Gress, Lee  
Bryan Letourneau, Madison  
Dennis Gant, Perry  
Tena Stallings, Pinetta  
Brian Courtney, Lee  
Pamela Miller, Jennings  
Lyle Stanley Trace, LLC, Lee  
Dale Sult, Jennings  
John B. Sullivan, Madison  
Stacey Hankins, Madison  
Lettie Sexton, Madison

Benjamin Bishop, Monticello  
Jane & Reg Moore, Pinetta  
Kenny H. Rimes, Wimauma, FL  
Brenda Carpenter, Greenville  
Gary Silvernell, II, Greenville  
Dan Fritz, Lee  
James E. Core, Perry  
Nikole Boatwright, Pinetta  
Donna Gayle Johnson, Perry  
Crystal Lake, Madison  
Chris Dorst, Lee  
William F. Strickland, Perry  
Willie J. McGee, Madison  
Larry Madden, Greenville  
Wendi Roger, Lee  
Janet Maier, Madison  
Joel Devolentine, Tallahassee  
Reginald L. Alexander, Greenville  
Vaughn Burnham, Jennings  
Don Gowdy, Madison  
Mantha & Ronald S. Dixon, Madison  
Inez Macomber, Lee  
Paul Rickards, Quitman, GA  
Bonita James, Madison  
Gary Gazlay, Madison  
Kass Brooks, Monticello  
Jennifer Cox, Jasper  
Amanda Rhodes, Shady Grove  
Tony Merritt, Lee  
Tim Sanders, Madison  
Sammy Sturgill, Shady Grove  
Madison Co. Facilities, Madison  
Madison Co Animal/Mosquito Control, Madison  
Madison Co. Parks & Recreation, Madison  
Madison Co. Solid Waste, Madison  
Alice McCarthy, Greenville

## ANNUAL MEETING

It's time for our Annual Meeting. Our 64th Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, October 23, 2010, at Live Oak Church of God, Live Oak, Fla., 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 to mark your calendars and plan to attend your Annual Meeting on October 23, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.



**Jacob Larson, Todd Lawrence and Jeffrey Hamrick pose for a group shot. Larson is the president of the Florida Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Rancher Leadership Committee. Jeffrey Hamrick is the immediate past president of the committee. By virtue of these positions, they both also serve as members of the FFB state board of directors.**

# Buy a 'Share' of the Garden, Get Fresh Veggies

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doing it for years and just didn't know that it had a name. You can get more information on CSA farming at [www.localharvest.org](http://www.localharvest.org). To get more information about Wynn's Heritage Farm you can contact Mel at 850-973-2729.

## Chicken and Dumplings Wynn Style

Cook fat hen until tender enough to remove meat from the bones. A fryer can be used; if so, add 1 stick of butter.

Thicken the juice with flour by mixing flour and water together. Maybe ¼ cup flour and water together. Maybe ¼ cup flour depending on amount of juice. Salt

and pepper to taste.

Roll out this and bake dumplings using your favorite biscuit recipe. Use fork to make holes in each one so they will be crisp.

Heat juice hot. Add ¼ cup of can milk (turn off stove). Do not boil. Then add dumplings. Never boil or these will soften and not be as good as when crisp.

Always wait to add dumplings just before serving.

Mel's Variations: You may use frozen biscuits instead of scratch made, simply thaw then divide into smaller pieces; dust with flour roll, press down this, use fork as directed above and bake crispy. These are almost as good as homemade (almost).

Another alternative to whole chicken is

breast meat, using white meat only you will need to use the stick of butter mentioned above also add 1 can chicken broth or make your own using bouillon cubes.

## Serving Suggestion

Instead of placing baked dumplings into the pot of chicken, use individual serving bowls such as soup or salad. Place baked dumplings into bowl then ladle chicken and juice/broth mix over these. This will enable you to reheat original mix without softening the dumplings.

This recipe will never be as good as Mom made it, just accept this. However, the more you prepare it the better you will become. HAPPY EATING!

# 2010-2011 Big Buck Contest Rules

By Barry Long

Florida and Georgia hunters are gearing up for the beginning of the 2010-2011 deer-hunting season. Farmers Cooperative wants to add a little more excitement to your deer-hunting season with our Big Buck contest.

To be eligible for the contest hunters need to sign up at Farmers Cooperative in Live Oak or Madison, Florida no later than

November 13, 2010. Any native Florida or Georgia whitetail buck legally killed in the 2010-2011 season, under ethical fair chase conditions within 75 miles of either the Live Oak or Madison Farmers Cooperative store will be eligible for the Big Buck contest. Bucks that are killed on for-profit private deer farms, game preserves or any other high fenced or pay-to-hunt property are NOT eligible regardless of size or acreage.

Bucks will be scored by using the Boone & Crockett scoring system, typical or non-typical. Bucks will be measured to determine a net score. Bucks with non-typical antlers will have to exceed typical scores by 25 inches to be considered bigger. Under this rule, for example, a typical buck scoring 130 inches would be considered bigger than a non-typical buck scoring 154 inches. In the event of a tie the buck with the highest gross score would be the winner. Final scoring of antlers will be scored by an F.W.C. wildlife officer/biologist at a given specific time.

A \$500 Farmers Co-op gift certificate will be awarded to the highest scoring buck, \$200 gift certificate to the 2nd place and \$100 to the 3rd place buck that is entered in the contest. Division and distribution of the Prizes will be the sole discretion of Farmers Cooperative. Promotional rights of the winner belong to Farmers Cooperative Inc.

Winners will be announced at the 2011 Spring Banquet of the National Wild Turkey Federation.



Linn Webb, 2009-2010 Big Buck Contest \$500 Grand Prize Winner

## WHERE ARE THESE FOLKS?

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

Maude Skeen, Wellborn  
Carl Smith, Madison  
Robert N Shaver, Wellborn  
Hezron Smith, Monticello  
Casey Jones, Live Oak  
J D Smith, Madison  
Sheridan Hill Ranch, Live Oak  
Jackel Farms South, Jacksonville

## Farming News

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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)

Archie Davis, Lee (Madison 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)