

Established  
1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE



Volume BB, Number 17

August 16, 2007

### DIVERSITY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

## Diversity Subcommittee Conducts Focus Groups

By Hayley Gorenberg

Unfortunately, Louise Daniel herself just lived through another one of those bias moments in the Coop that her subcommittee of the Diversity and Equality Committee (DEC) is trying to study. A few days after she helped conduct the first focus group on incidents that have raised concern at the Coop, Daniel, who is African-American, was apparently assumed to be the nanny of a white woman with a small child—near whom she coincidentally happened to be standing. A Coop member working her shift heard the white woman's explanation that a babysitter would be looking after the child, and turned to Daniel. "The woman kind of assumed I'm the babysitter, because I'm black," she said.

Daniel, a Coop member for seven years but a member of the DEC for just a few months, spoke up. "I think if I hadn't been on the DEC, I would have let it go like I had a lot of other times." She said the shift worker who had made the assumption responded defensively, saying, "I don't know why you bring that up. Did I do something offensive?" Daniel persevered, and said, "Well, actually, you racially profiled me. It's better to just ask questions. You could have just asked, 'Who is the babysitter?'"

As the conversation continued, Daniel said, the worker "got all bent out of shape. She got really upset," went to a squad leader for help, and the squad leader "just kind of shrugged. He should have stepped up. But he just stood there, like, 'Don't look at me! I don't know!'"

"That's why people don't confront," Daniel said. "You just never know what's at the end of this." She remarked on the anger and upset of the workers with whom she spoke, and the irony: "And then I ended up feeling bad. And I'm the one it happened to!"

Such incidents, and their cumulative effect, occupied the DEC survey subcommittee at its

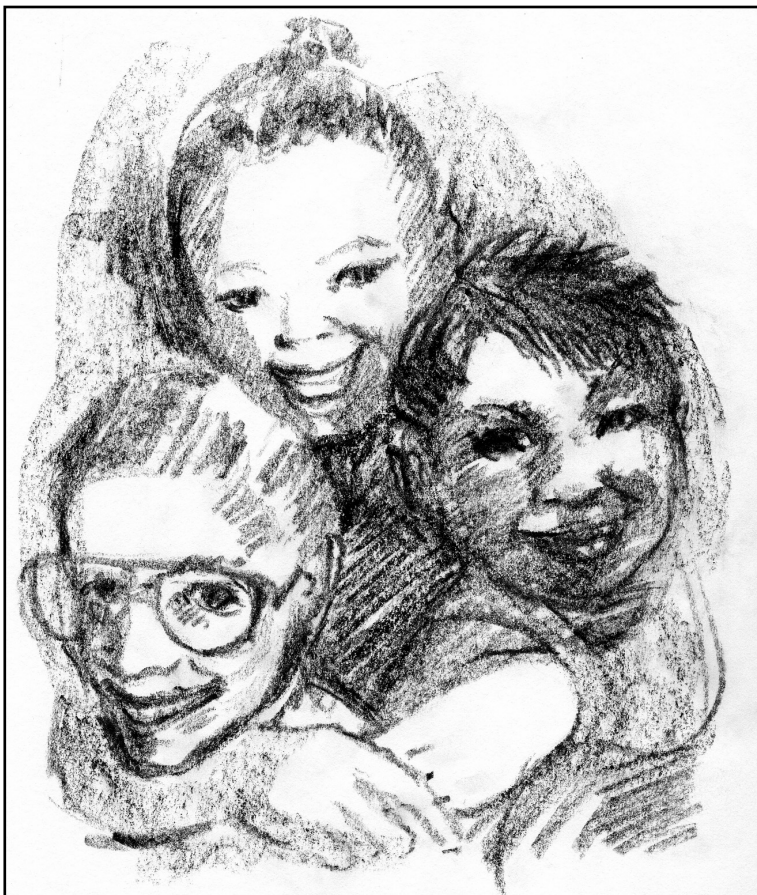


ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY WASYLLENCKO

July focus group, which drew about ten Coop members of varied races and sexual orientations. The DEC survey subcommittee plans to conduct two more tape-recorded focus groups this fall, to guide the formulation of questions for a survey of a representative sample of the Coop membership. The DEC will present its survey proposal and questions to the GM, Daniel said.

"People had a lot to say about their experiences at the Coop," said Daniel. "And it wasn't pleasant." At the close, however, it turned out that at least some who participated had found the discussion helpful. "Someone called it 'like group therapy.'"

Daniel, a professor of social science at Adelphi University with a background in researching race issues in higher education, conveyed her appreciation of the group's own diversity. "A lot of times when people talk about bias, there's a sense we're talking only about racial bias. So there's the expectation that most of the people are going to be people of color. We really had people across the board."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## July GM Highlights

By Ann Pappert

Close to 100 Coop members filled the meeting room at Garfield Temple for the July General meeting, which focused on discussions of a retirement age for workslots and a change in the Coop by-laws.

The meeting began with a financial report delivered by General Coordinator Tricia Leith. For the 24-week period ending July 15th, the Coop experienced an increase in sales of over \$633,000, up from the same period last year. At this time, there appears to be a slight increase in expenses, due largely to personnel costs.

Coordinator Allen Zimmerman reported that all the organic bananas carried by the Coop are now fair trade. (Allen also noted that the Coop sells an astonishing 3½ tons of both organic and non-organic bananas a week.)

*Of the 200 types of produce being sold right now, 97 come from local producers, most located within 500 miles of the Coop.*

He observed that this is the time of year when the Coop is able to buy a majority of our produce from local sources. Of the 200 types of produce being sold right now, 97 come from local producers, most located within 500 miles of the Coop.

Allen also assured members that the Coop no longer carries any produce produced in China.

Coordinators reported that the Coop will be closing for an entire day, probably October 1, for the re-working of the front end of the store and the installation of the debit card system.

The majority of the meeting was devoted to two proposals—the first to formalize a "retirement" age from workslots and the second to change the by-laws to conform to the New York State regulations for non-profits.

Barbara Drake, a long-time Coop member, introduced a proposal that would exempt members from workslots once they reached age 65 and 25 years of responsible workslot service. This was the second time that Drake had presented this proposal to a GM.

The initial discussion centered on the current policy, which many at the meeting believed allowed members to "retire" from a workslot at age 75. General Coordinator Jessica Robinson

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### Next General Meeting on August 28

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. \* The next General Meeting will be Tuesday, August 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place.

The agenda is in this *Gazette* and available as a flyer in the entryway of the Coop. For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

\* Exceptions for November and December will be posted.

### IN THIS ISSUE

GM Agenda	3
Retirement Policy: Controversial and Complex	5
Coop Hours, Puzzle	6
Coop Calendar, Workslot Needs	6
Governance Information, Mission Statement	7
Community Calendar	8
Letters to the Editor	9
Classified Ads	11

## Coop Event Highlights

**Sat, Aug 18 • Pocketbook, Purse, Bag and Shoe Exchange:**  
10:00 a.m.

**The long-awaited new checkout system is coming this fall!**  
So there will be no events in the meeting room during September and possibly part of October to accommodate training sessions on the new system.

*Look for additional information about these and other events in this issue.*

# Diversity Subcommittee Report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Muslim women who attended talked about the sense that they were constantly judged, based on their appearances, “kind of always under suspicion,” Daniel said. A gay male couple related their experiences, and one person discussed, for instance, being called to task for a mistake happening during checkout, where a squad leader later said, “We caught you doing this!” The Coop member’s response was, “I’ve worked several shifts since then; why didn’t you just let me know?” Daniel said.

The theme, Daniel said, was that “It was not just one incident. It was an accumulation of a number of small things together, that made people feel like the Coop is not a very open, safe and welcome place for certain individuals.”

Other examples included reports of arbitrarily being asked to show identification, and of second-guessing and disparate application of Coop rules. “The general sense is that people are very upset,” Daniel said. “Almost everyone said it’s affected their relationship to the Coop in terms of their coming to the Coop, of wanting to

shop. [They expressed] a general feeling of not belonging, of always being under suspicion, not feeling welcomed or like you belong, a kind of arbitrariness of the ways in which the rules are enforced, kind of feeling like you’re in people’s way.”

“I’ve had so many experiences myself,” Daniel continued. “A lot of times with these experiences you’re never quite sure. It’s hard for you to pin down. Then it happens two or three more times, and it’s like, OK, maybe I need to stay away from this.”

*“It was not just one incident. It was an accumulation of a number of small things together, that made people feel like the Coop is not a very open, safe and welcome place for certain individuals.”*

—Louise Daniel, DEC Survey Subcommittee member

Some of the hurt expressed by focus group participants stemmed from the expectations members had that the Coop would be more progressive and accepting than other environments. “It’s not Key Food,” she said. “There was kind of an expectation that the Coop would be more open and progressive. And they just came to realize that it’s not. In a lot of instances they were shocked. They didn’t know what to do because it was so unexpected. They were more hurt because it happens here.” And one conclusion, Daniel said, was, “Why not just go to Key Food? You’re on guard. You already know what to expect. You get your stuff, and you’re gone.”

After unpleasant incidents, Daniel herself has felt the urge not to shop at the Coop, she said. “I just got so tired of them, I avoided going to the Coop unless I had to.” She often asked her husband to go instead, and she took a work shift “where I had no contact with people, which I loved.” She cleaned refrigerators.

## DEC Background

Formed in 2004, the Coop’s Diversity & Equality Committee (DEC) has set forth as its mission “Improving human relations and communications through impeccable interpersonal interactions, policies and procedures in the Coop. The goal is to work toward preventing and eliminating discrimination in the Coop.”

According to the committee’s literature, the squad of 15-20 people meets monthly “to promote the ideal of equal and respectful treatment between all Coop members and paid staff regardless of each individual’s different identity. The DEC also aims to provide advocacy for individuals who feel they have experienced discriminatory practices in the Coop.”

The DEC’s subcommittees focus on training and education for members regarding diversity, bias, and “conflict coping methods”; reviewing complaints and, if there has been inappropriate conduct, offering individualized intervention and preventive measures; and developing a survey to document, evaluate and report back to the Coop membership regarding diversity, bias, and discrimination at the Coop.

The DEC is recruiting additional members, and will consider, according to materials furnished by DEC

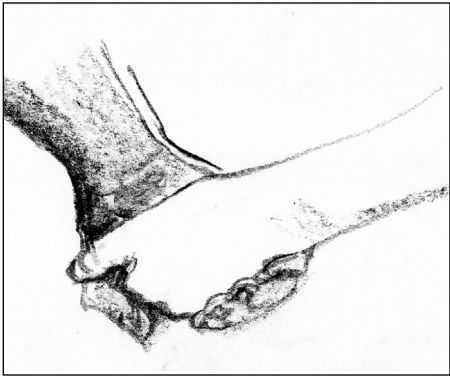


ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY WASSYLENKO

chair Jeffrey Aronowitz, “individuals who have at least one year of Coop membership, have an excellent attendance record, have the ability to be accountable, to take initiative, to work independently, and be organized.” The committee meets on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

As for the survey subcommittee’s task, “Most of the work hasn’t even begun yet. Most of the work is in the analysis,” said Daniel. To that end, the group is seeking additional members with experience in qualitative or quantitative research to join the squad.

Members interested in joining the DEC and/or the survey subcommittee should contact General Coordinator Jess Robinson at the Food Coop via e-mail at [jess\\_robinson@psfc.coop](mailto:jess_robinson@psfc.coop) or phone at (718) 622-0560. ■



PHOTOS BY INGRID CUSSON

The photographer’s solution to depicting the diversity committee, which didn’t want to be photographed.

### Coop members can contact the DEC through any of the following avenues:

Voicemail	(888) 204-0098
	Park Slope Food Coop
Mail	Attention: Diversity & Equality Committee
	782 Union Street
	Brooklyn, New York 11215
E-mail	<a href="mailto:psfcdiversity-cpr@hotmail.com">psfcdiversity-cpr@hotmail.com</a>
Drop box	DEC forms should be available in the entryway vestibule.
	Completed forms or documents may be placed in a sealed envelope and deposited (anonymously if desired) in the drop box beneath the flyer caddy.
Office box	The DEC has a mail box in the Membership Office in which people may leave written messages.

## Diversity and Equality Committee Looking for Additional Members

The Diversity & Equality Committee (DEC) is dedicated to improving human relations and communications through impeccable interpersonal interactions, policies and procedures in the Coop. Our goal is to work toward preventing and eliminating discrimination in the Coop. The DEC has met on a monthly basis since 2004 to promote the ideal of equal and respectful treatment between all Coop members and paid staff regardless of each individual’s different identity. The DEC also aims to provide advocacy for individuals who feel they have experienced discriminatory practices in the Coop.

In order to be considered for the Diversity and Equality Committee, you must have at least one year of Coop membership, have an excellent attendance record, have the ability to be accountable, to take initiative, to work independently, be organized, and have an ability to work collaboratively with others. In addition, the committee meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month from 6:30 pm–8:00 pm. These meetings are mandatory. Committee members also work outside the meetings on projects for their sub-committees. Work on the Committee is recorded on an hour-for-hour basis.

The Committee is organized into subcommittees by area. The specific sub-committee needs and skills are detailed below. In addition, we are looking for a secretary for the committee as a whole. Please specify which sub-committee(s) interest you (each member participates in only one sub-committee). To express interest contact Jess Robinson at the Food Coop via e-mail at [jess\\_robinson@psfc.coop](mailto:jess_robinson@psfc.coop) or phone at (718) 622-0560.

Please be prepared to provide a listing of your relevant experience, along with your Food Coop member number.

### Committee Secretary

To record and distribute the monthly DEC minutes. The necessary skills are:

- Ability to comprehend what is being stated and record it accurately in writing.
- Ability to do word processing and distribute minutes via e-mail from home.

### The Diversity Education Sub-Committee

Needs 4-5 new members. The necessary skills are:

- Committed to the concepts of “diversity.” Other terms that “resonate” in the “industry” are “multicultural” “pluralism” and “inclusion”
- Superior Relationship/People skills—pro-active, savvy, and non-judgmental relating to all types of people.
- Basic Group Facilitation—have experience leading workshops, ideally around diversity issues.
- Public Speaking skills, conflict resolution skills, and mediation skills

### The Survey Sub-Committee

Needs 4-5 new members with interest relevant to conducting a study of Coop members’ experiences with bias or discrimination at the Coop. The necessary skills are:

- Data entry skills: Qualitative and quantitative data analysis software (such as SPSS) experience
- Writing skills for documenting and presenting study findings

### Complaint Review Sub-Committee

Needs 2 new members, a secretary and a member with mediation skills. The necessary skills for each position are:

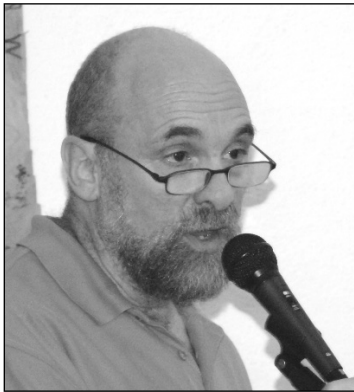
- Mediator: Needs excellent conflict resolution and mediation skills; good editing and writing skills; compassionate; impartial; good investigative skills; critical thinking skills; good interviewer; attend a hour and a half subcommittee meeting every month in addition to the general DEC meeting.
- Secretary: Take dictation and detail notes; transcribe and archive; data entry and general computer skills; good editing and writing skills; compassionate; impartial; good investigative skills; critical thinking skills; good interviewer; able to attend a hour and a half subcommittee meeting every month in addition to the general DEC meeting







Barbara Drake puts forth her proposal for lowering the retirement age.



Joe Holtz addresses the meeting.



Ann Pappert voices her opinion.

PHOTOS BY KEVIN RYAN

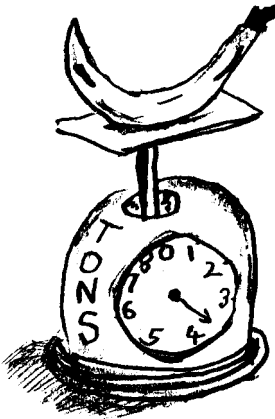
# July GM Meeting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

explained that in fact, the Coop has “no such thing as retirement,” regardless of age. Members, she said, can request a workslot leave for disability or illness only. One member asked if there were any figures on how many current members would be eligible for retirement under Drake’s proposal.

Barbara Drake, a long-time Coop member, introduced a proposal that would exempt members from workslots once they reached age 65 and 25 years of responsible workslot service.

None of the coordinators present had that information, but one member did. Michael



Rieman said that he had presented a similar proposal two years ago. At that time, his research showed that approximately 200 members would meet the eligibility standards and he felt that the numbers had not changed significantly since then.

When members raised the question of how a member’s workslot history would be

determined, Drake commented that this could be problematic as the Coop does not have workslot histories for members prior to 1996.

Drake agreed to amend her proposal to omit any reference to workslot history.

The discussion that followed revealed older members clearly favored the proposal. One member noted that coordinators and their families were excused from workslots after they retired. Younger members seemed more disposed to link growing older with illness. Several commented that since members could already be excused from workslots when they were sick or disabled that a “retirement” age wasn’t necessary. (Several older members were clearly offended by this notion. “What if we’re just tired,” one said.)

After a heated discussion, the meeting voted to table the motion and send it back to the agenda committee.

General Coordinator Joe Holtz presented a proposal to amend the Coop’s by-laws regarding elections, explaining that the current by-law provision did not meet the New York State regulations for non-profits.

The proposed amendment provides: “The ballot used for the Directors election shall provide for voting either ‘yes’ or ‘no’ or ‘abstain’ for each candidate. Any candidate who receives more ‘no’ votes than ‘yes’ votes are deemed to be ineligible for election. Directors elected at the Annual Meeting shall be elected by a plurality of ‘yes’ votes cast unless the candidate has been deemed ineligible pursuant to this paragraph.”

Holtz explained that under the current by-laws elections for board directors under certain circumstances—if the

number of candidates equaled the number of empty seats—would require a candidate to be instated on the board even if that candidate received more no votes than yes votes.

Historically, the Coop has never followed a hard and fast retirement policy.

Albert Solomon asked Holtz if this situation had ever actually happened. Holtz admitted it had not, but explained that he saw the amendment as closing a legal loophole.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY ROD MORRISON

As the vote was called, Solomon asked for an amendment to the proposal, which was denied. Solomon then asked that the chair be overruled. While Solomon refused to yield the microphone, several minutes were spent trying to persuade him to let the meeting return to business. Any order in the meeting quickly dissolved, with members trying to be heard over each other.

After about 15 minutes, the meeting resumed when Allen Zimmerman pointed out that according to Robert’s Rules of Order, no amendment could be made to a motion once the vote was called.

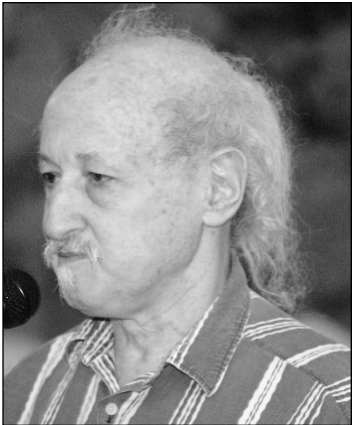
On that note, the meeting voted on the proposal, which passed overwhelmingly. ■



Michael Rubin voices his concerns.



Dave Colland, committee chair member, addresses rude behavior.



Albert Solomon addresses his concerns.

## PSFC AUGUST GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, August 28, 7:00 p.m.

- Items will be taken up in the order given.
- Times in parentheses are suggestions.
- More information on each item may be available at the entrance table at the meeting. We ask members to please read the materials available between 7:00 & 7:15 p.m.
- Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Pl at 8th Ave.

### AGENDA:

#### Item #1 Discussion: “Too few workers, too many workers. Share experiences & discuss possible solutions.” (50 minutes)

Occasional presence of too many make-ups or lack of perception concerning the work that needs to be done has led to belief that there are too many workers for the work available. At other times it is very clear that we are short staffed.

—submitted by the General Coordinators

#### Item #2 Discussion: “Should the Coop invest in slightly higher quality t-shirt bags? (40 minutes)

Though I try always to bring shopping bags and feel the Coop should do everything we can to encourage the use of reusable shopping bags, it seems the plastic t-shirt bags have become a standard feature at the Coop. Therefore, shouldn’t they be somewhat reusable? The current ones rip easily making them difficult to re-use and encouraging members who use plastic bags to ‘double-bag.’”

—submitted by Johannah Rodgers

### Future Agenda Information:

For information on how to place an Item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the Linewaiters’ Gazette. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the office and at all GMs.



**Monthly on the...**  
Third Thursday • Aug 16 • 7:00–9:00 pm  
Last Sunday • Aug 26 • 10:00 am–noon  
Second Saturday • Sep 8 • noon–2:00 pm

On the sidewalk  
in front of the receiving area  
at the Park Slope Food Coop.

**RECYCLING**



**PLASTICS**

**What plastics do we accept?**

- #1 and #2 non-bottle shaped containers and #1 and #2 labeled lids. Mouths of containers must be equal width or wider than the body of the container.
- All #4 plastic and #4 labeled lids.
- #5 plastic tubs, cups & specifically marked lids and caps (discard any with paper labels).
- Plastic film, such as shopping and dry cleaning bags, etc. Okay if not labeled.

**ALL PLASTIC MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEAN AND DRY**

We close up promptly.  
Last drop offs will be accepted 10 minutes prior to our end time to allow for sorting.

**WHAT IS THAT? HOW DO I USE IT?**

*Food Tours in the Coop*

It's hard to know what will happen next  
manna may indeed fall again from the heavens  
our blessings so plenty:  
ailanthus blossoms fill our gutters  
the sun yields to a moon encircled by stars  
and life-giving food swells from the ground  
from nothing more than small seeds

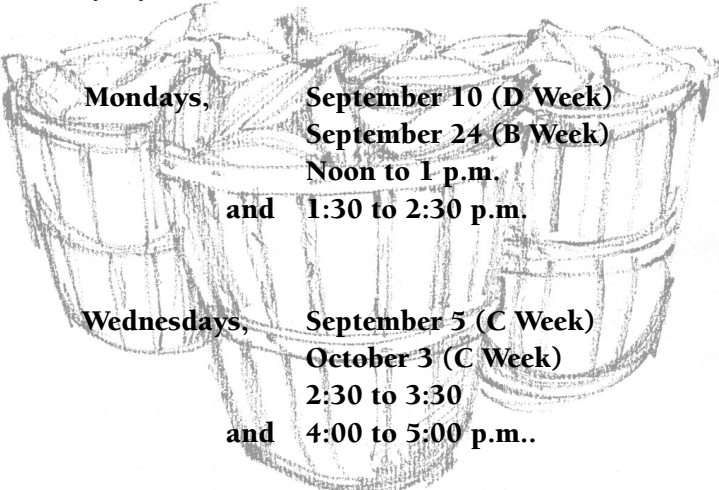
we sing  
and dance  
make music and laugh  
we can walk to the corner  
at three in the morning  
and buy a beer

this thing we have  
life on earth our everyday marvel  
is who we are  
the rest is what we want it to be

pass it on

and pass by the Park Slope Food Coop  
come talk to us about the season's cornucopia  
and other minor miracles

*by Myra Klockenbrink*



**Mondays, September 10 (D Week)  
September 24 (B Week)  
Noon to 1 p.m.  
and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.**

**Wednesdays, September 5 (C Week)  
October 3 (C Week)  
2:30 to 3:30  
and 4:00 to 5:00 p.m..**

**Or you can join in any time during a tour.**

**Coop Job Opening: Office Coordinator**

**Description:**

The Coop is hiring a Membership Office Coordinator to fill a late afternoon/evening and weekend schedule. Office Coordinators divide their time between shifts of approximately 6 hours in the Membership Office, Technical Support shifts of approximately 6.5 hours working on the shopping floor, and oversight/ coordination of the Coop's administrative functions. Applicants must have excellent people skills, excellent communication and organizational skills as well as patience, comfort with computers and the ability to do detailed record keeping. Applicants should be able to remain calm in hectic surroundings, oversee the work of others, teach and explain procedures, delegate work, give feedback, and maintain high standards of accuracy.

The Coop's busiest times are during traditional holiday seasons. Applicants must be prepared to work during many of the holiday periods, particularly in the winter.

**Hours:** Approx. 38 hours: Wednesday-Sunday. Weekday schedule will be afternoon/evening hours (some shifts until 11:30 p.m.). Saturday and Sunday hours will be flexible.

**Wages:** \$21.05/hour.

**Benefits:** —Health and Personal time  
—Vacation—three weeks/year increasing in the 4th, 7th & 10th years  
—health insurance  
—pension plan  
(no payroll deductions for benefits)

**Application & Hiring Process:**

Please provide a cover letter with your resumé. Mail your letter and resumé or drop them in the mail slot just inside the entryway of the Coop. Applications will be reviewed and interviews scheduled on a rolling basis. If you applied previously to any other Coop job offering, please reapply.

*Please do not call the office to check on the status of your application.*

**Probation Period:**

There will be a six-month probation period.

**Prerequisite:**

Minimum of six months' membership in the Park Slope Food Coop.

Applicants who wish to schedule a shift in the Membership Office should contact the Office and speak to one of the Office Coordinating Staff.

**We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.**

THE PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP

BUYS

*Wind Power*

AND YOU CAN TOO!

100% clean power, no fossil fuels

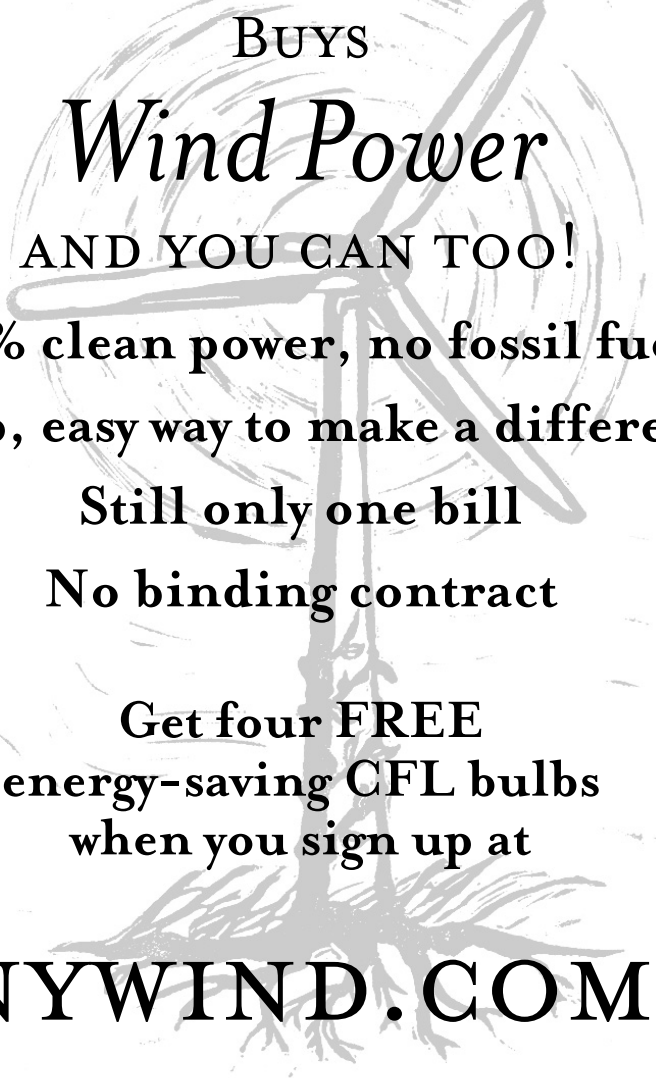
Cheap, easy way to make a difference

Still only one bill

No binding contract

Get four FREE  
energy-saving CFL bulbs  
when you sign up at

**NYWIND.COM**



# Retirement Policy: Controversial and Complex

By Wally Konrad

Can members ever retire from the Park Slope Food Coop? Should they? And if so, what age is the right age to stop doing work slots? Those are some of the fundamental questions long-time Park Slope Food Coop member Barbara Drake has brought into focus with her recent proposal to make the retirement age 65 with 25 years of service. The proposal was discussed at length at the July 31 General Meeting (please see story on page 1), particularly the part that called for 25 years of service to qualify for retirement. Because so many questions and so much debate ensued at the meeting, the proposal was tabled for presentation at a future meeting. No vote was taken on the proposal, meaning that, for now, Park Slope Food Coop retirement policy is still an open question. Maybe this is a good time to ask yourself: "How long

issue for personal reasons. She is 70 years old and still working part-time as a pre-school teacher for special needs kids. Years ago she moved to Staten Island but still remained a member of the Coop. Although she is generally in good health, there are some days when driving into Brooklyn for her shift after working all day seems overwhelmingly draining and unnecessary. "I'm 70 years and one half. Do I really still need to be doing this?" asks Drake.

*"I'm 70 years and one half. Do I really still need to be doing this?"*

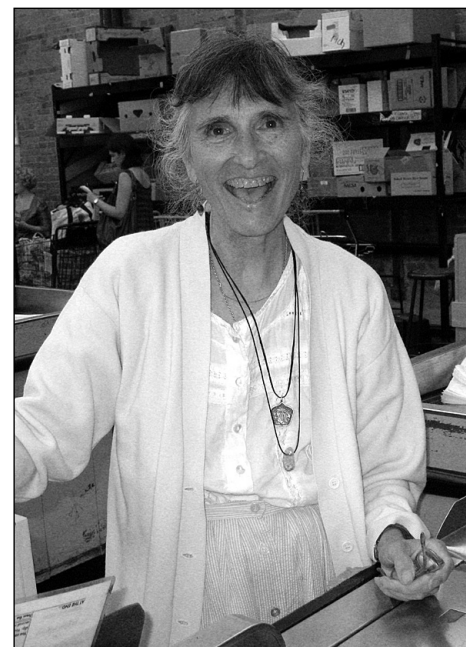
Historically, the Coop has never followed a hard and fast retirement policy. There's a reason for that, says Joe Holtz, a General Coordinator. Back in the early 1980s when Holtz and

the coordinators brought the issue up at a General Meeting, Holtz says a group of elderly members criticized the idea, explaining that older people enjoy being part of the Coop community. Because their kids are grown and in most cases they are no longer working, they now have the time to easily fulfill their work slots. "It would be an insult to tell us when we have to leave," Holtz remembers the members saying.

So, the coordinators decided not to pursue a formal retirement policy or a specific age. Instead, the coordinators figured that any elderly member who found they could not work due to illness or other physical reasons would be excused from their work slot under PSFC's disability policy. Since that time, the retirement issue has come up a couple of times at General Meetings, but members could never agree on specifics and thus no formal policy has been enacted. "Disability isn't the same as retirement," says Drake. "At a certain age, you shouldn't have to be ill to retire from your work slot."

Many Coop members, including Barbara Drake, are under the impression that the Coop's retirement age is 75. Indeed, her proposal included the words, "Lowering of the retirement age..." This is a big source of confusion on this issue, says Holtz. He explains: Under the disability policy, members of any age must show a doctor's letter "confirming disability." A while back the office coordinators noted that it was unnecessary and uncomfortable to make some elderly and obviously infirm members bring in medical documentation to prove they couldn't work. So, the coordinators decided it made sense to allow seniors 75 and over to be allowed to go on disability without having to bring in a doctor's note. "This was a decision we made, but it was related to the disability policy. It isn't a retirement policy. But in some people's minds it has morphed into that." Says Holtz.

All of this seems awfully vague and arbitrary, says Drake. "I don't want this to drag on, I just think we need to make some decisions and have a real policy," she says. "I'm not 100 percent comfortable with what we're doing



PHOTOS BY LISA COHEN

**Barbara Drake, doing her Coop work slot, has proposed a retirement policy for Coop members.**

either," says Holtz. "I'm glad it's being discussed." But Holtz and other coordinators worry that if the Coop sets a specific retirement age, there will be a significant exodus of able workers.

Unfortunately, however, it's impossible to estimate what effect a retirement age would have on workslots because the Membership Office only has membership data dating back to 1996. Thus it's impossible to establish the length of service for most long-time members. What's more, says Holtz, the Membership Office does not ask for age when a new member signs on.

*Historically, the Coop has never followed a hard and fast retirement policy.*

Drake suggests that office coordinators use membership numbers as a guide to count long-standing members. "Or better yet, in the spirit of cooperation, why won't the office just believe members when they say they've worked for 25 years?" asks Drake.

More important, says Drake, in no way would the recent proposals she's made make retirement mandatory at a certain age. If the coordinators discovered they had hundreds of members eligible for retirement, that wouldn't mean all of those members would retire immediately. Nor would all of those workslots be lost.

On one point, both Holtz and Drake agree. It's exactly this uncertainty that makes it so hard to take action on a retirement policy. ■



**Barbara Drake with her Squad Leader, Fred Alvarez, who supports her retirement proposal.**

do you want to work at the Coop?"

Drake first submitted a discussion item concerning the retirement age at the May 29th General Meeting, which also engendered a long discussion (and a letter in the *Linewaiters' Gazette* favoring a retirement policy). She readily admits she brought up the

other Coop founders were in their 20s and 30s, "We looked around at these ancient members and thought how can we be making these people work like this? Now that I'm a little more ancient myself I have a different perspective. But nonetheless, we thought we needed some kind of policy." When

PHOTOS BY LISA COHEN



ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

Shhhhhhhhh!!!



COOP HOURS

**Office Hours:**  
Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Shopping Hours:**  
Monday–Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 10:00\* p.m.  
Saturday  
6:00 a.m. to 10:00\* p.m.  
Sunday  
6:00 a.m. to 7:30\* p.m.  
*\*Shoppers must be on a checkout line  
15 minutes after closing time.*

**Childcare Hours:**  
Monday through Saturday  
8:00 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.  
Sunday  
8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Telephone:**  
718-622-0560

**Web address:**  
www.foodcoop.com

LINEWAITERS'

GAZETTE

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* is published biweekly by the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc., 782 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215.

Opinions expressed here may be solely the views of the writer. The *Gazette* will not knowingly publish articles that are racist, sexist, or otherwise discriminatory.

The *Gazette* welcomes Coop-related articles, and letters from members.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All submissions MUST include author's name and phone number and conform to the following guidelines. Editors will reject letters and articles that are illegible or too long. Submission deadlines appear in the Coop Calendar opposite.

**Letters:** Maximum 500 words. All letters will be printed if they conform to the guidelines above. The Anonymity and Fairness policies appear on the letters page in most issues.

**Voluntary Articles:** Maximum 750 words.

**Submissions on Paper:** Typed or very legibly handwritten and placed in the wallpocket labeled "Editor" on the second floor at the base of the ramp.

**Submissions on Disk & by Email:** We welcome digital submissions. Drop disks in the wallpocket described above. The email address for submissions is [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Receipt of your submissions will be acknowledged on the deadline day.

**Classified & Display Ads:** Ads may only be placed by and on behalf of Coop members. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, business card ads at \$30. (Ads in the "Merchandise–Non-commercial" category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form (available in a wallpocket on the first floor near the elevator). Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2"x3.5").

**Recipes:** We welcome original recipes from members. Recipes must be signed by the creator.

**Subscriptions:** The *Gazette* is available free to members in the store. Subscriptions are available by mail at \$23 per year to cover the cost of postage (at First Class rates because our volume is low).



Late Summer Bounty

photographs by Ingrid Cusson

Looking  
for  
something new?

Check out the Coop's  
products blog.

The place to go for the latest  
information on our current  
product inventory.

You can connect to the blog  
via the Coop's website  
[www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)

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WORKSLOT NEEDS

General Meeting  
Childcare Squad

**Last Tuesday of Every Month, 7:00 to 9:45 p.m.**  
The Coop needs two childcare workers to work at the General Meeting each month. The shift always meets the last Tuesday of the month at Garfield Temple, Garfield Place at 8th Ave. Because this work shift only meets 12 times per year you must be willing to stay longer than 9:45 p.m. if the General Meeting runs over schedule.

Office Data Entry

**Tuesday, 4:30 to 7:15 p.m.**  
Are you a stickler for details, accurate on the computer, and like working independently? If

this sounds like you, then Office Data Entry will be your perfect shift. You will receive training and Coop staff will always be available to answer questions. Please speak to Rocco Arrigo in the Membership Office if you would like more information. Work slot requires a six-month commitment.

Vitamin Assistant

**Saturday, 8:30 to 11:00 p.m.**  
Are you a detail-oriented worker who can work independently and in a busy environment? The Coop's vitamin buyer needs you to help her check in orders, organize the vitamin supply area in the basement and on the shopping floor, label vitamins and supplements, and

other related tasks. You will be trained by Edite and will report directly to her. If interested please contact the Membership Office.

Wall Chart Updating

**Sunday, 8:00 to 10:45 a.m.**  
This is the perfect job for a detail-oriented person who likes a quiet and pleasant work environment. You will be trained by a staff person who will always be available to answer questions. You are part of a team of two to three people, but you will work on your own. If interested please speak to Camille Scuria in the Membership Office.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

COOP CALENDAR



New Member Orientations

Monday & Wednesday evenings: . . 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday mornings: . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday afternoons: . . . . . 4:00 p.m.  
  
Be sure to be here promptly—or early—as we begin on time! The orientation takes about two hours. Please don't bring small children.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Aug 30 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Aug 20  
Sep 13 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Sep 3

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Aug 30 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Aug 22  
Sep 13 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Sep 5

General Meeting

TUE, AUG 28

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.  
  
The agenda will appear in the next *Gazette* and as a flyer in the entryway on Wednesday, August 8.

TUE, SEP 4

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.  
  
Submissions will be considered for the Aug. 28 General Meeting.

The Coop on Cable TV

*Inside the Park Slope Food Coop*  
  
FRIDAYS 2:30 p.m. with a replay at 10:30 p.m.  
Channels: 56 (TimeWarner), 69 (CableVision).

ALL ABOUT THE  
GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the open monthly General Meetings have been at the center of the Coop's decision-making process. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors. The Coop continued the tradition of General Meetings by requiring the Board to have open meetings and to receive the advice of the members at General Meetings. The Board of Directors, which is required to act legally and responsibly, has approved almost every General Meeting decision at the end of every General Meeting. Board members are elected at the Annual Meeting in June. Copies of the Coop's bylaws are available at the Coop Community Corner and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday,  
August 28, 7:00 p.m.

The General Meeting is held on the last Tuesday of each month.

Location

The temple house of Congregation Beth Elohim (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place.

How to Place an Item  
on the Agenda

If you have something you'd like discussed at a General Meeting, please complete a submission form for the Agenda Committee. Forms are available in the rack near the Coop Community Corner bulletin board and at General Meetings. Instructions and helpful information on how to submit an item appear on the submission form. The Agenda Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the agenda for the GM held on the last Tuesday of the month. If you have a question, please call Ellen Weinstat in the office.

Meeting Format

Warm Up (7:00 p.m.)

- Meet the Coordinators
- Enjoy some Coop snacks
- Submit Open Forum items
- Explore meeting literature

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.)

Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting. If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

Reports (7:30 p.m.)

- Financial Report
- Coordinators' Report
- Committee Reports

Agenda (8:00 p.m.)

- The agenda is posted at the Coop Community Corner and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45)

- (unless there is a vote to extend the meeting)
- Meeting evaluation
  - Board of Directors vote
  - Announcements, etc.

Attend a GM  
and Receive Work Credit

Since the Coop's inception in 1973, the General Meeting has been our decision-making body. At the General Meeting (GM) members gather to make decisions and set Coop policy. The General-Meeting-for-workslot-credit program was created to increase participation in the Coop's decision-making process. Following is an outline of the program. *For full details, see the instruction sheets by the sign-up board.*

- **Advance Sign-up Required:**  
To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby. Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.
- **Two GM attendance credits per year:**  
Each member may take advantage of the GM-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendar year.
- **Certain Squads not eligible:**  
Eligible: Shopping, Receiving/ Stocking, Food Processing, Office, Maintenance, Inventory, Construction, and FTOP committees. (Some Committees are omitted because covering absent members is too difficult.)
- **Attend the entire GM:**  
In order to earn workslot credit you must be present for the *entire* meeting.
- **Childcare can be provided at GMs:**  
Please notify an Office Coordinator in the Membership Office at least one week prior to the meeting date.
- **Signing in at the Meeting:**
  1. After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.
  2. Please also sign in the attendance book that is passed around during the meeting.
- **Being Absent from the GM:**  
It is possible to cancel without penalty. We do ask that you remove your name if you know cannot attend. Please do not call the Membership Office with GM cancellations.
- **Is it FTOP or a Make-up?**  
It depends on your work status at the time of the meeting.
- **Consider making a report...**  
...to your Squad after you attend the meeting.

Park Slope Food Coop  
Mission Statement

**The Park Slope Food Coop is a member-owned and operated food store—an alternative to commercial profit-oriented business.** As members, we contribute our labor: working together builds trust through cooperation and teamwork and enables us to keep prices as low as possible within the context of our values and principles. Only members may shop, and we share responsibilities and benefits equally. We strive to be a responsible and ethical employer and neighbor. We are a buying agent for our members and not a selling agent for any industry. We are a part of and support the cooperative movement. **We offer a diversity of products with an emphasis on organic, minimally processed and healthful foods.** We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others. We support non-toxic, sustainable agriculture. **We respect the environment.** We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations. We prefer to buy from local, earth-friendly producers. We recycle. We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment. **We are committed to diversity and equality.** We oppose discrimination in any form. We strive to make the Coop welcoming and accessible to all and to respect the opinions, needs and concerns of every member. We seek to maximize participation at every level, from policy making to running the store. **We welcome all who respect these values.**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your listings in 50 words or less by mail, the mailslot in the entry vestibule, or [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.  
*\*Denotes a Coop member.*

THU, AUG 16

**DANCING FOR ANIMALS**, a non-profit organization, is holding Ballroom & Latin Dance Classes on Thursdays in August (8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23 8/30). 7:30—8:30 p.m.: Mambo w/ Cuban Motion technique. 8:30—9:30 p.m.: Beginner Hustle. 440 Studios, 440 Lafayette St., 3rd Floor, Studio E, btw Astor Pl. & E. 4th St. 212-946-1824 [www.dancingforanimals.org](http://www.dancingforanimals.org)

**ALBUM MAKING BEES** at Memories Out of the Box! Bring your photos and stories and make that album you've been meaning to make! Resources, refreshments,

tools and support provided weekly! No fee! Thursdays 7—9 p.m. and Sundays, 4—8 p.m. Memories Out of the Box. 633 Vanderbilt Ave. btw St. Marks and Prospect Place. (718) 398-1519

ONGOING

The Brooklyn Co-Housing Group is actively recruiting new founding members to design and build a child-friendly community-minded apartment complex here. Contact Alex Marshall at [alex@alexmarshall.org](mailto:alex@alexmarshall.org) or 212-227-9392 for information.



ATTENTION  
BUSINESS OWNERS

The Park Slope Food Coop invites merchants, service providers and business owners to join an exciting community-building program at the Coop, the Community Ties Program! This is a directory of businesses offering exclusive discounts to Park Slope Food Coop members, at [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com). The program connects our dynamic membership of more than 13,000 with participating neighborhood merchants.

Merchants who register with the Community Ties Program offer PSFC members who show a Coop membership card a discount or some other special offer that is not available to the general public.

We may provide your business with literature identifying you as a participant in the program. We periodically publish a list of participants with a description of the type of services/merchandise provided and the special offer; that is, continuous, free advertising to our vast membership.

If you would like to include your business in our listing, leave a voicemail message for Camille Scuria at: 888-922-2667, mailbox 87. In your message include your business name, category, address, phone number, and your contact name. We'll contact you about the exclusive discount that you will offer to PSFC members.

PROGRAMS

Friday, August 17 and  
Saturday, August 18

The following programs will happen within four days of publication of this issue. For full ads, please look at the July 19 or August 2 issues or pick up copies of the flyers in the Coop.

Fri, Aug 17

7:00 Effective Tools for Rapid Personal Transformation with Susan March and Marija Santo

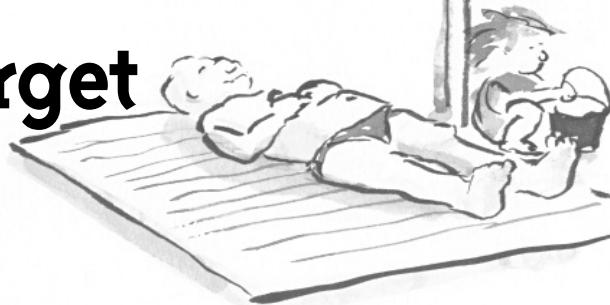
Sat, Aug 18

10:00—2:00 Pocketbook, Purse, Bag and Shoe Exchange at the Coop

SUMMERTIME

...and the living is easy.

But don't forget your coop shift!



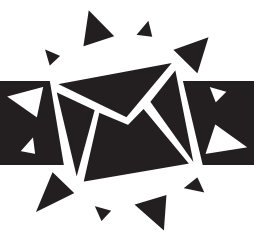
If you plan on being away during one of your workslots, please make arrangements to have your shift covered.

One way to do it is to use the Shift Swap at [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)!

Your co-workers will love you for it!



## L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R



*Editor's Note: It is Gazette policy to limit member letters to one per issue; however, two letters previously submitted by Albert Solomon went into a spam folder and were not received by Gazette editors. We print them now, along with a new submission, and apologize for this error.*

## WBAI ELECTIONS

## TO THE EDITOR:

"A fact which allows us to hope the Resurrection will reflect a considerable attention to detail."—Marilynne Robinson

It is Raining, and our thoughts are brought to mystery and magnificence of the Universe and our own ways of dealing with it. A seer once said our lives are like a plowshare: One big blade in the middle with a row of little cutters behind it. Mine has been shaped by Anthrosophy, Civility and, as mentioned above, Detail. It is not clear what the big blade is for me, but at this time of my life it seems to be Homœopathy, more specifically, history and application of homœopathy and the principles of "empirical" medicine.

The basis of homœopathy—Multifactorial selection of medicines, Unknowability of the causes of affliction in human beings, Similar, and Empirical rather than Rational Medicine—has applications to all of the principles and practices that have brought "modern," "heroic" medicine to the sorry and barbaric state it is in today. It is a little-known and much-suppressed fact that in the early 1900s homœopathy was well on the way towards taking over in our own dear country. One in five American doctors was a homœopath, and homœopathy was accepted and supported by millions of satisfied patients. Every time the Regulars tried to strangle homœopathy through the the national, state and local governments, they were rebuffed. Only through stealth

and indirection were homœopathy and "empirical medicine" slowly supplanted over a long period of time, to the point that today, I would imagine only about one American in a thousand has even heard the word.

Homœopathy or not, the election season at WBAI is upon us and I guess, UH, I'll run again seeing as how the *Gazette* terrestrial *snail* schedule is so far ahead of real-time! Here is a *proposed* schedule, the salient feature of which is all of youse have till September 1st to subscribe to the station (minimum donation \$25 or 3 hours in the pledge room during a marathon). But, as with all things Pacifica, look here for updates or better join WBAI-elections@YahooGroups.com:

## 2007 Pacifica Elections Timeline (Proposed):

- \* July 25th - Nominations of candidates begin
- \* August 1st - Preliminary unpaid staff list posted publicly at each station
- \* September 1st - Semi-final unpaid staff list posted publicly at each station
- \* September 1st - Date of record for membership; all voters and candidates must be members as of this date, whether new, renewing or significantly lapsed
- \* September 15th - Final date for challenges to unpaid staff list
- \* September 25th - Nominations of candidates are closed
- \* September 26th - Candidates' campaign begins
- \* October 15th - Ballots are sent out
- \* November 15th - Ballots have to be received by Pacifica (NOT postmarked- received.)
- \* December 1st - All ballots have to be counted

See yaz at the Station!

albert, 718-768-9079,

hobces@yahoo.com

Homœopathic Visionary

## GOVERNANCE AND WBAI ELECTIONS

## TO THE EDITOR:

"A fact which allows us to hope the Resurrection will reflect a considerable attention to detail."—Marilynne Robinson

Here are two proposals we have made over the years for reform of the general meeting: *Roving Parliamentary Advisors* and *Committees for Legislative Accountability*.

The first plan would replace the fourteen workslots of the Agenda Committee and the Chair Pool Committee with about five workslots, saving nine workslots and gaining about 9,000% in accountability and transparency. See 2006-03-30 *issue*. Agenda setting would return to the meetings, where it belongs, and all of the so-called advising and helping about which both committees are constantly crowing would be done at the meetings rather than by smoke and mirrors.

The other program will form a committee or committees to summarize and codify the regulations of the bylaws, the International Cooperative Principles, the Nonprofit Corporation Law and the General Meeting Decisions into a single Rulebook. In this way it could also be better determined which questions the Meeting is competent to address and which it isn't. For example, why is the General Meeting asked to approve extensions of the mortgages and approve compliance with of obscure requirements? Also it could be beneficial to follow up on compliance with these regulations. Finally, our Democracy might also be well served by providing penalties for failure to comply with regulations of the Meeting.

Other important plans we have brought forward over the years include reformation of the unbelievably insular *Gazette* and opening to the light the shocking and unnecessary secrecy and uncommunicativeness of our Suite of Disciplinary Hearing Committees.

Also, the first three numbers of our five-part series of pungent commentaries on the WBAI Local Station Board, as well as a photo album of key players, are available on PACVIDI.com (that's like "Pacifica Video I"). On the second of the three pages of the site (see links top left) we have added a blog where we will post messages (if they are polite and helpful) and discuss series trivia. First topics: Morris Rosenfeld, writer of our themesong, "Mayn Rueh Platz." Also, "Who was Gros-Louis?" Which books was he in? What kind of a character was he and how did he end up?

We hope you will vote for us in October, if we decide to run, for the WBAI Local Station Board.

As our friend and Green Party Candidate Kimberly Wilder says, "In my dreams, you insert a line that says the Co-op has a responsibility to the world to stay democratic." The only change we would make is to say the Co-Op has a responsibility to *become* democratic. Good day.

Albert Solomon, 718-768-9079,

hobces@yahoo.com

Homœopathic Visionary

## DISSENT AND DEMOCRACY

## TO THE EDITOR:

Is something brewing at the *Gazette*? Has the Quality-of-Life Squad taken over?

Read on to hear more, but first—An Open Letter to Our Dear Leader Jung-Il Tobier:

So timid! You choose not to mention my name. You are too modest to say you are a Director of the Corporation. Could it be, Lizzy, that the hobby horse you are riding is rotten—that our government never was in good health and you can't really afford to bring it into the open? If you're such a lover of the status quo, why not tell us how direct democracy can work for us? Let's get on with it, 'cause I believe once it gets into the open, no one would support it. Why not prove me wrong?

You also decline to say what it is that I said that offends you! Are you leaving it up to others to do your dirty work? Is this the idea of transparency and accountability that you take with you in your work as a Director? No, Liz, I think the best thing for you to do is to continue to make believe dissenters don't exist, otherwise you'll give us a platform we might never get off. What do you think?

And your letter isn't the only pleasure the July 19th issue offers; for all its hidden fury, your letter is benevolent compared to the naked malevolence of the letter Generalissimo Michael Esterowitz writes. Yes he criticizes my letters.

But his certainty that everything must be right with David Meltzer's case because a disciplinary hearing committee heard it, and that there could be no outstanding issues, is frightening in the extreme. Extrapolate this faith to police reports on shootings, and you'll see what I mean! As to the "outstanding issues," seems to me there was a question about reinstatement to his squad, where a *Gazette* reporter who was present took the trouble to write a letter supporting David's interpretation. But maybe you haven't heard this part of the story, General, so then it doesn't exist?

Further, my last two letters haven't been printed in the *Gazette*, or even acknowledged. Now it could be my own stupidity in changing the format, but maybe something else is up. I called my friend Joan Minieri, who edited one of those papers, but haven't heard back. Stay tuned for more details.

Meanwhile, the WBAI election season moves forward, and the failure to print those two letters will definitely impair my chances of being elected. Suffice it to say here that the deadline for becoming a subscriber (\$25 minimum donation) is September 1st, so if you're even thinking about voting for me or anyone, please join now! Visit wbai.org. Or make checks payable to—

PACIFICA FOUNDATION - WBAI RADIO  
PO BOX 30540  
NEW YORK, NY 10087-0540

In a choice between the Quality-of-life Squad vs. free speech, we'll take the latter any day! What do you think?

Albert Solomon, 718-768-9079,

hobces@yahoo.com

Homœopathic Visionary

## LETTERS POLICY

We welcome letters from members. Submission deadlines appear in the Coop Calendar. All letters will be printed if they conform to the published guidelines. We will not knowingly publish articles which are racist, sexist or otherwise discriminatory

The maximum length for letters is 500 words. Letters must include your name and phone number and be typed or very legibly handwritten. Editors will reject letters that are illegible or too long.

You may submit on paper, typed or very legibly handwritten, or via email to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop or on disk.

## Anonymity

Unattributed letters will not be published unless the *Gazette* knows the identity of the writer, and therefore must be signed when submitted (giving phone number). Such letters will be published only where a reason is given to the editor as to why public identification of the writer would impose an unfair burden of embarrassment or difficulty. Such letters must relate to Coop issues and avoid any non-constructive, non-cooperative language.

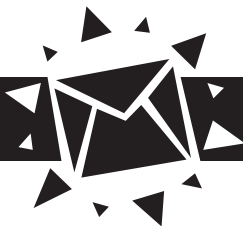
## Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

1. The *Gazette* will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author's first-hand observation.
2. Nor will we publish accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.
3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

The above applies to both articles and letters. The only exceptions will be articles by *Gazette* reporters which will be required to include the response within the article itself.





THINKING OF “THE WORLD WITHOUT US”

**TO THE EDITOR:**

I have been reading this amazing book recently and I wanted to share with the Coop members. “*The World Without Us*” by Alan Weisman is an important piece about the environment and the responsibility we have to protect it. The author discusses the issue from a very creative point of view by starting from the question, “What would have happened if the humankind vanished from the earth?” I found this book really thought provoking.

Reading the book also gave me an impulse to bring up an issue that my roommate and I have been discussing for a while regarding nonbiodegradable plastics. We hate to buy yogurt from the Coop in plastic cups that are not recyclable. Is there anything that the Coop can do about this, such as not buying yogurt from those companies which do not offer them in recyclable containers?

I would really love to learn more about what collective actions we can take to reduce the damage we cause to the environment.

Thanks so much,  
Zeynep Turan  
#32293

WHERE ARE THE TENS OF YESTERYEAR?

Seen a ten-dollar bill this year? Nowhere in Park Slope, I fear. Coop cashiers don’t see a tenner, Meaning, not even a now-&-thenner. Try the bookies, try the bank: Odds are better for the played-out franc.

What’s become of the venerable sawbuck—

People seeing it as a flawbuck? Something akin to a three-dollar bill

Less of a payment and more of a skill?

Fear of being badly bit

By stuff that turns out counterfeit?

Hoarding’s a possibility:

Some fixate on currency

Leading to monetary disorders,

Creating hoarders without borders

Knowing Hamilton’s one of two gents—

The only nonpresidents—

Pictured on our paper money.

Franklin, the other (no man more sunny).

Graces every C-note around

(If a Hundred can be found).

So that’s my mission, my new hope,

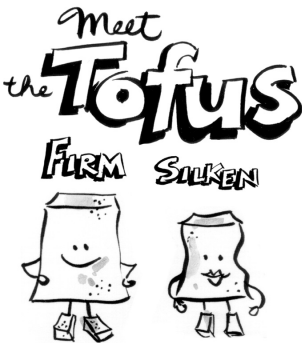
Finding a hun-bun in Park Slope.

Leon Freilich

BRING BACK “MEET THE TOFUS”

**DEAR LINEWAITER’S GAZETTE,**

Some time ago your publication ran a comic titled “Meet the Tofus,” which introduced readers to the characters of Silken (flawlessly portrayed by an all-grown-up Natalie Portman) and Firm (Tobey Macguire, who has a knack for sensitive guy roles like this one). I was intrigued by the singlepaned strip’s enigmatic brevity, and looked forward to learning more about this soy-based duo. I ques-



tioned what was behind Firm’s jovial façade, what dark past or burning passions lay just beneath his milky white surface. I was tempted by Silken’s lush prose—do I detect some sexual tension between this protein-packed pair? As I studied its many intricacies,

I considered the comic’s potential. “Meet the Tofus” possibilities seemed as endless as the number of ways one can prepare the beloved meat substitute by which it was inspired.

Given my enthusiasm for “Tofu’s” inaugural installment, you can imagine my disappointment at the series’ discontinuation. How are readers to know what is to become of Firm and Silken? Your decision to cancel this popular comic does a grave disservice to those in your readership who have invested time in following the series from the beginning. Even in the cut-throat business of network television, producers of canceled shows are often given several episodes to tie things up. I do not think it unreasonable to expect your publication—nay, our publication—to afford its readers the same courtesy.

On behalf of your loyal readers who were similarly enthusiastic about this exciting new comic (our number most certainly rank in the dozens to baker’s-dozens), I implore you to give “Meet the Tofus” another try. With a stable space in the back of the *Gazette* and uninterrupted biweekly installments, I’m sure others will join us in our love of these anthropomorphized cubes of bean curd.

Yours truly,  
Chad Borkenhagen

WORKSLOT NEEDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Cash Disbursed Bookkeeping  
Monday, 6:00 to 8:45 p.m.

You will be entering information about checks written from individual papers into our checkbook (cash disbursed journal) and adding it up. Neat, legible handwriting a must, and facility with working with numbers and a calculator helps. You will be working independently so good attendance record needed. A 6-month commitment is required. Please speak to Andie Taras through the Membership Office at 718-622-0560.

Kitchen Cleaning  
Wednesday, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Deep clean all three kitchens in the Coop: child-care, meeting room, staff room. You will work independently to clean countertops, cabinets, drawers, kitchen equipment, sinks, and refrigerators. Must be reliable as you are the only person coming to do this job on your day. Please speak to Adriana in the Membership Office, Monday to Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. if you are interested.

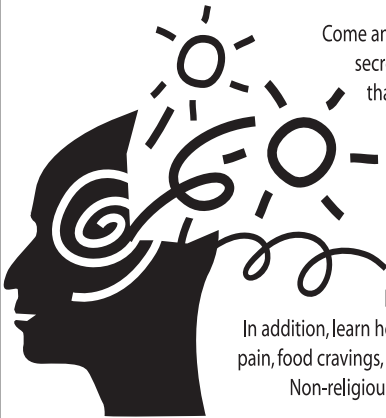


Saturday, August 25  
2:00 p.m. sharp  
at the Coop

FREE  
Non members Welcome

JOY!

What is it? Where is it? How can I get it?  
It’s all there; inside you!



Come and learn specialized eastern secrets to discovering what it is that may be blocking you from your own power, strength and joy. You will be taught Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT), which show you how to reduce or eliminate your emotional blockages and past traumas.

In addition, learn how to relieve your physical pain, food cravings, addictions and/or phobia.

Non-religious and non-intrusive.

Carolyn Meiselbach Circles is a long-time member of the PSFC. She is an indoor environmental consultant, a health and nutrition coach and a practitioner and teacher of EFT.

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop

Tuesday, August 28  
7:30 p.m. at the Coop

FREE  
Non members Welcome

REIKI

with Dora “Sauda” Summers

靈氣

Therapeutic Healing for the mind, the body, and the spirit  
With Dora “Sauda” (Sa-oo-da) Summers

This Workshop explains:

- The history of Reiki
- What the word Reiki means
- The benefits of Reiki

Reiki is a simple, natural and safe technique for stress reduction, relaxation, promotes healing and self-improvement that everyone can use and benefit from.

Dora “Sauda” Summers CRP (Certified Reiki Practitioner) is a Coop member. She is the founder of Reiki by Sauda.

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop

Plastic Recycling Drivers Needed



The Plastics Recycling Squads are looking for drivers to transport plastic recycling collected at the Coop to the recycling plant in Brooklyn. Drivers are needed for shifts on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Drivers must have a large capacity vehicle (van or truck) for the volume of recycling collected. You need to be able to lift and work independently. Reliability is a must as you are the only person coming to do this job on your day. Member should be prepared to store recycling collected on Saturday or Sunday in their vehicle or home until recycling center opens on Monday. Wednesday and Friday drivers must be available to drop off the recycling at the center between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. when the recycling facility is open. Member will be reimbursed for mileage according to IRS reimbursement rates. If interested please contact Office Coordinator Cynthia Pennycooke at [cynthia\\_pennycooke@psfc.coop](mailto:cynthia_pennycooke@psfc.coop) or drop by the Membership Office to speak to her.



To Submit Classified or Display Ads:

Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, business card ads at \$30. (Ads in the "Merchandise-Non-commercial" category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form. Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2" x 3.5" horizontal). Submission forms are available in a wallpocket near the elevator.

MERCHANDISE

TEMPUR-PEDIC MATTRESSES, NECK pillows, comfort products & accessories. Mattress comes with a 20-year guarantee & a 3-month trial period. The ultimate in comfort & pressure relief. Truly will improve the quality of your sleep. Call Janet at Patrick Mackin Custom Furniture—a T-P dealer for 10 yrs, 718-237-2592.

MERCHANDISE-NONCOMMERCIAL

FOR SALE: Ceilerciser, new plus accessories, \$200; Braun 10-cup coffeemaker, \$15; gold-plated jewelry signed by artist (vintage), \$20-40. Call 718-768-1598.

PETMATE KENNEL for large dog. 24" wide X 34" long X 30" high. Heavy duty plastic with removable cushion and metal gate. \$25. Linda 718-783-4404 or Larjo411@aol.com

JUICER CHAMPION 2000t perfect condition, 1 year old, infrequently used. \$125 or best offer. Call 718-376-1639. Please leave message for Sam.

NORITAKE CHINA, SERVICE FOR 12 IN MINT CONDITION. Creston pattern, yellow, gold and sage. Includes serving dishes, extra cups and saucers. Hand painted, no imperfections. \$100. Call Carol 718-436-5359 eves. and weekends.

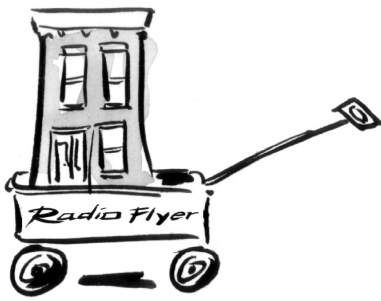
MERCHANDISE WANTED

GOT VINTAGE PHOTOS OF PARK SLOPE? Local writer looking for shots of street scenes, landmarks and lost buildings (taken before 2000) for neighborhood history book. If your pic is used in print, you get credit and a copy of the book. Please send info/images for consideration by Sept. 1 to parkslopehistory@mac.com

SERVICES

TOP HAT MOVERS, INC., 145 Park Place, Bklyn. Licensed and Insured Moving Co. moves you stress-free. Full line of boxes & packing materials avail. Free estimates 718-965-0214. D.O.T. #T-12302. Reliable, courteous, excellent references & always on time. Credit cards accepted. Member Better Business Bureau.

SPRING YOUR FLOORS TO LIFE by sanding and refinishing! Floor mechanic will install, repair, refinish wooden floors. Reasonable prices. Good references. Call Tony—Cell phone: 917-658-7452.



MADISON AVENUE HAIRSTYLIST in Park Slope one block from coop-by appointment only. Please call Maggie at 718-783-2154 at a charge of \$50.

PAINTING-PLASTERING+PAPER-HANGING-Over 25 years experience doing the finest prep + finish work in Brownstone Brooklyn. An entire house or one room. Reliable, clean and reasonably priced. Fred Becker - 718-853-0750.

COMPUTER HELP-CALL NY GEEK GIRLS. Setup & file transfer; hardware & software issues; data recovery; viruses & pop-ups; networking; printer/file sharing; training; back-ups. Home or business. Mac and PC. Onsite or pickup/drop off. References, reasonable rates. Longtime Coop member. 347-351-3031 or info@nygeekgirls.com



NEED AN ELECTRICIAN CALL ART CABRERA, celebrating 35 yrs in the electrical construction industry. No job too large or small specializing in trouble shooting, 220 wiring, fans, lights, total or partial renovations. Expert in Brownstone renovations. Serving Park Slope since 1972, original coop member, P.S. resident. 718-965-0327

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EXPRESS MOVES. One flat price for the entire move! No deceptive hourly estimates! Careful, experienced mover. Everything quilt padded. No extra charge for wardrobes and packing tape. Specialist in walkups. Thousands of satisfied customers. Great Coop references. 718-670-7071

PARK SLOPE SAT TUTOR. I am a college English professor and I received my MFA from Columbia University. I've been teaching for over 7 years. As an SAT tutor, I assess individual strengths and weaknesses, targeting those specific areas. We all learn differently. Reasonable rates, excellent ref. 917-797-9872 or berit.anderson@gmail.com www.beritanderson.com

DON'T LEAVE your memories in a box! Get them back into your life or let us do it for you. High school, college years? Weddings? Baby pictures? Anniversary? Reunions? Is a box any place to keep your life? Memories Out of the Box, 633 Vanderbilt Ave. (St. Marks & Prospect Place) 718-398-1519. www.memoriesoutofthebox.biz

HAIRCUTS COLOR OIL Treatments. Adults, kids in the convenience of your home or my home. Adults 30.00. Kids 15.00. Call Leonora, 718-857-2215.

OLIVE DESIGN INTERIOR DECORATING: Color consulting, furniture selection and placement, rugs, window treatments. Use what you have or start fresh. See website for more information and rates: www.olivedesignNY.com

SERVICES-HEALTH

HOLISTIC OPTOMETRY: Most eye doctors treat patients symptomatically by prescribing ever-increasing prescriptions. We try to find the source of your vision problem. Some of the symptoms that can be treated include headaches, eye fatigue, computer discomfort, learning disabilities. Convenient Park Slope location. Dr. Jerry Wintrob, 718-789-2020. holisticeyecare.com

RELIEVE LOWER BACK and neck pain, shoulder, chronic tension and stiffness - poor digestion - headache - insomnia - stress. Rejuvenate body, mind and spirit with shiat-su. Special first session offer \$80. Contact Claudia Copparoni. 14 yrs experience. clcoppa@hotmail.com, 718-938-5573.

WOMEN WHO DON'T HAVE TIME to waste. Short-term psychotherapy for women interested in moving their lives forward. Over 20 years experience working with depression & anxiety, relationship issues, body image & self-esteem. Come in for free consultation and see how we work together. Reasonable fees. Call Gail 718-857-0436.

HOLISTIC DOCTOR in Naturopathy stimulates body's natural ability to heal chronic conditions, allergy, skin, muscle, cancer support with homeopathy, physical & chelation therapies, bioenergetic acupuncture, lab tests, hair analysis & more. Research Director. 20 years exp. As Featured in Allure Magazine. Dr. Gilman 212-505-1010.



WHEN NOTHING ELSE WORKS. Been there, done that and you're still scared, sad, frustrated, angry, sick or stuck? Take heart! Awaiting you is a quick, effective acupressure technique: EFT. Only one session probable. Money back guarantee agreements. Groups forming. Call today. Carolyn Meiselbach, EFT-ADV. 718-858-0452.

PSYCHOTHERAPY with a licensed psychologist who has post-doctoral training in individual, couple and family therapy. Insurance accepted. Evening and weekend appointments available in centrally located Park Slope office. For an appointment please call Dr. Helen Wintrob at 718-783-0913 or 917-974-3966.

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ADVERTISE ON THE WEB

If your ad would benefit from broader exposure, try the Coop's web page, www.foodcoop.com. The ads are FREE.



PHOTO BY INGRID CUSSON

# Interested in Engaging Coop Work?

## Disciplinary Committee Seeks NEW Members



**If you are good at:**

**Communicating,**

**Problem solving,**

**Dealing with**

**difficult situations &**

**Investigating...**

***We need you!***

We (the DC) are seeking new members to work with us on making the Coop the best place it can be for everyone.

Being a DC member offers the opportunity to be involved in **important, interesting and challenging work**. We generally contribute more time than regular monthly shift workers, though much of it is done from home via phone calls and e-mail. While there is this flexibility, we are seeking members prepared to make a substantial and consistent commitment to the Coop (you will get credit for overtime hours).

- Some of our work includes:**
- Investigating allegations of misbehavior by Coop members, such as failing to report for or to complete shifts, bringing in non-members to shop, shopping while suspended, stealing, using racist, sexist, homophobic or nasty language against other Coop members and staff, etc.
  - Participating in disciplinary hearings, which are sometimes conducted after investigations are concluded
  - Mediating disputes between Coop members
  - Engaging in problem-solving
  - Working on policy issues related to the DC's work

We would like to be a committee reflecting as many points of view of the Coop's racial and ethnic groups as possible.

We seek diversity and encourage candidates of color to apply.

- Requirements for Candidates:**
- Coop members for at least a year
  - have good attendance records
  - attend an evening meeting approximately every six weeks.

**Investigative, legal, writing, or conflict-resolution experience would be helpful, and use of a computer and email is essential.**

If you are interested and would like to join us please call **Jeff: 718-636-3880**

### WELCOME!

A warm welcome to these new Coop members who have joined us in the last two weeks. We're glad you've decided to be a part of our community.

Donnell Adams	Giuliana Chamedes	Heather Feider	Anthony Kammer	Judith May	Nkiru Richardson
Lana Adlawan	Ankur Chaturvedi	Stephanie Feuer-Beck	Leila Kawar	Laura McSpeden	Tina Richerson
Molly Ahern	Tak Cheung	Robert Fianza	Kate Kelly	Elena Milius	Carolina Roche
Tamara Al-Fadl	Julie Cho	Janelle Fraser	Cindy Ko	Robert Milius	Kevin Ross
Danielle Allen	Adam Christopher	Aya Fujimura-	Abigail Kramer	Kim Miller	Yolanda Rubino
Kristi Allen	Lindsay Clark	Fanselow	Rachel Lande	Richard Miller	Michael Salas
Gretchen Anderson	Lindsey Cole	Manon Gauthier	Melanie Lavelle	Zachary Model	Hilary Salk
Anna Angel	Rebecca Coleman	Matthew Gleit	Danielle Lemone	Angela Morga	Steve Salk
Suzi Arnold	Evan Collier	Emma Graves	Leah Lerner	Quinn Mulroy	Adam Salo
Daniel Beeby	Carmen Coro	Petra Grueger	Christina Lin	Victoria Nachimson	Frances Schamberg
Ida Benedetto	Nikki Cortez	Stephen Gunn	Molly Lindsay	Lexi Neame	Nadia Serrano
Sari Bernstein	Susan Cosier	Jessica Halliburton	Sara Locke	Megan Neely-Hoyt	Amber Shap
Jon Berry	Ann Margaret	Delyse Hanson	Laura Lok	Jason Nicholas	Hannah Stern
Dario Berti	DeAngelis	Stephanie Hasiotis	Angus Loten	Erik Ortlip	Diana Vaughn
Tanya Bielski-Braham	Sara Delano	Jonathan Ho	Peter Lovell	Heather Osborn	Jill Vogel
Paula Birnberg	Heidi Diehl	Brian Hobbs	Isabelle Lumpkin	Gizella Otterson	Kristen Vrancken
Stephanie Borgese	Emma Donoghue	Ben Horner	Taasha Lundy	Homeira Pajooohesh	Jason Wagenheim
Meg Bovell	Patrick Doran	Crystal Hosannah	Dan Lutz	Ken Peltzer	Jesse Walker
Sarah Bowman	Ben Doren	Sam Hoyt	Colleen Macklin	Jennifer Peters	Joseph Ward
Lewis Braham	Mariah Doren	Brian Hsu	Naomi Major	Suzanne Price	Steven Watt
Karen Bridbord	Cadence Dubus	Angela lafrate	Christopher Mannigan	Eva Primack	Gayle Weintraub
Shannon Brown	Emily Duncan	Mika Inoue	Alison Marazzi	Sheela Raman	Samuel Weisenberg
Andrea Browne	Rebecca Eklund	Tomomi Ishii	Angie Marei	Mindi Ramsey	Rosten Woo
Tamara Cacchione	Danielle Esposito	Rachael Janken	Jessica Marzagao	Harry Reisig	Kimi Wright
Rachel Certner	Thibaut Estellon	Selena Juneau-Vogel	Julien Mathieu	Kathryn Rheault	Fred Zhao

### THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following members for referring friends who joined the Coop in the last two weeks.

Alana Alpert	Jennifer Cortez	Maggie Gram	Lindsey Lusher	Monica Parikh	Nicole Tocco
Ame	Debbie	Rebecca Guber	Ben Margolis	Tricia Perry	Ginna Triplett
Evan Anderson	David Depass	Ehren Hanson	Ajeet Matharu	Rachel Pfeffer	Carlos Tupacyupanqui
Suzanne Andrews	Shanee Epstein	Heather & James	Ryan Mattek	Eugene V. Resnick	Donnell Turner
Cynthia B.	Carol Eversley	Aneal Helms	Beverly May	Kate Rubin	Kevin Uehlinger
Jessica B.	David Friedman	Kim Jessor	Alaska McFadden	Nicole Salk	Alex Vitale
Mariel Berger	Eric Frumin	Julie K.	Andrew Merz	Sigi	Moshe Weidenfeld
Laila Bernstein	Gregory Frumin	Leah Kopperman	Ryan Minezzi	Aadika Singh	Molly Weingrod
Hope Boeve	Sarah Fulford	Noga Kreiman-Miller	Hanakyle Moranz	Laya Sleiman	Joey Weisenberg
David Burdman	Mike Gallagher	Kristin	Neville Nagarwalla	Matthew Smith	Steven White
Katie Cancila	Pamela Galpern	Emily Lavelle	Norma Nathanson	Veena Srinivasa	Caroline Zeith
Sally Chew	Michael Gasper	Alia Levine	Shanti Nayak	Ken Stein	Manuel Zelaya
Emily Cohen	June Glasson	Raven Lopez	Jill Nicholls	Janice Stern	
Greg Cohen	Lisa Goldstein	Jessica Lurie	Martha Oatis	Roslyn Tate	