# INEWAITERS' GAZETTE

Volume DD, Number 19 September 10, 2009

# The Index-Card Conversion Project: *Members' Work Information Goes Digital at Last*

By Erica S. Turnipseed

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The current member card files and a screenshot of the new software for member data.

n a world where text messages and automated voiceresponse systems have made human-to-human voice contact noteworthy, the Park Slope Food Coop's means of answering members' questions about absences, makeups and the like seems quaint. Add to that the fact that members' attendance work record is tracked using an index-card system that dates back to the Coop's inception, and some of the more critical among us call it archaic.

To be sure, the Coop's system of keeping members' records has its drawbacks in this information age. But Jess Robinson, General Coordinator with primary responsibility for the Membership Office, points out that its idiosyncrasies can adjust for human error and function as a living document in a way that a computerized system does not. Nevertheless, she readily concedes that our current index-card system is not adeguate for the Coop's 15,000person membership.

# **Initial Planning** of the Project

Robinson, who will celebrate a decade as one of the Coop's General Coordinators next May, explained that discussion and initial planning of the index-card conversion project predates her tenure. A complex, multifaceted project, it has entailed downloading the logic of the Coop's intricate attendance rules and policy for each committee into the streamlined logic of computer software and a functional user interface. Robinson described that early part of the process: "First, we identified and distilled all of the attendance rules and moved this living set of guidelines into concrete rules. Then the Coop's in-house programming team converted this information into something that can be coded within the Coop's Omnis database."

Former General Coordinator Linda Wheeler (retired after 20 years at the Coop) and computer engineer Larry

Ludwick rounded out the triumvirate that led the conversion team. They logged many hours, over and above their regular Coop responsibilities, hammering out issues such as each committee's attendance rules and the relationship between committees' rules when members did makeups outside of their committees. Ludwick, who is also responsible for the Coop's inventory and produce databases, wrote the software that reflected the information gleaned from these meetings. That process alone took roughly two years. Gerald Barker, one of the Coop's new software engineers, has been testing the software and handling coordinators' reports of system bugs. Ithran Einhorn, another systems engineer, converted the Coop's Omnis database from an older version of the software to a newer version called Studio. He also helped design the user interface.

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# Coop Event Highlights

Fri, Sep 18 • The Good Coffeehouse: Tyler Blanton and the Patrizia Ferrara & Danny Grissett Duo 8:00 p.m.

**Thu, Oct 1** • Food Class: Vegan Sushi 7:30 p.m.

Fri, Oct 2 • Film Night: Greensboro: Closer to the Truth 7:00 p.m.

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

# The Greenhorning of America: How One Woman Wants to Change Farming, One Blog at a Time

By Diane Aronson

aybe you've worked as an intern on an organic farm, or perhaps you've read Michael Pollan's In Defense of Food—twice—and your whole outlook about our food chain has changed. The logic of "think globally, plant locally" reveals itself to you. You want to join those who are busily planting seeds of change in the food supply, or at least learn more about these adventuresome farmers.

Interested in knowing more about a CSA (community-supported agriculture) farm in Maine, which grows produce for 80 families? How about a homestead in Quebec, which farms for a long list of partner-clients and serves as a host to aspiring farmers? How about a farmer in southern Ireland who runs the local farmers market and grows barley in the hope

of becoming a brewer? If you surf over to the Greenhorns. wordpress.com, you'll be able to read about these innovative farmers. As you read through the blog, you realize you have in front of you a dizzying digital clearinghouse of grassroots farming information. Through links from the Greenhorns blog, you can tap the wisdom of progressive-thinking farmers: postings on urban gardening, sustainable agriculture, local food outlets and much more.

While the local-farming movement has grown to encompass far-flung points of the globe, the Greenhorns traces its start to Severine von Tscharner Fleming, an independent farmer based in the Hudson Valley. In addition to growing herbs, she raises chickens, pigs and rab-

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### **Next General Meeting on September 29**

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month.\* The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place

The agenda is on page 8 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.

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# The Index-Card Conversion Project

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#### **The Conversion Process**

Now that all of the coding and debugging is done and the testing phase is nearly complete, the focus is on teaching all staff how to use the software. The Coop is ready to do the actual conversion from the index-card system to the database system. Robinson expects the physical conversion to take place between Friday, September 25 and Sunday, September 27. The current system will be locked down on the evening of Thursday, September 24 (meaning that no changes will be made to the data after that time). Then, the computer system will run through a set of one-time-only conversion routines. This should take about six hours. After that, a massive amount of data entry will be done in the system: staff and members will input how many makeups members owe for every member who has either a work alert or a suspension. They will also input attendance information for Friday and Saturday. That work should take a day and a half. All information should be entered and current by Sunday night, and the new system will be fully operational on Monday.

### Going Live: The Impact on Members and Staff

Robinson does not expect that Coop members will have a radically different experience when seeking information about their membership and work status, with one notable exception: she hopes



Office workers pulling member cards from filing cabinet.

that the process of resolving issues will go much faster.

Today, an office worker handling a phone call from a member must put the caller on hold before physically retrieving the member's index card. The new system will allow office staff to bring up a member record on the computer in a matter of seconds.

Robinson expects the physical conversion to take place between Friday, September 25 and Sunday, September 27.
The new system will be fully operational on Monday.

Robinson did sound a note of caution, explaining that the index cards will not instantly become obsolete. With the exception of FTOP workers' information, members' attendance history prior to September 25 will not be entered into the computer so in order to access that information, members' cards will still likely need to be pulled

in the early weeks following the conversion. But she expects that as the information on the cards ages, and work history after September 25 accumulates in the database, office workers will not need to pull those cards nearly as often, if at all. The Coop will continue to retain members' index cards, but Robinson hopes they can be moved to a back room within the next two to three months.

By contrast, the experience of conducting Membership Office business—either as a Membership Coordinator or a member doing a workslotwill be quite different. Before the conversion, some office workslots were dedicated to updating the index cards and, using the Coop's attendance rules, manually entering information into the computer in order to provide a snapshot of an individual's membership and work history. This process required tedious training of workers and contributed to a fair amount of human error. With the new system, human error will be minimized: workers will no longer be required to memorize massive amounts of information on how to apply the Coop's attendance rules and policy just to make the system work.

After the Coop successfully negotiates this process, it will be one step closer to sharing its member-labor administration model with other, newer coops.

Because of new, far more rigorous data-entry procedures, office workslots will necessarily be much more process- and system-oriented in order to prevent input errors. Problem solving should be more straightforward. Certain tasks will become outmoded. So people who work in the Membership Office will likely see big changes in how they do their jobs.

In addition to the maintenance of data on individual members, the new database functionality will allow Coop staff to pull reports on topics such as trends or patterns in absences and timing of members' makeup shifts. As Robinson explained, this is valuable information because it affects decisions about squad sizes. The Coop can cull this information now, but it is very time-consuming. With the new system, the Coop will be able to look at a 12-month (13-shift) time frame and see how the staffing of member workers could be made more efficient.

Support of this conversion project has been unequivocal among staff and members. In fact, people have wondered why it has taken as long as it has. But, as we see, there have been many steps in this conversion process and no model for its implementation. On that point, Robinson noted that after the Coop successfully negotiates this process, it will be one step closer to sharing its member-labor administration model with other, newer coops. That's a powerful way of cooperating among coops—one of the seven international principles of cooperation.



### PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP

### **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 PAID 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 watermelon. Even if the claim is that the item is spoiled or that it was purchased by mistake, produce cannot be returned except for the three items listed above.

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

	ctaining for croater
Books	May not be returned.
Juicers	May not be returned.
Bulk items & bulk items packaged by the Coop	<b>May not</b> be returned. Members may contact the bulk buyer to discuss any other claims fo credit.
Refrigerated items Frozen items	<b>May not</b> be returned unless spoiled before the expiration date or within 30 days of pur chase, whichever is sooner.
All Other Products	A. Other products <b>may be</b> returned if they

# All Other Products (not covered above)

- are spoiled or defective and the category is not specified above
- B. Other products **may be** returned if they are unopened, undamaged and therefore can be sold again.
- C. Other products **may not** be returned if they are opened or unsellable, and were purchased by mistake or not needed.

# Hearing Officer Committee Seeks New Members

The Hearing Office Committee is seeking two new members. The committee conducts and presides over disciplinary hearings, ensures that hearings proceed in an efficient and unbiased manner and, after a randomly selected Deciding Group has decided whether an accused member violated a Coop rule, determines what disciplinary action should be taken against the member. Applicants should be Coop members in good standing for at least two years, have good attendance records and preferably have judicial, arbitration, mediation or legal backgrounds.

Members of the committee meet and earn workslot credit on an as-needed basis—only, that is, when hearings are required. Therefore these members must maintain regular Coop workslots in good standing or be FTOP members in good standing.

The nature of the committee's work requires that all members maintain strict confidentiality with respect to all matters on which they work.

The committee seeks an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop membership at large.

Those interested, please telephone Marian Hertz of the Hearing Officer Committee at 212-440-2743 or email her at Marian.Hertz@cna.com.

#### GENERAL MEETING

# Coop Faces The Music:

# **Considers Ban on Shopping Floor Tunes, Edited Gazette Submissions**

By Willow Lawson

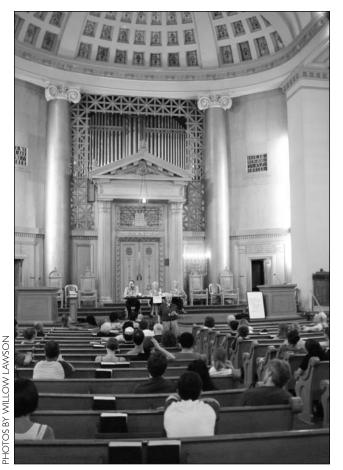
oes the wail of Janis Joplin drive you mad in the Coop check-out line? Or does the groove of Michael Jackson keep you sailing through

At the General Meeting on August 25th, more than 150 sweaty Coop members endured an overheated sanctuary at Congregation Beth Elohim to debate the role of music played on the Coop's speaker system

The third agenda item—up for discussion, not a vote—proposed that music not only inhibited communication between Coop members, but also interfered with crucial Coop work. The proposal's sponsor, a woman named JB Brown, complained that not only did she not like much of the music played by other members, but it was played so loudly that she could not hear the beeping of the check-out scanner and could not tell if she had scanned an item twice. "Please—spare us—don't turn your iPod on us—if you must please listen to it privately," she wrote in her proposal.



Imani Q'ryn asked the members at the meeting to elect her to the Board.



The August General Meeting was held in Congregation Beth Elohim's sanctuary.

Debbie Parker, a Membership Coordinator, stepped up to the microphone and reminded members that it's always possible to ask that the music be changed or turned down. When the speaker system was set up, she said, it was designed so that the music would cut out when workers used the paging system. The setup also allowed for the use of iPods.

A female member testified that when she once

asked for the volume to be turned down, she received a very "uncomrade-like" response from the other member, who flatly denied her request on the grounds that workers on the floor needed a soundtrack as entertainment.

Another member, Louis, a professional musician, felt that the music has been louder recently than it had been in the past. He suggested that that the Coop risked becoming just another oppressive shopping experience, akin to stepping into The Gap. "We are bombarded with music and stimulus" at every turn, he said, and encouraged greater sensitivity about the volume.

Then the tide turned as music lovers stepped up to the mic. Katherine, who works FTOP shifts in the office, said the music makes her feel connected to the Coop and the other people there. When shopping a week or so after Michael Jackson's death, she loved hearing his songs

one after the other. "It was awesome," she said, "I felt like I was a part of a moment in time."

Other members said the diverse musical genres, like the diversity of the membership, was an asset and should not be reined in.

Ann Herpel, a Membership Coordinator, said the audio on the check-out machines can be turned up and down to suit the worker. If the music is too loud, members should ask to speak to the Shopping Squad Leader on duty. As to uncooperative workers who refuse to turn down the volume, Herpel advised members to speak to a staffer.

> A female member testified that when she once asked for the volume to be turned down, she received a very "uncomrade-like" response from the other member.

### Censorship in the Linewaiters' Gazette?

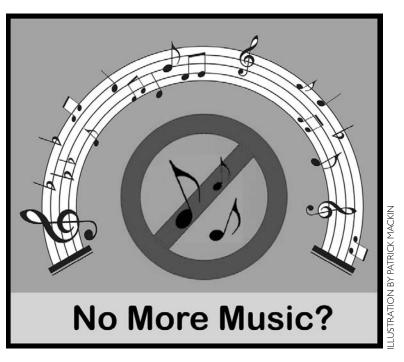
Earlier in the evening, another discussion item led to boisterous, if confused, debate. Elizabeth Tobier, the longtime Coop Secretary of the General Meeting, proposed that this newspaper print all articles and letters that follow the written guidelines of the Linewaiters' Gazette (the Gazette) as they are submitted, unless written permission to edit or alter the submission is obtained from the author. Tobier prefaced her proposal by announcing that her criticism of the Gazette was not directed at any one person or squad.

The reason she included letters in the proposal, even though the Gazette states in every issue that letters are not edited, is because Tobier once submitted a letter and it was edited, despite the policy. Editors

of the Gazette may use their discretion to change content and typographical mistakes of newspaper submissions, but this policy was never sanctioned by the General Meeting, Tobier said. Without consulting the author, she asserted, serious errors can be introduced into the newspaper. The proposal did not apply to reported articles, such as this one.

Stephanie Golden, co-coordinating editor of the Gazette, offered a rebuttal, suggesting that the issue of editing letters be removed from the proposal, as letters have not been edited in some time. If Tobier's letter was edited, it was a mistake, and either that person no longer works for the Gazette, or that person has since learned the editorial policies of the paper, Golden said.

When it comes to unsolicited submissions, Golden said the Gazette had in the past published member submissions in a "pure" way. "The result was that there were bitter, bitter complaints because of inaccuracies," she recalled. The letters column is a place where members' voices can be heard, she said. The



rest of the paper is the result of the combined effort of over 100 skilled people, most of whom are professional writers or editors.

John, a member of the Shopping Committee who worked in magazine publishing, said he had heard from members that submissions were edited without permission from authors. Other members condemned unauthorized editing as censorship.

Erik Lewis, the other co-coordinating editor of the Gazette, defended the work of the editors, but conceded that mistakes are made. "Editing is not a science," he said. "It's an art. There's always a judgment call. Whenever possible, we consult with writers. But we have essentially three days to contact people." He noted that The New York Times recently reported that professional editing would be applied to entries about living people on Wikipedia, the experimental online encyclopedia, because of rampant errors.

Jose, a member who works in publishing production, brushed off the defense of the tight editorial schedule. "If there is a problem with the article, it is not the editor's job to change it, but to say to the author that something is wrong," he said. "If there's a problem [with deadlines] then you need to change your internal schedule."

The discussion ended with Golden reiterating that letters were not edited. In the past, Golden said the Gazette squad had wanted to extend the schedule, but staffers rejected the idea.

### **Board Vacancy Filled**

The one open spot on the Coop's board of six directors was filled at the August meeting by special election. Imani Q'ryn was the only person nominated for the position, which she previously

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### **September 10, 2009**

### The Greenhorning of America

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

bits. Keeping with the theme of local farms/local distribution, von Tscharner Fleming sells her products at the Millerton farmer's market and

the Hawthorne Valley Farm Store. She also uses Angello's Distributing, a firm that makes a point of supporting small, independent farmers.

### A Hive Mind for Farming

WANTED

But von Tscharner Fleming's efforts yield new growth in less traditional soil; she also helps budding farmers through an internship program, and her mentoring has roots extending back several years. Von Tscharner Fleming started Greenhorns, a nonprofit group, while still in college at Berkeley. She sees much of the Greenhorn spirit as flowing from young volunteersa quality she sums up as the "youthful effervescence of volunteerism and collaboration—a hive mind that is more characteristic of an organizing environment."

A sense of humor and playful energy flows through the Greenhorns' activities fundraisers. recreational events, or a combination of both.

A sense of humor and playful energy flows through the Greenhorns' activitiessuch as fundraisers, recreational events, or a combination of both. A recent Brooklyn, NY, event a goat-spit throwdown—in June featured goat sandwiches, music, poetry and an auction. Making a special appearance was Reverend Billy of the Church of Life After Shopping—also known as William Talen, Green Party candidate for New York City mayor. Although the vibe is relaxed, Greenhorn gatherings also provide an opportunity for fellowship and practical, hands-on demonstrations; wool and bee keeping are among the offerings. The Greenhorns are often a presence at regional food conferences, including the Brooklyn Food Conference held earlier this year.

### **Sow Seeds, Post Blogs**

The organization's driving purpose is perhaps best summed up in the Greenhorn mission statement: "To promote, recruit, and support young farmers in America." The statement is put into action through new-media and community events. Von Tscharner Fleming wants to "share the experience of the young farmer community and incredible abundance that exists between us and in our farms and in our lives as a result of our work and our service and our choices, but also to share with the world our understanding of these challenges and the need for us to address the obstacles, so we can have a future that is edible." She observes, "Young farmers need to succeed to feed America, and we

as Americans need to help them succeed."

Von Tscharner Fleming sees the Greenhorn movement as tapping the interest of the college-age group in pursuing a progressive farming path, whether their goals are nutritional activism, edible landscaping, taking care of animals—or just pursuing a simple love for and fascination with growing things. Von Tscharner Fleming believes that the current educational system doesn't deliver the knowledge and skills young farmers need to work the land with an eye toward social and ecological concerns. And this lack of educational resources is compounded by not having access to land or to capital. Blogs and community events are a way to get educational resources into the hands of these farmers.

"In a time such as we live in now, [farming is] so clearly the right occupation to choose in service to community and in service to creating a future we can be proud of."

A big item on the Greenhorn outreach schedule is the planned release of a film later this year that chronicles the efforts of young farmers to work the land in a mindful, community-based

way. The film also invites likeminded viewers to join the movement. Go to the Greenhorns.net to see a trailer.

When I asked von Tscharner Fleming what drew her to the spirit and life of a farmer, she likened working the land as a vocation to a step in self-discovery. As she described the experience: "You are one, and you discover it one day, and everybody discovers it in a different way." She herself "fell in love with plants, as many people doand with how growing plants can change your life and your capacity to give to others," and, indeed, to feed those in the community.

### **Farming in Service to the Future**

Before von Tscharner Fleming rented land to farm, she apprenticed for several years on different farms. And it's this experience that allowed her to observe, "Every year you get better at it; you figure out how to finesse the logistics." The fulfillment she gains from farming is multidimensional: "It's satisfying intellectually; it's satisfying ethically; it's satisfying psychically; it's satisfying nutritionally. In a time such as we live in now, it's so clearly the right occupation to choose in service to community and in service to creating a future we can be proud of." ■



though we are looking at Sunday afternoon/early evening and would like to expand this service.

The Bike Valet Parking service is for Coop members and works like a coat check for bikes (and strollers!). FTOP workers will check in and watch bikes during their shift. Depending on the shift time, the Squad Leader will be responsible for directing either the set-up or take-down of the bike racks and canopy. Training FTOP workers will be required at the beginning of each shift. If you are interested, please contact Charlene Swift in the Membership Office at 718-622-0560.

# **Puzzle Corner**

### Banal Dour Game #4

Double Anagram Puzzle by Janet Farrell

The letters in each entry in list #1 can be rearranged to form at least two English words. List #2 contains definitions of those words. Find the double anagram and match it to correct clue. For example, the first group of letters can be rearranged to form "KILLS" and "SKILL" which matches definition K, "ASSINATES APTITUDE." See answers on page 10 and use the space below to work out your answers if needed.

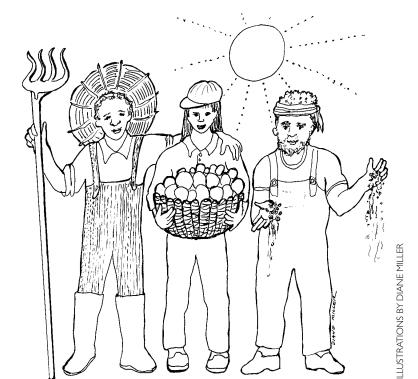
### LIST #1

- 1. IKLLS
- 2. AEDHS AELST
- **4.** EMOP
- 5. AELPRST AFFI PS
- 7. ALPSY
- 8. AEIPRS 9. AEINRRT
- **10.** AEKL
- 11. CEEPR
- **12.** AELPT

### LIST #2

- A. LOCH, SEEPAGE
- B. RHYME, BROOD

**C.** TRANSPIRE, SNOOZING **D.** BUNGLING, DRAMAS E. TERRITORY, COACH COVER CHIEFS **G.** SLIDE, FLAPJACK H. FROND, DISH I. FEWEST, SPOILED J. EXTOL, IRAN K. ASSASSINATES, APTITUDE L. STUCCO, PRAYER BOOK



#### T E Ε D I T O R R 0 H

### **NICE WORK,** IF YOU CAN GET IT

#### TO THE EDITOR:

I don't know if anybody has noticed, but there is an awful lot of "featherbedding" going on in the Coop these days. For those of you unaware of this terminology, "featherbedding" is the practice of having jobs that entail little to no work, other than sitting around fiddling with one's iPhone or reading old copies of this esteemed organ.

Here are the most recent examples that I've witnessed: on a Saturday I pulled in front of the Coop only to find a squad of 5 people eagerly offering to "park" my bike under a clean, white tent. I demurred, as I only trust my ride, Mesqualito, to the protection of a kryptonite lock, but I was intrigued. I learned that the "bicycle valet" squad had, in fact, "parked" 6 bicycles during the shift, which lasted 2 1/2 hours. There were 5 people on this shift, which means that the entire amount of "work" performed by each member of this shift was 1 1/6 bike parked, or, if you divide the 1 1/6 bikes by 2 1/2 hours, you get a rate of about... well, you can do the math yourselves, can't you? The crowning irony of all this was that there was actually a shortage of checkout workers inside the store at the time!

On another occasion, I walked by two members who were operating the "members desk" outside the office, which handles tasks like refunds and guest passes. During their shift, I learned they had processed exactly 1 guest pass and 2 refunds, which amounts to about 15 minutes of work between two people, or about 7.5 minutes per member, which, when divided by the 2 1/2 hour shift comes out to.... well, you can figure out, it's just not a lot of work, is it?

Surely we have something else these people can be doing when they are essentially doing nothing. Perhaps we could have them knit sweaters out of spaghetti, and sell them in the new clothing section? Maybe we could have them take all our non-recyclables and cut them into strips and make them into placemats or messenger bags? Something can be done with all this idle labor, n'est ce pas?

> Respectfully submitted, Robert Berkman

### A MODEST PROPOSAL

### **DEAR EDITOR:**

This letter is in response to John Harter's letter to the editor in the July 30th issue of the Gazette entitled "Why Are We Ever Short Staffed?" and to the ongoing issue of workslots and increased membership. While I agree entirely with the sentiments of the

letter writer and have often felt annoyed myself when the Coop is short staffed, I would like to offer an alternative solution. Rather than making the system more punitive, I think a system of rewards could work more efficiently. My suggestion is that every Coop member who takes their responsibility seriously and shows up for their shifts as scheduled each month should be rewarded with a free shift after six consecutive work shifts. This would make those members a lot less grumpy about people who don't show up regularly, while they are waiting on line to be checked out by those people who should have been there but aren't, and who aren't going to be awarded a free shift. Hopefully, it would also be an inducement to members to keep their commitments to the Coop, and shifts would run more smoothly. I also believe that the two shifts for one missed is an unnecessary and onerous burden. I have never been in the position myself but I would hate to have to work two or three shifts in one month. As we all know, it's about all we can do to find the time for one. Let's try to inspire some good feeling at the Coop, rather than annoyance and recriminations. Thank you for taking my proposal

seriously.

Vivian Epstein

### **CATCHUP**

Vacation time Comes with harsh dues Because it's followed By catchup blues.

And catchup's a burden, Not a veg, Despite what Reagan Used to allege.

Dozens of emails To forage through, Panning for gold Where none's in view.

Bills and reports Demand reaction— Need a vacation To fight stupefaction.

Leon Freilich

### THANKS FOR COOP **SUPPORT**

### DEAR PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP.

On behalf of the patients whose lives you have touched, we would like to thank you for hosting the annual Summer Blood Drive at the Park Slope Food Coop. During the summer months when blood donation is typically slow it is nice to know we can count on members of the Coop to donate.

As always, we thank you for your commitment to our program. For organizing and publicizing the Blood Drive and for making sure all runs smoothly. We thank the members of the office staff who help us throughout the day with encouraging announcements and for those who pass out the flyers on the corner. All contribute in a very special way to the success of the drive.

Thanks again for your support of our program and we look forward to working with you again in the fall.

> Yours truly, Grace Gehrke Sidney Leonidas Supervisors, Blood Donor Recruitment New York Methodist Hospital

### LATIN AMERICA **COMMITTEE OF BROOKLYN FOR PEACE** CALLS FOR THE CLOSING OF THE SCHOOL OF THE **AMERICAS AND CLEAR CONDEMNATION OF THE MILITARY COUP D'ETAT IN HONDURAS**

### **DEAR GAZETTE:**

On November 22nd-23rd solidarity activists from around the country and the world will descend on Columbus, Georgia to call for an end to the training of Latin American security personnel by the US military at the School of the Americas (SOA—recently renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation—WHINSEC) located in Fort Benning. The cause is particularly important now because the leaders of the army who perpetrated the Coup d'etat that sunk Honduras back into the violent miasma of the '80s are graduates of the SOA/WHIN-SEC. They apparently gave the orders for President Zalaya to be captured by about 200 soldiers in his pajamas at 4 AM on June 28th and flown to Costa Rica. Teachers, trade unionists, community leaders and students protesting the kidnapping are being tear-gassed, beaten, detained, arrested and disappeared. At least nine have been assassinated. This occurs as the nation prepares for a presidential election in November. All the members of the OAS and the EU have condemned the Coup and withdrawn their diplomats. The response of the Obama administration is equivocal. He continues his mantra: "Make Me Do It."

The Latin America Committee of Brooklyn For Peace encourages you to help Make Him Do It—to learn more about the situation, to phone your Congress member in support of legislation aimed at closing the SOA/WHIN-SEC and at a diplomatic solution in Honduras. We invite you to participate in the vigil in November as part of the growing movement for peace and justice in all of the Americas.

On Monday, September 21st at 7 p.m. come hear Lisa Sullivan speak at St Mary's Church in Harlem (521 126th St near Broadway). Currently living in Caracas, Lisa has been working with the founder of the SOA Watch, Father Roy Bourgeios, meeting with presidents from South and Central American nations and asking them not to send any more soldiers to WHINSEC. Nine have agreed. On Thursday, October 8th at 6:30 PM at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, we will screen Voces Inocentes (Mexico 2005) set during the Civil War in El Salvador, a situation with similarities to Honduras today.

Call your Congress member asking her/him to co-sponsor HR 2567 which will cut off funding for SOA/WHINSEC and HR 630 calling on President Obama to insist on the immediate return of President Zalaya.

Come with us to the gates of Ft Benning in November with nearly 20,000 others to shout our outrage that the SOA continues to train Latin American soldiers in cruelty, and to grieve the hundreds of thousands of lives lost in the hemisphere as a result of US government policies that support military interventions.

You can reach us at latinam@ brooklynpeace.org.

In Solidarity and with hope, Susan Metz

### **SEEMS LIKE AN AD**

[Note: This letter refers to the article "Coop Members Create a (Green) Space of Brooklyn's Own" in the August 13, 2009 issue—Ed.]

### TO THE EDITOR:

While I enjoyed the article and the good work that the above noted coop is doing, I was left feeling that the article violated the submission guideline 'Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses and services.' The inclusion of the prices and notes on what services this coop supplies, appears to me to cross the boundary. I would be interested in a reply in the Gazette from the editors as to why this type of article was within the guidelines.

Thank you.

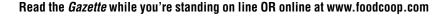
Sincerely, Stewart Pravda

### **REPLY FROM THE EDITOR:**

There can be a fine line between profiling interesting Coop members doing interesting things and an article that sounds like advertising. In this case, as the editor on the piece, I felt that the deeper profile of the members and the cooperative, community-minded work they were doing outweighed any concerns about our policy. In no way were the members soliciting business or even this article. In addition, the policy you refer to was not developed for reported articles but rather is meant to apply to member-submitted articles in which the member's only reason for writing the article is to attract business.

The writer makes a good point about the prices. However, I felt that without the prices it made the members look like they were doing this purely altruistically, which isn't

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



### 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 Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.

### **Telephone:**

718-622-0560

### Web address:

www.foodcoop.com

# LINEWAITERS'

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. Please note that member-submitted articles, unlike letters, can be edited for content and style by editors. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses and services.

**Committee Reports:** Maximum 1,000 words. Like member-submitted articles, committee reports can be edited for content and style by editors.

**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 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").

**Printed by:** New Media Printing, Bethpage, NY.

# Friday Sep 18

8:00 p.m





### Patrizia Ferrara & Danny Grissett

This captivating duo blends the sultry voice of Austrian/ Sicilian vocalist Patrizia Ferrara, with imaginative New York pianist Danny Grissett, and weaves them into beautiful music rich in a multiplicity of textures and moods. Whether interpreting fresh original compositions or unique arrangements of standard jazz repertoire, Ferrara and Grissett find inventive ways to take the listener on a musical journey replete with soul and adventure.

New York based Vibraphonist and composer **Tyler Blanton** has quickly gained a reputation in the Brooklyn underground jazz scene for his imaginative compositions and unique improvisational voice. A relatively recent transplant to New York from the Bay area, Tyler teaches piano at Berkeley Carroll school in Park Slope, and you can find his music on MySpace.



**53 Prospect Park West** [at 2nd Street] • \$10 • 8:00 p.m. [doors open at 7:45] **Performers** are Park Slope Food Coop members and receive Coop workslot credit.

**Booking:** Bev Grant, 718-788-3741

### Monthly on the...

Second Saturday SEPT 12 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Third Thursday SEPT 17 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Last Sunday SEPT 27 10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

On the sidewalk in front of the receiving area at the Coop.

# PLASTICS

### What plastics do we accept? Until further notice:

- #1 and #6 type non-bottle shaped containers, transparent only, labels ok
- Plastic film and bubble wrap, transparent only, no colored or opaque, no labels
- #5 plastic cups, tubs, and specifically marked caps and lids, very clean and dry (discard any with paper labels, or cut off)

# NOTE: We are no longer accepting #2 or #4 type plastics.

### PLASTIC MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEAN & DRY

We close up promptly.
Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the collection end time to allow for inspection and sorting of your plastic.



### **This Issue Prepared By:**

Coordinating Editors: Stephanie Golden

Erik Lewis

Editors (development): Anne Kostick

Petra Lewis

Reporters: Diane Aronson

Erica Turnipseed Willow Lawson

Art Director (development): Patrick Mackin

Illustrators: Diane Miller

Patrick Mackin

Traffic Manager: Barbara Knight

Photographers: Judy Janda

Text Converters: Joanne Guralnick

Andrew Rathbu

Proofreader: Susan Brodlie

Thumbnails: Mia Tran

Preproduction: Sura Wagman

Photoshop: Terrance Carney

Art Director (production): Lauren Dong

Desktop Publishing: Joe Banish

David Mandl Dana Rouse

Editor (production): Lynn Goodman

Final Proofreader: Teresa Theophano

Index: Len Neufeld

### September 10, 2009

### **Voucher Data Entry**

Tuesday, 7:00 to 9:45 a.m.

The Coop needs detail-oriented members to enter data from voucher sheets into an Excel spreadsheet. Accuracy working with numbers and facility with Excel required. The shift must begin by 7:00 a.m. but you can come as early as 6:00 a.m. You will need to work independently, be self-motivated and reliable. Please contact Renee St. Furcy at renee\_stfurcy@psfc.coop or 718-622-0560 if you are interested.

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**Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, 12 to 2:00 p.m.** Work with a partner to deep clean the Coop's bathrooms. Tasks include scrubbing floor tiles, cleaning toilets, mopping floors and stocking

the bathrooms. You will work with only natural cleaning products. This job is perfect for members who like to clean and are conscientious about doing a thorough job. Contact the Membership Office if you're interested.

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Monday, 4:00 to 6:45 p.m.

Are you a stickler for details and accurate on the computer? Do you 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 Ginger Hargett in the Membership Office if you would like more information. Workslot requires a sixmonth commitment.

### **Cashier Report Prep**

Monday, 6:00 to 8:45 p.m. or Sunday, anytime

You will sort, organize and label paperwork generated by cashiers for a given day. Being detail oriented is a must, as is reliability and a good attendance record. This job is task-oriented, not time-oriented and does not involve the use of a computer. You must be able to show up for your scheduled slots and/or find coverage for your absences. Please contact Kathy Hieatt at kathy\_hieatt@psfc.coop or 718-622-0560 if you are interested.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

# COP CALENDAR

### **New Member Orientations**

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the four weekly New Member Orientations. To pre-register, visit www.foodcoop.com or contact the Membership Office. Visit in person or call 718-622-0560 during office hours.

Have questions about Orientation? Please visit www.foodcoop.com and look at the "Join the Coop" page for answers to frequently asked questions.

### The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

### 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).

### **General Meeting Info**

TUE. SEP 29

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE. OCT 6

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m. Submissions will be considered for the May 26 General Meeting.

### **Gazette Deadlines**

#### **LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**

 Sep 24 issue:
 7:00 p.m., Mon, Sep 14

 Oct 8 issue:
 7:00 p.m., Mon, Sep 28

### CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Sep 24 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Sep 16 Oct 8 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Sep 30

# 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-forworkslot-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.

### 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 nontoxic, 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, earthfriendly 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.

# 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, September 29, 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.

park slope FOOD COOP

# edendared avents

# **Intuitive Parenting Workshop**

Explore the journey of parenting in a safe, fun, hands-on environment. You will learn tools for making parenting decisions from your intuition and from your heart; sensing into exactly what is right for your child and for your family; getting clear on what your parenting goals and priorities are. Please bring a journal or notebook and a pen. Coop member Britt Pastor Bolnick is the creator of In Arms Coaching.

# sep 12-13 Food Drive to Benefit sat-sun 9 am-7 pm CHIPS Soup Kitchen

CHIPS Soup Kitchen, located at 4th Ave. and Sackett St., is the recipient of much of our edible but unsaleable perishable food. They also need donations of nonperishable foods. This food will go to CHIPS to help them feed people in the neighborhood who are in need of a nutritious meal. Consider contributing nonperishable foods and commercially packaged foods; canned fish; canned fruits and vegetables; pasta sauce; pasta; pre-packaged rice; pre-packaged beans; canned beans; canned soups; Parmalat milk; dry milk; peanut butter; or boxed raisins. Give donations to the collection table outside the Coop.

**sep 13** 

## **Nutrition Response Testing**

Join us for a look at Nutrition Response Testing. Diane Paxton, MS, LAc, will explain how NRT can identify the underlying reason your body is creating symptoms and help you design a personalized clinical nutrition program to have you looking and feeling better than you have in years.

sep 18

# Tyler Blanton and the Patrizia `Ferrara & Danny Grissett Duo



New York-based vibraphonist and composer Tyler Blanton has quickly gained a reputation in the Brooklyn underground jazz scene for his imaginative compositions and unique improvisational voice. Raised in the small town of Ojai, CA, he moved to

Brooklyn in 2007 where he teaches piano at Berkeley Carroll School in Park Slope. The Patrizia Ferrara & Danny Grissett duo blends the sultry voice of Austrian/Sicilian vocalist Patrizia Ferrara, with imaginative New York pianist Danny Grissett. Ferrara and Grissett take the listener on a musical journey replete with soul and adventure.

Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture,

53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd Street) • \$10 • doors open at 7:45.

The Very Good Coffeehouse is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.

To book a Coffeehouse event, contact Bev Grant, 718-788-3741.

# Secret of the Sea Vegetable

Seaweed has been consumed in Japan for hundreds of years and is used in many different types of dishes. Holistic health counselor Kaoru will talk about the various types and health benefits of these mysterious sea vegetables. Chef Hideyo, who is also a holistic health counselor, will give you quick and easy ways to prepare delicious seaweed recipes.

**sep 19** sat 5 pm

### What Is the Truth About The Ion Cleanse/Foot Bath?

It's a rejuvenating, energizing and refreshing technology that cleanses the body on a cellular level. And there is more. Witness the benefits, warnings and testimonials at this presentation and demonstration by Coop member Marija Santo, a certified natural health professional since 1999, and a Geotran teacher and practitioner.

# **Body Mind Baby**

For parents and children in their first year of life. Your baby's independent movement skills are expanding along with his or her perceptions of the world. This workshop offers information about natural movement patterns that encourage optimal brain and body development. Coop member Scott Lyons, BMCP, RSMT, SME, CPT, IDME, works privately as a movement therapist with infants, children and adults. Emily Peck is a certified Somatic Movement and Infant Developmental Movement Educator.

**sep 26** 

## The Emotional Side Of Healthy Living

Understand how your emotions play an important role in your ability to heal and maintain good health; identify how we get in the way of our own healing process; and take simple steps toward converting toxic thoughts and emotions into healthy attitudes. Coop member Clarisse M. Domingo is a colon-hydrotherapist, nutrition and lifestyle coach, licensed clinical social worker, and the owner of Prana Brooklyn Wellness in Kensington.

sep 27

# **Blogging: Getting Started**

Learn what it takes to set up and maintain your own blog. Whether you're running your own business, or just want a better Web presence, a blog is the perfect tool to get started. Coop member Jaki runs Arrow Root Media. He has helped countless individuals, businesses and organizations improve their Web presence.

sep 29

# **PSFC SEPT General Meeting**

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 and 7:15 p.m.

Meeting location: Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.

Item #1: Disciplinary Committee Election (30 minutes)

Election: The Disciplinary Committee will present additional candidates for the committee to fill recently authorized positions.

—submitted by the Disciplinary Hearing Committee

Item #2: Annual Hearing Administration Committee Election (30 minutes) Election: Two current committee members will stand for re-election, and the committee will present three additional candidates for the committee. Hearing Administrators work on an FTOP basis when needed and serve three-year terms.

—submitted by the Hearing Administration Committee

Item #3: New Brooklyn Food Coops Seed Money Pilot Support Plan (30 minutes) Discussion: "Discuss how our Cooperative can initiate an experimental pilot program to offer limited seed money to support the formation of other food coops in Brooklyn. Specifically, discuss starting a fund that would pool \$10,000 of our Coop's money with donations from our individual members (not tax deductible). Members may be asked to donate via announcements on our Web site, flier postings in the Coop, articles and ads in the Gazette, tables staffed by members, etc. A set of standards that Brooklyn coops must meet in order to qualify will be developed. Those standards, which will be voted on at a future GM, will include requirements such as: the existence of a committed core group that welcomes new people into that group; existence of a significant and effective community outreach effort; commitment to using member labor in order to keep prices low and cooperation high; a plan for financial accountability; a democratic governance plan; and a commitment to the Seven International Principles of Cooperation. Qualifying coops will receive grants." —submitted by General Coordinators 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 Coop office and at all General Meetings.

# ep 12-oct 6 200

**sep 29** tue 7:30 pm

### What Is Dyslexia? And How Is It Treated?

Hear about a multisensory method for treating dyslexia. Although dyslexia is a language-based deficit, a multisensory technique developed by Orton-Gillingham uses visual, auditory and kinesthetic methods for an effective solution. Coop member Helen Wintrob, Ph.D, is a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist.

oct 1

### Food Class: Healthy Vegan Sushi **And Other Japanese Dishes**



Hideyo Yamada lwakiri is a trained sushi chef from Japan with more than 10 years of experience. She will demonstrate how to prepare brown rice for sushi, how to roll romaine-lettuce sushi and how to prepare simple Japanese sauces and pickles

without using white sugar. Menu includes brown rice, sushi vinegar, Japanese-style mushrooms, pink-daikon pickles, pumpkin salad and romaine-lettuce Sushi rolls. Hideyo is a graduate of the Institute of Integrative Nutrition and has been a Coop member for more than two years. Materials fee: \$4.

To teach a Food Class, contact Susan Baldassano, sueb@naturalgourmetinstitute.com.

oct 2 fri 7 pm

### Film Night: Greensboro: **Closer to the Truth**



Greensboro: Closer to the Truth, by Adam Zucker, documents the first-ever Truth and Reconciliation Commission held in the United States, 25 years after what is now known as "The Greensboro Massacre," a violent episode in the nation's history. Born in Germany to two Nazi Holocaust survivors, Paul Bermanzohn

received a BA from City College of New York, and an M.D. from Duke University School of Medicine. On November 3, 1979, Ku Klux Klansmen critically wounded Paul at an anti-KKK march in Greensboro, NC. In spite of permanent partial paralysis, Paul survived and has practiced psychiatry for the last 28 years. Sally Avery Bermanzohn witnessed the Klan/Nazi murder of five friends, and found Paul with bullet wounds to the head and arm. For the last 15 years, Sally has been a professor at Brooklyn College and chairperson of the political science department. She authored Through Survivors' Eyes: From the Sixties to the Greensboro Massacre (Vanderbilt Press, 2003) and co-edited Violence and Politics: Globalization's Paradox (Routledge, 2002). Paul and Sally have been members of the Park Slope Food Coop for 20 years and will be present for a post-film q&a.

To present a Film Night, contact Alexandra Berger, isisprods@yahoo.com.

oct 3 sat 11 am

# **Move Beyond Procrastination And Get Things Done!**

This workshop explores various reasons for procrastinating and offers proven techniques to stop stewing and start doing. In written and interactive exercises, you will create your own personalized plan, out of procrastination into action. All handouts and materials are free of charge. Coop member Renate is a Certified Life Coach. She works with clients who desire a balanced and productive life without procrastination.

oct 3 sat 2-4 pm

### **Forgiveness**

Learn to forgive yourself and others, focus and use the power of unconditional love, align your head and your heart, use the power and energy of love to relieve stress, and participate in a group unconditional love meditation. Coop member Moraima Suarez has studied and practiced the healing arts for more than 20 years.

oct 6 tue 7 pm

# **Agenda Committee Meeting**



The committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for this month's General Meeting, Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item,

read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office. The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.

### For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: foodcoop.com

All events take place at the Park Slope Food Coop unless otherwise noted. Nonmembers are welcome to attend.

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

### **Voucher Data Entry**

Tuesday, 7:00 to 9:45 a.m.

The Coop needs detail-oriented members to enter data from voucher sheets into an Excel spreadsheet. Accuracy working with numbers and facility with Excel required. The shift must begin by 7:00 a.m. but you can come as early as 6:00 a.m. You will need to work independently, be self-motivated and reliable. Please contact Renee St. Furcy at renee\_stfurcy@psfc.coop or 718-622-0560 if you are interested.

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Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, 12 to

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### 10 September 10, 2009

REPLY FROM THE EDITOR...

LETTERS TO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the case. If a reader were to call to get prices, he or she might get quite a shock. And, as the reporter of the piece, Adriana Velez, points out, in the current economic climate it's inspiring to hear about people who are taking risks with new businesses that serve a "triple bottom line" (people, planet, profit). All of these things are judgment calls—more art than science. I appreciate the writer's input and can see his point of view. Ultimately, however, I think the article does not violate Gazette policy.

Yours cooperatively, Wally Konrad Gazette co-editor, Team 1

### A CAMPAIGN OF PANACHE, LIGHTNESS OF BEING, MOVIE MADNESS AND ATTENTION TO DETAIL

#### TO THE EDITOR:

Well, the Campaign is in full cry, the wraps are off, Howard Stern was "The Nubian for the '90s" (less the N-word) and I'm "The Honkie for the 100s" —I have no choice but to tell the ignominious story where I have been stigmatized for life by my own colleagues for using the word Afrocentric. Even though Steve Brown and Frank LeFever have caused 100x the damage I could ever cause, they are blaming me as if I were the source of all their problems and the cure for all their failures. Typical mass hysteria, but this time among the Good Guys.

Just three words quoted by Frank the Herald Angel LeFever was enough. I



wasn't even asked to provide the entire text, which was highly complimentary, much less to defend myself! The first to take up the cry for righteous blood—and so far as I know the only ones to date—Our Dear Leader and Chairperson of the Board Mitchel Cohen, and Gail Blasie, Esq., our Dear Secretary.

Vote for Mitchel Cohen, Andrea Fishman, Alex Steinberg, Paul DeRienzo, Chris Farrell, Rolando Bini and one or two others on the Family Justice Party (one-issue candidates who will do the right thing), Ken Laufer, Austin Kelley, Jeffery ("ERY") Peress, Stephen Brown's daughter Elizabeth, Manijeh Saba, with whom I spoke personally after the July 12th meeting, and Sam Weinreb. That's 13-15 candidates for 9 openings. And please don't vote for anyone else. Really!

I am the only candidate who makes movies to promote the reality of the mob rule and hysteria of Justice and Unity—now called takeBACKwbai. Our website is takeFORWARDwbai.org, please visit it. My website is PACVID1.com where you will see 2 colorful chapters of Campaign Memoirs 2009, my absorbing, collectively produced and disinterested movie exposé [note accent mark] of the madness.

Except for Ken Laufer, I am the only candidate who steps up to openly deny the HIV Death hysteria. Since this truculent madness has no opponent since the firing of Gary Null, it surely needs a voice on the new WBAI.

I am also the only openly Queer candidate. I will not use the word Gay and it is not a sexual matter because I am Asexual, but I make no secret of it. Queer people are also underrepresented at WBAI.

On the other hand, if the Indys do include me in their mailing...I take it all back!

Yours in solidarity and cooperation, Albert Baron Solomon Gauguin Films—PACVID1.com International Allstars of Homæopathy (IAH) 718-768-9079 hobces@yahoo.com

# PENDING FOOD AND VITAMIN LEGISLATION

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Here are some links one is to pending legislation regarding vitamins and organic foods. These are the links about food and vitamin safety: Food Safety Legislation that is before Congress. It passed the House last Thursday [August 6—ed.] but still has not gotten through the Senate. This is a link to a Washington Post article about the bill:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/07/30/AR20090 73003271.html

Codex Alimentarius - According to the Natural Health Information Centre website:http://www.naturalhealth-information-centre.com/codexalimentarius.html

I feel the membership ought to be aware and am suggesting that an article be written to inform. It would affect us all if it passes, in a way we may not be happy about.

Sincerely, Vern Hoyte

### 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.

### **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.

### Respect

Letters must not be personally derogatory or insulting, 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 comparing other people to odious figures like Hitler or Idi Amin.

### 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. Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue. An asterisk (\*) denotes a Coop member.

### SAT, SEP 12

Old First Reformed Church presents the Tribeca Film Festival Best Documentary winner, PRAY THE DEVIL BACK TO HELL, which tells the incredible story of the 2003 peace protest in Liberia and the amazing women who made it happen. 3 p.m. \$8. 7th Avenue at Carroll Street, Park Slope.

A TASTE OF PLAYBACK: Participatory, improvisational theater presented by Susan Metz\* (MS in Ed) from 3 to 6 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 124 Henry St. near Clarke St. in Brooklyn Heights. Free. Come play with us.

### SUN, SEP 13

SPIRITUAL SUSTAINABILITY. Back to Nature, Back to Ethics. Talk by Martha Gallahue, UN representative for the American Ethical Union, on new way of thinking about environmentally sustainable living in community with others. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West at 2nd St, 11 a.m. Info: bsec.org.



### SUN, SEP 20

CHILDREN'S ASSEMBLY PEACE FESTIVAL & OPEN HOUSE. In honor of International Peace Day, the Children's Sunday Assembly examines peace from the playground to the world stage. 11 a.m. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 PPW. Followed by 12:30 Potluck Picnic and Games. Info: bsec.org.

### SAT, SEP 26

People's Voice Cafe: Musical Celebration of PVC 30th Anniversary, featuring Suni Paz with Jacque DePree, Charlie King, Chris Lang, Peter Pasco and Clearwater Singers, Victorio Roland Moussaa and Rick and Andy. 8-10:30 p.m., Community Church of New York, 40 E. 35th St. For info call 212-787-3903. Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 members.

### FRI, OCT 2

Does the US foreign policy in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan mean Endless War? A conversation with Tom Hayden. 7:30 pm, Park Slope United Methodist Church, 6th Ave & 8th St. Questions and answers and reception with Mr. Hayden will follow. Donations accepted.

### SAT, OCT 3

Harvest Fest at Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture! Family-friendly celebration on the farm including: live music from Brooklyn's own Astrograss; workshops on food and farming; Farmers' Market; hayrides; farm demonstrations; seasonal pie contest; and more! Pocantico Hills, NY, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., stonebarnscenter.org or 917-366-6200

Peoples' Voice Cafe: Holly Near and emma's revolution Concert and CD release. 8-10:30 p.m., Community Church of New York, 40 E. 35th St (between Madison & Park). For info call: 212-787-3903 or peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$18 general/\$15 members/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

### SUN, OCT 4

David Mensah will speak at the Brooklyn Humanist Community. Mensah, owner of Wave Training and Consulting and former Executive Director of The Hetrick-Martin Institute, will speak on "Who I Am Is Leader," the title of his new book. First Unitarian-Universalist Church, Brooklyn, at Monroe Place and Pierrpont St. Admission is free. 2 p.m.

### SAT, OCT 10

Peoples' Voice Cafe: Jack Hardy. 8-10:30 pm, Community Church of New York, 40 E. 35th St (between Madison & Park). For info call 212-787-3903 or peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 member/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

### SUN, OCT 11

NYC VegFest is an outdoor festival-come rain or shine in Union Square Park from noon to 6 p.m. We will celebrate vegetarianism, and it is free to the public. The NYC VegFest has something for everyone to enjoy, so please join us in this endeavor as a sponsor and/or exhibitor! Info: http://vegfest.webs.com/ or send an email to nvcvegfest@live.com.

### SAT, OCT 17

Peoples' Voice Cafe: The Human Condition. 8-10:30 pm, Community Church of New York, 40 E. 35th St (between Madison & Park). For info call 212-787-3903 or peoples voicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 member/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.





### CLASSIFIEDS (CONTINUED)

### **BED & BREAKFAST**

BROWNSTONE BROOKLYN BED AND BREAKFAST. Victorian home on tree-lined Prospect Heights block has space with semiprivate bath, AC, Cable TV & free WiFi. Full breakfast provided in attractive smoke-free environment. Reasonable rates. Call David Whitbeck, 718-857-6066 or e-mail brown stonebbb@yahoo.com

The House on Third St. Bed & Breakfast—Beautiful parlor floor thru apt. living room, bedroom, den, private bath, kitchen, deck overlooking garden, AC, WI-FI, piano. Sleeps 4-5. Perfect for families. Call Jane at 718-788-7171 or visit us on the web at houseon3st.com

BROOKLYN'S BEST B AND B located in center Park Slope in beautiful. light-filled, quiet Queen Anne brownstone. Three gorgeous bedrooms with luxurious private baths. Perfect for a group of people or a couple. \$149-\$225 per night. Less for more rooms and/or more than five nights. Website: brooklynsbestbandb.com Thomas@ 347-742-5953.

### **CLASSES/GROUPS**

SUPER-GENTLE YOGA for people who think they are "too" large, "too" stiff, "too" old to do yoga. Wed. 7:30 PM, convenient Park Slope location, starts Sept. 16. Experienced, caring teacher, call Mina Hamilton for more info. 212-427-2324 or minaham@aol.com

PLAYBACK THEATRE workshop. For fun, growth, new skills and new friends. Led by Susan Metz (MS in Ed, 10 years teaching Playback). 8 Saturday afternoons this fall at lovely LAVA Studio on Bergen St. Starts Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 17 & 24; Nov. 7 & 21; Dec 5 & 19. Try to attend all 8 sessions. \$300 fee negotiable. spmetz@earthlink.net for application & more info. Google Playback, too. We're in 53 countries performing our stories.

MEDITATION class with Mina. Looking for a way to be calmer, more relaxed? Find contentment and inner balance. Experienced teacher. Mina has studied with Ion Kabat-Zinn, Thich Nhat Hanh, Toni Packer. Wed 8:15-9:00 PM. Class starts September 16. Spoke the Hub. 748 Union St. Call Mina at 917-881-9855, email minaham @aol.com, www.serenitytogo.com

### COMMERCIAL SPACE

PROFESSIONAL OFFICES AVAIL-ABLE. Ideal for a colon therapist, psychotherapist, medical doctor, shiatsu, reiki, speech therapist, etc. Be part of a Holistic Center in the beautiful SOHO section of Manhattan. The doctor will introduce all patients to you. For further information, please call 212-505-5055

PROFL OFFICES: Center Slope, parlor floor. Sunny, nicely furn psychotherapy ofc avail. Tu/W/F 9-8:30, \$400/mo for 1 day, \$750/mo/2 d,

\$1100/mo/3 d. 100 sq. ft semi-furn office, M-F 9-8, \$900/mo. Utils included; kitchen, laundry access. Restroom, waiting area, walk to all trains. Linda 718-788-9243, 917-596-0386.

ARTIST WORKSPACE FOR RENT. 273 sq ft space, \$625/mo. Dean St. & Vanderbilt Ave, Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, very close to Park Slope. Natural Light/ 2 windows. Private Space with Locking Door. Share Utilities with 3 other artists (keeps bills low). 24 hr access/no living. Freight elevator available during day. Good size windows. Share bathroom w/slopsink. Nice Location. Call Max at 347-307-0988.

### **MERCHANDISE**

SLEEPING ON A TEMPURPEDIC IS LIKE THERAPY FOR YOUR SOUL. This mattress is the ultimate in comfort & pressure relief and truly will improve the quality of your sleep. Mattress comes with a 20 year guarantee & a 3 month trial period. Special consideration for Coop members. Call Janet 718-237-2592.

### **SERVICES**

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

ATTORNEY—Experienced personal injury trial lawyer representing injured bicyclists and other accident victims. Limited caseload to ensure maximum compensation. Member of NYSTLA and ATLA. No recovery, no fee. Free consult. Manhattan office. Park Slope resident. Long time PSFC member. Adam D. White. 212-577-9710.

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—30 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultation. Prompt, courteous communications. 20-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

MADISON AVENUE Hair Stylist is right around the corner from the Food Coop, so if you would like a really good haircut at a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154. I charge \$60.00.

NO JOB TOO SMALL! Carpentry, tile installation and repair, painting, plastering, doors hung and repaired, shelves installed, bath regrouts, general handywork. Serving Park Slope area for 19 years. Free estimates. Call Rocco: 718-788-6317.

COMPUTER HELP — Call NY GEEK GIRLS. Setup & file transfer; hardware & software issues; viruses & pop-ups; networking; printer/file sharing; training; backups.

Home or business. Mac and PC. On-site or pick-up/drop-off. References, reasonable rates. Longtime Coop member. 347-351-3031 or info@nygeekgirls.com.

ART CABRERA, ELECTRICIAN 30 yrs. residential wiring, trouble shooting low voltage, one outlet or whole house, no job too small. Fans, AC, 220 volt, lighting, out door work, insured, 718-965-0327. Emergency service, call 646-239-5197. Founding Coop member, born in Brooklyn, 35 yr. resident of Park Slope. #0225. Coop discounts.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS. Haircolor, Highlights, Lowlights, in the convenience of your home or mine. Adults \$35.00, Kids \$15.00, Call Leonora, 718-857-2215.

Plastering-Painting-Wallpaperingover 25 yrs experience of doing the finest prep & finish work. One room or an entire house. LOW VOC paints used. Fred Becker 718-853-0750.

EXPERIENCED FLOOR MECHAN-IC. Will refinish/install or repair wooden floors. Over 20 years. Call Tony 718-658-7452

### **SERVICES-HEALTH**

HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in Brooklyn (Midwood) & Manhattan (Soho). Dr. Stephen Goldberg provides comprehensive, family dental care using non-mercury fillings, crowns, dentures, thorough cleanings, minimal X-rays and non-surgical gum treatments. For a free initial exam and insurance information, call 212-505-5055.

HOLISTIC OPTOMETRY: Most eye doctors treat patients symptomatically by prescribing everincreasing 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

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.

PSYCHOTHERAPY TO SUIT YOUR NEEDS AND LIFESTYLE. Helen Wintrob, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist with an office in Park Slope. She will accept Aetna, Oxford, Blue Cross, GHI, Value Options and Medicare. Please call for an appointment at 718-783-0913. Evening and weekend appointments are available.

RESHAPE & RESTORE. Le Vive juice super antioxidants super fruits noni pomegranate goji acai berry mangosteen builds up your immune system and feel healthier Telephone number 718-789-7886 website www.ardysslife.com/iotus

### 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.



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# **Puzzle Answers**

- 1. K. KILLS, SKILL
- SHADE, HEADS 2. F
- **3. I** LEAST, STALE
- 4. B POEM, MOPE 5. L PLASTER, PSALTER
- 6. C ELAPSE, ASLEEP
- 7. D SPLAY, PLAYS
- PRAISE, PERSIA 8. .I TERRAIN, TRAINER
- 10. A LAKE, LEAK
- 11. G CREEP CREPE
- 12. H PETAL, PLATE



### **VACATIONS**

3-SEASON VACATION COTTAGES for sale in our friendly, wooded northern Westchester community. Pool, tennis, biking, hiking; near Hudson River and Metro North (5minute cab ride from train). \$79,000-\$99,000; annual maintenance approx. \$3,200. Cash sales only. No dogs. 212-242-0806 or junejacobson@earthlink.net.

### WHAT'S FOR FREE

FREE INITIAL ORAL EXAMINA-TION in a Holistic Family Dental office for all Coop members. Using a nutritional approach, Dr. Goldberg practices prEventive dentistry, with non-mercury fillings, thorough cleanings and non-surgical gum treatments. For insurance information and an appointment, please call 212-505-5055.

YOGA AT THE BROOKLYN ACUPUNCTURE PROJECT! (\$10-15 sliding scale). Wednesday's at 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. call 718-369-0123 for more info. www.brooklyn acupunctureproject.com Free Class when you bring a friend.

Classified advertising in the Linewaiters' Gazette is available only to Coop members. Publication does not imply endorsement by the Coop.



## **General** Meeting

held for four years. A member since 1996, Q'ryn said she joined the Chair Committee, which runs the General Meeting, and the board, because she thought it was important that the Coop's leadership reflect the diversity of the membership. "I decided to be the change I wanted to see," she said. She added that as a board member, she would take her cues from the membership. "I take the advice of the membership very seriously," she explained. "I believe in the wisdom of this body."

#### **In Other News**

At the Open Forum, a member asked about the status of food prices. General Coordinator Allen Zimmerman said he was surprised to learn that some prices are down this year as compared to last. In some cases, produce prices were down as much as 30 percent.

"Some prices are down this year as compared to last. In some cases, produce prices were down as much as 30 percent."

Another member asked whether the feedback form mailed out to attendees of the General Meeting was a cost-effective way of soliciting ideas. He suggested that perhaps the Coop could email members instead.

A female member asked that her comment be considered a formal complaint to the leadership of the Coop. She said she heard from several staffers that the Coop had received a bomb threat by telephone, but that the threat was not reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The threat allegedly came after an article was published in The Jewish Daily Forward about whether Coop members might propose a ban on Israeli products. The member said she had spoken personally to General Coordinator Joe Holtz, who confirmed to her that the FBI was not called. Holtz was not present at the meeting and no other staffers responded to her statement. ■







# Help New Members Feel Like **Royalty!**

The Orientation Committee is looking for energetic people with a teaching or training background who can work Sunday afternoons, Monday or Wednesday evenings, or Wednesday mornings. Orienters lead sessions every six weeks, and on the week midway between sessions you must be available as backup for emergency coverage. Only Coop members with at least two years of membership will be considered.

Workslot credit will be given for training sessions. An annual meeting of the Orientation Committee is part of the work requirement.

We are especially interested in members who speak fluent Spanish or Russian. For more information, contact the Membership Office or write to karen\_mancuso @psfc.coop.



### Do you want to be a food activist?

### Do you want to help organize the Brooklyn **Food Coalition?**

Do you want to do food justice organizing and get PSFC work credit for it too?

### The Brooklyn Food Coalition needs you!

As the summer begins to wind down, the Brooklyn Food Coalition heats up! The Park Slope Food Coop has voted to

give the BFC the ability to create a squad dedicated to developing our new Coalition. We need to build this squad so it meets the needs of a geographically and culturally diverse group with a range of needed

skills. We can recruit 30+ PSFC members who are dedicated to building a just and sustainable system for healthy, tasty, and affordable food

in Brooklyn. This model is how we managed to make the conference a success and we know that it works!!! Members of the BFC squad will function as staff and will be working to help support and realize the Coalition's chosen goals.

We would therefore like to invite everyone who's interested to look into joining. As staff, squad members will be expected to work 8 hours every month and will get Park Slope Food Coop work credit plus an FTOP credit for those hours beyond the 2 3/4 usually required (this is perfect for someone who needs FTOP for their household). We are looking for folks who can be flexible and generous with their time and talents—as a new organization, we may find that job descriptions will change as we move forward.

### So what, exactly, are we looking for?

Organizers: If you have a strong connection to any particular Brooklyn neighborhood, help us organize there! A few of the neighborhoods where we need organizers include Bensonhurst, Brownsville, Bushwick, Canarsie, East New York, Flatbush, and Sheepshead Bay... and there are others. If you are interested in working with us but you don't see your neighborhood here and there hasn't been a meeting in your community, please contact us. We are particularly interested in eastern and southern Brooklyn neighborhoods. The goal is to have an organizer for every neighborhood in Brooklyn!

**Grant-writers:** As the Coalition comes together and begins making decisions on projects to pursue, it will be extremely helpful to have experienced grant writers to help locate funds.

Researchers: To begin compiling information on all the wonderful food-related Brooklyn organizations.

**Internal communications & overall coordination:** Are you ultra-organized and detail-oriented? If so we need you to make sure that everyone is up-to-date on all the latest BFC happenings.

### And there will be more jobs opening as we move forward.

If you are interested in any of the above positions or have questions, please email mandu04@gmail.com.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

www.brooklynfoodconference.org

