

Established
1973

LINEWAITERS'

GAZETTE



Volume FF, Number 12

June 16, 2011



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

Members of the General Meeting Rules Revision Committee from left to right: Glenn Brill, Tim Platt, David Golland and Allen Zimmerman.

THIS MONTH'S GM: Welcomes and Watermelons

By Nicole Feliciano

For the most part, Coop members coexist peacefully. This could be due to the tireless efforts of the members that make the rules and guidelines that keep the Coop running smoothly. The latest Coop General Meeting was a perfect place to see the passions that are present in our midst—passions to make this organization more efficient and welcoming. We'll get to the watermelons later.

Moving on Up

Things shifted a bit for the May 31st meeting. Coop members sprawled out in a new layout at the temple. For the first time, the meeting was held with the chairperson facing the stage in order to increase participation. Members munched on apples

and other goodies while the microphones were tested and retested. Secretary Imani O'ryn kicked off the meeting with a welcome and a brief explanation of the meeting's rules and regulations.

Coop meetings get underway with an "Open Forum"—a chance for members to wax poetic or list a quick gripe about something related to our food-loving community. A member named Jessie popped up to the mic to protest all the geopolitical letters to the editor found in the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. Jessie seemed to feel the newspaper is no place for debating conflicts in the Middle East.

With equal passion, a female member spoke next to praise the Coop for adding packets of frozen herbs to the inventory—in fact, she made

a plea for a wider assortment of packed herbs.

Financial 411

From there, it was on to the Coordinators' Reports. Mike Eakin updated the crowd about the financial report recapping the first 16 weeks of the year through May 22nd. The Coop maintained a 17% margin and the markup on the products sold at the Coop held steady at a lean, mean 21%.

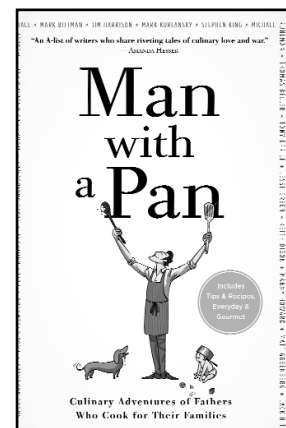
We can all feel proud of this accomplishment of keeping our budgets trim. Eakin shared that the typical food coop runs on a 38% margin. To put that in perspective, let's look at how margins affect your wallet. Eakin said with a margin based on the national average of food

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Man with a Pan: Mining the Minds Of Dads Who Cook

By Hayley Gorenberg

"Your meals in life are numbered and the number is diminishing. Get at it. Owning an expensive car or home and buying cheap groceries and wine is utterly stupid. As a matter of simple fact you can live indefinitely on peanut butter and jelly or fruit, nuts and yogurt, but then food is one of our few primary aesthetic expenses and what you choose to eat directly reflects the quality of your life."



These words from Jim Harrison, and other choice ideas from fathers who cook, inspired longtime Coop member John Donohue to write about men who prepare food for their families. Parts of Donohue's blog, www.stayatstovedad.com ("Or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Kitchen: A Site for Working Fathers Who Cook for Their Families") burgeoned into his recently released book *Man with a Pan: Culinary Adventures of Fathers Who Cook for Their Families*. *Man with a Pan* is an anthology featuring recipes and essays by the likes of Mario Batali, Mark Bittman and Mark Kurlansky. Twenty-

one writers agreed to pen essays for the book, and Donohue also interviewed cooking fathers from all walks of life.

"The central thing is, I've always been hungry; I've been hungry all my life," said Donohue. He worked a stint as a short-order cook to support himself in college but characterized that job as "not cooking, but more about organization, fried eggs and sandwiches." He found greater inspiration as his family grew: His appetite kept him busy preparing food, and "when I had a family I had a compulsion to expand that. When I became a parent, I was freaked

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Next Annual & General Meeting on June 28

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

For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

* Exceptions for November and December will be posted.

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**Monday, July 4, shopping hours:
8 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

Regular hours on Tuesday, July 5

The Coop needs workers on Monday, July 4, especially early morning (5:30 and 6:00 a.m.) and late afternoon shifts (3:30 and 6:00 p.m.) in Receiving. FTOP and make-up shifts are available. You don't need to schedule a makeup—just show up at the start of any shift.

The last shift on July 4 is 6 p.m. If you want to schedule an FTOP shift for this day, please contact the Membership Office at 718-622-0560.

Welcomes

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coops, our sales would have been \$18 million. Instead, we had sales of \$14 million. This \$4 million in savings goes on to members. In this economic environment of rising gas prices and dropping housing prices, we can all appreciate the fiscal responsibility of the Coop. How are we spending our money? Sales per year, per member came in at \$2872, up \$94 from the previous year.

Eakin went on to say that overall, expenses are down at the Coop. He noted that electronic payment bank charges are up—this method of payment is very popular at checkout as more of us whip out the plastic instead of writing a check. Fees have moved up from .48% to .54% of sales.

The human numbers are holding steady. Membership is up a mere 2.45%. In general, membership has been capped by holding smaller orientations. As of this article there are 15,941 active members, up from 15,560 last year.

Watermelon-gate

We promised a watermelon update, and we've got the scoop. Allen Zimmerman, General Coordinator and produce buyer, began his report by filling in the crowd about the melon catastrophe of 2011. Members were dismayed that

there were no watermelons for Memorial Day.

"We all want them. But that doesn't mean they are any good," said Zimmerman. Here's what happened: four bins of watermelons were delivered the Friday of Memorial Day weekend and additional melons arrived on Saturday. "They were delicious and they sold out. We tried to get more for Monday delivery but we tasted them and they were horrible," said Zimmerman.

You might wonder what was wrong with the classic summer fruit. Zimmerman has his techniques. "Hitting a watermelon is a pretty good way to tell if you have a bad one. You don't want a dull thud—that is a bad watermelon. A nice tight boingy sound is what you want to hear," said the unofficial commissioner of fruit.

After that update Zimmerman shared good news: garlic scapes are on the way. Expect to see "hundreds and hundreds" of pounds of these late spring treats in the produce section. And there's more produce excitement to share. The litchis have arrived.

The Coop will also start offering a new variety of baby greens from local farms. Zimmerman said that buying from local farms raises quality and freshness. Take note: These greens will cost almost \$2 per pound more. But for cost-conscious shoppers,



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

Members vote on the changes to the General Meeting rules.

we've got relief. The Coop will continue to offer California greens (found in 1 pound bag packaging) at cheaper prices.

Zimmerman also shared a story that illustrates how the Coop works with members and farmers. A member had requested bitter melons. Since we strive for locally grown, organic produce, Zimmerman called the indefatigable Amy Hepworth of Hepworth Farms. Hepworth sourced the seeds and expects to deliver this new crop in July.

Rules and Intrigue

With committee reports done, it was time for the agenda items. First up was a report and vote set forth from the General Meeting Rules Revision Committee. David Golland, a member of the committee, spoke about their work. "We wanted to make the GM process easier to understand and more wel-

coming to new attendees," said Golland.

Golland and his group wanted to make the Coop run more smoothly and efficiently. Some of the items they attempted to tackle included appointing someone to serve as secretary in the case of conflict of interest, allowing candidates to be absent at elections and establishing Robert's Rules of Order as the parliamentary back up. The group also produced new materials to be used at the General Meetings—materials created to help first-timers follow along and participate with ease.

The members of the GM Rules Revision Committee read the changes to the Coop rules aloud, one by one, eating up quite a bit of meeting time. After reading the document, the Secretary opened up the floor to questions. Here's where things got interesting.

A member named Monica

wanted to know, "What is the reason that those up for election aren't in attendance?" A GM Rules Revision Committee member answered that this rule change was born out of experience. Committee members apparently "screen and pre-qualify all the nominations." Furthermore, sometimes the timing of a General Meeting is inopportune for the candidate.

Then Elizabeth Tobier made her voice heard. Tobier serves on the GM Rules Revision Committee and made her displeasure known about the final document produced for the meeting. Tobier had in hand a thorough set of revisions to the document that included grammar corrections and specific revisions to the Rules. With a clear and steady voice, Tobier read through all of her suggested changes.

Some members were confused as to why Tobier couldn't incorporate her changes into the original document. We'll never know what happened behind the closed doors of the GM Rules Revision Committee meetings and why two documents were produced. What we do know is that the business of the Coop had to proceed.

A vote was called. There were two options: Add Tobier's changes or stick to the document produced in committee. After a re-count, Tobier's amendment failed with a vote count of 109 against, 62 in favor, and 22 abstentions.

Everyone had a chance to weigh in and democracy prevailed. While everyone appreciated the lively yet respectful, debate it did eat up most of the meeting. The additional agenda items were sent back to the Agenda Committee for rescheduling. ■

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 workshop 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.

Thursday, June 23
7– 9 p.m.

Please call 888-922-COOP (2667) box 89 or send an e-mail to 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.

Gazette Sudoku

by James Vasile

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

For answers, see page 4.

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

Man with a Pan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

out by the responsibility of taking care of a child so I started to go cook instead of dealing with it."

Donohue seems to have adjusted to parenthood. His kids, now four and six, often enjoy joining him to cook. "They like to play in the kitchen a lot," he said. "It's really fun to have them wash the green beans. They can do that for about 45 minutes, which is almost enough time to put a meal together." His elder daughter recently concocted a tomato basil salad and was "very proud," Donohue reported.

Much of the time he's not cooking or eating, Donohue is working at the *New Yorker*, where he now edits the nightlife section. His career at the magazine began in 1993 when he became a messenger, in the days before routine electronic transmittals. As Donohue rose through the ranks to become an editor, he dabbled in cartooning for the magazine as well. (He had five cartoons accepted from the 666 he submitted, and though he gave up cartooning after his second child was born in 2007, his cartoons enliven the pages of *Man with a Pan*.)

Over time, Donohue grew to know many writers and their work, and he called upon them for his book. When he didn't know a writer personally—for instance, Stephen King—he nonetheless was connected: "I know people who know people." While he collected a "long list of famous writers who had very funny replies about how they don't cook at all," those who took up his invitation to write about their home cooking were enthusiastic. "Without really much persuasion on my part, they were just very excited to be a part of it," he said. "When people like to cook, especially a man, they can be very enthusiastic about it. They are happy to explain to you how you're supposed to cook a chicken," he said. "Men who don't like to cook...it's like talking to a brick wall."

Donohue conceived of the *Man with a Pan* book a few years ago but quickly realized that book publishing takes a long time. "While all that was happening in the background, I just wanted to have fun with the subject, so I started the blog," he said. "I write about my own little adventures in the kitchen."

A Turning Point

In October 2010, Gwyneth Paltrow's goop.com website featured stayatstovedad.com as one of her top ten favorite cooking blogs. Paltrow posted, "Being a good working parent is hard enough; mix in cooking for the family and you're in for a challenge. Yet, somehow we manage. John Donohue's blog, about being a working-and-going-home-and-cooking-dad, isn't about having all the answers but about managing. His posts are about the everyday (with its successes and failures) through stories about food for his cleverly renamed wife and two daughters, Santa Maria, Nina and Pinta. His recipes are great for parents who, like him, are thrifty shoppers and like for their families to try lots of different kinds of food without getting too complicated."

Paltrow's post was a turning point for stayatstovedad.com. "I had 10,000 page views that day!" said Donohue. Since then, the blog has "popped up on the media landscape," including the *New York Times*' dining section. As a result, Donohue has been busy writing posts to try and retain that audience.

He's deeply motivated to seek out fellow male cooks. "The task of cooking is not gender-specific, though historically it has become so, somehow," said Donohue. "I just happen to be a man and hap-



John Donohue, man with a knife.

pen to be a father and wanted to hear what other fathers were doing in the kitchen." He found no other books constructed in the way he envisioned *Man with a Pan*, a book to address the level of accomplishment men have reached in their home kitchens.

"I'm hoping the book is an inspiration to other men, who will see there are all these different guys—famous writers, a football coach, a bond trader—who cook." The payoff, Donohue opines, includes eating tastier meals and spending more time with your family around the table.

He touts the Coop as "central to my experience." He joined in the late 1990s. "I do all my food shopping there. It allows me to eat much better than I would ordinarily for the same amount of money." Donohue transitioned from a work slot in the office to FTOP on the video squad and is now newly ensconced on the beer squad. After just three or four

shifts, he reported his experience "seems to be more about moving boxes around than anything else," but notes the exposure to the Coop's varied stock has had an impact: "I've started drinking more since I started the shift!"

The *Wall Street Journal*'s positive review of *Man with a Pan* last month pronounced the book "an entertaining look at the widening world of dads-in-the-kitchen. The book brings together interviews, recipes and cookbook reading-lists from a diverse collection of characters, including larger-than-life celebrity chef Mario Batali (who, we are told, feeds his offspring 'monkfish liver and foie gras' for breakfast) and Chilean-born Omar Valenzuela, a Brooklyn carpenter with a simple but delicately balanced recipe for Ceviche: raw fish marinated in fresh lime and lemon juice and seasoned with olive oil, salt, onion, ginger, cilantro and jalapeños."

The *Journal* excerpted from



PHOTOS BY INGRID CUSON

Donohue's introduction: "My wife, Sarah, and I have an open relationship. She opens the refrigerator to take things out and I open it to put food in. I do almost all the cooking for her and our two daughters . . . [but] I was cooking long before I became a parent, mostly because I've always loved to eat."

Donohue waxed enthusiastic about the Coop, which he credits with making his family's food "lifestyle" possible. "We're very fortunate to be able to eat so well," he said. "The downside is, it's so crowded. But the upside is the produce is always fresh. It's the freshest stuff you can get. The Coop's whole approach is similar to mine: food is an important part of life." ■

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

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 ours 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. Please put "Diversity and Equality" in the subject line.

A WORLD THAT TIME FORGOT: Lake Huntington Summer Community

By Allison Pennell

Deep in the Borscht Belt, minutes from the site of Woodstock in one direction and the perfect stoner (stoner crossed out) family idyll in the other (Skinners Falls on the Delaware) lies a little slice of summers past: Lake Huntington Summer Community. Set on 17 acres of beautiful wooded grounds for shade and open fields for sun, LHSC is one of a few secular bungalow colonies still thriving in the Catskills.

Retro in the best sense of the word, LHSC is a throwback to a time when hotels and bungalow colonies in the Catskills were the summer stomping grounds of generations of New Yorkers. Founded in 1978 by 13 families from Brooklyn (sort of like the colonies), Lake Huntington renewed a tradition that had largely gone the way of subway tokens and Walkmans. Thirty something years later, it's still thriving, with 60 families in the cooperative.

When longtime PSFC member Mary-Ann Cappellino first started coming to Lake Huntington in 1994 after seeing an ad in the *Gazette*, it was still a place where women ruled the roost during the weekdays, with the menfolk showing up on weekends. While that's largely gone by the boards, it really is true that the more things change, the more they stay the same: as Cappellino recalls,

I remember the pleasure of the screen door slamming as children came in and out, sleepovers, the shouts of "man hunt at the black-top"—the freedom our children were able to exercise all those summers without parents around telling them to play nicely or setting up the rules.

A few weeks ago, I was swimming far into the lake and as I turned to head back, I looked at the crowded dock from afar. The dock was full of parents and children... the young teenagers, who grew up here together all these summers, were now playfully flirting with one another on the floating dock. There was laughter and conversation, splashing, boats rowing out. I treaded water, taking the moment in.

At their heyday after World War II, there were as many as 500 bungalow colonies in the Catskills. Now, according to Phil Brown of the Catskills Institute, there are fewer than 100 left, about a third of which are secular.

Judi and Howie Aronson heard about the community from friends who worked their same shift at the Coop.

Every time we think of selling the bungalow, our kids (who are now 26 and 29) forbid us from selling. They want to bring their children there! We measured their height every year and their growth is on one of the beams in the bungalow. Our bungalow is filled with memories.

As a latecomer to the party, I learned everything I needed to know about bungalow colonies and blouse men from the movie *A Walk on the Moon*. One summer shortly there-

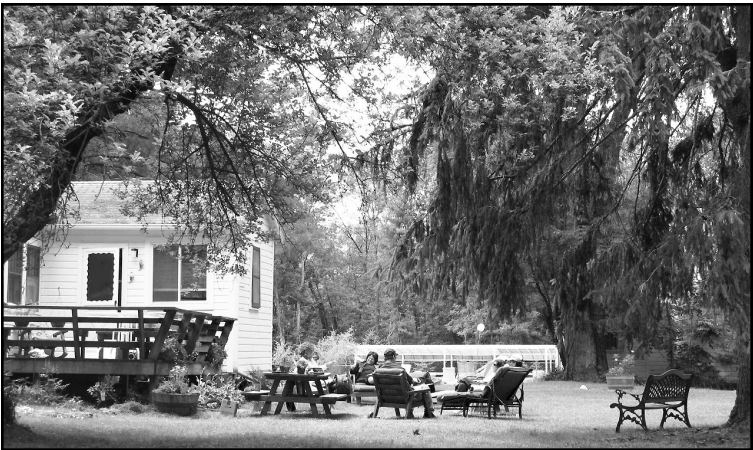
after—faced with broiling temperatures and inadequate air conditioning and entertainment—I went looking for a place where I too could benignly neglect my kids while reading a book on a chaise lounge. While my momentary fantasies about Viggo Mortenson selling me organic produce have gone unfulfilled, I discovered that this world time left behind more than compensated for the dearth of hot blouse men.

Filled with Michael Pollan-loving cooperators, unionists who like a good sing-along, a revolving and varied cast of city folk and an army of snotty-nosed kids running around in nothing but mud and panty liners, Lake Huntington has been an annual pilgrimage for hundreds of families throughout Brooklyn, many of whom are members of the Coop as well. Untold numbers of kids have learned to ride two-wheelers on the main path, to swim in the pool and lake, to play INDEPENDENTLY, to gamble at casino night, and to do we-don't-want-to-know-what under cover of dark.

Coop member Jonathan Fabricant and his wife Anne Capeci have been spending



Cooperatively running the community is a tug-of-war, but the kids have more fun!



Lake Huntington is a bucolic family bungalow community, set in the heart of the Catskills.

PHOTOS BY LAKE HUNTINGTON SUMMER COMMUNITY

the month of August at Lake Huntington for the last ten years with their kids Daniel (18) and Marissa (15). He says that if you ask his kids what they love best, they'll talk about running around, walking five miles to get a sandwich and playing king of the raft down at the lake. But for him and his wife, like many a Coop member the world over, the bungalow colony can be a little like your maddening Uncle Frank who takes the express bus every day to Atlantic City. It's not wholly without complications:

If you ask my wife, she'll say that sometimes she can't stand the place (I agree, sometimes) but other times it's like a rush of relief to get there and breathe, together alone or with a

friend. That first morning after arriving, sitting with a cup of coffee on the porch looking at the tree line next to the road, watching the day float in... All the welcome waves and visits from my varied (and yes some of us are quite meshugena) friends.

Like the Food Coop, LHSC has plenty of organically grown fodder for making fun. This year, Jeremy Hoffman, a PSFC member and LHSC board member wrote an April Fool's sendup that was so deadpan, half the community thought they were going to have to actually get off their decks and apply themselves.

In discussing the issue, the Board came to the conclusion that we have been overlooking our most important resource: you, the members of the

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SUMMERTIME

...and the living is easy.

But don't forget your coop shift!

If you plan on being away during one of your workslots, please make arrangements to have your shift covered. One way to do it is to use the Shift Swap at www.foodcoop.com!

If you plan on being away for eight weeks or more, contact the Membership Office to take a leave of absence.

Your co-workers will love you for it!

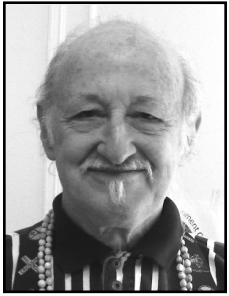
Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle

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

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 Glesta (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 principle 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.

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.

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: Tri-Star Offset, Maspeth, NY.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop. Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.

An asterisk (*) denotes a Coop member.

SAT, JUN 18

Brooklyn Children's Museum Jazz Festival: in partnership with Heart of Brooklyn, WBGO & Circuit Productions Susan Goldbetter*. In honor of Father's Day, Juneteenth & Jazz history. Live performances at 2:30 p.m. with Circuit's All that Jazz & Blues featuring the jazz duet of vocalist Dee Dee Michel's (Sounds of Deliverance) and bassist Michael Max Fleming.

MON, JUN 20

Chewing on Food Justice: On the heels of the Jewish holiday, join Pursue and Hazon to hear from Nancy Romer of the Brooklyn Food Coalition. She'll help us connect the dots between local and global food justice issues and elements from labor to

hunger to climate change. At 7pm. The Commons, 388 Atlantic Avenue. More info/RSVP: www.pursueaction.org.

TUE, JUN 21

Neighborhood Housing Services of E. Flatbush, a not for profit organization, is offering this free event. It will cover getting started, closing cost assistance, grants, affordable mortgages, advice from professionals in the field. At 6pm. Citibank, 702 Utica Ave. (Lenox Rd. & Clarkson Ave.) Brooklyn, NY 11203. To register, call 718-469-4679. www.nhs ofeastflatbush.org, Contact: Tyrone McDonald.

WED, JUN 22

Still We Speak: Working Within Tension. Carmen Mojica,

Vaimoana Niumeitolu, Anaís Alonso, & Lizzy Fox* share poetry & music to tell personal stories about gender, race & sexuality. Audience members are invited to share their experiences in a story circle. 7:30 p.m. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West. \$10.

WED, JUL 6

FOLK OPEN SING: Come sing with us the first Wednesday of every month. Bring voice, instruments, friends. Children welcome. Cohosted by the Folk Society of NY, the Ethical Culture Society & the Good Coffeehouse. At the Ethical Culture Society, 53 Prospect Park West. 7:30–10:00 p.m. Info: 718-636-6341.



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

Thanks for your cooperation, The Park Slope Food Coop

Monthly on the...

Last Sunday
JUNE 26
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Second Saturday
JULY 9
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Third Thursday
JULY 21
7:00 P.M.–9:00 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: James Vasile

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Index: Len Neufeld



WORKSLOT NEEDS

Voucher Processing

Monday, 6:00 to 8:45 p.m.

Do you like working with numbers? In this work slot, you will be entering information about Coop expenses from individual papers (vouchers) into a book and adding it up. Neat, legible handwriting, facility with a calculator and attention to details (especially with numbers) are prerequisites for this position. Work slot is open to members who have been members for at least six months and have a good attendance record. A six-month commitment is required for this work slot. If you are interested please speak to Renee St. Furcy, Monday through Thursday.

Office Set-up

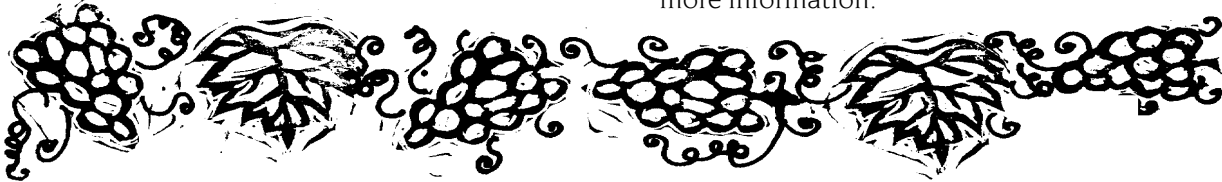
6:00 to 8:30 a.m.

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

Vitamin Assistant

Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., 12:00 to 2:45 p.m., 2:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Are you a detail-oriented worker who can work independently and in a busy environment? The Coop's vitamin buyer needs you to help her check in orders, organize the vitamin supply area in the basement and on the shopping floor, label vitamins and supplements, and other related tasks. If you are interested in this work slot, please contact the Membership Office for more information.



COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

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

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

The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

FRIDAYS 2:30 p.m. with a replay at 10:30 p.m.
Channels: 56 (TimeWarner), 69 (CableVision).

General Meeting Info

TUE, JUL 5

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

TUE, JUL 26

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Jun 30 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jun 20
Jul 14 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jul 4

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Jun 30 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Jun 22
Jul 14 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Jul 6

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, June 28, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

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

How to Place an Item on the Agenda

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

Meeting Format

Warm Up (7:00 p.m.) • Meet the Coordinators
• Enjoy some Coop snacks • Submit Open Forum items
• Explore meeting literature
Open Forum (7:15 p.m.) Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting. If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.
Reports (7:30 p.m.) • Financial Report • Coordinators' Report • Committee Reports
Agenda (8:00 p.m.)
The agenda is posted at the Coop Community Corner and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.
Wrap Up (9:30-9:45) (unless there is a vote to extend the meeting) • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

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

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

- **Advance Sign-up required:**
To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby. The sign-ups sheet is available all month long, except for the day of the meeting when you have until 5 p.m. to sign up. On the day of the meeting, the sign-up sheet is kept in the Membership Office.
Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.
- **Two GM attendance credits per year:**
Each member may take advantage of the GM-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendar year.
- **Certain Squads not eligible:**
Eligible: Shopping, Receiving/ Stocking, Food Processing, Office, Maintenance, Inventory, Construction, and FTOP committees. (Some Committees are omitted because covering absent members is too difficult.)
- **Attend the entire GM:**
In order to earn workslot credit you must be present for the entire meeting.
- **Signing in at the Meeting:**
1. After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.
2. Please also sign in the attendance book that is passed around during the meeting.
- **Being Absent from the GM:**
It is possible to cancel without penalty. We do ask that you remove your name if you know cannot attend. Please do not call the Membership Office with GM cancellations.

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

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



park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

jun 17
fri 8 pm

John Cabán and Pyeng Threadgill



John Cabán—guitarist, composer and sound alchemist—presents “Extra Terrestrial Sounds for Everyday People”: an evening of song, grooves, improvisation and atmosphere. Joining Cabán is an international Coop ensemble including Anthony Pinciotti—drums, Tyler Wood—keyboards, Alexis Cuadrado—bass, Jenny Hill—sax, Todd Isler and Mathias Kunzli—percussion.



Pyeng Threadgill: Indie Jazz Meets Afro Groove. The Pyeng Threadgill/Songlines Project is based on the aboriginal notion of locating place according to our ability to sing and dance our way there. This music speaks to conditions of the environment and the heart through improvisation, storytelling and a collective groove.



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.

jun 18
sat 12 pm

How to Chase Fear Away

Fear is a destructive and paralyzing emotion. It can stop your emotional, mental and spiritual growth. Let's take control of this debilitating emotion and start living our lives fully and liberated! A simple, easy and fun exercise will be demonstrated that can clear these emotions in minutes sometimes in seconds. Join **Marija Santo-Sarnyai**, a Geotran Practitioner and Certified Naturopath, to find out how to take your authority, dominion and personal power back.

jun 18
sat 3 pm

Joy! What Is It? Where Is It? How Can I Get It?

Come and learn specialized eastern and Mayan secrets to discovering what it is that may be blocking you from your own power, strength and joy. You will be introduced to Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) and the Four Agreements, which show you how to reduce or eliminate your emotional blockages, past traumas, pain, anger, phobias, fears and trauma memories. **Carolyn Meiselbach** is a long-time member of the Coop. She has an advanced certification in both hypnosis and EFT, with a private practice in Carroll Gardens.

jun 25
sat 10 am

Knit and Sip Series

For intermediate knitters. Please bring a set of needles and three balls of different-color yarn (can be the same type). **Ava Tomlinson's** knitting is influenced by her paintings. She blends colors and textures when she knits, and plays with palettes. Her knitting explores tactility as well as color, so much so that people want to touch her work when they see it. **Naemah Senghor** is a knitter, crocheter and raw-foodist and loves to organize swaps and community events. She has been organizing “Knit & Sips” all over Brooklyn. She has been a Coop member for several years.

jun 25-26 Food Drive to Benefit sat-sun 9 am–7 pm CHIPS Soup Kitchen

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

jun 28
tue 7 pm

PSFC JUNE Annual and General Meeting

The Annual Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. followed by the GM. **Meeting location:** *Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Pl. at Eighth Ave.*

Annual Meeting Agenda

Item #1: The audited financial report for the year ended January 30, 2011.

Report & Vote: Following a presentation by our outside auditor, Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, members will have the opportunity to pose questions to the auditors. Members will then vote whether to accept the audited statement.

Item #2: Board of Directors Election

Election: One position is open this year for a full three-year term.

General Meeting Agenda

Item #1: Renewing the Services of the Auditor

Proposal: “To retain the services of Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, to perform an audit of the Coop for the fiscal year ending January 29, 2012.”

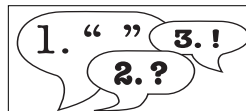
—submitted by the General Coordinators

Item #2: Election of Officers

Election: Following the election of members to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, the General Meeting must elect officers of the corporation—President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The President and Vice-President shall be, at the time of election, members of the Board of Directors. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer can be elected from the membership at large.

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

jul 22
fri 7 pm

Why You're Not Pregnant

Learn the nine underlying causes behind “mystery infertility,” miscarriage, blocked tubes, anovulation, cysts and fibroids. The presenters will show women how to solve those problems, and tell men how to get their sperm in shape. Get strategies to eliminate environmental toxins and identify the foods, exercises and supplements that best support your individual fertility. Pre-registration suggested: to register call (646) 483-4571 or e-mail GreenGemHealth@gmail.com. **Rebecca Curtis** is a certified Holistic Health Coach who specializes in helping busy, professional women replenish the nutrients they need to conceive healthy babies naturally. **Mary Hart** is a licensed and registered acupuncturist and the founder of Healing Heart Acupuncture in Park Slope.

jul 24
sun 12 pm

Introduction to Infant Massage

If you're a parent with a newborn to year-old infant, here's a perfect way to spend an hour that will benefit you and your child for a lifetime. Bring the baby and learn some techniques to understand infant reflexes and what they mean and to soothe and calm her/him. Coop member **Deirdre Lovell** is a licensed massage therapist and massage therapy instructor, former performing artist and mother.

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

All events take place at the Park Slope Food Coop unless otherwise noted. Nonmembers are welcome to attend workshops.
Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.

jun 17–sep 27 2011

jul 26
tue 7 pm

PSFC JULY General Meeting



Meeting Agenda to be announced. For information on how to place an item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the Coop office. **Meeting location: Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

jul 30
sat 2 pm

Joy! What Is It? Where Is It? How Can I Get It?

Come and learn specialized eastern and Mayan secrets to discovering what it is that may be blocking you from your own power, strength and joy. You will be introduced to Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) and the Four Agreements, which show you how to reduce or eliminate your emotional blockages, past traumas, pain, anger, phobias, fears and trauma memories. **Carolyn Meiselbach** is a long-time member of the Coop. She has an advanced certification in both hypnosis and EFT, with a private practice in Carroll Gardens.

jul 30
sat 5 pm

The Gems of Excellence

A Geotran introduction. A brain-mind empowerment course for joyous-successful living. Want to love again, but feel isolated? Would like your creativity back, but lost your passion, focus and drive? Do worry, fear and fatigue steal your joy away? If you are to willing and open to transform your old patterns it can be done with ease and fun. The body is like a magnet, and when these experiences are in cellular memory, the body attracts the same experiences. Doctors and other professionals have used these techniques for daily stresses, eating disorders, robbery, rape and emotions such as anger, anxiety, fear and others. This unique technology will be demonstrated by **Marija Santo**.

jul 31
sun 12 pm

Peeling the Onion: A Workshop on Research

Are you frustrated by how long it takes to find useful information about a given topic? Overwhelmed by the Internet and all the data out there? Unsure when to trust a source?

Unable to translate your information needs to concrete queries? Learn about the current information environment and how to navigate its layers for more fruitful searching sessions. Whether you're a student, a community activist, an independent journalist or just someone who wants to be more efficient, come for research tips and tricks (and bring your own to share)! **Melissa Morrone** is a public librarian in Brooklyn and a member of the librarians' collective Radical Reference.

aug 2
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, August 30, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

aug 9
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: Chinatown



Plow to Plate will be screening the 1974 psycho-mystery-noir classic film **Chinatown**, which was inspired by the historical disputes over land and water rights that raged in southern California during the 1910s and 1920s. Starring Jack Nicholson, Faye Dunaway and directed by Roman Polanski. Special guests will be on hand for a post-screening discussion.

aug 19-20
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.

still to come

aug 30

PSFC AUGUST General Meeting

sep 11

Fibroids, Cysts and PMS

sep 1

Food Class

sep 13

Safe Food Committee Film Night

sep 2

Film Night

sep 16

The Very Good Coffeehouse Coop Concert Series

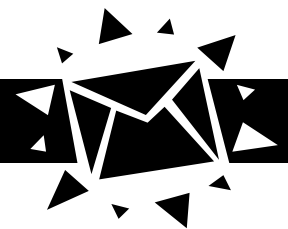
sep 6

Agenda Committee Meeting

sep 27

PSFC SEPTEMBER General Meeting

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLITICS AND FOOD
DON'T MIX

TO THE EDITOR:

We love our Coop. We love our friends from our Coop. We love talking with them about food and cooking and health and children and schools and food. You want to know what else we love about our friends from our Coop? We love that we don't have to know about them the stuff we don't need to know about them—stuff that isn't our business anyway.

We want to preserve the friendly, cooperative and inclusive atmosphere of our Coop. We want our 11 General Meetings each year to be used only for things that will make our Coop better and better. We want our dedicated Coop staff to be able to do their jobs without unnecessary distractions. We want to maintain our Coop's reputation as welcome to all, committed to diversity, and opposed to discrimination in any form.

These will change if a proposal to hold a referendum to join the Global BDS (boycott, divest and sanctions of Israel) Movement is advanced to the General Meeting. At every food coop where a BDS effort was introduced, anger, hostility and disharmony followed. The biggest losers were the staffs and boards of directors who had to deal with it. We request the submitters to voluntarily withdraw their proposal from the Agenda Committee's list.

Let's be nice to each other. Let's keep it about the food and give peas a chance.

If you love the Coop, too, (or even if you only just like it) and you want to add your name to the list of people who want to keep the Coop GM free from divisive political issues that have no connection to the primary purpose of our Coop, then send an email to morehummus@gmail.com.

More Hummus, Please

Rhudi Andreoli, Maurice Appelbaum, Rebecca Appelbaum, Shena Gitel Astrin, Pauline Beam, Steven Berke, Ruth Bolletino, Elisa Bonneau, Matthew Brown, Darrin Cabot, Nathalie Cabot, Chana Crayk, Meir Crayk, Zusha Dean, Audrey Elias, Mickey Elias, Eli Eliav, Shayna Eliav, Carol Freeman, Riva Freeman, Beth Halpern, Devorah Hershkop, Esther Hertz, Sheldon Jacobson, Constantine Kaniklidis, David Kastin, Chaya Lang, Tzvi Lang, David Leveson, Margaret Leveson, Chana Lew, Sylvia Lowenthal, Abie Mazar, Avishay Mazar, Barbara Mazar, Poppy O'Neill, Rachel Ravitz, Yigal Rechter, Lila Rieman, Jill Robinson, Mirele Rosenberger, Jesse Rosenfeld, Tzivia Chaya Rosenthal, Ruth Seliger, Rivkah Siegel, Nancy Spitalnick, Allen Tobias, Baruch Weisman

WHY WE SHOULD DEBATE
THE ISRAELI BOYCOTT

TO THE EDITOR:

At the May 31 General Meeting, Jesse Rosenfeld made a speech urging the membership not to entertain a proposal that the Coop conduct a referendum on whether to boycott

Israeli goods. While I disagree with Jesse on the boycott question, that is not why I am writing. It is the reasons he gave for why we should avoid the issue. Jesse began his speech by saying that one of the main things that makes the Coop great is that we are such a welcoming community – as well as, in a gesture at good humor, his own enjoyment of flirting with other Coop members.

Now, I can't speak to how welcome people might find Jesse's flirtations. I've never had the pleasure. And while we strive to be accepting, I don't think everyone would agree that the Coop is always "welcoming." But semantics aside, from there Jesse stated that a dialogue on the boycott would inevitably destroy the welcoming environment of our Coop. He argued that divisiveness, disrespect, incivility and accusations of racism among Coop members are inevitable whenever the subject is discussed, citing as an example an allegedly rancorous debate at a food coop in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

There's no doubt that can be the case with debates about Israel/Palestine, as well as many other human rights issues. However, accepting the idea that we can't have a civil and respectful dialogue about an important issue, and therefore that we should not even broach it, would be toxic to the Coop and our ability to be a democratic organization. As members we have a responsibility to be respectful of each other, even and especially when we feel strongly about something. We also have a responsibility to raise concerns and make proposals that might be controversial when the Coop's values are at stake.

To drive home his point, Jesse characterized his proposal that the membership reject discussing the boycott proposal as being "bigger than that." But avoiding a difficult conversation is not a virtue—conducting ourselves with respect for one another in the course of one is. That is the kind of dialogue I hope we can have about Israel/Palestine, whatever the ultimate outcome.

Tim Judson

PSFC POLICIES AFFECT
HUMAN RIGHTS

TO THE EDITOR:

We're part of a group of members who believe it's in keeping with the Coop's mission to boycott Israeli goods as a response to the Palestinian call for a global boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) movement.

We realize that this proposal may bring to the surface very different and strongly-held views and feelings in our Coop community. But our intent is to promote a positive action at the Coop, meant to make human rights for all people a priority in our purchasing decisions. The Coop is a community that's concerned with justice, not just a grocery store, and we need to make

important decisions collectively.

Right now the Coop is operating by status quo, buying some Israeli products out of convenience and general appeal. However, there are certainly many members (including us!) who feel strongly that an organizational boycott is the right tactic to take in the struggle for equality and justice in Israel/Palestine. By proposing a referendum on this question, we want our voices to be heard, and we want to open up space so that members who share our views don't feel alienated by calls for "peace" that merely shut down healthy debate and the opportunity for an evolving Coop.

Many, many people were active in the anti-South African apartheid movement, and those of us who fight against Israeli apartheid policies are following in that tradition. How can our community shy away from engaging with issues around Israel/Palestine simply because it's so polarizing?

Obviously the idea of a boycott of Israeli goods is a difficult and emotional issue to many. A referendum would not take away people's voices or opinions—in fact, it does the opposite by giving a vote to each and every member. Expressing viewpoints via these letters in the *Gazette* is important. But taking action, ideally in the format of a referendum, is the most democratic path to a resolution.

We submitted this proposal for a Coop referendum on the boycott of Israeli goods to the Agenda Committee in February 2011. We are expecting it to be on the agenda of a General Meeting later this summer (we have not yet been notified by the Agenda Committee). Regardless of how you may ultimately vote, please remember that we are a community and we need to work out our differences collectively.

With respect and justice for all people,
Naomi Brussel, Thomas Cox

OPPOSING BDS THE
PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE
WAY

TO THE EDITOR:

Two *Linewaiters'* *Gazette* letters, signed by the group "More Hummus, Please," call for the withdrawal of a forthcoming General Meeting proposal to boycott, divest, and sanction Israel (because of harsh treatment of its occupied Arab population). Some of their claims need clarification.

In "A Peaceful, Conflict-Free Coop: Our Opposition to the BDS Proposal" (5/19/2011) the group claims that the BDS proposal, whether intentional or not, will "hurt" and "alienate a substantial number of Coop members" who "will no longer feel welcome" and "will choose to leave." One wonders why

these members should feel *personally* unwelcome. Will they suddenly perceive anti-Semitism where none existed previously?

Do they equate the policies of the current Israeli government with the entirety of the Jewish people? Do they consider the many Jewish citizens of Israel who oppose the government's policies as anti-Israel and anti-Semitic?

Does it matter that some of the *Gazette's* letter writers who support BDS are themselves Jews, and may have had relatives who perished in the Holocaust, or who perhaps have relatives living in Israel? Is it really conceivable that these members—the supporters of BDS—are unappreciative of the high emotions surrounding the issue? More likely they also feel strongly about the issue, and object to the Coop selling products from a country whose government has implemented such harsh treatment of people.

Also more likely, the 5/19 letter is an emotional ploy meant to chasten the membership into a numbed avoidance of the issue altogether. Were the proposal to pass, and if resignations ensue, we should be clear that they will not be due to an unwelcoming Coop. Rather, the resignations will be in *protest* of the Coop's decision, a perfectly valid form of political and personal expression. But the protesters will be rejecting the Coop, not vice versa. The parties "hurt" by adopting BDS will not be Coop members, but Israel's commercial interests, who hopefully will put pressure on their government to change its treatment of its occupied Arab civilians.

In "Withdraw Referendum Proposal" (6/2/2011) the authors claim that BDS leaders "have openly expressed their opposition to the two-state solution" and ultimately want to end "the existence of the Jewish State." BDS endorsement would therefore contradict the Coop's mission statement.

First, I challenge anyone to find text in our mission statement to support this claim. Second, the use of the term "Jewish State" is misleading. What BDS leaders have openly called for is a *one-state* solution, with all the inhabitants of Israel and the West Bank deemed full citizens, and an end to laws *privileging* Jewish ethnicity and religion. BDS leaders are not calling for the destruction of Israel, as implied by the lurid "Jewish State" wording.

States based on ethnicity or religion are by definition undemocratic. Arabs have everything to gain from integrating into a truly democratized Israel, as do Jews. Then the country would be in truth what it often claims to be: the Middle East's only democracy and an example for the rest of the region.

David Barouh

CORRECTION

In the May 19 issue, the *Gazette* failed to retain the italicized portions of Albert Solomon's letter, and we regret this error. Solomon used italics to highlight his correspondence with another member.

CLASSIFIEDS

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CARING AND RELIABLE, thoughtful and happy Park Slope Grandma seeks opportunities for childcare and babysitting, part-time daytime, evenings, weekends — when available. References provided. Please call 718-783-9460.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY: ASST. NEEDED IN HOLISTIC OPTOMETRIC OFFICE in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Interest in holistic health and exp. working with children and adults necessary. P/T after school hours Mon and Tues. Please send a personally composed cover letter only. Please cut and paste the letter to alteyedr1@AOL.com

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PEOPLE MEETING

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CASTING CALL Seeking members who can share stories about personal connection with other members. I can be romantic, work related or otherwise. The film is part of a research project on sustainability, and will be on view at hyenalife.org. If you are interested in sharing your story on camera, please contact Iki at iki@hyenalife.org

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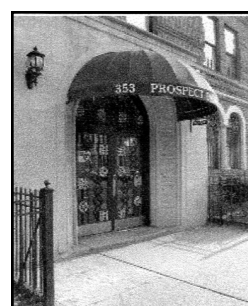
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Read the *Gazette* while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

Lake Huntington

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

community. And so, inspired by the example of the hugely successful Park Slope Food Coop, we propose the elimination of all contractors from the community and their replacement by a maintenance work requirement. Every member of every shareholder family will be required to work as follows:

- 2 weekends in the spring to open the community
- 1 entire week during the summer
- 2 weekends in the fall to close the community

Think of the many benefits this system will bring: replacing the superficial sense of community you

get from eating and drinking to excess with a real sense of community grounded in working together; learning useful skills, like plumbing and electrical; getting to drive the Kubota (you know you want to!)

Even with how very annoying a band of vacationing city folk can get when forced to get cooperative, the tradeoff is completely worth it. Even kid-frees could get something out of staging a salsa night takeover, introducing lap dancing to the talent show or making s'mores at the bonfire. You can take or leave the many activities such as potluck dinners, talent shows, movie night, game night, pool, lake and field days, dances, bonfires, sing-a-

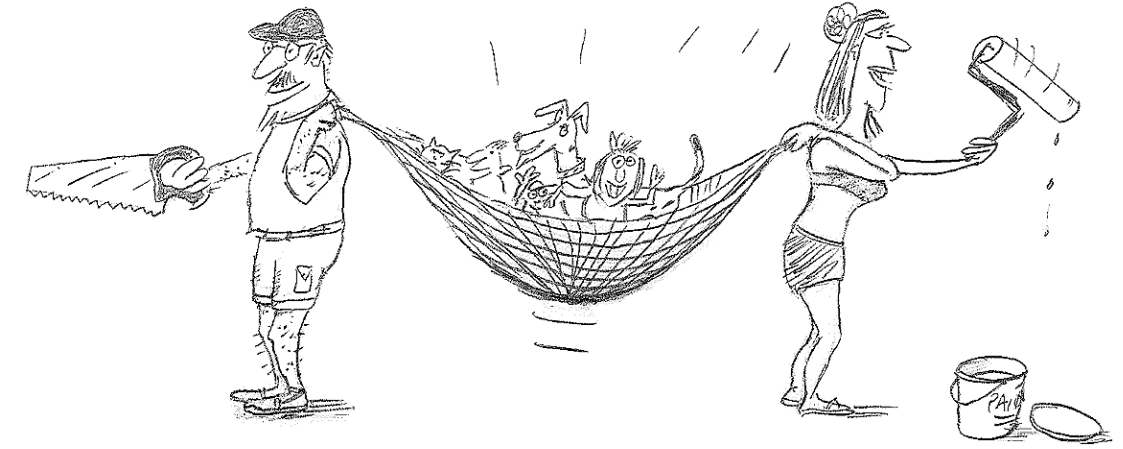


ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

longs and spooky nights. Whatever your tolerance level for socializing, Lake Huntington is a wonderful place to unwind, a perfect locale for reunions, and an ideal base camp for area

field trips.

This summer vacation can be yours for a whole lot less than a Hamptons timeshare or a play farm in Columbia County. Plus, if you just visit, you

don't even have to sit through the five-hour-long semi-annual meetings or debate the fine points of deck fees. Find out more at lakehuntingtonsummercommunity.com. ■

Battle for Brooklyn

What would you do if New York State tried to take your home?

By Jezra Kaye

That was the question Park Slope Food Coop member Daniel Goldstein faced in 2003 when he discovered that the Empire State Development Corporation (an unelected state agency) planned to raze his apartment to make way for a privately-owned basketball arena.

The eight-year struggle that followed was recorded by Brooklyn filmmakers Michael Galinsky and Suki Hawley, and has been distilled into their new documentary, *Battle for Brooklyn*. Hailed by the local and international press as "feisty but fairly told," "thoroughly engaging," "riveting," and "superb storytelling," the film opens its theatrical run on June 17, 18 and 19 at Cinema Village in Manhattan.

This powerful story follows the

epic struggle of Prospect Heights residents and small business owners to prevent the demolition of their neighborhood. From activist Patti Hagan's first warning that mega-developer Bruce Ratner was going to be given 22 acres of prime real estate around the MTA's Flatbush and Atlantic rail yards, through the complex process of organizing an opposition movement from scratch, to the city and state officials who, with notable exceptions, shielded the largest development project in NYC history from public input, *Battle for Brooklyn* details the horrifying, powerful and moving experience of a community fighting against massive odds for its soul.

While the fight involved thousands of local residents and supporters (Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn,

which Goldstein co-founded, raised over \$2 million in small donations), *Battle for Brooklyn* focuses on the personal odyssey of Daniel Goldstein and his wife and fellow activist Shabnam Merchant. As Steve Dollar wrote in the *Wall Street Journal*, "Nothing depicts the borough's backbone with more personality and urgency than Battle for Brooklyn... a crisp, dramatic and narrator-free 93 minutes, focusing on the remarkable story of neighborhood activist Daniel Goldstein, the last resident in a Pacific Street building marked for demolition through eminent domain."

And though developer Bruce Ratner *did* ultimately exercise his state-given right to demolish close to 1,000 businesses and homes, the

story is not over. In the words of New York Daily News reporter Michael O'Keeffe, *Battle for Brooklyn* has exposed "how corporate interests enlist their allies in government to get what they want, even if that means lying to the public and screwing people who lack deep pockets and political connections." Filmmakers Galinsky and Hawley hope that their movie will educate and sensitize other communities to the dangers they face from eminent domain abuse. "We've had interest from theaters around the country," Galinsky said at a recent Brooklyn Film Festival showing. "They're just waiting to see how the film does in New York." ■

Member Contribution

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

You never know where it will be:

In the silent shadows of the leaves
where the sparrow's bright eye shines

or when a fleet of sparrows fling
out of the bushes like seed

or in the silence of the car as you wait at
the light

or how the stranger reorders your words
and they describe your destiny

or when the sun shines through the trees
to lay petals of light on the ground
and you walk through them and they
flutter

Or when a party of men and machines
pull up the walkway with racketing noise
and lay down a pavement as quiet as a
grave

Be alert

what you are looking for
hides in plain sight

It's not what you think

It's what you are

The Park Slope Food Coop
Everything You're Looking For

by Myra Klockenbrink

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

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