How the Coop Chooses What to Sell

By Gayle Forman

The act of grocery shopping is fraught with decisions: organic, locally raised, naturally raised, grass-fed, grass-finished, minimally processed, carbon footprints, environmental impacts. The decisions, the implications and the consequences of the simple act of buying a head of lettuce can be overwhelming.

Which is perhaps why for many Coop members (including this reporter), one of the benefits of membership is knowing that someone else is doing the homework and vetting the products that the Coop sells. While the Coop has an environmental policy in place to offer broad guidelines—carry organic whenever possible, avoid products that are genetically engineered, toxic or tested on animals—the day-to-day decisions are made by a team of coordinators who make the tough calls on which products should be for sale. Here's a breakdown of how they choose what we buy.

Produce

“I'm going to try to buy the best food, the highest percentage organic—and if something can be purchased locally, it will be, without exception,” says Allen Zimmerman, General Coordinator and produce buyer. Right now, in the midst of summer, Zimmerman buys half of the produce the Coop carries from local purveyors. Hepworth Farms is one of the biggest suppliers, but Zimmerman also works with several small farms upstate and in Lancaster County, Pa., buying not from individual farms but from several small farms upstate and in Lancaster County, Pa., buying not from individual farms but from several small farms. We do buy some things from big companies, but they're items that a small farmer doesn’t make, like packaged cold cuts,” Zimmerman explains. In this same spirit, Zimmerman buys a large amount of fruits and vegetables from Hepworth but will never buy exclusively from her. “When there's a glut of zucchini and every single farmer wants to beat me over the head with a zucchini, I definitely buy the majority from Hepworth, but I try to leave some room for other farmers who need help,” Zimmerman explains. In this same spirit, Zimmerman will pay more for local, even if it means a higher cost to Coop members. "You can't take care of Coop members by trying to whittle down the price of some small farmer who is dependent on you to exist. It's important to strike a balance to keep as many farmers going, for our own sake as well as for theirs. All interests are intertwined."

Meat and Poultry

As with produce, geography plays a key role in how Recruing Coordinator Bill Malloy chooses what meat and poultry to stock. “As much as possible we try to buy from local and smaller farmers. We do buy some things from big companies, but they're items that a small farmer doesn’t make, like packaged cold cuts,” says Malloy. The dedication to local (within 500 miles, though often much closer) is becoming an integral part of the Coop's make-up. Zimmerman explains. In this same spirit, Zimmerman will pay more for local, even if it means a higher cost to Coop members. "You can't take care of Coop members by trying to whittle down the price of some small farmer who is dependent on you to exist. It's important to strike a balance to keep as many farmers going, for our own sake as well as for theirs. All interests are intertwined."

Established 1973

Volume CC, Number 16 July 31, 2008

Next General Meeting on August 26

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 26, 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Pl.*

The agenda will be available as a flyer in the entryway of the Coop on Wednesday, August 6. 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*
C. Other products

A. Other products may be returned if they are spoiled or defective and the category is not specified above.

B. Other products may be returned if they are unopened, undamaged and therefore unused.

C. Other products may not be returned if they are opened or unsellable, and were purchased by mistake or not needed.

Refrigerated items

May not be returned unless spoiled.

Frozen items

May not be returned unless spoiled.

Books

May not be returned.

Jackets

May not be returned.

Bulk items & bulk items packaged by the Coop

May not be returned. Members may contact the bulk buyer to discuss any other claims for credit.

Product Return Policy

The Coop does not “exchange” items. You must return item and repurchase what you need. Returns of eligible items will be handled at the Second Floor Service Desk within 30 days of purchase only when accompanied by the RAIN IN FULL receipt. Please use the following guide to determine if an item is eligible for return:

Produce (fresh fruits & vegetables)

May not be returned with the exception of coconuts, pineapples and watermelons. Even if the claim is that the item is spoiled or it was purchased by mistake, producer cannot be returned except for the three items listed above.

The producer may be contacted on weekends by members to discuss any other claims for credit.

The Park Slope Food Coop’s Reading Series

Authors Wanted

Wordspouts—The Park Slope Food Coop’s Reading Series—is planning its fall season now. We’re looking for Coop members who are published authors interested in leading writing workshops at the Coop or in reading their work at a local bookstore. Members who participate in Wordspouts receive worktable credit.

If you’re interested please send your book info and/or workshop ideas to Pj Corso at paco@corso.net.

The Diversity & Equality Committee (DEC) is dedicated to 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 and 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 between all Coop members and paid staff regardless of each individual’s different identity. The DEC also aims to provide advocacy for individuals.

Contact Form

DEC Contact forms are available in the literature rack below to get it to the committee.

Mail Park Slope Food Coop

Attention: Diversity & Equality Committee

161 7th Street

Brooklyn, New York 11215

Drop Box

Which is located in the entryway vestibule on the ground floor under the flier caddy.

Membership

The DEC has a mailbox in the Membership Office on the second floor of the Coop.

The Fun Waiting Committee of The Park Slope Food Coop Presents

For Your Entertainment and for a Good Cause

Saturday, September 27 • 7:00–9:30 p.m.

Upstairs in the Coop meeting room

Benefit for CHIPS Soup Kitchen

(Olivia’s Help to Park Slope)

Beginners Welcome—The basics will be taught as needed. A fun social evening for a good cause. Come one, come all (ages 18 and up). Snacks and drinks available for purchase.

Admission price of $10 buys your poker chips to play. All proceeds benefit the Coop. Top four winners will receive a gift certificate.

What a Deal! So Deal me In!

Further Information: (718) 429-3437

RECEIVING COORDINATOR KAREN MARTIN

A. The Coop members have their own lines that they want us to carry, but we just cannot do it. This is part due to health issues— the possibility of bacteria increases when a frozen item was purchased by mistake, produce cannot be returned except for the three items listed above.

B. Other products may be returned if they are opened or unsellable, and were purchased by mistake or not needed.

The produce buyer may be contacted on weekends by members to discuss any other claims for credit.

Books

May not be returned.

Jackets

May not be returned.

Bulk items & bulk items packaged by the Coop

May not be returned. Members may contact the bulk buyer to discuss any other claims for credit.

Refrigerated items

May not be returned unless spoiled.

Frozen items

May not be returned unless spoiled.

All Other Products (not covered above)

A. Other products may be returned if they are spoiled or defective and the category is not specified above.

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Food Return Policy

The Coop does not “exchange” items. You must return item and repurchase what you need. Returns of eligible items will be handled at the Second Floor Service Desk within 30 days of purchase only when accompanied by the RAIN IN FULL receipt. Please use the following guide to determine if an item is eligible for return:

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The producer may be contacted on weekends by members to discuss any other claims for credit.

Books

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Jackets

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C. Other products may not be returned if they are opened or unsellable, and were purchased by mistake or not needed.
null
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 through 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 Sunday
8:00 a.m. to 8:45 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. Receipt of your submission 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 $5 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.

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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 $25 per year to cover the cost of postage (at First Class rates because our volume is low).

Printed by: Prompt Printing Press, Camden, NJ.

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.
• #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.

This Issue Prepared By:
Coordinating Editors: Stephanie Golden, Erik Lewis
Editors (development): Dan Jacobson, Michael O’Keeffe
Reporters: Gayle Forman, Kira Seston
Art Director (development): Michelle Ishay
Illustrators: Susan Greenstein, Owen Long
Photographers: Hazel Hankin, Monona Yin
Test Converters: Peter Benton, Diana Quick
Proofreader: Margaret Benton
Thumbnails: Barbara Jungwirth
Preproduction: Yan Kong
Photoshop: Bill Kontzias
Art Director (production): Lynn Cole-Walker
Desktop Publishing: Leonard Henderson, Matthew Landleid
Editor (production): Michal Hershkovitz
Post Production: Becky Cassidy
Index: Len Neufeld
Final Proofreader: Teresa Theophano

Read the Gazette while you’re standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com
Plastic Recycling Drivers

The Plastics Recycling Scourers 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 or Friday. Drivers must have a large capacity van (truck or mini-van) with removable backseats for the volume of recycling collected (no hatchbacks!). 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. All drivers must be available to drop off the recycling at the plant 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 or drop by the Membership Office to speak to her.

Community Ties Outreach (FTOP Only)

Community Ties is our directory of businesses offering exclusive discounts to Park Slope Food Coop members. See the new Spring/Summer issue at www.foodcoop.com or in print at the entrance vestibule. What other businesses would you like to see listed? Which neighborhood businesses are missing? The Coop needs workers to canvas neighborhoods (via phone and/or foot) to enlist new businesses for a free listing in our upcoming Fall 2008 issue. If you’re marketing—have an eye for community-minded, schedule an FTOP shift. Leave a voicemail message for Camille Scinta at 888-922-2667, mailbox 87.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 26, 7:00 p.m.

The General Meeting is held on the last Tuesday of each month. 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, and has an open forum 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, and has an open forum 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, and has an open forum

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 (7:50 p.m.)

• Financial Report
• Coordinators Report
• Committee Reports

Agenda (8:00 p.m.)

• The agenda is posted at the Coop Community Corner

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45 p.m.)

—to your Squad after you attend the meeting.
Is there someone you need to forgive?
 Holding on to feelings of hurt, guilt, resentment, blame, anger and the need to punish finds up a lot of your own energy and keeps you locked in the past, instead of being fully present. The Forgiveness Process allows you to release those negative feelings and complete your own healing.

LEARN TO:
• Forgive yourself and others
• Focus and use the power of unconditional love
• Align your head and your heart
• Use the power of energy flow to relieve stress
• Participate in a group unconditional love meditation

MORAIMA SUAREZ is a Coop member, certified Holotropic® Healing Practitioner, certified Bowen Therapist, and Reiki practitioner. She has studied and practiced the healing arts for over 20 years and her healing practice in the Park Slope area.

FREE
Saturday, August 16
2:00–4:00 at the Coop

Your co-workers will love you for it!

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!

Your co-workers will love you for it!

WORKSLOT NEEDS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5
Inventory
Monday, 8:00 to 10:45 a.m.
Work under the supervision of Receiving staff to accurately count and inventory meat, bulk and/or endcap products. Must have good handwriting, be able to do basic arithmetic (weights, fractions, additions), be reliable and have good attention to detail.

Paper Recycling
Friday, 6:00 to 8:00 a.m.
Do you have a large vehicle (such as a cargo van, truck, or mini-van with removable seats) and want to help the Coop be a good green citizen? Collect recycled paper from the Coop, bag it, load it into your vehicle and drive it to the paper recycling center. You need to be able to lift and work independently. Reliability a must as you will be the only person coming to do this job on your day.

The recycling center is located at 165 43rd St in Brooklyn. If interested, please contact Adriana Becerra at gmcredit@psfc.coop or drop by the Membership Office to speak to her.

Early Morning Receiving/Stocking Committees
Monday – Friday, 5:30., 6:00, and 7:00 a.m.
Early morning Receiving/Stocking squads work with Receiving Coordinators to receive deliveries and stock the store. These squads help to unload delivery trucks, organize products in the base- ment, load carts, and stock shelves, bulk bins, coolers and produce on the shopping floor. You may be asked to stock perishables in the reach-in freezer or walk-in cooler. Boxes generally weigh between 2 – 20 lbs., a few may weigh up to 50 lbs. Other duties include breaking down cardboard for recycling, preparing produce for display, and general cleaning. You will have the opportunity to work closely with our produce buyers and learn a lot about the produce the Coop sells.

General Ledger Bookkeeping
Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Are you a detail-oriented person who likes working with numbers and is at ease handling a calculator? General Ledger Bookkeeping might be the work-slot for you! General Ledger bookkeeping consists of making entries into the General Ledger, running a calculator tape to draw account balances and, finally, balancing the General Ledger. The work must be completed in three separate segments, on 3 separate days, between Thursday evening and Sunday evening, allowing some flexibility in scheduling the work. This is all hand entry work, since the Coop bookkeeping system is not computer- ized. Good handwriting is a must. Prior bookkeep- ing experience helps. Prerequisites are: 1) must have been a member of the Coop in good standing for 6 months; and 2) must make a six-month commitment to the workslot. If you are interested in this workslot, please speak to Renee St Furcy through the Membership Office.

Office Setup
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, 6:00 to 8:30 a.m.
Need an early riser with lots of energy to do a variety of physical tasks including: setting up tables and chairs, buying food and supplies, labeling and putting away food and supplies, recycling, washing dishes and making coffee. Sound like your dream come true? This job might be for you. Please speak to Adriana or Cynthia in the Membership Office for more information.

Friday, August 22
7:00 at the Coop
FREE
Non members Welcome

The Enlightenment Of the Whole Body
Students speak of their teacher, Avatar Adi Da Samraj, considering the presence of the natural enlightenment and reality.

Pohchok Luk will present her guru, Adi Da Samraj, born in the West, who points to the possibility of a life based in reality, beyond the opposite points of view of East and West.

Documentary will be shown, with discussion to follow. Live music too!

Pohchok Luk, originally from Malaysia, is a Coop member and member of the Park Slope Indian community.

Friday, August 16
7:30 at the Coop
FREE
Non members Welcome

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE: The Black Panther Party and Beyond
A very important, but rarely seen film about the Black Panthers, Young Lords, and other peoples’ movements of the 1960s, and the conscious liberties that certain government agencies have gone to impede them.

Features former Black Panther Bobby Seale, former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, former CIA case officer Philips Ayers, Leonid Petrov, and Mumia Abu Jamal.

Saturday, August 23
3:00 at the Coop
FREE
Non members Welcome

Into the Body: Tools and Tips for Reducing Stress
Seeking a sanctuary from stress? Look no further than your own body. It’s an experimental workshop you will learn five simple tools to shift from stress to stress lessening in minutes. Practice using these tools to shift from stress to stress lessening in minutes. Discover the five secrets to integrating these tools into your life.
Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a stressless environment to work with in your mind.

NOTE: Due to the necessary requirements of the workshop, you will be in a relaxed state after the workshop. Thank you for setting aside 2 hours.

Friday, August 8
8:00 p.m. at the Coop
FREE
Non members Welcome

THE NOW FILM SERIES presents
You Can’t Be Neutral on a Moving Train: A Personal History of Our Times
Admitted historian Howard Zinn has both chronicled and participated in some of the most important social movements of our time. If you Can’t Be Neutral on a Moving Train’s experience speak to the future as much as to the past they show in vivid detail how small actions can affect historic change.
IN DEFENSE OF MEAT

TO THE EDITOR:

Louis Lavelle’s arguments against the Coop’s selling meat seem to be based on a confusion between the two very different systems of meat production that exist in most developed countries, particularly this one. Commercially raised meat is easy at best on the environment as he claims: it is incomprehensible to the animals involved, who are unthinkingly confined, unhealthy and fed an unnatural diet short lives without ever seeing the sun.

But there’s another system, in which animals are raised on pasture on small local farms. Most small farmers keep only 50 to a few hundred animals, which spend their lives moving from pasture to pasture, even pigs and chickens pastured, though in their case it’s not so much the grass as the roots, guts and worms! Raising animals this way is easier on the environment in every way, resulting in lower fuel use and emissions (I know power their delivery trucks with used vegetable oil). It’s certainly more in keeping with our traditions and shopping malls that would replace these farms if the farmers went out of business. It’s also obviously much easier on the animals.

This is the kind of meat the Coop sells, and by purchasing it, the Coop’s help to provide a market for farmers who treat their land, and their animals, well, as well as alternative choices that show us how the animals we eat are treated. When meat like this is an option, I think there’s really only one good reason not to eat it (unless, of course you simply don’t like it)—that you believe it is wrong to kill animals for food.

But in making that decision, I think it’s necessary to recognize that the only reason meat is still available to lose—the only reason they exist at all—is because we want to eat them. So the question really comes down to whether you believe it’s preferable to live a short, happy life or not to exist at all. These are not the rabbits of your idea—but these animals have been domesticated for millennia; they could not exist if we did not raise them.

I think there are good moral arguments on both sides of that issue. My own decision is to eat meat only from animals that have lived natural and happy lives. Unlike commercially raised meat, meat like this isn’t cheap. It’s expensive to raise and expensive to buy, and if we all ate it, we would all eat a great deal less meat than most Americans. I don’t generally eat meat as a main dish more than once a week, but when I do, I eat it with enjoyment; the blissful gratitude I feel toward the animals I’m eating and the farmer who raised it—and without guilt.

Gene Hicks

PLASTIC RAP

DEAR COOP:

Gene Hicks writes that since the Coop’s ban on plastic bags he has to buy plastic trash bags at the supermarket. I’d like to make a few alterna-

tive suggestions.

The world is lousy with plastic bags. If you need them for trash, every drug store, bodega, deli, clothing store—practically every store out there—has them and will be happy to put your purchases in one. I generally carry a cloth bag, but if I’m out of plastic bags, I’ll just ask for one when I go to a store that isn’t the Coop.

Another option is buying plastic bags made with recycled plastic. Creating a market for recycled products will help to keep recycling programs going, and they’re not as wasteful as “new” bags.

But one of the best resources I have found for plastic bags is right at my feet—their all over the street. I try to pick up bags I find on the street, and many of them are brand new, clean and intact. I take them home and use them for my trash. If they have holes in them, I throw them away at the next corner. If every Coop member picked up a couple of bags a week, our beautiful trees would be plastic free and our streets would be much cleaner.

So don’t worry, Gene, you have a lot of bag options. Good luck!

Barb Work

OFF-COLOR SUMMONSES

Remember “The Gator”? It’s back in Park Slope.

As saffron blooms in the swast, Diminuative flags that he to drag on cars By knowing we can that To have such ticket who ever owns And traffic signs in the streets Go off in different directions On alternate-parking bates. Surprise, surprise, no-nos are back With the end of parking nirvana As dropping off one’s cart becomes A slippery peel of banana What know just how of their ticketed cats Have been in place for weeks And will remain right where they are Resumed their summer fun A Third Street companion her neighbor On extended holiday In Patagonia “Get back quickly Watermelon is at a loss away” One things for sure: these orange forms Will keep flying till summer’s down And some poor oarsmen returning home Will cure both suffix and brown.

Leon Freilich

SODA THANKS!

DEAR COOP:

Many thanks to Annie Oxidian Martinez and Andrea Tosto. After reading your letter about Soda Club USA, I checked their website (www.sodaclubusa.com) and decided that it could be the way to go for me. I just received delivery of my kit and I must say that it makes me very happy—no more schlepping bottles! I’m contributing to the reduction of our carbon footprint and it truly is easy and fast to use!

Check it out, fellow Food Coopers! And no, I don’t own any of their stock.

Sara Valentine

GAZETTE GRIPES

DEAR COOP:

We are writing to you on behalf of the members who allow us to hope the Resurrection will reflect a consider-

able attention to detail”—Marinylene Robinson. Friends and fellow inmates, I Work for You! It’s about time to get together some house parties, phone trees, petition campaigns and try to get me elected next time. (Part 2 of 2) We were talking about the frequent articles on Inmates the Editors of the Dynasty-supported Gazette decide are newsworthly.) Why not offer everyone an inter-

view with a Gazzete reporter, and leaving the Co-Op, and once in five years if they haven’t left? Why not have an impartial committee select the members to be featured in what mostly amount to puff pieces? I would like to be interviewed—I have worked relentlessly for the Co-Op for 14 years!—are they afraid I would say something wrong—or do they fear that a reporter could express the ben-

efits and necessity of representative democracy more clearly than I could?

The Gazette is a tremendous enterprise—there are four squads, each one putting out a paper every week! Not to mention the cost of the equipment and the space they take up in the Co-Op that could be used for social causes or the democratic process. They print 3,000 copies! Peo-

ple say one copy is read by more than one person. I say it’s not. It might be read by less than one person as they turn over 3 or 4 pages and then throw it back into the shopping cart! The typical response I get when I ask about the Gazette is “I don’t read it.”

Ed Levy, evidently another stalwart of the Dynasty, wrote in the July 3rd issue about the Household Rule, wherein everyone in a house-

hold has to join. Nowhere does he even mention any way out—some reporter. Like my oft-mentioned idea that we could simply monitor the pur-

chases of members and investigate when they seemed inappropriate. Since the Dynasty, there is a reporter named Alison Levy in the same issue. Hmmmm!

Around 1994, when I was a new member, two of the Directors and two of the Rulers were married to each other without informing the member-

ship. And the Chair of the Govern-

ment Reform Committee was married to a paid employee. But I am afraid! Of course the Gazette is an oasis of tranquility in the bumpy world of peak oil, barbacades of burning tires and endless war. It is a zone completely free of commentary, opinion, columns, fiction, poetry except for one inquisitexp art, except for mostly wallpaper-like car-

toons, analytical thinking about any-

thing more political than chess, and we could go on. Is this the Co-op that the Town Meeting built? I’m afraid that it is!

Albert Baron Salomon

Gazette

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 know-

ingly publish articles which are racist, sexst or otherwise discriminatory. The maximum length for letters is 500 words. Letters must include your name and phone number and be typed or very legible handwritten. Edi-

tors 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.com or on disk.

Anonymity

Unattributed letters will not be published unless the Gazette knows the identity of the writer, and there-

fore must be signed when submitted. Letters will be published only where a reason for doing so is given to the editor as to why public

response, and both submissions and response will be published simultane-

ously. 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 included in the response within the article itself.

Letters must not be personally derogatory or defamatory, even when strongly criticizing an individual member’s actions. Letter writers must refer to other people with respect, refrain from calling someone by a nickname that the person never uses himself or herself, and refrain from committing libel by making defamatory figures like Hitler or Idris Amin.

Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehen-

sive 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 spec-

cific individuals will be given to those persons. We will then allow them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultane-

ously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

4. The above applies to both articles and letters. The only exceptions will be articles by Gazette reporters which will be included in the response within the article itself.

Respect

Letters must not be personally derogatory or defamatory, even when strongly criticizing an individual member’s actions. Letter writers must refer to other people with respect, refrain from calling someone by a nickname that the person never uses himself or herself, and refrain from committing libel by making defamatory figures like Hitler or Idris Amin.
To Submit Classified or Display Ads:
Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at $5 per insertion, business card ads at $10 (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 walkup corner near the elevator.

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- Read the Gazette while you’re standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

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