



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP

Established
1973



LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE



Volume EE, Number 16

August 12, 2010

Woman of Few Words: An Interview With Poet Laureate Tina Chang

By Jill Dearman

Years ago, when Tina Chang was working a random job as an accountant at a Web design firm, her colleagues made up business cards that read, “Tina Chang / Poet Laureate.”

“They were half joking,” Chang says. “But they predicted my fate.”

Six months ago, Marty Markowitz rang her up and said, “Good morning, Brooklyn Poet Laureate!” She recalls doing “one of those silent movie screams,” and then thanking him. Below, the poet shares her experiences in her new job, and as a mom, a writer and a Coop member.

JD: *What has the Poet Laureate gig been like so far?*

TC: So far, the job has been fantastic. This past month I collaborated with a poetry organization called Poets House. I took a pilgrimage along with 300 other people across the Brooklyn Bridge. Midway, we stopped to admire the city and poets read selections of New York-inspired poetry. The role of Brooklyn Poet Laureate came to life for me then because of the people, the cityscape, and the sound of poetry being read out loud. It was a wonderful moment.

Humble Beginnings

JD: *I understand that a teacher of yours at SUNY Binghamton took you aside and told you you could be a poet.*

TC: One day, my poetry professor called me to his office



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF TINA CHANG

Tina Chang

and I was nervous because I thought I might have done something wrong or perhaps I had written something hideously offensive to his literary senses. Instead, he told me that I had a gift and that he could envision me as both a poet and teacher one day. I was flattered but didn’t know what to do with the information. I spent the next few years trying out a long list of English-major related jobs. It was at a particularly unhappy job as an editorial assistant at publishing house that I asked myself what made me happy. The answer “poetry” kept repeating itself. I tried to ignore the impulse because I wondered what financial return poetry would bring. I got over that pretty quickly as I began to apply for MFA pro-

grams around the country. The MFA program led to my first book, which then led to editing a Norton anthology, and the rest is history.

A Room With a View

JD: *What is it about the craft of poetry that makes it your particular medium?*

TC: I am interested in telling a story within the smallest space possible. I never knew what to do with all the space that fiction afforded me. I always loved the look and sound of poetry. When I was younger, the stanzas of poetry seemed like the windows of a house or the cars of a locomotive. I was fascinated with how these little “rooms” connected to one another and how meaning could be shaped from so few words. JD: *In your first book, Half-Lit Houses, you take the reader on a quiet but epic journey through your family's story, and give us soulful reflections on your father's death. What was your process in writing it?*

TC: I wrote each individual poem in a kind of quick fever. Years after I graduated (from Columbia), I taped all of the individual poems to my wall in my small railroad apartment in Park Slope, which I shared with a good friend. It was only when I had those

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ILLUSTRATION BY DIANE MILLER

Taking It Local on The World Wide Web

By Diane Aronson

As Coop members, many of us try to be conscious about how our food is grown and who grows it. Through our shopping choices, we strive to support small, environmentally sensitive farmers. We are aware that large

farming operations, particularly large livestock lots, can harm the environment and possibly affect the health of people who live nearby. And that intersection of personal concerns and awareness of broader issues is what moved

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Next General Meeting on August 31

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, August 31, at 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place. The agenda is in this *Gazette* and available as a flyer in the entryway of the Coop. For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

* Exceptions for November and December will be posted.

Coop Event Highlights

Sat, Aug 21 • Adult Clothing Exchange 2:00–5:00 p.m.

Thur, Sep 2 • Food Class: The Secret of the Sea Vegetable
7:30 p.m.

Sat, Sep 11 • Food Drive 9:00–7:00 p.m.

Sun, Sep 12 • Food Drive 9:00–7:00 p.m.

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

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Tina Chang

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poems on the wall, fluttering every time my door opened and closed, did I begin to envision an actual book. I think of that first book as a book of listening. I listened to my mother’s stories, my grandmother’s stories, for so much of my life. I thought that I had stopped listening but the stories did eventually embed themselves in my imagination.

Mother Stands For Comfort

JD: *Has the recent major event in your life—the birth of your son—found its way into your poetry? And how do you find time to write as a new mother?*

TC: I wrote about my son a great deal when I was pregnant. Back then, I had a lot of time. When I was pregnant with my son, I traveled to China on my own. I also traveled to Costa Rica on my own when I was almost eight months along. I wanted, still, to feel the spirit of adventure. I wanted to feel the freedom of being a mother. I wrote poem after poem about what it was like to house his soul within me. I felt so creative and very much alive. After giving birth to my son Roman, my attention was primarily focused on nurturing him. Soon afterward, I was named Poet Laureate. I am also a college teacher. Juggling all of my responsibilities was challenging and it also taught me a lot about my limitations and my limitlessness. It taught me to be realistic with myself about

when I could give and when I could not. I have pockets of time before my son wakes up and after my son goes to sleep. I try as hard as I can to write within that time. I also acknowledge, as with everything, that things change, and as he grows up my time commitments will shift and evolve too.

baby food, hesitantly, and a mash of what we eat. He seems to like what we eat much better, understandably. He can’t be fooled. I’ve tasted the jarred food and I’m afraid the adult food is much tastier. Much of the time my partner cooks. He’s the chef. I’m the eater and I’m very good at appreciating.

that committee because it is low key; I can work at my own pace, the people are always interesting and we all get our work done. In addition, I pack the raisins. No one likes to pack the raisins! They stick to one another and they rip your plastic gloves, but someone has to do it. ■



Memories Infused With Flavor

“Powder rises
from a compact, platters
full of peppermints, a bowl of
sour pudding.
A cup of milk before me
tastes of melted almonds.”
—From “Origins & Ash” by Tina Chang

[This stanza opens her book *Half-Lit Houses* (Four-Way Books, 2004).]

JD: *How long have you been a Coop member and what’s the cooking style in your household? You are Chinese, your partner is Haitian (and a foodie) and your baby is, well...a baby! What kind of mash-ups do you guys come up with at mealtime?*

TC: I’ve been a Coop member for about eight years and I think I may be suspended now (sorry, Food Coop!). I’ve loved shopping there. Dinners at our home are a medley of world cuisines. Just last week we had goat stew, curry chicken, frutti di mare, and tonight I made a traditional Chinese dish called Ma Po tofu (sorry, Mom, I didn’t make it very well). Our son eats a mixture of Earth’s Best

Don’t Ever Call Her Cheesy

JD: *What shifts have you worked at the Coop and what have they been like?*

TC: I have primarily worked in the Food Processing committee since I became a member. I’ve always been afraid of wrapping the cheese for fear of not doing it correctly (one has to be careful of packaging the cheese tightly, cutting appropriate and various sizes, etc.). I stick to packing the spices, the dried fruits and nuts, and I’m very good at cleaning my station after I’m done (there’s something satisfying about spraying down all the surfaces). I love



NEED FTOP?

The Brooklyn Food Coalition is looking for workers!
Opportunities for parents of kids in public schools,
as well as tabling at street fairs and the new
Farmer’s Market in Bed-Stuy.

Contact Laura Dawson (ljndawson@gmail.com)
for more details.

RETURN POLICY



The Coop strives to keep prices low for our membership. Minimizing the amount of returned merchandise is one way we do this. If you need to make a return, please go to the 2nd Floor Service Desk.

REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

1. The Paid-In-Full receipt MUST be presented.
2. Returns must be handled within 30 days of purchase.

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

No, we do not “exchange” items. You must return the merchandise and re-purchase what you need.

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

Produce* Bulk* (incl. Coop-bagged bulk)
Cheese* Seasonal Holiday Items
Books Special Orders
Calendars Refrigerated Supplements
Juicers & Oils
Sushi *A buyer is available during the week-days to discuss your concerns.

NEVER
RETURNABLE

Refrigerated Goods (not listed above)
Frozen Goods
Meat & Fish
Bread

RETURNABLE
ONLY IF SPOILED
BEFORE
EXPIRATION DATE
Packaging/label
must be present-
ed for refund.

Items not listed above that are unopened
and unused in re-sellable condition

RETURNABLE

The Coop reserves the right to refuse returns on a case-by-case basis. If you have questions, please contact a staff member in the Membership Office.



PHOTO: JOHN H. SHEALLY III/THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT (VIA GOOGLE)

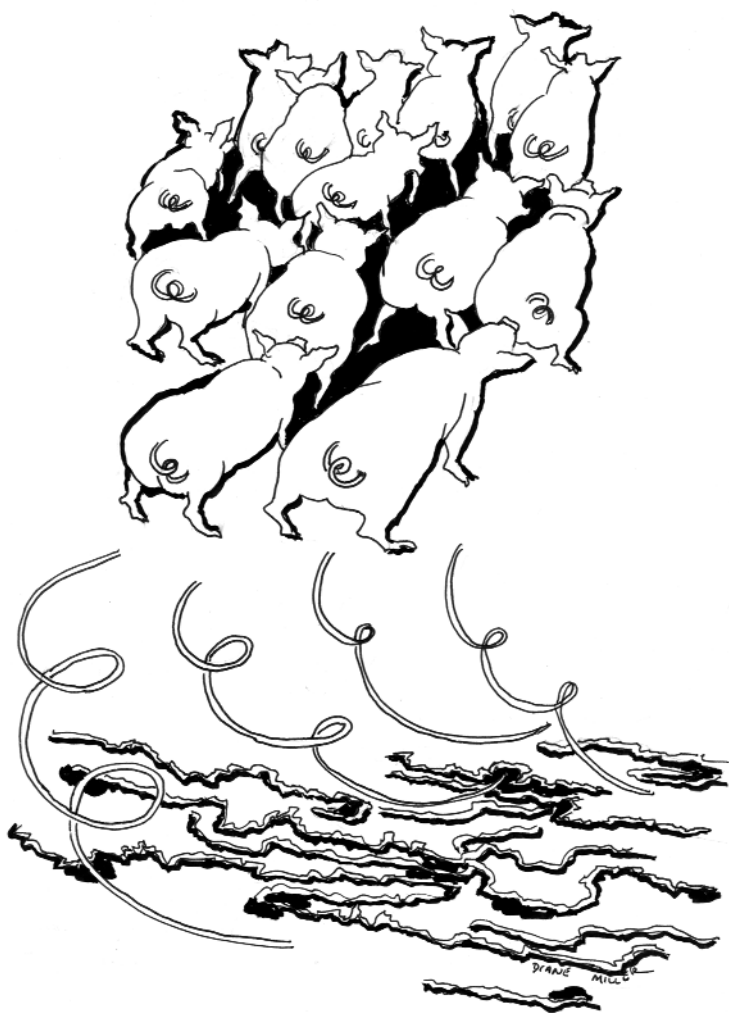
Help New Members Feel Like Royalty!

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.





Taking It Local

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dave Murphy, co-founder of Food Democracy Now!, into political engagement.

A Gradual Move To Activism

Murphy, a recipient of an MFA from Columbia University, was working for the Department of Labor in Washington, DC, and never saw himself “coming back to Iowa and being involved in agriculture.” In 2006 he got a call from his sister, Chris, who owns a small family farm. A large, Minnesota-based agricultural firm named New Fashion Pork announced its intention to build a 5,000-head CAFO, or confined animal feeding operation, a half mile from Chris’ farm. Murphy’s two nephews were already afflicted with asthma, and the family was very concerned about the impact a large hog lot would have on the children’s respiratory health. The Murphy family wasn’t alone in their concern. Just that year, *Pediatrics*, a scientific journal, had reported on a new study establishing a link between close-by, confined swine feeding lots and asthma symptoms in susceptible children.

At risk, too, was a cherished local waterway. The site for the planned super-sized hog lot was located four miles from Lake Okoboji, a resort area that could have suffered from the manure runoff of

5,000 hogs. Helped by pressure from landowners who owned property near the lake, local wishes prevailed, and in 2006, New Fashion withdrew its plan to build the hog confinement. With this success, Dave Murphy had his first taste of what community action could do.

“Within 72 hours, we had basically 14,000 signatures from all over the country. Within a week, we had over 55,000 signatures.”

—Dave Murphy, co-founder of Food Democracy Now!

Networking Toward Local Agricultural Control

Murphy stayed in Iowa and began to work on different political campaigns. As he gained experience in Iowa’s politics, he became increasingly involved in the state’s local control movement, which, according to him, would “allow a county board of supervisors to have veto power where these facilities [hog lots] are built.” County, not state, government would be empowered to say no to large agriculture. With reform, concerns about water and air quality and CAFOs could be

addressed at the county level.

Local control over development was a right that Iowans lost in 1995, through the controversial passage of a state bill, HF 519—one that U.S. secretary of agriculture Tom Vilsack voted for when he was a state senator. HF 519 was also enacted on the watch of then-Iowa governor Terry Branstad, who is running for governor in the state’s 2010 election.

As a result of HF 519, for the last 15 years the state has been grappling with what Murphy describes as “one of the most contentious political issues in Iowa dealing with agriculture,” a sector of the state economy contributing nearly 20 percent of Iowa’s total economic output. In summer 2007, Murphy “organized around local control.” He also worked for the Iowa Farmers Union, a progressive group whose mission statement stresses sustainable, family-centered agriculture.

“When Do We Want It? Now!”

During Murphy’s 2007 efforts to put a stop to big-lot confinements, he put 40,000 miles on his car driving around the state to attend town hall meetings. He observed, “Wherever confinements were being built, 95 percent of the community would be against them.”

In 2007, Dave Murphy met Paul Willis, manager of Niman Ranch Pork Company, at a hearing about a large manure spill into an Iowa river. Willis, a Peace Corps veteran and hog farmer whom Murphy calls “a hero,” has long been a proponent of local, sustainable agriculture.

On Earth Day 2007, Paul Willis introduced David Murphy to Lisa Stokke. Willis and Stokke had been running a slow-food chapter in Clear Lake, Iowa. Murphy and Stokke started talking about projects they might be able to work on together—including developing a website. Stokke suggested Food Democracy as its URL, but that was already taken, so Murphy suggested Food Democracy Now! When queried by Stokke about the “now,” Murphy’s reply was, “That’s when we want it!”

Murphy was highly motivated to team up with these local activists—after six months working in the state capital, he “was extremely frustrated. It only took me about two weeks to realize that the pork producers and industrial agriculture owned

the state leadership, lock, stock, and barrel.” Promises were made, but politics got in the way, and the issue of local control was left on the table after Iowa’s 2007 state election cycle.

Key Role in the Food and Family Farm Presidential Summit

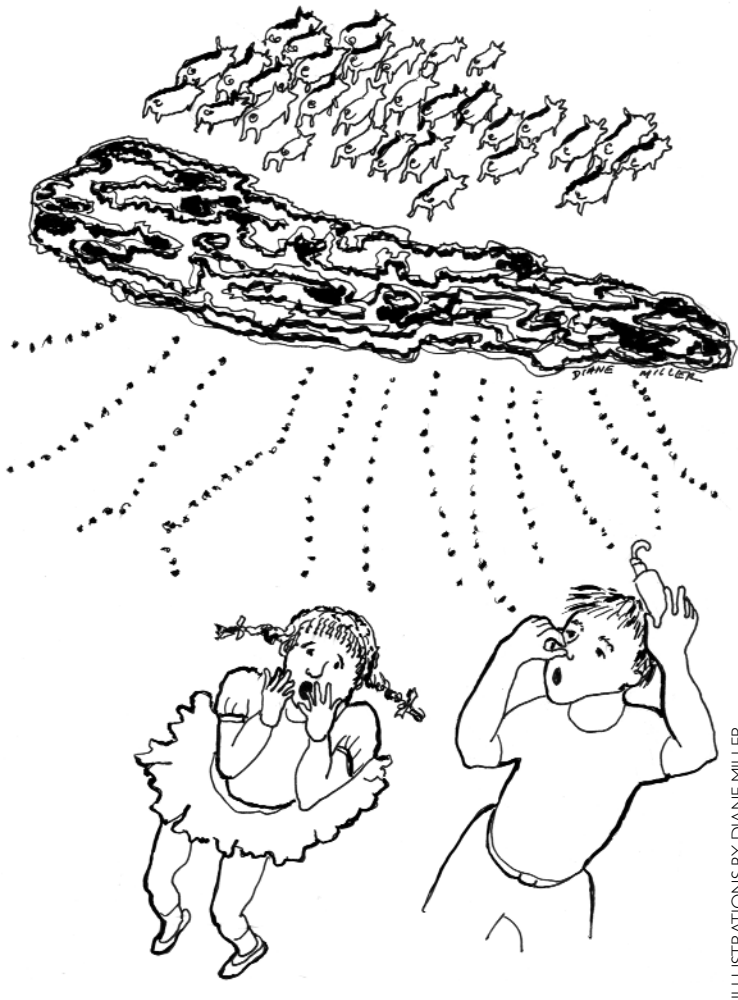
Dave Murphy was also beginning to take the issue of local control national. He was pivotal in helping to organize the November 2007 Food and Family Farm Presidential Summit, which, according to Blog for Iowa, was an event “designed to showcase each of the presidential candidate’s policies on food, farm, conservation, and economic development.” He had an opportunity to work with all the Democratic presidential campaigns to encourage them to attend the summit and to “try to help them put more sustainable positions into their platforms and policy decisions.”

Although Murphy had been leaning in the direction of candidate Obama, it was the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner in Des Moines that pushed Murphy more solidly into Obama territory. “I thought he really did a phenomenal job, and so from that point on, I supported Obama, and I worked as a volunteer to help find farmers and environmentalists—people in rural Iowa who would caucus for Obama.”

55,000-Plus Signatures For Sustainable Farming

A great source of information and networking, Food Democracy Now! exercised political clout when it came to the incoming Obama administration’s agricultural department choices. A planned conference call with the Obama transition team, which was slated to include Alice Waters and Michael Pollan among others, had been delayed by the campaign as it

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY DIANE MILLER

Please protect your feet and toes while working your shift at the Coop by not wearing sandals or other open-toed footwear.

Thanks for your cooperation,
The Park Slope Food Coop





Taking It Local

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

had focused on winning the election.

The conference call was rescheduled, but Murphy wanted to send the transition team a position letter which, among other points, made this request of the future president: “We hope that you will take our concerns under advisement when nominating our next Secretary of Agriculture because of the crucial role this Secretary will play in revitalizing our rural economies, protecting our nation’s food supply and our environment, improving human health and well-being, rescuing the independent family farmer, and creating a sustainable renewable energy future.”

Food Democracy Now! posted the letter online. “Within 72 hours,” according to Murphy, “we had basically 14,000 signatures from all over the country. Within a week, we had over 55,000 signatures.”

Obama’s Picks

The petitioning letter also included six potential U.S. agriculture secretary picks whom Food Democracy Now! felt would further their goal of a local, sustainable farm structure devoted to growing healthy food healthfully. While Tom Vilsack was not on the organization’s list for agriculture secretary, the Obama administration did choose names from FDN!’s list of who the organization terms as “the sustainable dozen” to staff critical positions in the department. A key choice was Kathleen Merrigan as deputy secretary. A professor at Tufts University, she “helped develop national organic standards,” according to the Washington Post.

Murphy’s stayed in the sustainable agriculture arena for many reasons. Most compelling, he thinks, is this one: “There’s a serious loss of our democratic rights in one of the most fundamental things—the food that we put in our bodies. How the raising and creation of that food impacts the environment, rural communities and human health.” Murphy feels that Food Democracy Now! captures his sense of urgency about all those things, while reaching out across the Web to invite the like-minded to join the cause. ■

DO YOU LIKE **DESIGNING FLYERS**? HOW ARE YOU AT **MARKETING**? DO YOU LIKE **SOCIAL NETWORKING**? ARE YOU A **WEB DEVELOPER**? CAN YOU WRITE **PHP**? DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE **WORDPRESS**? DO YOU LIKE **TABLING** AT EVENTS? DO YOU LIKE **RESEARCHING FOOD**? DO YOU NEED **FTOP CREDIT**? DO YOU LIKE **COMMUNITY**, EATING **GOOD FOOD**, AND **FUN**? COME HANG OUT WITH THE **BUSHWICK FOOD COOP** AND GET **WORK CREDIT!**

A BUYING CLUB AND CSA ARE SATIATING US WHILE WE WORK TOWARDS MAKING THE DREAM OF HAVING OUR OWN STOREFRONT A REALITY. WE ARE REALLY INVESTED IN OUR COLLECTIVE GOAL OF BRINGING AFFORDABLE, LOCAL AND ORGANIC FOOD TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF BUSHWICK. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, PLEASE EMAIL US AT **WORKSHIFT@BUSHWICKFOODCOOP.ORG**.



LEFFERTS FARM FOOD COOPERATIVE

We are a newly-formed group made up of residents from Flatbush, Prospect-Lefferts Gardens and Crown Heights, working to develop a new medium-sized food cooperative in the area.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

There’s no question Brooklyn needs more food cooperatives, but it’s not simple. Food co-ops are businesses and development projects created for and by the community.

JOIN OUR PLANNING GROUP

In order to make this happen, we need YOU! Why? Because as a member, you have experience with food co-ops. And as a worker/community member, you have experience we need—from organizational development, branding/messaging, finance/accounting, fundraising, to real estate development and community outreach. Even people you know or the groups you belong to are a valuable asset to the process!

GET INVOLVED

PSFC members will receive FTOP credit in exchange for their participation. Join our MeetUp group at www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop or contact leffertsfarm@gmail.com for more information.

JOIN US: www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop

BAY RIDGE FOOD CO-OP

We’re one step closer to opening for business
NOW WE NEED YOU!

The Bay Ridge Food Co-op is moving ever nearer to opening its doors, providing a valuable new resource for communities across South Brooklyn and beyond.

Response to the launch of our membership equity drive has already been amazing, but we still need your help to ensure we achieve all our goals. If you live in or close to Bay Ridge, do consider joining our co-op now – we have set a goal of 2500 members to open our doors, ensuring a desirable product selection and service level.

We’re looking for people to help our growing membership with the many tasks that go into establishing a new co-op. Whatever your skills, talent or experience, your support will truly help make a difference. And please visit our site to subscribe to our email newsletter to keep up on our progress.

PSFC members receive FTOP credit for their work!

www.foodcoopbayridge.com
hello@foodcoopbayridge.com
347-274-8172

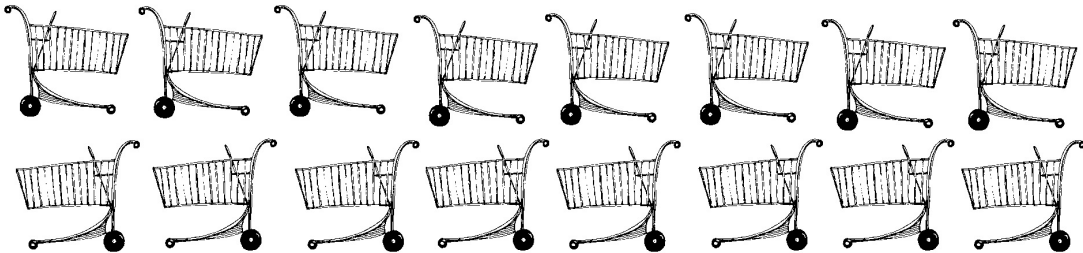
GREENE HILL FOOD CO-OP

CREATIVE? WRITER? TALKATIVE? LAWYER? SOCIAL-BUTTERFLY? WEB-DEVELOPER?
HELP US GET STARTED AND MAKE YOUR OWN WORK SHIFT!

PSFC members will receive FTOP credit in exchange for their help. To receive credit, you should be a PSFC member for at least one year and have an excellent attendance record.



www.GreeneHillFoodCoop.com
info@greenehillfoodcoop.com | 718-208-4778



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





GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Crowded GM Asks Questions, Debates the Very Word “Coop”

By Liz Welch

The Coop General Meeting on July 27, 2010 was packed. People filled almost every seat at Congregation Beth Elohim and many were sitting cross-legged on the floor, snacking on cookies and fruit, either chatting or reading the literature handed out that evening, which included a monthly financial statement and an agenda for the evening.

David Golland started the meeting with an open forum for people to share any gripes or questions. First up was Keith, a member since 1984, who began by saying, “Whenever I come to the GM, I feel compelled to speak about this issue.” He feels that the paid staff should volunteer a work-slot every month to make up for what he sees as a fundamental contradiction. “Members volunteer their labor,” he said, before putting forth his proposition. “Level the playing field,” he suggested. “If each of the paid staff received 2 hours and 45 minutes of administrative leave they would be able to volunteer. This way the staff could see the world in the eyes of the rest of us—people who have paid jobs and volunteer.”

The next question was for Allen Zimmerman regarding gooseberries—when will the Coop get them? Allen responded by saying that he’d respond to that question in his summary: stay tuned. Maria was next: Does the Coop have any plans for recycling batteries? Jess Robinson, who identified herself as “paid staff,” took that one on. “No we don’t,” she said. “It’s a storage issue.” She suggested going to Tarzian or Radio Shack.

Sean, a receiver, wanted to know if it was possible to expand the bulk items to include apricots, pine nuts and other sundries that are currently pre-bagged to cut down on the plastic bags used to sell those items.

Joe Holtz, a General Coordinator, explained that this was an issue of space: “If we were to expand bulk items, we’d have to cut back on the number of items we sell,” he said, adding that the decision to sell fewer items would be an agenda item requiring a vote at a future GM. Sean could propose it to the Agenda Committee if he was interested.

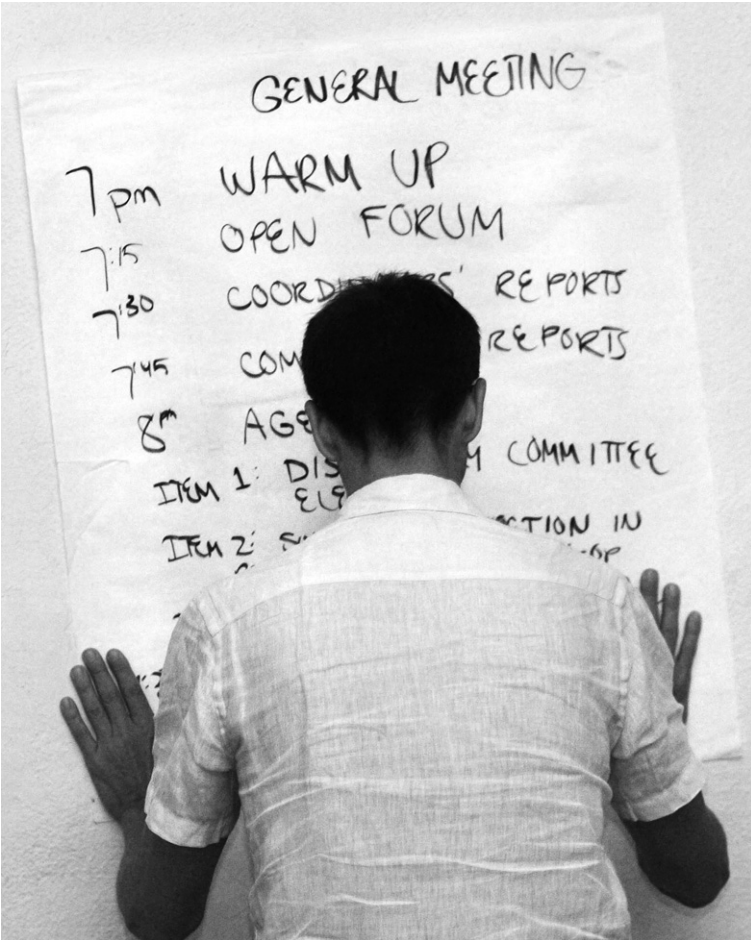
Finances, Renovations, Fruit Looking Good

Next up were the coordinators’ reports, starting with Tricia Leith, who went over the Coop’s 24-week financial statement that ended July 18. The highlights: Net sales are better than a year ago, at 19.5 million, and gross margins are 16.98%. “We like to see it around the 17% level,” said Tricia. Membership fees were down due to the decrease in orientation meetings (the office remodel had put those on hold for the past three months). Personnel expense moved higher versus a year ago, mostly due to the rising cost of health benefits. Another noticeable change is that electronic payment and bank charges have been inching up as a result of debit card use: a whopping 81% of sales are done with debit cards. Good news: The Coop paid off its mortgage late last year.

Jess Robinson was up next to report on the new offices upstairs, which took three

months to renovate: “A piece of the childcare room was captured for additional staff offices,” she explained. Now that it is finished, orientations have started again as of July 7th. The moratorium has been frustrating for potential new members. Jess’ recommendation is to pre-register on the website to ensure a spot at upcoming orientations. “New orientation dates post Tuesdays and Thursdays around 3 p.m.,” she explained. “Sign up quickly as the spots are filling up fast.”

Allen’s produce report included news about cherries, ground cherries and pomodoro plum tomatoes. He reported that people have been curious about the dearth of non-organic cherries, generally less expensive than organic ones. “Organic cherries cost \$63 per case, whereas non-organic cherries cost \$55,” Allen explained. “Cheaper cherries could have been brought in, but of lesser quality. The goal with each purchase is to get the best cherries.” Allen, a produce perfectionist, went on to tout ground cherries, currently available in the produce aisle. “They look like baby tomatillos and taste somewhere between a grape tomato and grape itself,” he explained, adding, “My daughter hates tomatoes. She claims this is what a tomato would taste like if she liked them.” As for the tomatoes, Allen brought a few to pass around, explaining, “People don’t appreciate these pomodoro heirloom tomatoes. If it is not oval, people are not interested.” Allen urged everyone to try them, describing them as dense, sweet and thick. When an



PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILLIAM FARRINGTON

Member putting up the General Meeting agenda at the start of the meeting.

audience member shouted out, “Does your daughter like them?” Allen laughed before admitting, “No, she does not.”

Committees Stay Busy

Various committees then gave their reports. Alice Joyce Alcala went first to speak on behalf of the Environmental Committee about supporting a moratorium on a process called Hydrofracking, which, she explained, is a threat to our water supply. “The technology was invented by Halliburton in 1949,” Alice explained. “It drills deep into the earth and uses explosions to blast through the earth horizontally, a process which

contaminates groundwater and aquifers.” Alice urged Coop members to call on Senate Majority Leader John Sampson to demand a moratorium on the practice. (Contact his District office at 718-649-7653 or his Albany office at 518-455-2788.) For more information, please see the Environmental Committee’s blog at www.ecokvetch.blogspot.com.

Steve Schwerner gave a report on the Disciplinary Committee. An overview, in Steve’s words: “We are in charge of 16,000 people. We bump into each other literally in the Food Coop.

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L to R: Keith Getter saying paid staff at the Coop should volunteer a shift each month; produce buyer Allen Zimmerman giving the produce report; Susan Metz objected to the use of “co-op” in the name of Barneys Co-op.

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





Interested in Engaging Coop Work?
Disciplinary Committee Seeks NEW Members

★ **If you are good at:**
**Communicating • Problem solving • Dealing with
difficult situations • Investigating** *We need you!*

The DC is seeking new members with experience in **investigation, writing, and conflict-resolution. Mental health professionals** encouraged to apply. Use of a **computer and email is ESSENTIAL.** Join us to make the Coop the best place it can be for everyone.

- Some of our work includes:**
- Investigating allegations of misbehavior by members. (i.e. failing to report for or to complete shifts, bringing in non-members to shop, shopping while suspended, stealing, using racist, sexist, homophobic or nasty language against other Coop members and staff)
 - Engaging in problem-solving and policy issues related to the DC's work
 - Participation in disciplinary hearings
 - Daily email contact with DC members to discuss issues

- Requirements:**
- Must be a member for **at least a year**
 - Have **good attendance** record
 - Attend an evening meeting approx. once every six weeks

We recognize the importance of various points of view when considering cases brought to us. **WE ARE SEEKING A CANDIDATE POOL THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF THE COOP'S MEMBERSHIP.**

Interested? Please call **Jeff: 718-636-3880**

Puzzle Corner
Gazette Sudoku by James Vasile

7				4		6		
					6			
	1				5			8
			8					
					7		9	
2	7		4	3				1
	3	2		6			8	
				1				9
8	6	1	5					2

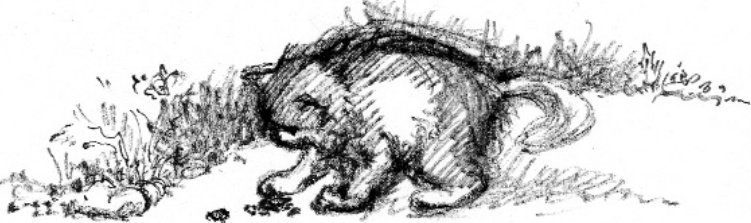
See page 14 for puzzle answer.

The Environmental
Committee has a blog!

Please visit often
for timely news and
information
from the PSFC
Environmental
Committee.

We're
blogging
about our
activities at the Coop,
as well as
environmental events
of interest at the Coop
and beyond.

Find us at:
<http://ecokvetch.blogspot.com/>



Follow
the
Food
Coop
on

twitter



@foodcoop

LAMP | LINUX | APACHE | MYSQL | PHP

The Coop is looking for new members
for the Systems Support Group!

If you're a top notch sysadmin who'd
like to earn workslot credit helping us
configure and maintain the Coop's
web servers, please contact the group
at ssg@psfc.coop.

We are looking for bright people who can work
collaboratively with an expert team of Coop
members and staff. We're just starting the web
hosting project, so here's your chance to weigh in on
our architecture and procedures right from the start!



The Ecokvetch
is now on
Facebook,
representing
the
Park Slope
Food Coop's
Environmental
Committee.





The Environmental Committee Is Looking for New Members.

The Environmental Committee works on a broad range of issues related to food, energy and the environment, with an emphasis on issues that impact the Coop.

We particularly need people who are good at putting ideas into action. We will accept people with a broad range of experience, but leadership and/or organizational abilities will be put to good use.

To be considered for a spot on the committee you must have been a Coop member for at least 6 months and have a good attendance record.



Work for the environment while fulfilling your Coop workslot!

For more information contact the Environmental Committee at ecokvetch@yahoo.com.

COORDINATORS' CORNER

"Barneys Co-opts Coops! What Next?"

By Joe Holtz, General Coordinator

Barneys, the clothing store chain, is planning to open "Barneys Co-Op" on September 10, 2010 in Brooklyn. Barneys Co-Op is not a cooperative. It is not member-owned or democratically run. It is not a place in which people work together to improve each other's lives. Having a non-coop store call itself a coop confuses the meaning of the word that describes us.

Many people do not know what a cooperative is. In keeping with the Cooperative Principles, it has been part of our mission to inform people about the nature and benefits of co-operation. If Barneys is to use the title "coop" to enhance business profits, what is to stop other stores, including grocery stores, from opening as "coops" everywhere?

Thankfully, the New York State legislature anticipated this very thing and made a provision for acting against it.

The New York State Cooperative Corporations Law states, "The term 'cooperative,' 'cooperation,' or any abbreviation, variation or similitude thereof, shall not

be used as or in a name except by a corporation defined in this chapter. Any *cooperative corporation* may sue for an injunction against such prohibited use of the term." It also states, "A violation of this prohibition is a misdemeanor."

The July 27 General Meeting voted down a proposal that would have authorized our Coop to go to court to sue for an injunction against Barneys because of their use of the word "Co-Op" in their name. The proposal also would have authorized our Coop to inform law enforcement agencies about the breaking of New York State law.

We have been helping six separate groups to try to form new food coops in five different Brooklyn neighborhoods. Their burden, to explain to prospective members what a coop is, will increase with the presence of Barneys Co-Op—a store that is not a coop. The discussion at the July General Meeting was not long enough to incorporate all the great suggestions and ideas members had in the proposal. I would like to

revise the proposal I made and hopefully bring it to the next General Meeting as a discussion-only item.

The revised proposal that I hope will be voted on again in the fall will most likely include the formation of a public relations team and a legal team. It will delineate a spending limit, probably in the area of \$1,500. The phrase authorizing the General Coordinators "to act on this matter on behalf of our coop in any way they deem appropriate" will be removed from the proposal.

I have received legal advice that our case will be strongest if we act sooner rather than later. Therefore, I will be appealing to the Agenda Committee to schedule this discussion-only, non-voting item for the August 31 General Meeting.

Coops should be coops. If we don't stand for what the word "coop" means, for its very ideal, then who will? Please come and share your thoughts on this item. In order to bring it back for a vote we need a clear understanding of how to improve the proposal. ■

VALET BIKE PARKING IS HERE ON SUNDAYS!



Every Sunday through November 21, from 3:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.,

Coop members can leave their bikes with our valet parking service, which is like a coat check for bikes. Working members will check in and watch your bike for you.

Just drop off your bike, do your shopping or your shift, and hop back on. No locks, no worries, no theft. Service operates rain or shine. Look for us in front of the yellow wall. (Note: no bike check-in after 7:30 p.m.)

Valet bicycle parking at the Coop is brought to you by the PSFC Shop & Cycle Committee.



**PSFC
Shop & Cycle
Committee**

The Diversity and Equality Committee's Diversity Awareness Initiative

is starting an event series to promote diversity awareness and education at the Coop. The series will include film screenings, moderated discussions, presentations and workshops. Events will address issues related to race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, culture, ethnicity and socio-economics.

We are soliciting event ideas and potential speakers. Please send event proposals to: psfc.diversity@gmail.com

PSFC members who present as part of the event series are eligible to receive workslot credit.





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' 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. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses and services.

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words.

Editor-Writer Guidelines: Except for letters to the editor, which are published without editing but are subject to the Gazette letters policy regarding length, anonymity, respect, and fairness, all submissions to the *Linewaiters' Gazette* will be reviewed and if necessary edited by the editor. In their review, editors are guided by the Gazette's Fairness and Anonymity policies as well as standard editorial practices of grammatical review, separation of fact from opinion, attribution of factual statements, and rudimentary fact checking. Writers are responsible for the factual content of their stories. Editors must make a reasonable effort to contact and communicate with writers regarding any proposed editorial changes. Writers must make a reasonable effort to respond to and be available to editors to confer about their articles. If there is no response after a reasonable effort to contact the writer, an editor, at her or his discretion, may make editorial changes to a submission without conferring with the writer.

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.

Digital Submissions: 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.

What Is That? How Do I Use It?

Food Tours in the Coop

okay
let's get down to the business
of peace
everybody wants peace
we protest for it
we pray for it
we despair its absence

but how to generate it
how to peel away
all that hides it from view

practice breathing

everyone know this, you say
it is cliché

and yet
the power of peace
is not
complicated

try it:
before you say the usual thing
when you step out into the fresh morning
with the start of a loud sound
before you answer
before you have another
before you make the call
when you pet the dog

when you get what you thought
you didn't want

take your breath
let it fill your toes
then let it leave
wish it well

peace will rise
its bright light
and shine on you
and travel on
with its ripple of goodness

you will see
that peace was there
all along

Park Slope Food Coop
Partnering with peace

by Myra Klockenbrink

Monthly on the...

Second Saturday
AUGUST 14
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Third Thursday
AUGUST 19
7:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.

Last Sunday
AUGUST 29
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

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

RECYCLING

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:

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Erik Lewis

Editors (development): Anne Kostick
Petra Lewis

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Jill Dearman

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



WORKSLOT NEEDS

Office Set Up

Mondays or Wednesdays 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 in the Membership Office for more information.

Laundry Prep and Miscellaneous Cleaning

Saturdays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

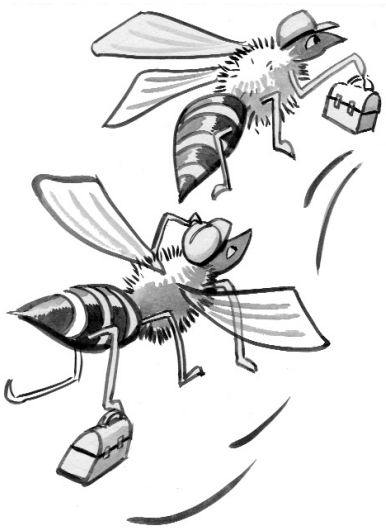
The Coop is looking for members to collect the laundry from around the building and prepare it for wash-

ing. After starting the first load of laundry you'll complete the balance of the shift with miscellaneous cleaning tasks. Instructions and checklists will be provided. If you are interested or would like more information, please call Jana or Annette in the Membership Office.

Vitamins

**Fridays 9:30 to 12:15 p.m.,
12:00 to 2:45 p.m., 2:30 to 5:15 p.m.**

On these special shifts, you will be working with the receiving coordinator to check in vitamin orders and organize the vitamin area in the basement and on the shopping floor. You will label products and shelves, and perform other related tasks. If interested, contact the Membership Office.



COOP 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, AUG 31

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, SEP 7

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

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Aug 26 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Aug 16
Sep 9 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Aug 30

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Aug 26 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Aug 18
Sep 9 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Sep 1

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 31, 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 Ann Herpel at the coop.

Meeting Format

Warm Up (7:00 p.m.) • Meet the Coordinators

• Enjoy some Coop snacks • Submit Open Forum items • Explore meeting literature

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.) Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting. If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

Reports (7:30 p.m.) • Financial Report • Coordinators' Report • Committee Reports

Agenda (8:00 p.m.)

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

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45) (unless there is a vote to extend the meeting) • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

Since the Coop's inception in 1973, the General Meeting has been our decision-making body. At the General Meeting (GM) members gather to make decisions and set Coop policy. The General-Meeting-for-workslot-credit program was created to increase participation in the Coop's decision-making process.

Following is an outline of the program. *For full details, see the instruction sheets by the sign-up board.*

• Advance Sign-up required:

To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby. The sign-ups sheet is available all month long, except for the day of the meeting when you have until 5 p.m. to sign up. On the day of the meeting, the sign-up sheet is kept in the Membership Office.

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.

• 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 non-toxic, sustainable agriculture. **We respect the environment.** We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations. We prefer to buy from local, earth-friendly producers. We recycle. We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment. **We are committed to diversity and equality.** We oppose discrimination in any form. We strive to make the Coop welcoming and accessible to all and to respect the opinions, needs and concerns of every member.





park slope


FOOD COOP

calendar of events

aug 21

sat 2–5 pm

Adult Clothing Exchange



This is your opportunity to trade gently used and beautiful clothes that you no longer wear with other Coop members. Bring items that you think others might enjoy—and a snack to share. Do not leave clothing in the Coop before the hours of the exchange; bring up to 15 items only; bring gently used, clean clothing that you are proud to be able to exchange with a new owner. Unchosen items will be donated to a local shelter.

aug 29

sun 12 pm


Babywearing 101

This is a hands-on workshop for participants to learn about the five basic types of carriers (wraps, ring slings, pouches, mei tais and soft-structured carriers), focusing on safe and comfortable carrying for newborns through toddlers. Carriers will be demonstrated, and parents are encouraged to bring the carriers they already have to get help with fit and positioning. Coop member **Lisa Brundage** is a Brooklyn co-leader of Slings in the City and has been trained in babywearing techniques by Die Trageschule of Dresden, Germany. Amy Takemoto is a babywearing mom of two children and has been a Brooklyn co-leader of Slings in the City.

aug 31

tue 7 pm

PSFC AUG General Meeting



Items will be taken up in the order given. Times in parentheses are suggestions. More information on each item may be available on 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: Creation of Audit Committee (45 minutes)
Discussion: “To form an audit committee that will report and recommend to the Board and the General Meeting.”
Explanation: “The proposal is to form an audit committee that will interface between the GM, Board and the independent auditor. The committee is proposed in order to facilitate proper and transparent governance structure. The committee will also recommend the selection of the outside auditor and selection of appropriate accounting and internal control matters.”
—submitted by *Yigal Rechtman*


Item #2: Presentation and discussion of draft proposal about Barneys Co-op (45 minutes)
Discussion: “Discuss draft proposal on Barneys “Co-op” and general topic what to do about the usurpation of the word “coop.”
—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.

sep 2

thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: The Secret of The Sea Vegetable



Vegan, gluten-free and sugar-free dishes. What are sea vegetables? What do they look like? Learn the nutritional benefits of eating sea vegetables, how to prepare them safely and how to cook sea vegetables once and eat them twice. **Hideyo Yamada** is a trained sushi chef from Japan, who specializes in allergy-free pastries. Her unique health counseling, along with customized recipes and cooking classes, enable her clients to prepare delicious healthy meals, adding more balance and energy into their lives. She is a certified Holistic Health counselor and graduate of the Institute of Integrative Nutrition, working as a private chef. *Menu includes kombu stock, basic miso soup with tofu, wakame garlic sauté, quinoa hijiki salad, dulce dip and chocolate-banana mousse with agar.*
Materials fee: \$4. Event coordinated by Susan Baldassano.

sep 7

tue 8 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, September 28, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

sep 10

fri 7 pm

Plunder: The Crime of Our Time

See the film that treats the financial crisis as a crime story, not a business problem. It ties the collapse of the housing market to a corrupt collaboration between real estate, finance and insurance. It also features home-owners and community activists fighting back with protests at banks and the homes of CEOs. **JK Canepa** is a Coop member and co-founder of the New York Climate Action Group. Author Danny Schechter is an Emmy-award-winning network veteran who has specialized in issues of media deception and economic exploitation.

sep 11

sat 12 pm

Candida Albicans Again?

Yeast is a complex condition that needs to be attacked from different angles. It is the cause of many ailments. Find out how you can combat it once and for all. Why does it come back? What is the hidden cause that was never imagined before? Do only a few people know about the cause? Stop this beast that takes years away from your life. Instead, live a happy, joyful life in vibrant health. What is it that you'll live with if you don't do anything or enough about it? Let me share with you my story, and make sure that you don't have to go through the same. Presented by Coop member **Marija Santo**, CNHP and Geotran Practitioner.

sep 11

sat 3 pm

Green Your Garden

You are invited to learn what plants are best in your garden. We will discuss light conditions for annuals, perennials, vegetables, shrubs and trees, plant combinations that work well for both shady and full sun gardens and how to safely divide and propagate plants to maximize your garden. We will also talk about organic pest control, native plants and medicinal gardening. Come learn how to attract more birds and butterflies as well as compost all your table scraps to feed your garden. There will also be a time for specific questions about your garden, so please bring any images or leaf samples to discuss. Coop member **Christian Toscano** is a local gardener who is currently training to be an herbalist.

sep 11-12

sat-sun 9 am–7 pm

Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

CHIPS Soup Kitchen, located at 4th Avenue and Sackett Street, is the recipient of much of our edible but unsaleable perishable food. They also need donations of nonperishable foods. Food collected will go to CHIPS to help them feed people in the neighborhood who are in need of a nutritious meal. Consider contributing non-perishable 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; cooking oil; or boxed raisins. Give donations to the collection table outside the Coop.

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

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



aug 21–nov 2 2010

sep 12
sun 12 pm

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 17
fri 7:30 pm

Meet Your Mind

A class in basic meditation. The fundamental nature of our mind is stable, strong and clear—yet these qualities become obscured by the stress and speed of our lives. This is a basic meditation class for beginners and anyone who would like a renewed understanding of the technique. Coop member **Allan Novick** has practiced meditation since 1975 and is a meditation instructor at the New York Shambhala Center and Nalandabodhi New York.

sep 19
sun 12 pm

Acupuncture for Knee Pain

Acupuncture relieves knee pain and inflammation without drugs. More than 20 million Americans suffer from osteoarthritis of the knee. Learn massage, exercise and diet therapy to prevent deterioration of your joints. Workshop is limited to 20. Please reserve by calling 718-832-6110. Presented by licensed acupuncturist and Coop member **Annie Reibel-Coyne**.

sep 24
fri 7:30 pm

Natural Perfume

This sensory presentation will examine the artisanal art of natural perfumery. Natural perfumery is a process that uses only essential oils and precious absolutes that are extracted from plants. Come spend an evening re-educating your nose and discovering the art of natural fragrance. Presented by Coop member **Julianne Zaleta**, Licensed Massage Therapist, Certified Aromatherapist, herbalist and natural perfumer.

sep 25
sat 10:30 – 12:30

Household Goods Swap

Who needs Bed, Bath and Beyond when you can fix up your home for free by swapping household goods with other Coop members? All items must be clean and in good condition. Bring linens, kitchenware, small electronics, small lamps; small appliances, small rugs and assorted functional items such as jewelry boxes, vases, picture frames, etc. Inappropriate donations will not be accepted, such as broken/nonworking items; damaged, shabby, stained or rusty items; items with missing pieces; large electronics such as computers, televisions, stereos, etc.; furniture; pillows and other items that can't be washed; or "knick-knacks" (items with no function).

sep 25
sat 2 – 4 pm

Kids' Toy & Book Exchange

Bring your old and gently used toys and children's books to the Coop to swap with others. All donations must be dropped off by 1:00 p.m. Books and toys must be clean and in good condition. We cannot accept textbooks, computer-related books, guide books, outdated books, magazines or journals. Do not bring toys or books to the Coop before the hours of the exchange.

sep 28
tue 7 pm

PSFC SEPT General Meeting



Meeting Agenda to be announced. 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. **Meeting location: Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

sep 30
thu 7 pm

Wordsprouts



Subject to be announced.
To book a Wordsprouts, contact P.J. Corso, paola_corso@hotmail.com.

oct 1
fri 7 pm

Film Night



Film title to be announced.
To book a Film Night, contact Faye Lederman, squeezestone@hotmail.com.

oct 3
sun 6 pm

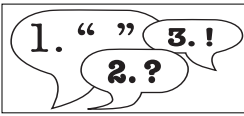
Cooking in Harmony



Join us for an evening of tasty food with intriguing beverage pairings at The Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. Advance ticketing for admission to this event will be available in September. More details to follow at www.foodcoop.com and <http://psfcfun.wordpress.com>.
Event takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.).

oct 5
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 26, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

still to come

oct 7

Food Class: Autumn Harvest

oct 12

Safe Food Committee Film Night

oct 15

The Very Good Coffeehouse: Coop Concert Series

oct 16

A Workshop for Mental Health Practitioners

oct 21-23

Blood Drive

oct 23-24

Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

oct 26

PSFC OCT General Meeting

nov 2

Agenda Committee Meeting





Crowded GM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

There are various kinds of issues that people complain about. There are also issues where people steal from the Coop—if they have stolen things, then we turn it over to the police department. Our job is not to punish people but to work out those problems so we can work and live together.” At the moment, the committee has 12 members and needs 16 to be fully staffed. And so Michelle Giordano, Steve’s colleague on the Disciplinary Committee, presented two potential candidates: Jim Abbazia, a member for 5 years, was approved as was Grace Potos, an FTOP worker since 2004.

Even the Word “Coop” Sparks Debate

Next up was Joe Holtz, a general coordinator, who put forward a motion to sue Bar-



Sharon Johnson picks up literature.

“We do not need confusion around what a coop is.” Joe put forward a motion to create a legal team of Coop members to take on the case, which would ask Barneys to to cease using the name.

This issue inspired a lot of comments from the crowd, including a few from lawyers who wondered if Barneys has a trademark on the name, and if so, does federal law

they can get away with this!” Alice agreed: “Most corporations are opportunistic,” she explained. “Even if they are not benefiting in anyway other than the cache of the word, it is important to keep language crystal-clear.”

Jeremy, on the other hand, thought the suit was frivolous. “I don’t think there is any confusion to the public about the use of the term,” he said. “And I think it is important that we don’t spend a dime more on this beyond the filing fees.” Several lawyers got up to speak, urging the Coop to consider the fact that Barneys would take the suit seriously. Bill spoke first. “They are going to hire a big lawyer—and they are going to throw the kitchen sink at us,” he said. “I suggest taking more time before we move forward. There is more we can do before filing a legal complaint.” Susan, also a lawyer, wondered if the Coop could find a law-school clinic that would take the suit on with the legal team, adding, “If the Coop would like to do this, I would like to see it more formally laid out.” Carl agreed that the Coop should take more time before filing a suit. His comments were followed by a general vote,

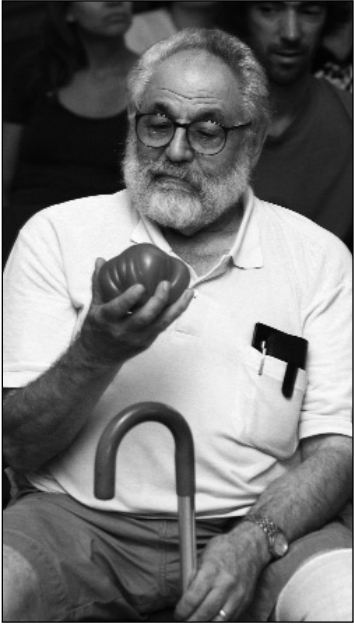


Coop members eyeing a pomodoro, recommended by produce buyer Allen Zimmerman.

neys Co-Op, which has plans to open a store on Atlantic Avenue this September. Mike Salgo, a longtime Coop member who gets work credit for giving the Coop legal advice, has teamed up with Joe to advise the suit. Joe explained his position: “This is about the use of the word “coop” in New York state,” Joe explained. “The law is very clear: the term “coop” should only be used by a cooperative that was incorporated under that law.” Joe’s belief is that for-profit corporations should not be allowed to use the term “cooperative” or “coop,” as it is misleading. “We need to send a message that it is not so easy to say you are a coop when you are not,” he explained, adding,

trump state law? Bill Lipton asked if there were plans to include a PR person, and Gweneth wondered how expensive the legal fees would be for such an undertaking. Mike answered, explaining that they are looking for a legal team to work on behalf of the Coop and that the filing fees were otherwise nominal: less than \$400 to file the motion and serve Barneys with papers.

Lots of audience members had questions and comments. Susan Metz, a member for 18 years, supports the suit. “Any possibility to discuss what a cooperative means is extremely important,” she said. “I would love to get down there and picket Barneys if those SOB’s think



Steve Schwerner inspects a pomodoro.

which did not have enough support to push Joe’s request through.

Christian, a cashier, put forward Agenda Item 3, which was to allow the Coop to become an affiliate with The People’s Alliance Federal Credit Union, a 75-year-old cooperative banking institute that is NCUA (National Credit Union Administration) insured. Gwyneth asked if there were any disadvantages, and Christian could not think of one. “The benefits of a cooperative banking system are the same as the benefits of joining a food coop,” Christian explained. “There are a lot of people who don’t want to deposit cash in rapacious financial institutions—this is a great option for those people.” The motion was passed almost unanimously.

Elizabeth Tobier was up next to present the minutes of the June 29, 2010 General Meeting. Following acceptance by the Board of Direc-



Daisy Chan reads about the “Barneys Coop issue.”

tors, the meeting was adjourned. ■

PHOTOS BY WILLIAM FARRINGTON

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

Anonymity

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

Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

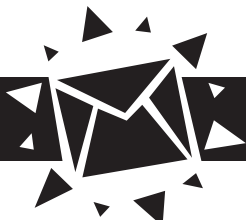
- 1. The Gazette will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author’s first-hand observation.
- 2. Nor will we publish accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.
- 3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals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

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

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.





Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

August 12, 2010 13

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UNCOOPERATIVE BEHAVIOR AT THE CLOTHING SWAP

TO THE EDITOR:

On Saturday, July 24, I attended my first adult clothing swap at the Coop and I must say I was somewhat dismayed by some of the behavior I observed. Though there was a limit on the contributions (no more than 15 items) there seemed to be no ground rules as to how much clothing a person could take. Any person who was acting in a polite and not self-serving manner was disenfranchised. There were some individuals who were not even waiting for the new contributions to reach the table before they took them for themselves, and they did this repeatedly, with no concern for anyone else there. Some people had suitcases full of clothes and continued taking new stuff that was being brought in, directly from the hands of the contributors. So basically, if you were being polite, you got the rejects of about four people, who were taking the bulk of the contributions.

I have attended free markets and freecycle events in the past and I always observed common courtesy and people looking out for each other, but that spirit was not present here. The whole situation left me with a very bad impression. I think whomever is coordinating or facilitating this event should put a limit on the amount of items each person can take and/or set some ground rules that are fair to everyone.

In cooperation,
Amina Ali

TO THE EDITOR,

I am a poet, and retired teacher, from Kensington. My wife and I are Coop members, for nearly 20 years. This is first time I have submitted a poem to the *Linewaiters*. It is a tribute to my wife, who coordinates an urban agricultural program, and farmer's market, in Crown Heights. It is also dedicated to my son Jonah, who is a youth program coordinator at Added Value, which is a community garden in Red Hook.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Driven by the quest for Eden,
among angry streets and boulevards,
where many foreign, and few American
vehicles,
jockey for position,
a race for the green or yellow,
and frustrated by the red,
oblivious to the half acre,
surrounded by six story mausoleums,
for the living,
a few trees, as decorations,
a minimalist standard for photosynthesis,
or a repository for dog feces,
while carbon-foot printers walk the neighborhood,

texting and cellular communicating,
and not see the garden ready for spring,
this once ice and snow terrain is disappearing,
and the rich brown soil is slowly emerging,
as if beckoning to be tilled,
a miniature landscape awakening from
hibernation,
so the gardeners can plant flowers, among
organic vegetables,
color and sustenance for the community,
in the shadows of the high rises,
and enough sunlight and water,
to nourish these unlabelled delicacies for
future harvesting,
peppers onions, lettuce, kale, and collard
greens,
unpackaged, free of styrofoam and plastic,
with an invitation for the electronically
connected
to sample the cornucopia of locally grown
produce,
from this Urban Oasis.

Alan Braverman

OLYMPIA FOOD CO-OP IS THE FIRST US STORE TO BOYCOTT ISRAELI GOODS

TO THE EDITOR,

Olympia Food Co-op is the first U.S. store to boycott Israeli goods at their two locations in Olympia, Washington. After a two-year focus by members on this issue, at a July 15 meeting with 40+ members, nine out of ten Co-op Board of Directors decided to boycott Israeli goods. According to a statement released by the Co-op's board, "The Israeli product boycott is part of a nonviolent international grassroots campaign of boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) to compel Israel to follow international law and respect Palestinian human rights."

Noah Sochet, a Co-op member and BDS organizer commented, "As a U.S. citizen and as a Jew, I'm proud to say that my Co-op no longer underwrites the suffering in Palestine."

Following its mission statement, the Olympia Food Co-op has a long-standing boycott policy, which has included a boycott of China (for its occupation of Tibet) and a previous boycott of Colorado (for legalizing discrimination against gays, lesbians, and bisexuals in 1992). The Co-op also has policies for rejecting items whose packaging features exploitative or oppressive imagery.

One Israeli product is exempt from the boycott: "Peace Oil," a brand of olive oil fairly traded from Palestinian farmers in the West Bank and the Galilee.

The news of the boycott has drawn praise from around the world, including in Israel. "I salute the great work of the people in Olympia," said Yonatan Shapira, an Israeli Air Force captain and co-founder of Combatants for Peace. "The decision taken by the Olympia Food Co-op is an important step toward just peace for all people living in Israel/Palestine. It is also a step toward accountability for Israel's murder of Rachel Corrie." Activist Rachel Corrie, born and raised in Olympia, was killed seven years ago in Gaza when a bulldozer crushed her as she tried to stand in the way of demolition of a Palestinian house.

Not all Co-op members support the decision. Posts to the Co-op online Forum reflected longtime members' diverse responses: when a co-op becomes political and ideological, it cannot serve the entire community; some members will leave. One Jewish working member was proud of the co-op's decision to finally begin to boycott Israeli products: we need things to change immediately.

Steve Niva, an Olympia community member who teaches Middle East studies and international politics at Evergreen State College, has a thoughtful article in www.counterpunch.org/niva07262010.html (7/26/10: "Olympia Food Co-op Boycotts Israeli Goods." The article also addresses BDS in a larger context for those who oppose boycott, divestment and sanctions.

Additionally, to inform your analysis on the Israel-Palestine conflict, I recommend two websites to check daily reactions by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territories (West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem): www.imemc.org (International Middle East Media Center), and www.imeu.net (The Institute for Middle East Understanding).

Mary P. Buchwald
Brooklyn For Peace

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And wears only yellow shoes."
What accounts for invisibility
In this family run-through
Is the actual, silent presence of
The kid in question—you.



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No Standing in Shopping Cart

ILLUSTRATION BY PATRICK MACKIN



Concept & illustration by Fred Fassberger

Looking for something new?

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6	1	4	3	7	5	9	2	8
4	9	5	8	2	1	7	3	6
1	8	3	6	5	7	2	9	4
2	7	6	4	3	9	8	5	1
9	3	2	7	6	4	1	8	5
5	4	7	2	1	8	3	6	9
8	6	1	5	9	3	4	7	2

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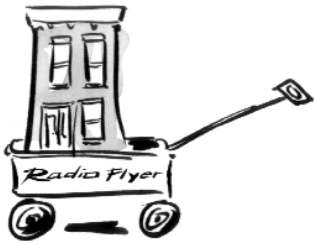
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tions, your Coop history, relevant experience and why you would like
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We believe that we can enrich the quality of the *Gazette* and serve the membership better
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WELCOME!

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

Irina Abaeva	Marjorie Cardon	Remi Gurak	Elissa Lewis	Sofia Pica	Tyler Smith
Jacob Adelstein	Patti Cellery-McCall	Halima Hadire	Elinore Longobardi	Matthew Piercy	David Sonenberg
Nova Ami	Amanda Cheong	Ryan Haselman	Benoit Louy	Lila Place	Julie Sonenberg
Elizabeth Amon	Allison Clark	Mariah Helfrich	Jason Lucas	Ethan Pomerance	Doug Stevenson
Meghan Armstrong	Erin Clarke	Meg Hodgkins	Emma Lundahl	Paolo Puliga	Sasha Stim-Vogel
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Hideji Asanuma	Carol Cuatt	Russell Holland	Tiffany Matula	Alexander Reusing	Dilek Topkara
Aaron Todd Atkins	Emmanuel d'Harcourt	Kesa Huey	Christine McCarthy	Erik Rhey	Evey Trautman
Sigurd Baark	Sara d'Harcourt	Katie Hut	Diana McKenzie	Piper Richey	Greg Trautman
Davie-Blue Bacich	Anne Decker	Brannon Ingram	Courtney McKeown	Mariangel Romero	Ellen Tumposky
M.E. Bridget Baker	Gabriel DeFazio	Vinicius Ito	Kevin Meeker	Idra Rosenberg	Elisa Verna
Lucilene Barbosa	Zoe Diamant	Christie Kappes	Martha Mills	Casey Rosenthal	Rudina Vojvoda
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Arielle Breland	Jilian Gersten	Ben Levy	Naamah Paley	David Smith	
Tatjana Cakulev	Patrick Gremban	Brandon Lewis	Gregg Pasternack	Julie Smith	

THANK YOU!

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

Carol M. Adams	Claudia Dihlmann-Ngai	Sarah Harris	Serena Kuo	Mira Oreck	Cecilia Schmidt
Meki Adefris	Shannon Dressler	Kimber Heinz	Alexis Langsfeld	Tommaso Ortino	Theresa Sgobba
Morenike Allen	Liz Edelstein	Kimberly M. Hendler	Laura	Loiza Ortiz	Gary Shaffer
Ana Christina	Jaz Ellis	Jessy Hodges	Edward Lee, Jr.	Owen	Robin Simmen
Christina Antonakos-Wallace	Rose Engel	Christopher Hsia	Myron Levine	Isabel Pagan	Fabiola G. Bergi Simpson
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Bridget Burns	Mara Grbenick	Sonia Katyal	Brittany Mitchell	Katie Rollins	Steven Varni
Jessica Cassity	Julia Greenberg	Karen Kenyon	Peira Moinester	Simeon Rose	Damien Vandercruyssen
Margaret Clixby	Rebecca Greenberg	Emily Kerzin	Nell Muldoon	Barbara Rosenthal	Tanya Wardally
Sam Coleman	Julia Greene	Kate King	<i>New York Magazine</i>	James Sadek	Ciera Wells
Andrew Corless	Jennifer Gunnell	Rachel Koenig	<i>The New York Times</i>	Shiri Sandler	Brandon West
David	Benjamin Haber	Eva Kolodner	Gareth O'Brien	Damani D. Saunderson	Toby Williams
Marilia Destot	Jenny Hall	Maria Elena Kolovos	Casey O'Shea	Clay Schaub	Chris Wolf
	Linda Harris	Devis Krug	Oldeni	Jorg Schimmel	Alison Wonderland

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!

