

Established  
1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE



Volume EE, Number 7

April 7, 2011

## The General Meeting: Attendance Up But Attention Down

By Ed Levy



Attendance at GMs has increased dramatically since the two-credits-per-year policy went into effect, but as many have observed, some are paying more attention to their iPads, iPods, cell phones, laptops, Kindles and novels than they are to the meeting.

Chair Committee member David Moss suggested that this may be due to not just the size of the meeting but the configuration of the room. Those in the back, sitting on the mats, can't see, or be seen by those who are running the meeting or speaking to a point. Another Chair Committee member admitted that before she was on the committee "it was really nice to be able to go back there and stretch and get my shopping list done." The issue isn't confined to people sitting on the mats, however.

While multitasking has become a normal part of our society, there are many com-

plex issues decided at the GM that require focus and concentration, observed one member. She noted that the effects of people's inattention could be magnified when important issues are decided by a few votes. Already, she felt, there is a problem of excessive deference at general meetings—of people simply waiting to find out what staff members think about an issue in order to make up their own minds.

No one the *Gazette* spoke to was in favor of "policing" the meetings. One member said he would rather look at ways to make people more interested in what's going on than

in ways to crack down. Other people variously described the situation as "disappointing," "disrespectful," and "robbing the meeting."

Longtime member Stephanie Golden commented that this was an inevitable result of offering credit for attending a GM. "General Meetings," she said, "can be incredibly tedious and anyone who either isn't passionate about the issues or doesn't happen to be one of those people who likes meetings could have difficulty staying engaged. When the Coop was small there was a larger proportion of people who cared about

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## Imagining the Perfect Summer Vacation

Camp Common Ground

By Frank Haberle

Planning a family vacation is never easy. Finding a welcoming place that shares your commitment to low environmental impact, diversity and healthy food—while offering fun, excitement and enrichment for the entire family—is harder still.



Nestled between the Green and Hogback Mountain ranges in Vermont, Camp Common Ground is a 700-acre family camp that was launched in 1994 as a non-profit by a group of Brooklyn transplants. Today at Camp Common Ground, families can spend a week focusing on creative expression, fun, great food and community.

Many families return each year to Camp Common Ground, making new friends in the communal atmosphere and unwinding from busy lives in Brooklyn (many Park Slope residents are regulars) and around the globe. "We have families from all over the United States and other countries," reports

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### Next General Meeting on April 26

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month.\* The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 26, 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

- Fri, Apr 8 • Blood Drive** 11:00–6:00 p.m.
- Sat, Apr 9 • Blood Drive** 11:00–6:00 p.m.
- Sun, Apr 10 • Wordsprouts: Group Reading at Union Hall** 5:00–6:30 p.m.
- Tue, Apr 12 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: A Farm in Danger & The Garden** 7:00 p.m.
- Fri, Apr 15 • Coffeehouse** 8:00 p.m.

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

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## Attendance Up

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democracy, other political issues, alternative economic models, and so on—versus people who just wanted cheap food. Now it's so large, I think there are naturally relatively fewer people who care about such issues. Maybe not paying attention at GMs is an indicator of a larger issue to do with the Coop's increase in size."

No one spoke in favor of eliminating workslot credit altogether, a policy that nurtures and trains members in Coop democracy, and in the democratic process itself. But some wondered if the two credits per year rule were making the meetings unwieldy.

There were a number of other practical suggestions for addressing the problem.

### Change the Sign-In

One member suggested the way that people sign in for credit doesn't communicate that the meeting should be taken seriously as a workshift. People sign an attendance book as they exit the meeting. This means that people can come late—as late as they want. You could, theoretically, spend the evening at the Community Bookstore or even shopping at the Coop, stroll over to Garfield Place at 8:30, and sign the book on your way in. Admittedly, this would not have much effect on

people who are wandering in cyberspace, the member noted, but it would probably send a stronger signal that the Coop takes the workslot credit policy seriously, which might in turn affect how seriously attendees take it, too.

Several people suggested that if the sign-in were at the beginning, someone could be posted downstairs or just inside the auditorium for a period of time, for example, forty-five minutes, to take the names of those attending for credit.

*One member said he would rather look at ways to make people more interested in what's going on than in ways to crack down.*

After that, people could still enter the meeting but not for credit. Another suggestion called for a card scanner set up at the entrance to scan everyone in. The scanner would be linked wirelessly to the Coop's computers. That would also create an accurate timestamp, which would eliminate the possibility of conflicts over whether someone was really late, or the attendance taker's heirloom watch was off by a few seconds.

Changing and automating the sign-in would also eliminate some of the confusion that now exists between the workslot sign-in book and

the GM sign-in book, which floats around during the meeting. In fact, that book is itself a source of distraction in the meeting, with members swiveling heads, waving hands, and whispering to find out where it goes next, or asking what happened to the pencil. In an age when the cursor on your computer can easily be controlled by someone on the other side of the world, both sign-in books are seeming more and more archaic.

### Reverse the Hall

The hall, as any GM attendee knows, has a somewhat odd arrangement. There are people sitting on folding chairs facing the front, and behind them are others, out of sight of those chairing the meeting, sitting on mats used by schoolchildren during the week. And not everyone is sitting. Some are reclining, or half reclining; others are in various asanas. The atmosphere on the mats can get a little soporific, said one member. This region of the room could perhaps be compared to what used to be called in Italian history *irredenta*—land that was historically part of the nation but needs to be reclaimed.

Since it would be inconvenient to move the mats, and many like them for legitimate reasons that have nothing to do with wanting to check their email, (such as childcare, nursing, back problems, and so on) a simple solution would be to move the "front" of the meeting to the back and rotate the chairs 180 degrees. This would put the mat dwellers in the front, allowing them to see the speakers instead of the backs of the people sitting in the chairs. It would bring them fully into the meeting, and it would have the added benefit of making it less comfortable for the small minority who engage in non-meeting-related pursuits to do so.

### Improve the Request

Another member suggested that the chair make the request for attention more explicit, and perhaps make it two or three times in the evening. The announcement to turn off cell phones could be expanded to include all mobile devices and non-meeting related materials, and coupled with an appeal for people to give the meeting their full attention. The announcement could be

## Coop Job Opening: Membership Coordinator

### Description:

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

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

<b>Hours:</b>	Approx. 39 hours in 5 days/week: Thursday–Monday. Weekday schedule will be afternoon/evening hours (some shifts until 11:00 p.m.). Saturday and Sunday hours will vary, though shifts are between 5 and 8 hours in length.
<b>Wages:</b>	\$23.88/hour.
<b>Benefits:</b>	—Health insurance —Pension plan/401(k) plans —Vacation—three weeks/year increasing in the 4th, 7th & 10th years —Health and Personal time

### How to Apply:

Please provide your résumé along with a cover letter explaining your relevant qualifications, skills and experience. Materials should be e-mailed to [hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop](mailto:hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop). Please put "Membership Coordinator" in the subject field. Applicants will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their materials. Please do not call the Office to check on the status of your application. Applications will be reviewed and interviews scheduled on a rolling basis until the position has been filled. If you applied to a previous Coop job offering, please re-submit your materials.

### Probation Period:

There will be a six-month probation period.

### Prerequisite:

Must be a current member of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least six months immediately prior to application.

No Membership Office experience necessary to submit application materials. However, in order to be considered for an interview, applicants must have worked at least four shifts in the Membership Office. After submitting your materials, if you wish to schedule shifts in the Office please contact the Coop at [hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop](mailto:hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop). Please put "Schedule Shifts" in the subject field.

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

seen as the verbal equivalent of gaveling the meeting back to order. A cell phone-iPod-Kindle paragraph could also be added to the new handout, GM 101, which people now take as they enter the meeting.

### Start a 'People of Walmart' Coop Webpage

One member offered up a fantasy. He referred to what he called the irresistible, horrifying, disrespectful, and condescending website, [www.peopleofwalmart.com](http://www.peopleofwalmart.com),

that displays candid photographs of unsuspecting Walmart customers, in all their eccentric glory. Why not, he suggested, take photos of mobile-device obsessed GM attendees, and put them online or in the next *Gazette*? Just as the Puritans put moral offenders in stocks in the public square, we could expose those whose attention wandered from the financial report to check their Facebook page. But even he admitted, this punishment is probably a bridge too far. ■

### CORRECTION

In our story "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," printed in the March 24, 2011, issue, we said Alison Rosa Clark belonged to the Future Consumers Coop in Seattle. In fact, she was part of the Puget Consumers Coop. The *Linewaiters' Gazette* regrets this error.

## Vacation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Carole Blaine, CCG program director and longtime visitor. "We have families that represent varied lifestyles, cultures, economic levels, family configurations. One of our slogans is 'Whoever is family by you is family by us.'"

Veteran Coop member Martha Siegel, a steadfast CCG camper, supporter and teacher, remembers the origins of Camp Common Ground. "Before 1990, all our kids were in childcare together at the Park Slope Childcare Collective. That was the year that the founders, Jim Mendell and Peg Kamens and their children moved up to Burlington and eventually founded Camp Common Ground. It was their dream to start some form of collective community, which in 1994 became a family camp."

*"There's things like tennis and music. But mostly they have the opportunity to be kids, running barefoot up and down the hill and over to the giant rock."*

As Martha remembers it, "For the first year it was in a pre-existing camp near Rutland, Vermont. Then for the next 10 years it was on Grand Isle, on Lake Champlain. Finally, Peg and Jim, after searching for several years, found its current location in Starksboro, Vermont, between Bristol and Burlington." Martha points out that Peg and Jim, and the rest of the devotees of Common Ground Center, are committed to improving the camp experience each summer. "I've gone since the first summer in 1994 at the first location, when my kids were seven and nine years old. The only summer I did not go was in 2004, when the cabins were being constructed. But my son Russ, now 26 years old, did go that summer and helped build the cabins." Russ remains very active promoting and supporting the camp year-round.

Martha returns for two weeks every summer to teach string instruments and chamber music to any and all campers who attend camp. "By the end of each week," she says, "we give a chamber music concert. It's truly amazing what can be accomplished



ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

in such a short time. Even though I teach full time, here in Brooklyn, I'm absolutely thrilled to teach full time at Camp Common Ground."

### Programs for Young and Old

At CCG, program offerings differ from week to week. Examples include Watercolors, Massage, Guitar, Drumming, Hiking, Glass work, Chamber Music, and Dance. Explaining the program philosophy, Carole, who has been coming with her husband and growing children for the past decade, says, "Camp Common Ground was always envisioned as a place for each member of the family to explore relationships and learn new skills. We pride ourselves on offering truly exceptional adult programs led by professionals (no "arts and crafts" for adults at CCG) meaning that an art class is taught by an artist, our glass studio is run by a glass artist. Our dance classes are led by a choreographer/dancer from New York. We offer Non Violent Communication skills and all are constantly working on our communication. We are able to attract this level of professionalism because our teachers bring their families and are committed to our mission. They love camp! Many have been coming since day one and would never consider a summer without camp." Carole cites Martha's music classes as one exciting example of the program's offerings. "She teaches kids and adults to play an instrument in one week! I personally have performed in several of her Chamber Music Recitals never having touched a violin and only playing it at camp. My daughter learned to play twinkle-twinkle when she was five—in one week—and now plays cello at camp with Martha. There are a myriad of these stories... people learning new skills, more about themselves and others and connecting on all levels including to

nature and beauty."

Carole points out that the kids learn skills too. "There's things like tennis and music. But mostly they have the opportunity to be kids, running barefoot up and down the hill and over to the giant rock and onto the recycled playground structure. Many children who have some separation challenges find it possible to participate in Kidville knowing that parents are available if need be. This is the beauty of family camp. The teen group last year built several theme based putt-putt holes for camper use and developed leadership skills, team work skills and construction skills all at the same time."

"Kids are in heaven at Camp Common Ground," Martha adds. "It is a very safe, trusting environment. Everyone looks out for each other's kids. Friendships form instantly."

Beyond the weekly camping sessions, CCG hosts several special programs each year: Lost Arts Weekend, designed for Homeschooling Families; Camp Kaleidoscope for families with children on the Autism Spectrum, and a Chinese Cultural Weekend for families with adopted children of Chinese origin.

### Low-Impact Programming and High-Quality Vegetarian Dining

From a new self-sustaining eco-lodge to solar power for water and heat, CCG's grounds reflect its investment in creating a low carbon footprint and educating others on ways to be greener also. "Valuing our interdependence with the natural environment by maintaining a low carbon footprint, recycling and repurposing is one of our guiding principles," Carole says. "The vegetarian component is really interest-

ing. We always strive to provide the best quality, local and organic where possible. People love our food. Surprisingly, most of our campers are not vegetarians. When we introduced the idea of providing a 'meat' option during the brainstorming session with our Board and campers at our annual meeting, the discussion lasted several hours and we came out committed to the idea that a vegetarian diet is better for the planet. We endeavor to offer alternatives by example and education to a high meat-based diet. Our campers really appreciate the opportunity to explore new patterns of eating at camp that are transferable to home."

As a nonprofit organization, Camp Common Ground offers its program at a sliding scale fee to ensure that families from all walks of life can enjoy the experience. CCG raises funds to support these opportunities through an annual phone-a-thon fundraiser, camper donations and community service opportunities as part of the program. "We work very hard to make it financially feasible for everyone to be able to come. Probably over 75% of our families benefit by taking advantage of the sliding scale or receiving scholarships," Carole adds. "Our goal is to welcome all." ■

*Camp Common Ground will host an Open House on April 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Martha Siegel's home, at 296 16th Street (up the steps) Please RSVP at 718-965-3916.*

## What Is That? How Do I Use It? Food Tours in the Coop

Everyone is looking forward to spring — the longer, warmer days the flowers, the fresh start and all the rest

But somewhere, just underneath is a feeling of unease a kind of desperation that somehow we'll miss it — that it will come and pass us by that we have to seize it and make it our own or we'll be left out still cold

Here's the trick: we see out with our eyes Instead let the world stream in through our eyes

The purple clouds turning to rose in the new morning — let them flow into your body

The crowds at the train station — move into you not you through them

The purple crocus spangling the winter grass — bloom inside you

It's a small shift with big movement a shift from grasping to one of receiving

Turn GET Into RECEIVE and you will never miss anything

Your every day will be a blessing

The Park Slope Food Coop Receiving each day, every day

by Myra Klockenbrink

**Mondays** April 11 & 25  
noon to 1:00 p.m.  
and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

**You can join in any time during a tour.**



### The Diversity and Equality Committee Seeks New Members

#### Are you interested in Issues of Diversity, Equality and Inclusion?

The Diversity and Equality Committee is dedicated to improving human relations and communication in all policies and procedures in the Coop. Our goal is to work toward preventing and eliminating discrimination in the Coop. If you are interested in issues of diversity, equality and inclusion, you can help us to achieve our goals by becoming a member of the DEC.

We are currently seeking new members, with experience in conflict resolution and mediation, interviewing, and leading and organizing workshops, ideally around diversity. General computer skills and editing and writing skills are also helpful.

#### Requirements:

- Must be a member for at least one year
  - Have good attendance record
- Attend monthly committee meetings on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Participate in subcommittee work as needed

#### We seek members who are reflective of the diversity of the Coop membership.

If interested, please send an email with your name, PSFC member number, and details of your relevant experience to [reply@psfc.coop](mailto:reply@psfc.coop). Please put "Diversity and Equality" in the subject line.

## Attention Coop Squad Leaders!

- Do you want your shift to operate more smoothly?
- Are there folks on your squad who seem to irritate one another, and it's difficult to see what the problem is?
- When a conflict occurs between shoppers during your shift, what can you do to ease the situation on the spot?
- Do you know what resources are available for people who want to follow up?

The Park Slope Food Coop's Diversity and Equality Committee is holding a series of workshops for Squad Leaders (and other squad reps who are not Squad Leaders).

The goal of the two-hour workshop is to increase awareness and understanding of diversity in the Coop. Through interactive discussions we will talk about the values of diversity, how differences can create both collaboration and conflict and strategies for dealing with issues of diversity. We will discuss conflicts that have arisen in the Coop, the findings of the diversity survey and what you can do to make the Coop a more welcoming place for all.

Saturday, May 14  
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 26  
7 – 9 p.m.

Saturday, June 4  
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 23  
7 – 9 p.m.

Please call 888-922-COOP (2667) box 89 or send an e-mail to [reply@psfc.coop](mailto:reply@psfc.coop) (with "SL Training" in the subject line) to confirm your attendance and/or for more information.

In either case, please tell us your name, Coop member number, contact information and the date you are interested in attending. We will reply with a confirmation within a week.

Diversity and Equality Committee  
PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP

Workslot credit (make-up or FTOP) is available to those who attend.

# RAFFLE

TO SUPPORT  
CHENANGO DELAWARE OTSEGO  
GAS DRILLING OPPOSITION GROUP



1st Prize: Schwinn Coffee Cruiser Bike

2nd Prize: \$100 VISA Gift Card

3rd Prize: \$25 VISA Gift Card

4th Prize(s): Park Slope Food Coop T-shirt

**\$5.00 tickets** on sale in the Membership Office beginning Monday, March 14th.  
*Drawing to be held on Monday, May 2nd.*

Please show your support of the Coop's campaign to protect New York's watershed and foodshed and support local farmers. More information about hydraulic fracturing gas drilling (hydrofracking) in New York State is available at [ecokvetch.blogspot.com](http://ecokvetch.blogspot.com).

Schwinn bike donated by Cliff bars. Gift cards donated by Small Planet Foods (makers of Cascadian Foods, Larabar, and Muir Glen). T-shirts donated by the Park Slope Food Coop.



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

Looking for  
something new?

Check out the Coop's  
products blog.

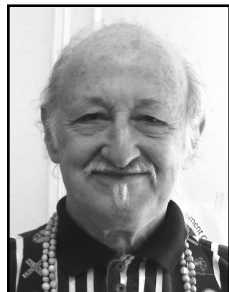
The place to go for the  
latest information  
on our current  
product inventory.

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

# Candidates for Board of Directors of the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc.

**One three-year term is open. To vote you may use a proxy or be present at the Food Coop Annual Meeting on June 28, 2011. Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates at the Annual Meeting. Candidate Statements (unedited and presented in alphabetical order):**

## ALBERT SOLOMON



Why haven't more people found the deceptive and profoundly undemocratic government of the Co-Op to be a serious problem? In my seventeen years of advocating for government reform here I've heard and thought about many reasons.

Such reform would require fundamental change. Therefore it's hard to see the consequences without prolonged and farsighted thinking, which can be demanding.

"You're not the only person who's told me just a few people rule the Co-Op, and I've gotten the same impression from some of my own experiences. However the Co-Op seems to run well and it's very useful to me, so I'm not willing to rock the boat."

"I think it's a good cause but my advocacy time is all filled up with other issues at the moment."

My own experience with a new democracy has provided a reality check on what "democracy" can and cannot do. In many ways, democracy has been sadly destructive to The Pacifica Foundation. But the same could be said for the lack of democracy at our Co-Op.

"How would the Co-Op be different under a democratic regime?" No one can predict the future, but here are a few things that were deceptively or imperiously rammed through by Management: The pension plan might be different if they hadn't frozen out other members who proposed a different one. Someone might have been fired for the retention of the scanning soft-

ware that wouldn't work for two years. The brutish sacking of the Construction Committee and its plans dismembered a promising and striking design for our new building. The removal of the cheese case was done without proper notice. It should have been a referendum! It seemed that the membership wanted to continue item pricing after the scanners finally started to work. But Joe Holtz deceptively supported it at two general meetings, then squashed it. It too should have been a referendum!

Over the years, many changes small and large might have been different. Today we allow red meat, beer, chemical additives, and simple sugars. With a single vote we gave up requiring Management to notify the Membership of increases in staff. We have a professionally boring and top-down Gazette that prints 3,000 copies at untold cost. And a Disciplinary Hearing Committee that keeps getting larger and larger. We still have the oppressive and unnecessary Family Rule, and of course the alluring but noxious town meeting form of government.

And what's so bad about the government? Since the Board of Directors has given up its power, there are no elected representatives. So the institutional memory of the Co-Op has been essentially co-opted by the permanent cadre.

Hence, with our version of the "town-meeting" form of government, management can claim we are "democratic" and that "everyone has a say," when nothing of the sort is really going on.

Under factionalized but fair and transparent management by elected delegates, yes, I could see quite a few of these things being different. And whatever the

outcome, I can definitely see a great many members feeling empowered and owning the results, rather than snoozing over their laptops at general meetings.

As a Director I would aggressively promote governmental change by every means at my disposal. I would exercise Director's Right of Inspection to review the functions of the Co-Op and make public the results. I would develop a set of motions to be voted down at every BOD meeting, including that they should meet outside the general meetings.

Maybe we should have a Committee to Apply The Sociological Imagination to some of our ridiculous problems. Long ago Max Weber used the words "routinization of charisma" to describe the miasma that has become our Co-Op's government and morale. The Family Rule and the Town Meeting were probably appropriate and fair to a stable group of less than 300 people.

A larger, older group is a totally different organism than before. Different people are attracted, and see their roles differently. That is how we can have 25% annual turnover in membership, and a quintessentially insensitive response like Jess Robinson's in l'Af-faire Glestia (Letters of January 27th and February 24th), and hardly anyone seems to notice. The same structure that was a purveyor of community can become a purveyor of tyranny.

It is an honor to run for the Board for the ninth time (approximately), and an honor not to have the endorsement of the Management. I thank you for your serious consideration of my candidacy.

Albert B. Solomon  
hobces@yahoo.com  
718-768-9079 ■

## BILL PENNER



I am writing to ask for your support for reelection as one of the six members of the Board of Directors of the Coop. My candidacy has been endorsed by the Coop's General Coordinators.

I have been a member of the Coop for eleven years. In addition to serving on the Board of

Directors for the last five years, I have served on both the receiving committee and on the CHIPS soup kitchen committee preparing meals with food donated by the Coop. In my work outside the Coop, I am a principal in an architectural firm that I created nine years ago in Brooklyn. And prior to receiving a degree in architecture, I apprenticed as a chef and cooked professionally for 6 years. The Coop is an important part of my life; it is a place where I connect with my passion for food and realize the significance of food and food production in our society as a cultural, environmental, and economic force of incredible importance.

Because the Coop is a corporation, it is required to have a board of directors. Our Board of Directors meets every month in public at the General Meeting. At the General Meeting, any Coop member can present an item for discussion or make a proposal to be

debated and voted on by the Coop membership present. At the end of the Meeting, the Board of Directors vote on taking the advice of the membership. This is how the Coop combines its corporate structure with its town hall style of democracy.

In my opinion, there is often confusion as to the primary role of the Board of Directors within the Coop's decision-making process. I believe an important distinction is that the Board's role is one of oversight rather than one of advocacy. Each member of the Board has a responsibility to act to the benefit of the Coop as a whole not to any one constituency or group. Proposals covering many different topics are presented, debated and voted on by all members at the General meeting. However, when the Board of Directors vote, I base my decision to the best of my ability on three criteria: 1) Will a proposal ratified by the General Meeting jeopardize the financial health of the Coop? 2) Will the proposal expose the Coop to unnecessary legal risk? 3) Does the proposal violate the spirit of the Coop's own by-laws? Historically, it has been extremely rare that the Board votes to overturn a decision made at a General meeting. I believe that this is testament to the strength of our democratic process and the commitment both the members and the paid staff place on contributing to that process.

The last 10 years have been a period of incredible growth and change at the Coop. The Coop's financial

health remains strong, and I believe as a Board member it is critical to be committed to helping maintain our financial strength. Our low prices, created as a result of the Coop's financial stability and efficiencies, enable many people to benefit from fresh wholesome food while supporting the Coop community and values. The amount of money that members save at the Coop is substantial; in fact, our members save millions of dollars each year shopping at the Coop! This savings is true power for people of all economic backgrounds and allows members to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families while supporting the environmental and the social missions of the Coop.

I have been honored to have had the opportunity to serve the Coop as a member of Board of Directors. I am always amazed at the breadth of talent and energy members contribute, and I still believe that each Meeting is an opportunity to learn something new so that I can be better prepared to play my role in what is truly a unique community. The late President of the Board, Israel Fishman, used to say that the Coop saved his life—the different viewpoints and different people all working together for a common purpose gave him the perspective and patience to see beyond himself towards what was really important. I am reminded of this cherished thought each time I attend a Meeting and when I shop.

Cooperatively Yours,  
Bill Penner ■

## THE ROLE OF THE BOARD

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the monthly General Meeting has been the decision-making body of the Coop. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a board of Directors.

The Bylaws of the Park Slope Food Coop state: "The portion of the Board of Directors meeting that is devoted to receiving the advice of the

members shall be known as the General Meeting.... The members who gather to give advice to the directors may choose to vote in order to express their support or opposition for any of the issues that have come before the meeting."

The Board of Directors conducts a vote at the end of every General Meeting on whether to accept the advice of the members as expressed in their vote(s) during the GM.

## THE ELECTION PROCESS

Each year the Coop must, by law, hold an Annual Meeting. This is the only meeting where proxies can be used. Those members who cannot attend the Annual Meeting may be represented, if they wish, by a proxy.

If you submit a proxy but come to the Annual Meeting in person, your proxy will be returned to you when you register.

Members who have a current membership as of Saturday, June 18, 2011, are eligible to vote in the election of Directors at the Annual Meeting either in person or by proxy.

Proxy packets are mailed to members in mid-May. If you do not receive a packet, please call the Membership Office or pick one up at the entrance door of the Coop. ■

# VALET IS ON

# BIKE PARKING HERE SUNDAYS!



Every Sunday through November 20, 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**



**park slope  
FOOD COOP**

## Complete your shift hours outside of the Food Coop with Green Worker Cooperatives 2011 Coop Academy

**Trainers**

Business planning, project management, finances, green business, marketing, sales, communication, anti-oppression, team building, democratic meeting process, management, human resources

**Mentors**

Entrepreneurs with stories to share

**Creators**

Web developers, graphic artists, lawyers, photographers, videographers, Spanish/English translators, and administrative support

Interested in putting in your hours with us?  
To register or inquire more info visit [www.greenworker.coop](http://www.greenworker.coop)  
or send an email to [info@greenworker.coop](mailto:info@greenworker.coop)

## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!

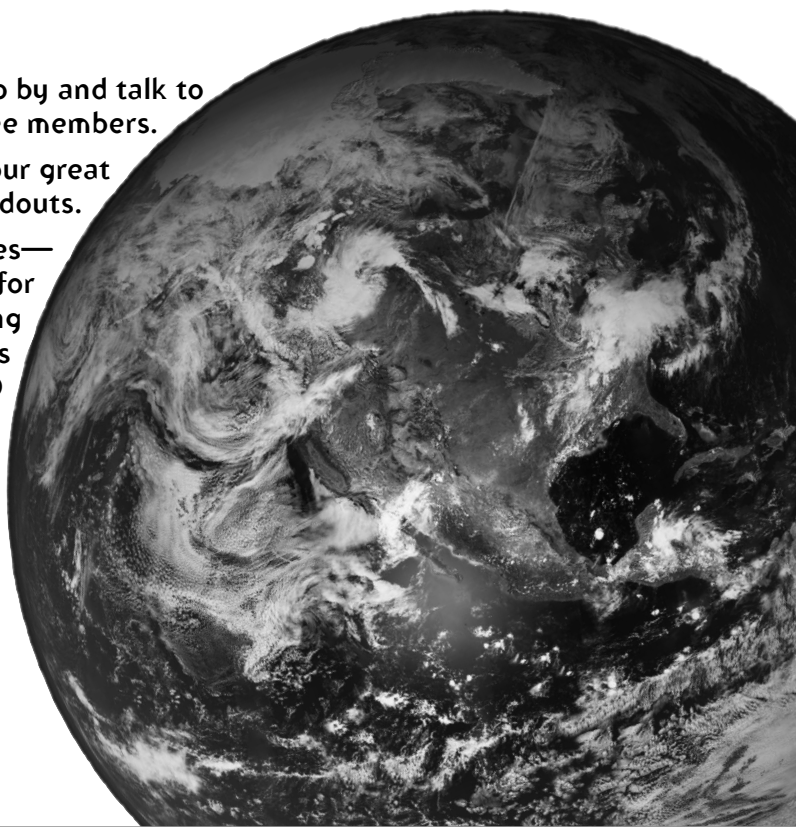
The Environmental Committee will be tabling outside the Coop along with members of the Safe Food and Recycling Committees and the Genetically Modified Organisms Shelf Labeling Squad.

**Sunday, April 10**  
**9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

Stop by and talk to committee members.

Pick up some of our great handouts.

Bring your old batteries—we'll collect them for recycling (spent alkaline batteries size AAA through D and nine-volts only).



## JOIN NOFA!



NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING  
ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

In honor of Earth Day, the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY) will be hosting a membership drive outside the Food Coop on **Sunday, April 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

By joining NOFA, you help to create a larger voice for the organic movement, so that we as a body can make the most impact in creating a healthy New York State food system.

During the Park Slope membership drive, NOFA is offering a \$10 annual membership (75% discount!).

Park Slope Food Coop is an active Business Member of NOFA-NY.



# Bad Bananas Boast Coop Labels by Artist on GMO Labeling Committee

By Alison Rose Levy

California native Jeff Faerber is a Park Slope-based artist whose work runs the gamut from paintings to illustrations to books. Jeff has been a member of the Park Slope Food Coop for over ten years, where he serves on the GMO Shelf Labeling Committee creating graphic art work, posters, layouts, designing brochures and the like.

Faerber stands in firm opposition to GMO foods. He recognizes that many of the people he knows want GMO-containing foods to be labeled. When they aren't labeled, "people don't recognize what they are buying. There are just so many contradictions."

Explaining how he got interested in GMOs, Faerber says, "I have a natural distrust of what people tell you is safe. The more I looked into the work of Jeff Smith, GMO expert and the author of *Seeds of Deception*, the more I saw that we know too little to be using GMOs so widely, and what we know isn't good." Faerber gives credence to the words of Michael Pollan, who writes, "Don't eat anything that has a big advertising budget."

One of Faerber's prime objections to GMOs is that they are bred to be pesticide resistant, which increases the use of herbicides, he says. "It's easier for farmers to use crop dusters, and this has doubled and tripled the use of herbicides, also made by Monsanto. They are double-dipping."

Faerber is concerned about the dead zone in the Gulf, a huge bloom of chemicals which has killed off all life forms that is approximately the size of the state of New Jersey. It's located where the runoff from pesticide-laden agriculture in the Midwest enters the Mississippi, where it flows downstream to empty into the Gulf of Mexico.

"It's hard to feel good about your country when no one can swim in your rivers because they will get sick."

When children's book author Karl Beckstrand asked Faerber to illustrate his fifth picture book, *Bad Bananas –A Story Cookbook for Kids*, Faerber liked the concept immediately. He saw the potential for some lively and fun illustrations of bananas with piercings and spiked hair, and he also saw an opportunity to work in food awareness, by sneaking some surprise details into the

book's illustrations. In fact, he snuck in labels.

"It wasn't inherent in the text itself but I brought in non-organic and organic labels to distinguish the Bad Bananas of the book's title from good ones," Faerber says. He doesn't view this as proselytizing. He regards his special details, as "a wink and a nod to those in the know."

*Bad Bananas* is a hybrid. It's a story, an activity book that parents and children can read and use together, and it also contains recipes using, you guessed it, bananas.

"It didn't start as a cookbook," says Beckstrand, "but my editor thought it would be the perfect activity book—saving families from those 'I'm bored' moments." *Bad Bananas –A Story Cookbook for Kids* dramatizes the short (shelf) life of a renegade bunch—offering great recipes kids can use, even when a banana starts to go "bad."

We all know how bananas go bad in real life, but how do the book's bananas go bad? First, the bananas are characters who evolve from goodness, to badness, and finally to redemption. Is *Bad Bananas* perchance a morality tale too? Or is it just a rollicking romp through badness that any kid can relish? In the book's portrayal, young bananas begin life innocently enough, green, firm, polite, and tight in their community. In Faerber's illustrations, these bananas sport neat red or blue sneakers; they are basically conformists, the book's text admits.

As they turn a warm and friendly yellow, it's time to bring them home. In Faerber's illustration, golden bananas in their prime boast organic and fair trade labels, subtle signs of their health pedigree. But when bananas mature into banana adolescence, certain predictable behaviors flourish. "Soon they start sneaking rides on fruit hats—or taking the fruit bowl out for late night spins," Beckstrand writes. As banana-ine behavior goes

from bad to worse, Jeff Faerber's illustrations follow suit. When they become a "bad influence on other fruit, hanging out in pears on corners," Faerber depicts a banana with a mean look, sideways baseball cap, and unfair trade sticker, flanked by two tough looking pears. All three fruit sport goatees, and glower at a trembling strawberry.

"No longer good for breakfast," a pair of spotted banana pals, replete with skateboards and chain links, are snubbed by an aloof orange.

As Faerber next portrays them, they have sticker tattoos, pierced peels and wild hair. "If they hang out long on countertops they may become a bad influence on other fruit," says Beckstrand, "or start turf wars with rival bunches."

Finally it comes to a point when a lone derelict banana (complete with piercings and heavy metal) declares, "I'll clean up my act when I'm good and ready."

When one pal performs some slippery banana peel action to trip up a senior, his trio of banana cohorts collapse in gleeful laughter and give each other high fives, when the lady reprimands them, "Bad bananas!" By now, in illustrations, the sneakers have been replaced by cowboy boots.

"You can throw them in the cooler, but that just makes them more off color," Beckstrand writes of a rotting banana leering at a tomato who tells him to "chill out!"

But just when they seem least redeemable, Beckstrand turns their stunts into recipes. In one "scary stunt" a banana with spiky hair slips on his skateboard and winds up in a blender as Beckstrand helpfully provides an easy recipe for a Banana Smoothie, which parents and kids can make and enjoy together.

"In the end, the worst bananas get fried or put away for good."

In this charming story, even a bad banana can turn



Jeff Faerber, proud illustrator of the book *Bad Bananas-A Story Cookbook for Kids*

PHOTO BY ROD MORRISON

out good—"even delicious!" *Bad Bananas* contains a handful of easy recipes that kids can make with parental help. Even when bananas have gone bad, they can still be used in banana muffins, cookies, smoothies and pancakes. A recipe for Banana Redemption Bread uses three to four ripe bananas, along with applesauce, eggs, honey, yogurt, nuts and chocolate chips.

"They're not only tasty, they're right-carb, low-sugar recipes," says the book's author.

Jeff Faerber is currently preparing for an art show in Berlin. His work can be seen on his website, [www.jefffaerber.com](http://www.jefffaerber.com), and *Bad Bananas* is available on Amazon.com. ■

Follow the Food Coop on twitter



@foodcoop

## Sudoku

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

Puzzle author: James Vasile. For answers, see page 16.

**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.

**Friday  
Apr 15**

**8:00 p.m.**

## very The Good Coffeehouse

COOP CONCERT SERIES

A monthly musical  
fundraising partnership of  
the Park Slope  
Food Coop and  
the Brooklyn Society  
for Ethical Culture

**Matt Garrison**, bass, keys, vox, pedals, flowgramming, audio manipulation. This



music travels the sonic palette of World, Electronic, Folk, Improvisational, Structured Jazz. Garrison's work over the last 20 years with artists such as Herbie Hancock, Joe Zawinul, John McLaughlin, John Scofield, Chaka Khan, Joni Mitchell, Whitney Houston, solidifies his status as one of the leading torch bearers of modern music expression.

**Cynthia Hiltz** — internationally renowned jazz pianist, vocalist and composer —

invites burningly effervescent saxophonist **Tina Richers**

for a set with Hiltz' trio and extended musical family. This is jazz at its finest — mesmerizing original compositions and masterful improvisation by a posse of musical souls with sensitivity, fire and a good dose of organic rambunctiousness.



**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**

**APRIL 9**

**10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.**

**Third Thursday**

**APRIL 21**

**7:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.**

**Last Sunday**

**APRIL 24**

**10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.**

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

# PLASTICS

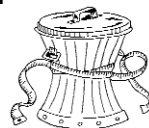
**What plastics do we accept?  
Until further notice:**

- #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:**

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Puzzle Master: Stuart Marquis

Final Proofreader: Nancy Rosenberg

Index: Len Neufeld





WORKSLOT NEEDS

## IT Department seeks FTOP workers

### Java Developers

The Coop is looking for help developing our next generation applications. We are looking for members who program in Java and have some experience with all or some of the following technologies:

- Eclipse
- JFC/Swing
- JDBC
- JasperReports/iReports

If you are interested in using your programming skills to help make the Coop better and receive FTOP work credit, please contact [it.ftop@psfc.coop](mailto:it.ftop@psfc.coop).

### Mac Sys Admins

The Coop is looking for help maintaining and streamlining the administration of our MAC workstations. We need members that have experience administering Mac OSX systems. You do not have to be a full-time admin. In addition to admin experience, the following technologies will be useful:

- Experience on Mac OS X 10.6+
- Scripting (Applescript, Bash shell script, Python, etc.)
- Experience installing memory, changing hard drives, cleaning internals, etc.)
- Experience repairing and maintaining printers

If you are interested in helping the IT group improve our workstation administration and receive FTOP work credit, please contact

[it.ftop@psfc.coop](mailto:it.ftop@psfc.coop).

To be considered, you must be a Coop member for at least six months and have a good attendance record. Please realize that Coop IT staff members need to spend their time bringing you on-board these projects, so only apply if you see this as a long-term means of fulfilling your work commitment.

## Check-Writing

**Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:45 p.m.**

You will transfer information from vouchers on to checks to pay some of the Coop bills. Neat and legible handwriting, particularly writing digits, a must. You will be working independently, so a good attendance history is required. Workslot is open to members who have been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

# 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](http://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](http://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](http://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, APR 26**

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

**TUE, MAY 3**

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the May 24 General Meeting.

## Gazette Deadlines

### LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Apr 21 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Apr 11  
May 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Apr 25

### CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Apr 21 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Apr 13  
May 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Apr 27

## 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, April 26, 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-up 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

## apr 8-9 fri-sat 11 am-6 pm **Blood Drive**

Fact: Less than 3% of the population donates blood, and 90% will use blood some time in their life. Presented in cooperation with New York Methodist Hospital. For further information about blood donation, call 718-780-3644.

## apr 10 sun 12 pm **Babywearing 101**

Learn about the five basic types of carriers (wraps, ring slings, pouches, mei tais and soft-structured carriers). We will focus on safe and comfortable carrying for newborns through toddlers. We will bring demonstration carriers, and parents are encouraged to bring the carriers they already have to get help with fit and positioning. The workshop will be taught by two experienced babywearing parents: **Lisa Brundage**, Coop member for 10 years and Brooklyn co-leader of Slings in the City for three years. **Amy Takemoto** is a babywearing mom of two children and has been Brooklyn co-leader of Slings in the City for four and a half years.

## apr 10 sun 5-6:30 pm **Wordsprouts: Group Reading**



A group reading of Coop authors at The Union Hall, 702 Union St., 718-638-4400. Authors will include Tom Angotti, Michele Carlo, Louise Crawford, Vincent Collazo, Grace F. Edwards, Ellen Freudenheim, Fran Hawthorne, Daniel Levin, James Luke, Torrey Maldonado, Donna Minkowitz, Matt Mitler and Thomas Rayfiel. Co-curator **Paula Bernstein** is the co-author of *Identical Strangers: A Memoir of Twins Separated and Reunited* (Random House, 2007). Co-curator **Paola Corso**'s most recent book of fiction is *Catina's Haircut: A Novel in Stories*, included on Library Journal's notable list of first novels last fall.

**Event takes place at The Union Hall, 702 Union St., 718-638-4400.**

**To book a Wordsprouts, contact P.J. Corso, [paola\\_corso@hotmail.com](mailto:paola_corso@hotmail.com).**

## apr 12 tue 7 pm **Safe Food Committee Film Night: A Farm in Danger & The Garden**



**A Farm in Danger**, a short film by Dulce Fernandes, tells the story of Bed Stuy Farm, a garden on the site of a former garbage dump that has become a community gathering space and a classroom, to teach neighborhood youth about food growing and community service. The short will be followed by the feature documentary, **The Garden**, which chronicles a community's epic battle to save its urban garden. With special guests and locally-grown snacks!

## apr 15 fri 8 pm **Matt Garrison and Cynthia Hilts & Tina Richers**



**Matt Garrison**, bass, keys, vox, pedals, flowgramming, audio manipulation. This music travels the sonic palette of World, Electronic, Folk, Improvisational, Structured Jazz. Garrison's work over the last 20 years with artists such as Herbie Hancock, Joe Zawinul, John McLaughlin, John Scofield, Chaka Khan, Joni Mitchell, Whitney Houston, solidifies his status as one of the leading torch bearers of modern music expression. **Cynthia Hilts** — internationally renowned jazz pianist, vocalist and composer — invites burningly effervescent saxophonist **Tina Richers** for a set with Hilts' trio and extended musical family. This is jazz at its finest — mesmerizing original compositions and masterful improvisation by a posse of musical souls with sensitivity, fire and a good dose of organic rambunctiousness.

**Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$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.**



## apr 16 sat 1-3:30 pm **Ancient Foods, Ancient Wisdom**

Discuss what traditional foods are (enzyme-enriched foods, mineral-rich bone broths, animal fats, properly prepared whole grains) and why they are so essential to our health and well-being, as well as for pregnancy and growing children. Learn about the pioneering work of Dr. Weston A. Price, his study of healthy traditional communities, and the underlying factors in a variety of traditional diets. Coop member **Angela Davis**, M.Ed, HHC, is a holistic nutrition coach with an emphasis on women's wellness, digestive health and healing diets. She is co-leader of the Brooklyn chapter of the Weston A. Price Foundation and co-founder of Wise Ways Cooking School.

## apr 16 sat 4-6 pm **Transforming Anxiety With Core Energetics**

Learn to identify unconscious blocks to feeling more relaxed and happier with Core Energetics, a body-centered therapy. Core Energetics goes beyond traditional talk therapy by bringing in breath, the voice and movement to help you feel calmer, more energy and vitality. Coop member **Susan Pollack**, L.C.S.W, Core Energetics Practitioner, is a psychotherapist with offices in Manhattan and Park Slope.

## apr 23 sun 12 pm **Finances for Freelancers**

For freelancers, financial issues can be overwhelming, but there is help available. This workshop will take you through the issues we need to deal with and identify strategies and recourses that will help. **Julia Fitzgerald** is a long-time Coop member with a love of number-crunching. This love and her professional background in nonprofit management has led to her current work, providing accounting and financial management services to nonprofits and freelancers. Coop member **Arthur Goodman** is an accountant who helps freelancers and individuals organize and plan their finances.

## apr 26 tue 7 pm **PSFC APRIL 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:** (30 minutes)

**Discussion:** "Presentation by candidates for the Board of Directors followed by questions for the candidates."  
—mandated by General Meeting

**Item #2:** Formation of a Subcommittee on Climate Change (30 minutes)

**Discussion:** "To form a Committee for Climate Protection dedicated to providing information to PSFC members regarding issues related to climate change."  
—submitted by Maggie Sweeney and Claudia Friedetzky

**Item #3:** Changes to the Point of Sale System that Enable Enforcement of Coop Rules Pertaining to Shopping Status (30 minutes)

**Discussion:** "Discuss the planned activation of a feature of the point of sale (POS) system that will enforce the Coop's member status-shopping rules. The planned change is: Suspended members, who attempt to checkout beyond their 10-day grace period, will be prevented by the POS system. The proposed date for implementation is September 12, 2011."  
—submitted by the 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.

**For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: [foodcoop.com](http://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.**

# apr 8–may 31 2011

**apr 26**  
tue 7:30 pm

## Philosophical Counseling: The Art of Living Well

Philosophical counseling is a form of rational inquiry whose aim is to help us sort things out. But what sorts of things? Everything from everyday problems that cause us anxiety to existential crises that lead us to despair. Traditionally, philosophy has helped people examine courses of action, weigh various approaches to their problems, adopt useful outlooks on life and achieve mental clarity. Coop member **Andrew Taggart** is an ethicist, educational consultant and philosophical counselor living in Brooklyn.

**apr 29**  
fri 7 pm

## Acupuncture for Seasonal Allergies

Learn what factors contribute to seasonal allergies according to the energetic principles of Oriental medicine AND what you can do to reduce symptoms. Workshop will include Qi Gung exercises and acupressure to promote health. Participation limited. Please RSVP by e-mail: [info@QiAnnie.com](mailto:info@QiAnnie.com). Presented by licensed acupuncturist and Coop member **Annie Reibel-Coyne**.

**apr 29**  
fri 8 pm

## Band Nite



Bands scheduled to perform at the Coop's second-annual Band Nite include: Mixed Nuts; Sounds of Greg D; Angel Band; Mappa Mundi; The Mystery Keys; and Didge Project. Show starts at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$5. For more info and directions, check out the FUN Committee blog: [psfcfun.wordpress.com](http://psfcfun.wordpress.com).

**Event takes place at Jalopy Theatre, 315 Columbia St., between Hamilton Ave. and Woodhull St., (718) 395-3214, [www.jalopy.biz](http://www.jalopy.biz).**

**apr 30**  
sat 2–4 pm

## Forgiveness

Holding on to feelings of hurt, guilt, blame, and anger binds up your own energy and keeps you locked in the past, instead of being fully present. Learn to forgive yourself and others; experience unconditional love; align your head and your heart; use the energy of love to relieve stress; and participate in an unconditional love meditation. **Moraima Suarez** is a Coop member, certified Holoenergetic® Healing practitioner, certified Bowenwork therapist, Reiki Level II practitioner, and certified hypnotherapist.

**apr 30**  
sat 5–7 pm

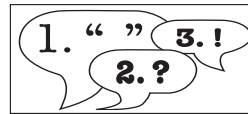
## Knit and Sip Series

Come and learn how to spin ray fiber — such as cotton and wool — into yarn, by using a simple spindle. Coop member **Jillan Louis** is a knitter, crocheter and spinner and all-around fiber fanatic. Her passion is spinning raw fibers into yarn. Coop member **Naemah Senghor** is a knitter, crocheter and raw-foodist who loves to organize swaps and community events.

**Materials fee: \$15 (spindle, yarn and light refreshment).**

**may 3**  
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, May 31, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

**may 5**  
thu 7:30 pm

## Food Class: Cinco de Mayo: The Flavors of Mexico



Celebrate quick, delicious and easily replicated at-home recipes. We will create two different vegetarian quesadillas with dips and classic guacamole. **Tricia Brown** is a chef, culinary instructor and food and wine blogger. Her culinary focus is flavorful, health-supportive cuisine utilizing local ingredients. She teaches private and public cooking classes at numerous locations. She is a graduate of the Natural Gourmet Institute for Health and Culinary Arts and holds an advanced certification from the International Wine Institute. She shares this passion for all things food and wine on her culinary tours to Santa Fe, Sonoma and her hometown in Brooklyn. *Menu includes asparagus and red onion quesadillas with lime crema; smoky black bean, roasted red pepper and jalapeño quesadillas with salsa rojo; and guacamole with chips. Materials fee: \$4.*

**may 6**  
fri 7 pm

## Film Night: The Mad Cow Investigator



Out of concern for her mother who may have been exposed by eating meat tainted with mad cow disease, Janet Skarbek, a wife, mother and accountant, takes on an unlikely new role as "Mad Cow Investigator." As she independently researches deaths in her area, she finds a disease cluster and uncovers alarming information about meat production and government policy. As she dedicates herself further to this new cause, her personal life begins to fall apart. This film is **Nancye Good's** first independent project. She honed her sense of story development producing programs for Japanese Network television. Several projects she collaborated on have gone on to air on National Geographic and the Discovery Channel here in the U.S. She envisions this project as part of a series of profiles of citizens who take action to improve food quality. **To book a Film Night, contact Faye Lederman, [squeezestone@hotmail.com](mailto:squeezestone@hotmail.com).**

**may 7**  
sat 1:30 pm

## Zero Balancing

Zero Balancing is a deep and profound healing modality that balances and integrates one's structural and energy bodies. In this workshop, you will do exercises to experience: your physical structure, your energy body, your whole self, different ways to run your own energy, and types of contact which create consciousness and ease. This is a time to become more aware of your body and how it relates to healthy life choices. **Athena** has been a Coop member for 10 years. She's had a healing-arts practice in Brooklyn for 15 years, where she accesses Biodynamic Cranial Sacral Therapy, Hypnosis, Massage Therapy, Klein Technique Movement Therapy, Reiki and Zero Balancing.

## still to come

**may 7–8** Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

**may 10** Safe Food Committee Film Night

**may 13** Wordsprouts

**may 14** Sugar Imbalances

**may 15** The Living Matrix Film

**may 20** The Very Good Coffeehouse Coop Concert Series

**may 20** Harmonize Your Body

**may 22** Weight Loss

**may 29** Food Intolerances

**may 31** PSFC MAY General Meeting



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

## MARCH FOR AGAINST THE WARS AND FOR FUNDING HUMAN NEEDS ON APRIL 9TH WITH BROOKLYN FOR PEACE

### TO THE EDITOR:

Brooklyn For Peace (BFP) has endorsed the mass mobilization Against War and For Funding Human Needs scheduled for April 9th. This rally and march is one action among many along the road towards Peace and Social Justice. If Wisconsin can do it, so can we. If Egypt can do it, we can too. A list of the many labor, student, community and faith groups participating can be found on the website of the United National Anti-War Committee (UNAC).

Our plan is to meet at 11 a.m. on the Joralemon St side of Boro Hall and travel in to the rally at Union Square on the subway together. After hearing the speeches there, we will march down Broadway to a second rally at Foley Square. Drums, whistles, instruments of all kinds will be welcomed. Signs, banners, chants too—like Every Bomb is a School's Budget.

BFP offers many opportunities to help end the wars. Announcements are also on BFP website. Here are a few: Leaflet on April 15th, tax day, to cut military spending and fund public services by a unionized workforce. BFP Peace Fair on Saturday, May 7th at Brooklyn College. And meetings of each of the BFP committees.

*Your support and your participation are needed and welcomed,*  
Susan Metz

## ON OLIGARCHY AND THE L'AFFAIRE GLESTA

### TO THE EDITOR:

Now that the dust has settled on *L'Affaire Glesta* (Letter of January 27th), I find Coordinator Jess' February 24th response singularly insensitive. First, she diverts the issue by lamenting that staff are not allowed to see letters before published. Then—whatever else she says—she offers no sympathy or understanding whatsoever for the extremely harrowing circumstances of the case! Her own statement that “address proof...does not require the appearance of the absent spouse” would seem to require an apology, since Ms. Glesta was told her husband had to *join*, which clearly requires attendance *in person*!

Haven't written here in long time but some have urged me consistently. Let me reintroduce myself. Really only write about one thing, so here's the *history à la Albert*:

In about 1993 the Co-Op instituted a permanent and retroactive pension benefit for all senior staff like Jess, thus further consolidating the permanency of rule by the already entrenched cadre.

This “rule by a few,” or *oligarchy*, was and is facilitated by the following factors:

Management has no obligation to set policy such as a five-year plan or a one-year plan, because they claim that the General Meeting does this.

The Board of Directors, still legally in power, ever since its inception has informally but effectively given up any real oversight.

Since, without the Board of Directors, there are no elected representatives, the institutional memory of the Co-Op has been essentially co-opted by the permanent cadre.

Hence, with our version of the “town-meeting” form of government, management can claim that our government is “democratic” and that “everyone has a say,” when nothing of the sort is really going on.

I would be much happier if Management would be honest enough to present this chimera to us as a “debating society” or an “encounter group” (which, by the way, it is—and a good one!). Not as any kind of democracy.

Now I've antagonized *everybody*, even Glesta I bet! But only to get your attention. Maybe we should have a Committee to Apply The Sociological Imagination to some of our ridiculous problems. Long ago Max Weber used the words “routinization of charisma” to describe the miasm that has become our Co-Op's government and morale. The Family Rule and the Town Meeting were probably appropriate and fair to a stable group of less than 300 people.

A larger, older group is a totally different *organism* than before. Different people are attracted, and see their roles differently. That is how we can have a quintessentially insensitive response like Jess', and hardly anyone seems to notice. The same structure that was a purveyor of community can become a purveyor of tyranny.

Albert Solomon  
718-768-9079

## ABOUT ISRAEL AND BDS, IS IT “GREATER LATITUDE” OR “COMPLETE LICENSE”?

### TO THE EDITOR:

My March 24th letter (“In Letter on Israel, *Gazette* Editors Did Not Pay Attention”) stated that the *Linewaiters' Gazette's* editors ignored the Fairness Doctrine in printing Barbara Mazar's March 10th letter (“It Is Time to Stop Printing ‘BDS’ Letters”) which contained multiple violations. The *Gazette's* Coordinating Editors appended an explanatory note saying that “in these matters of political opinion and slant we must allow greater latitude and err on the side of allowing people a platform to disseminate their ideas and political opinions. If Mazar had called Roberts anti-semitic, that would have come under Fairness.”

Mazar had referred to Liz Roberts' February 24th letter (“More On Israel/Palestine”) as being “Bigoted, Dishonest, and anti-Semitic” and “lies and distortions *designed*” [emphasis added] to slander Israel. In other words, while Mazar states that Roberts' letter is anti-semitic by design, the Coordinating Editors feel that that's materially different than saying Roberts herself is anti-semitic.

Another letter in that March 24th issue from Sheldon Jacobson (“The Trashing of Israel Has to Stop”) referred to the many letters in support of the Coop joining the BDS movement targeting Israeli products as “letters of hate” and “hate mail,” and to the writers as “people who need to somehow point to the Jews as the evil aggressors.” Again, no factual examples were provided—an obvious breach of Fairness. It too was printed.

This hollow technicality, i.e. that calling a letter intentionally anti-semitic is substantially different than calling the author anti-semitic, looks like circling the wagons—an unwillingness to own up and do better. No! rather than allowing “greater latitude,” the editors are simply not doing their job. And they're allowing the dialogue to degenerate unnecessarily.

With volatile subjects like Israel and BDS, the editors should invoke the guidelines even more doggedly when writers resort to “accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.” They should return those letters so that their authors can put them into compliance with *Gazette* guidelines, i.e. give factual examples to illustrate their claims. Good editing helps writers make their points more effectively—rather than either rejecting their work altogether or allowing complete license.

Postscript: Sheldon Jacobson also mentioned “conflicts between Jews and Arabs” as ongoing for over 2000 years” Actually, until modern times, Jews and Arabs coexisted tolerably well. Historically, ethnic minorities frequently have problems within majority populations, but the true history of anti-semitism is a decidedly European affair, marked by the Inquisition, pogroms and culminating in the Holocaust. According to Mark Cohen, Professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, “Unlike the Christian West...Jews were well integrated into the economic life of [Muslim] society at large.” (“People of the Book: Muslim-Jewish relations in the Middle Ages” from *Medieval Jewish Civilization: An Encyclopedia*)

Only after the advent of Zionism, which for Muslims and Arabs has meant European colonialism, have tensions and violence heightened. It doesn't hurt to consider the perspective of those one views as adversaries.

David Barouh

## COOP AND BDS

### TO THE EDITOR:

When people's eyes are opened to the facts, they see that BDS (the boycott Israel movement) is hypocritical and anti-peace. They see it when BDS calls for Israel to open Gaza, but doesn't call upon Hamas to release Gilad Shalit, to cease firing rockets into Israel, or to end its opposition to the existence of a Jewish State. They see it when BDS demands Israel ends the occupation of the West Bank, but it doesn't criticize Fatah for refusing to negotiate. They see it when BDS condemns the security fence and the check points, but doesn't acknowledge the very real threat of terror attacks, and never suggests an alternative for Israel to protect its population.

That is why BDS was unable to enlist the support of the Davis Food Coop, Port Townshend Food Coop, Sacramento Food Coop, Berkeley, Princeton, and the State of California, to name just a few. The Coop's policy on boycotts is to join only those with an “effective” movement. BDS has been rejected time and time again. We should follow the example of these other fine institutions.

BDS is inappropriate for our Coop because: 1) Other food coops have rejected it 2) boycotts takes away freedom of choice 3) it forces association with a political position upon all the Coop members whether they agree with it or not. 4) it would sow seeds of enmity and tear up our Coop 5) it conflicts with the general principles of the international co-op movement and most of all; 6) it is immoral.

Nevertheless, a small band of Coop members are blindly committed to pursuing BDS at our Coop. We need to organize to oppose their effort. To join the anti-BDS effort or learn more, check out blog, [stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com](http://stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com), or send an email to [stopBDSparkslope@gmail.com](mailto:stopBDSparkslope@gmail.com).

Rhudi Andreolli

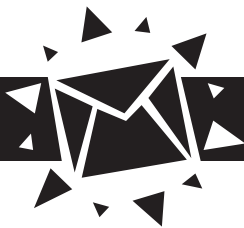
## ISRAEL, PALESTINE AND THE COOP

### DEAR EDITORIAL PEOPLE,

In the February 24, 2011, *Linewaiters' Gazette*, Lisa Roberts laments the treatment of the Palestinian people by Israel. It is part of a matrix of letters on the subject—both sides. It the *Gazette* the best place for this kind of thing?

It seems that even at the Food Coop, the battle goes on. It is no longer a debate, but two distant polar positions; the banner and bane of conservatives and liberals alike. On the one side is tiny Israel—alone and surviving an onslaught of terrorist butchers. On the other we have the Palestinian people, their land occupied, their lives made mis-

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



erable by the so-called Israeli oppressor. While this oversimplifies the framing of the issue, it points to something far more difficult.

The Israeli/Palestinian situation is a paradigm of how to cast an issue so no progress can be made. It is a primer on how thoughtful people, both conservative and liberal, can fall into the fallacy of extremes—both sides proclaiming a kind of moral ascendancy, while chiding—sometimes dehumanizing the opposition. It is the sign of the times where hardened positions and sloganeering replace sensibility and respect. I'm not sure that this little magazine is the place for yet another rehashing of the dilemma.

The Coop has a great mission and is doing a pretty good job. From the little I have learned since joining and from the people I have met, there is a sense of something approaching an ideal. Doing my work requirement and walking the isles, I can see it and feel it. The Coop works because we labor together to make it work.

We cannot ignore the world around us, but can we focus on the harvest bounty and the all the pleasure that great food can bring. Can we leave the hand wringing over the great tragedies of the world to other publications that do it better? Frankly, I'd appreciate it if *Linewaiters'* abandoned discussions on the commotions of the world and stayed with the Coop's prime directive—healthy food, great ways to prepare it, fair prices formed by the labor of those who believe in taking a direct hand in making it that way and the neighborhood.

Maybe if there were more of what the Coop was about, there would be less contention about the world. If it's neighborhood stuff we can do something about; fine. But running the world's weeping, won't help us understand.

Rodger Parsons

## MORE ON BDS AND THE MIDDLE EAST

### TO THE EDITOR:

A *Gazette* letter does not provide sufficient space for discussing the complexities of the Middle East conflicts, nor do I believe the *Gazette* is the proper venue. For this reason, I and others have created a blog to discuss and inform on this issue. [stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com](http://stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com).

Nevertheless, I feel compelled to answer a letter in the Mar. 24 *Gazette* criticizing my identification of the content of letters to the *Gazette* promoting the boycott of Israel (BDS) as Bigoted, Dishonest and anti-Semitic. This was a well thought out evaluation. I purposefully criticized the content of the letters, as I do not pretend to know what is in people's hearts. I even mentioned in my Jan. 13 letter

that well-meaning people can be deceived by BDS.

Also in the Jan. 13 letter, I carefully identified examples of Bigotry, Dishonesty and anti-Semitism that appeared in an earlier *Gazette* letter. The writer of the Mar 24 letter complained that I did not identify any "lies or distortions" in the Feb. 24 letter. It did not seem necessary to me. Any member of the reality-based community would understand, for example, that calling Operation Cast Lead "state-sponsored terrorism" is demonizing, delegitimizing and applying a double standard. This can be discussed in more detail at [stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com](http://stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com).

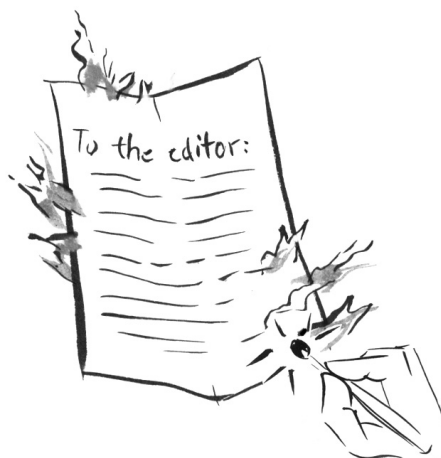
Let's be clear. BDS is part of a broader campaign with the goal of eliminating the Jewish State. The Palestinian Authority rejected ending the occupation in 2000, 2001 and 2008, because it is unwilling to live side-by-side with a Jewish State. Support of BDS is not about the ending the occupation; it is about ending the Jewish State. If you need to know more, then come to [stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com](http://stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com).

Barbara Mazor

## READY FOR THE BIG CITY

Just off the airport bus at Grand Central,  
A family of four  
Puts down their bags while Mom seeks info  
On subways at a store.  
"It's this way," she tells her kids and Dad,  
"A train called the Shuttle goes To our hotel where we can all Unpack and change our clothes."  
The couple and their solemn daughters,  
Who look about seven and ten,  
Walk down the ramp in the direction Of subway-card selling men.  
And Mom reaches into a fabric bag For helmets she knew to prepare:  
"Now girls, let's tie these tightly on— It could be rough down there."

Leon Freilich



## 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](mailto: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.



## WORKSLOT NEEDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

members for at least six months, and a six-month commitment to the workslot is required. Please speak to Renee St. Furcy through the Membership Office or email her at [renee\\_stfurcy@psfc.coop](mailto:renee_stfurcy@psfc.coop).

### Plastics Recycling

**Saturdays or Sundays, mornings**

Join in the Coop's effort to be a better environmental citizen. Work outside in front of the Coop with other members of the Recycling Squad accepting returned plastic containers, making sure they are clean and meet the Recycling Squad criteria. Stack and pack plastic for recycling. Must be reliable and willing to work outdoors in all kinds of weather. Contact the Membership Office for more information.

### Laundry Prep and Miscellaneous Cleaning

**Fridays, 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 washing.

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, contact the Membership Office.

### GMO Shelf Labeling Committee

The GMO Shelf Labeling Committee is readying to deliver a report to the General Meeting early next year in which a process to label products on Coop shelves for genetically modified ingredients will be proposed. We seek a few new members with a passion for food labeling and skills in videography or database management. Knowledge of Filemaker Pro is a plus. If you want to know what's in the food on Coop shelves—and help fellow members know—then this committee is for you. You must have at least one year of active membership in the Coop and an interest in genetically modified food. To find out more, email to [gn.todd@verizon.net](mailto:gn.todd@verizon.net).

# The Connection Was Made

## An Interview with Beth Terry, the Plastic-Free Woman

The PSFC Environmental Committee is currently working on a proposal to limit disposable plastic at PSFC and we welcome suggestions and questions at our blog: [ecokvetch.blogspot.com](http://ecokvetch.blogspot.com). ■

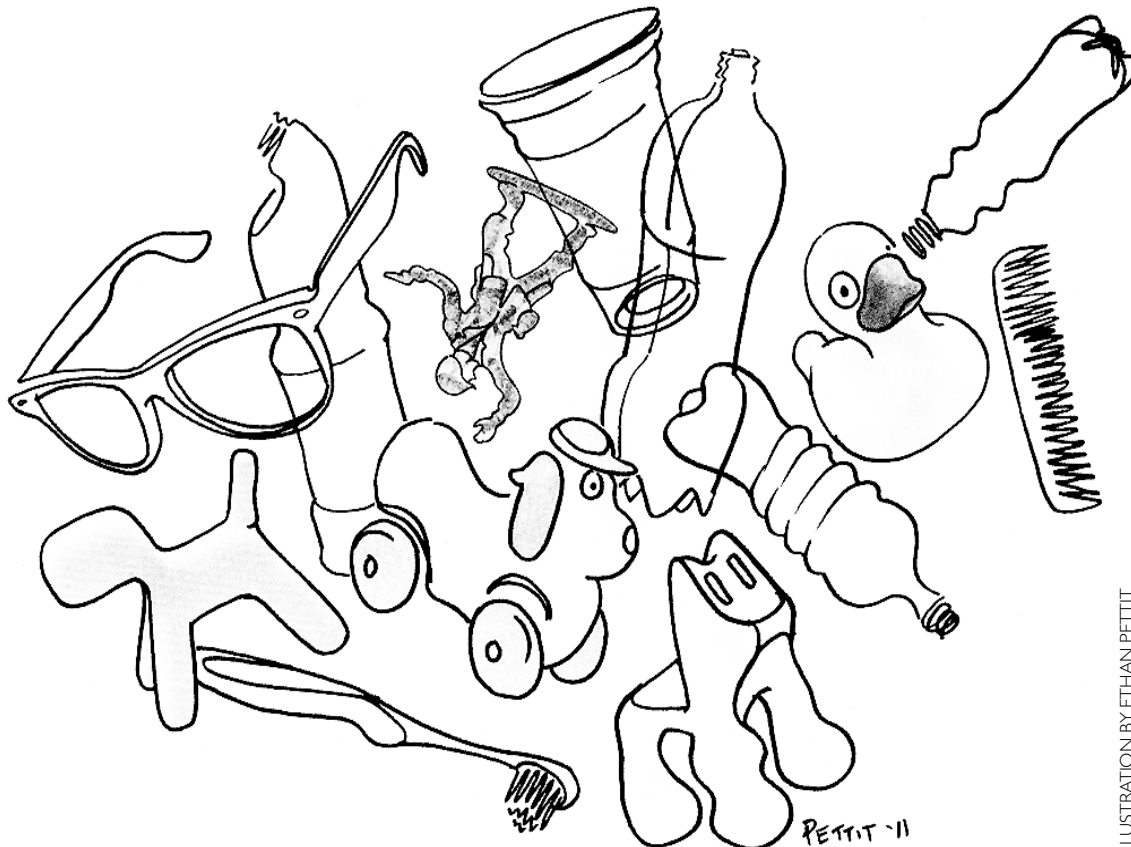


ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT

*Then, I saw a photo  
of a dead albatross chick  
carcass filled with  
plastic pieces, and I was  
utterly stunned.  
Here was tangible evidence  
of direct harm.*

BT: I choose to shop at

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.**



## CLASSIFIEDS

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THE HOUSE ON 3rd ST. B&B - serving Park Slope for 20 yrs.! Beautiful parlor floor thru, sleeps 4-5 in comfort and privacy. Queen bed, bath, double living room, piano, AC, flatscreen, wi-fi, deck overlooking yard, kitchen. Visit our web site at Houseon3st.com or on FB at The House on Third St. B&B or call Jane at 718-788-7171.

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KENSINGTON - TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT two blocks from Prospect Park Tennis Center - new Bathroom - fantastic wood floors - 950 square feet - top floor of two family townhouse - walk to F (Ft. Hamilton) or B/Q (Church Ave) - \$1700 gas included. Call Matt at 347-451-9903.

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## SERVICES

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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—33 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual

attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultation. Prompt, courteous communications. 22-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

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HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in Brooklyn & Manhattan (SOHO). Dr. Stephen

R. Goldberg provides comprehensive family dental care using non-mercury fillings, crowns, dentures, thorough cleanings, non-surgical gum treatments with minimal X-rays. For a free initial exam in a nutrition-oriented practice and for insurance information, please call 212-505-5055.

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PSYCHOTHERAPY: I offer individual and couples therapy in my Park Slope and Manhattan offices. I am a non-network provider which allows greater confidentiality and non-HMO directed therapy. Multicultural competence. Diversity welcomed, respected, affirmed. 212-714-4691 baroh99@aol.com Beverly Rohlehr, LCSW.

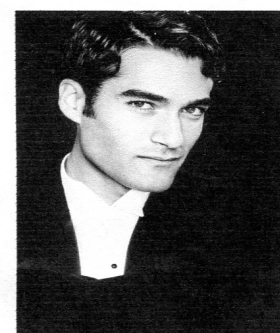
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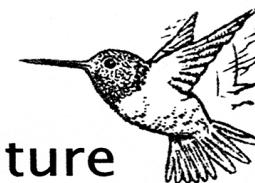
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SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE  
REPORT

From Plow to Plate:  
The Garden

By Adam Rabiner

**T**he Garden is a raw film about the struggle to preserve a huge fourteen-acre urban farm in South Central Los Angeles. Seen from the sky, the South Central Farm is enormous and bears no resemblance to New York City's small, compacted community gardens. Approximately 372 people, collectively known as the South Central Farmers, work this urban oasis growing corn, peas, papaya, bananas, guava, apples, avocado, cilantro, zucchini, lettuce, radish, and more. Most are poor Latin American immigrants feeding their families, though one of the more strident protesters is a former Black Panther. They have formed a tight-knit community, akin to a large, extended family, with its own rules and mores.

The film begins in late 2003, just prior to their eviction notice. The South Central Farmers have been using the land, formerly a vast vacant lot, since just after the 1992 L.A. riots when it was loaned to them by the city as mitigation for the destruction to their community. However, without consulting the farmers, the City, in a back room deal, re-sells the land to its former owner, Ralph Horowitz, for the price at

which it was originally purchased. Horowitz now intends to build a warehouse with a pitiful dirt soccer field as a community give-back. He wants the farmers out immediately. The resistance, by various means, of the justifiably furious South Central Farmers forms the bulk of this captivating documentary.

The Garden is full of suspense as the clock winds down to eviction day, a lawsuit winds its way through the courts, and money is raised to save the farm. Producer/Director Scott Hamilton Kennedy arrives on the scene just as the battle starts to unfold and captures the views of both sides but it is clear that his sympathies lie with the South Central Farmers. He lets the twisting and turning story, which is essentially about power, and the characters, speak for themselves. As the film reaches its dénouement you have witnessed politics in action, the specter of corruption, the interplay of race, class, and community, and how difficult the fight for justice can sometimes be.

The Garden will show Tuesday, April 12, second floor meeting room of the Coop, 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. ■

Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue. An asterisk (\*) denotes a Coop member.

FRI, APR 8

Getting the Love You Want: Communication skills workshop for couples. 7-9 p.m., the Old Stone House, Park Slope. An introduction to the "Imago Intentional Dialogue." Come away with practical skills to use at home; enhance your emotional connection & help to transform conflict into growth. \$25 per couple. Tix: [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/160318](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/160318). Info: Joan P Zimmerman, M.Ed., LCSW at [jjzimmerman12@nyc.rr.com](mailto:jjzimmerman12@nyc.rr.com).

Brooklyn Players Community Musical Theater presents URINE-TOWN: THE MUSICAL!: Friday, April 8, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, April 9, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, April 10, at 2 p.m. aAt Spoke the Hub's Third Floor Performance Space at the Gowanus Arts Building at 295 Douglass St. btw Third & Fourth Aves. Tickets \$15-\$18 at [brooklynplayersurinetown.eventbrite.com](http://brooklynplayersurinetown.eventbrite.com).

SAT, APR 9

Join Time's Up for a family-friendly bicycle ride through Prospect Park as we discover the park at night. Meet at Grand Army Plaza Saturday at 9 p.m. (the second Saturday of every month all year round). See our website for details about the

[www.times-up.org](http://www.times-up.org) (free event).

Rally and March to end US military interventions and bring the money home to fund public services by a unionized workforce. Meet at 11 a.m. at Jeroleman St. side of Boro Hall to go in to the rally at Union Square together. More info at the website of Brooklyn For Peace. Questions to [April9@brooklynpeace.org](mailto:April9@brooklynpeace.org).

Peoples' Voice Cafe: Joanne Shenandoah. 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](http://peoplesvoicecafe.org). Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 member/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

FRI, APR 15

Women's Open Poetry and Performance Event. Women and trans folk only. At The Commons, 388 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn. 7-9 p.m. Donations \$10 - \$20. Refreshments provided. Benefit for the Scott Sisters. For information and to sign up for childcare, call Resistance in Brooklyn 718-783-8141.

SAT, APR 16

Peoples' Voice Cafe: Ray

Korona Band. 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](http://peoplesvoicecafe.org). Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 member/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

SAT, APR 23

Green Edge NYC and botanist Leda Meredith\* invite you to sign up for urban foraging in Prospect Park. Leda will teach participants to identify edibles in the urban terrain. Event runs from 9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and requires \$20 contribution. Kids free with a paying adult! [www.greenedenyc.org/events/urban-foraging-with-leda](http://www.greenedenyc.org/events/urban-foraging-with-leda).

SAT, APR 30

The David Bindman Ensemble performs at Bay Ridge Library Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Featuring Richard Harper, trombone; Frank London, trumpet; Art Hirahara, piano; Wes Brown, contrabass; royal hartigan, drums; David Bindman\*, saxophones. Original compositions incorporate elements from jazz & world music traditions. For people of all ages. FREE. [www.davidbindman.com](http://www.davidbindman.com).

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.

L. Autumn Allen Martin  
Christopher Balchin  
Margaret Barthelme  
Benjamin Beardsley  
Michael Beattie  
Ebony Bishop  
Daniel Bloomberg  
Elizabeth Boyle  
Sheria Butler  
Kathleen Casanova  
Dwight Collins  
John Cosmas  
Cristina Cretara  
Kelsey Crew  
Kyra Cuadrado  
Xavier Cuadrado  
Crystal Cun  
Eva D'Andrea  
Terry Daniels  
Joshua Diamant  
Alyssa Diaz  
Flora Diaz  
Stephanie Diebold  
Sandra DiPillo  
Colin Doyle  
Dani Doyle  
Pascal Duijff  
Acacia Dupierre  
Hannah Eisler Burnett  
Samantha Ellman

Mackenzie Field  
Dwight Frank  
Alexandra Freidus  
Justine Gardner  
Crystal Gayle  
Danielle Givens  
James Givens  
Lisa Gleeson  
Haben Goitom  
Ted Gordon  
Simon Gottesman  
Kristine Greenblatt  
Tony Hale  
Sharif Hassan  
Shaina Hecht  
Paul Heckler  
Gary Holtan  
Gina Im  
Scott Jardine  
Marlene Johnson  
Drew Johnson-Skinner  
Rachel Jones  
Rivka Karasik  
Robert Keeley  
Lily Kit  
Teo Keng Kit  
Wan Kit  
Brian Kocher  
Alyssa Koloms  
Olivia Kraus

David Laidig  
Aviva Laurenti  
Justin Lennon  
Tracey Lennon  
Tiffany Lewis  
David Lillis  
Kate Livo  
Alexander Low  
Charla Ruby Malamed  
Chris Martin  
Anthony Mauromatis  
Brandan Mayer-Blackwell  
Giovanna Melchiorre  
Michelle Mercaldo  
Martin Molina  
Christopher Moran  
Igor Mukhin  
Jenna Musnicki  
Stacey Neuhaus  
Sam Nosratian  
Ryan O'Hara Theisen  
Kris Orr  
Miguel Pakalns  
Kim Palumbarit  
Erin Pope  
Jennifer Preston  
Felice Quinonez  
Victor Quinonez  
Vincent Raniolo  
Ryan M. Reich

Amy Reiff  
Rodrigo Ribeiro  
Nicholas Richard  
Rio Richard  
Jason Roberts  
Joel Rodriguez  
Felipe Saint-Martin  
Andrew Sandley  
Molly L. Sandley  
Federica Sasso  
Christopher Smithka  
Mark Summers  
Maggie Veateh  
Jason Vollen  
Lottie Walker  
Antoinette Wannebo  
Willy Washington  
Rachel Wasserman  
Laurel Welton  
Marissa Wiley  
Jessica Wilkinson  
Eric Wu  
Eliot Yaxley  
Lisa Yokoyama  
Paige Young  
Tommy Scott Young  
Joseph Zemaitis  
Katie Zemaitis