



Battalion photo by Susan Webb

Co-op sells food at reduced prices

Are you interested in buying food products at lower prices? If so, you might consider joining the Brazos Valley Food Co-op.

The Co-op buys food as a group and distributes it to individual members. It's good food at good prices, according to member Dwight Tomkins.

The group buys grains, beans, raisins, cashews and other types of bulk food from the Yellow Rose Warehouse Co-op in Austin, which supplies a number of member co-ops in the state. Eggs, cheese, honey, fruits and vegetables are purchased from local farmers.

"We try to get whatever the membership wants," Tomkins said. "We do not have meat because it requires special handling, but we would supply it if the demand was great enough."

Some food items bought from local farmers are not government-inspected. Tomkins said that the co-op also tries to get some organically grown food.

Members of the group meet on Tuesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. in a building at the corner of Nimitz and Ash Streets in College Station. Food items are distributed at the weekly meetings.

Some people come for food once or twice a month and stock heavily while others come each week.

Often the group meets in homes of members to discuss types of food to get, policies concerning distribution, benefit dinners and ways to create interest in the co-op.

Those wanting to join the Co-op pay \$5 or \$10 to establish credit with the group. Then a percentage is charged over the base price of each food item.

"If we buy 24 pounds of cheese at \$1.29 a pound we charge each buyer

the base cost and 10 percent of the base price," Tomkins said. "So they pay \$1.42 per pound of cheese."

The money is used to maintain an inventory of food products.

The Brazos Valley Food Co-op started in October 1974 and has 15 to 20 members.

The group is planning to have some benefit dinners soon to introduce people to the Co-op, Tomkins said.

He said that the Co-op is open to everyone. Both consumers and local producers are invited to attend the weekly distribution meetings.

Help save a life

The Aggie blood drive, sponsored by OPA, APO and Student Government, is being held in Room 224 of the Memorial Student Center through Wednesday. Texas A&M University President Jarvis Miller is doing his part by donating a pint of blood. Bill Adams, a senior and a member of APO, talks to Miller during his stay on the table.

A&M drill teams first in home meet

The Texas A&M Fish Drill Team and Women's Drill Team won here Saturday in the State of Texas Invitational Drill Meet.

It is one of three meets that will decide the state champions.

The Aggie Women were unopposed in the without-arms division to claim the title. They are commanded by Susan Graesser of Bryan. The 20-member team won an earlier meet in Austin.

The Fish Drill Team won with first-place performances in fancy, basic and tandem drill. Commanded by John Stine of Dallas, the fish earner won the Tulane Invitational at Iardi Gras.

Ed Cano of San Antonio and Paul Simon of El Paso comprised the winning Fish tandem.

Second over all in the men's division was UT-Arlington, with first place inspection. The UT-Austin drill team placed third over all. Five teams, including units from F. Austin and Tarleton State Universities, competed.

The next state championship meet will be hosted by Trinity Uni-

versity in San Antonio later in April. Texas A&M President Jarvis Miller, Brig. Gen. Harry Steel, 49th Armored Division commander, and other Texas A&M officials presented trophies.

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