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LINEWAITERS'

GAZETTE



Volume HH, Number 7

April 4, 2013

March Meeting Highlights Candidates for Election, Explores Response to LICH Closing

By Frank Haberle

Hosted in MS 51's cavernous auditorium, a sparsely-attended March 19 General Meeting featured presentations by two of the four candidates for the upcoming Board election; a vote on the re-election of members of the Disciplinary Committee; and a discussion on whether the Coop should take an active role in efforts to prevent the impending closing of Long Island College and Interfaith Hospitals. These three main agenda items followed Coordinator reports covering a range of items, from the need for a new air conditioning system, to the state of our produce, to the Coop's position on plastic bags.

Candidates for the Board of Directors

In the upcoming Spring election, Coop members will vote to fill two open positions for our Board. As explained by current Board member Bill Penner, the Coop has a six-member Board. Imani O'ryn, a current Board member, is running for re-election. Three other candidates, Deena Hays, Zoey Laskaris and Sara Matthews, are seeking election to the Board for the first time.

Two candidates, Deena Hays and Zoey Laskaris, presented. Imani O'ryn was away on business, but sent a representative to answer questions. Sara Matthews was not in attendance. Deena and Zoey were invited to speak to the members before answering questions.

Deena began by encouraging members to read her statement in the Gazette. "After considering the content of the Gazette and the content of conversations with other members," she stated, "a main concern is clearly the cost of food." Deena also spoke of concerns about quality of life and the need to create an environment that is right for all of us. She asked everyone in the meeting to consider what our needs are, and how we can create the quality of life we need at a price we can afford.

Zoey told the story of how she joined the Coop with her family when she was four years old; she has been a member for 23 years. She has a Masters Degree in Public Health and has worked with 911 first responders and Sandy responders. She bikes daily to her job in Flushing, Queens. She has helped farmer Ray Bradley at the Grand Army Plaza Farmers' Market for many years. Zoey cited the reasons she is interested in becoming a Board member. First, her many years within the Coop have helped her build a strong sense of what the Coop and its members need. Secondly, as a younger person, she feels able to represent the many young people who are involved at the Coop. "The Coop is a very important place for me," Zoey said. "It is ingrained in me."

The questions opened with Jesse Rosenfeld, Coop Secretary, asking the candidates to clarify the responsibilities of the Board. "We need to address what is important to us," Deena

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Cell Phones While Working: Is It Time For a Policy?



ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

By Ed Levy

Noting the ubiquity of Smartphones, tablets and iwhatnots, George Jones writes for the Raycon News Network that "people find it hard to resist a personal assistant, day planner, media player, web browser and link to almost every person in their lives that fits inside a single device they can slide into their pockets."

Indeed. The paradox of personal digital assistants (PDAs), however, is that they both connect and separate us. You can reach anyone anytime with a

call, text, tweet or email. And going fast are the days when you can come home and plead that you lost the shopping list and that's why you forgot the half and half. Now, if there's no more sharp cheddar in the end cap, you can instantly get clearance from home to buy the Brie instead, and don't forget the dish soap.

On the Phone, On a Work Shift: Some Examples and Reactions

But our Smartphones and iPods also encapsulate us in a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Next General Meeting on April 30

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The April General Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 30, at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

The agenda is in this Gazette, on the Coop website at www.foodcoop.com and available as a flier in the entryway of the Coop. For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

Coop Event Highlights

Thu, Apr 4• Food Class:
Cherry Blossom-Inspired Dishes 7:30 p.m.

Fri, Apr 5• Film Night: My Brooklyn 7:00 p.m.

Tue, Apr 9• Safe Food Committee Film Night:
The Botany of Desire 7:00 p.m.

Fri, Apr 12• Wordsprouts: Group Reading:
To Mark National Poetry Month 7:00 p.m.

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

IN THIS ISSUE

Meet the Gazette Reporters and Editors	4
Environmental Committee Report, Puzzle	5
Brooklyn Food Coalition, From the Archives	6
Safe Food Committee Report.	7
Coop Calendar, Governance Information, Mission Statement.	9
Calendar of Events	10
Letters to the Editor	12
Candidates for Board of Directors	14
Classifieds	15

March GM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

responded. "What products does the Coop need and what does the Coop need to do to achieve that? As individuals, we need to consider our food choices. Are we just buying food? Are we concerned about fracking? Sandy? Products from Israel? How do we engage in these issues? Are we governing ourselves well? We need to be able to take action." Zoey pointed out that being a Board member of the Coop is a work shift. "It is the responsibility of Board members to come to the meetings, to listen to what is happening, and to vote. As a Board member, it is my role to heed the advice of the members."

A question from Tim Platt, member of the Chair Committee, asked the candidates if they felt the role of the Board is an activist role, or a man-

agement role. Zoey responded, "As a member, my opinions matter. As a Board member, my opinions do not matter. My vote as a Board member will be in response to what people say. I do not see this as an activist role." Deena referred to a passage from the Coop's bylaws: 'the Coordinators will administer the affairs of the Coop as directed by the Board.' "This tells me you are complying with the advice of the people in the meeting," she said. "Is it a matter of educating people? We need to agree on how we're being governed." Deena will require each committee to report to her. "I will need, first, a report from each committee. What are you doing well, and what as individuals do you need to do to govern yourselves as a committee."

Disciplinary Committee Election

Paul Van Horn of the Disciplinary Committee spoke briefly of the responsibilities of the Disciplinary Committee—"to make sure the rules are enforced"—before presenting three current members of the committee who he hoped the membership would reelect for a new term: Michelle Giordano, Jeff Goodman and Grace Protos. Grace introduced herself as a member since 2004. "I'm pleased with the work we do," she said. "I like that we attempt to do well by Coop members and look at the Coop's needs as a place of safety." Michelle, a member for the last three years, stated that she looks forward to another term so she can continue to advocate for members. The third candidate, Jeff, could not attend the meeting.

The GM elected all three candidates.

Action on LICH

Carl Biers, a Coop member for the last 22 years, then came forward to discuss the need to help keep Long Island College Hospital open. A local campaign is asking businesses to put posters in windows in support of LICH; Carl's request is to ask the Coop to adopt this policy, to have members sign a petition and to write a letter of support. Carl then introduced Saul Melman, a Coop member of six years

and an attending LICH emergency room physician. Saul spoke to LICH's 150 year history of innovation and service to the community, and of the huge role it plays today in providing medical care not only to residents of Brooklyn Heights and Cobble Hill but to Red Hook Houses, one of the City's largest public housing facilities. Today, Saul pointed out, LICH serves 200,000 people annually, including 60,000 through its emergency room. Saul gave the background of the economic struggles LICH has faced in recent years and its problematic relationships with Continuum Health Care and then SUNY Downstate. As Saul stated, "If LICH's emergency room closes, people will die." The increased response time for ambulances to travel to the community and back to other emergency rooms, and the

increased volume of patients and waiting times in those emergency rooms, will cost lives and put enormous strain on other hospitals.

Carl and Saul's request for an immediate vote on the Coop taking action could not be met, as it was on the agenda as a discussion item, not an item to be brought to a vote. A straw poll by the meeting chair showed the attending members overwhelmingly in favor of having the Coop take action. Many Coop members got up to speak on behalf of the great services they received at LICH and the need to keep the facility open; one member, however, relayed a horror story of being trapped with a medical emergency in the hospital for a week. Another questioned whether this was a fight the Coop doesn't need to take on right now. ■



ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

CORRECTION

A recent article citing a new novel by *Linewaiters' Gazette* editor Petra E. Lewis, referred to the title of her trilogy but did not include the title of the individual first novel, which is *The Sons and Daughters of Ham, Book I: A Requiem*. The article referenced purchasing the novel on amazon.com, where it will be available post-launch. However, at the present time, pre-orders of Ms. Lewis' novel must be made at <http://hamnovels.com/buy-the-book/>.

GMO ROUND UP!

Transgenics, the Coop, and You

Average number of products available at the PSFC:

8500

Approx number of products verified non-GMO*:

650

Look for the Green Dot

Unit Price	RETAIL PRICE	
\$3.84	\$3.84	
QT	32 OZ	6.0
SO DELICIOUS COCONUT KEFIR - PLAIN		
NON GMO		

* as of 3/7/13

Visit www.nongmoproject.com
or email sayno2GMO@gmail.com

This notice is brought to you by the GMO Shelf Labeling Committee of the PSFC: www.gmodanger.wordpress.com

Coop Band Nite

The Fun Committee is looking for bands (various genres including rock, folk rock, funk, indie, etc.)

to perform on June 1 at Freddy's Back Room.

Please contact Sarah Safford at saffo1953@gmail.com or drop off demo CD with Jason Weiner at the Coop.

Deadline for submission is April 28.

Cell Phones

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

very private world of music, games, messages, news and information, our ears sealed off by buds. If you've been waiting on line for 15 minutes, and finally made it to the chocolate and have been standing there resisting the impulse to buy any, and you're just one shopper away from checking out with your 15 (well, actually 18, but no one will ever find out) items, how do you feel when the checkout person who has just finished with a customer, instead of waving you over, puts his head down and starts typing with two thumbs?

Not that great, I bet. Some members are bothered enough to leave messages for the coordinators and squad leaders, or write letters to the *Gazette* about entrance and exit workers who are too distracted by their handhelds; about the person who's supposed to verify that you have three and only three bags when you leave the store but is staring at the display on her phone while she runs the orange marker over your receipt? About people who leave the stocking of shelves to their fellow squad workers while they check out the ball scores, the message from their boss or the alternate side rules for tomorrow?

General Coordinator Ann Herpel told the *Gazette* that while staff have been discussing cell phone use by workers in the store since before the cell phone became smart, they haven't yet come up with a plan for addressing it. Particularly among younger people, she pointed out, frequently checking a handheld for messages has become normative. In fact, a Pew Research survey found that while the average adult sends 41 text messages per day, the average person between the ages of 18 and 24 sends 109.

"How do you feel when the checkout person who has just finished with a customer, instead of waving you over, puts his head down and starts typing with two thumbs?"

Eighty percent of all human beings now own a cell phone, with 327 million phones in the U.S. (this is greater than the U.S. population of 310 million, as of June 2012). That number is only growing. For many families, maintaining both a cell phone and a landline is no longer economical. And for people who are themselves

mobile, having a personal phone number that doesn't change is a huge advantage.

Ann recalled once being asked to intervene with a member who was on an animated conference call during her work shift and refused to end it, despite many requests. After heated exchanges with Ann and the squad leader, she muted the phone, but continued to listen. She asserted that she had important business to conduct and wasn't going to let her shift get in the way of it.

Another legendary case involved an office worker who was supposed to answer the Coop's phone but spent most of the time talking on her own.

Ann's advice to people who feel they have vital business to attend to while they're doing their shifts: Please speak to your squad leader and arrange a makeup.

Member Opinions

How do Coop members feel about the use of PDAs during work shifts? Some people we surveyed informally while waiting on the checkout line apparently didn't notice it or feel as strongly about it as those wrote letters and left notes.

Jennifer Kuipers said, "I've had great checker outers not using electronic devices. I've never had a problem with this."

Polly Thistlethwaite agreed, "It doesn't bother me at all. If there's a little gap in the action, I think it's perfectly okay to check an email."

Todd Pigot: "I haven't really had much experience with people doing that...maybe with a checkout person texting when no one is there, but other than that, I haven't really seen it."

Others described how they have seen workers using their PDAs.

Kyoko Sagara said she has noticed it. "There are people that are working in the aisles that I see using their phones."

Stephanie Vogel was clear that she herself was not into it. "I do checkout and I don't use my phone when I'm working."

Caroline Gabler-Brett agreed.

But eight or nine others were annoyed by the practice—most citing people who texted or used their phones when they were in roles that involved serving other members. One woman had an expanded view of the issue, saying she objected to unnecessary cell phone use from a health point of view, since our bodies were not meant to experience the constant low levels of radiation they emanate. And with a bold indifference to political correctness a young man ventured that if it's a beautiful woman using the handheld,



ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

he doesn't like it, but if it's a guy, he doesn't really care.

Ruthie Kinch felt it depends entirely on how much and how often. "I think that if it's something important and it's during your shift then you might jot down a quick text, like you would answer a phone call, but just sitting there texting the whole time that's not the way you do the job."

Sample Policy Guidelines

Legalzoom.com notes that some companies have established cell phone policies primarily for two reasons—their increased use is costing them money, as employees devote less time to their jobs, and

the increased distraction exposes companies to potential liability. They suggest a number of guidelines:

1. Be reasonable. For the sake of morale and personal freedom, some sparing use of PDAs should be permitted.
2. They should not be used at all around heavy machinery or in dangerous situations.
3. They should not be used if you are driving during your shift.
4. Out of respect for co-workers' privacy, camera phones should not be used at work.
5. Everyone should know what the policy is.

Intrstng. Lts tlk mor abt ths. ■

BROOKLYN
COALITION

A BENEFIT FOR THE BROOKLYN FOOD COALITION

WORKING TOWARD A HEALTHY, JUST AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM FOR ALL

AN EVENING WITH **MARK BITTMAN** IN DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN

APRIL 30 • 6PM
LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY
FLATBUSH & DEKALB AVENUES
SCHWARTZ ATHLETIC CENTER
(FORMERLY THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE)

\$20 MARK'S TALK
\$10 STUDENT PRICE LIMITED AVAILABILITY - VALID ID REQUIRED
\$175 VIP DINNER 4-COURSE DINNER, WINE, SIGNED BOOK & TICKET TO TALK INCLUDED

TICKET SALES
WWW.BROOKLYNFOODCOALITION.ORG


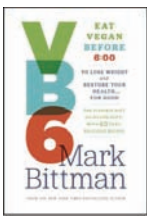
ABOUT THE SPEAKER
Mark Bittman, whose column, *The Minimalist*, ran in the Dining section of *The New York Times* for more than 13 years, is a *Times Opinion* columnist, the lead food writer for *The Times Magazine*, and a columnist for the *Times Dining* section. His books include the bestselling *"How to Cook Everything"* and the groundbreaking *"Food Matters"*, which explores the crucial connections among food, health and the environment, and provides tangible guidance for Americans rethinking their diets.

Book signing and purchasing available at the event.

WEBSITE www.BrooklynFoodCoalition.org **EMAIL** info@brooklynfoodcoalition.org

Poster: Ben Langsfeld

The BFC is Fiscally Sponsored by Open Space Institute

BAY RIDGE FOOD CO-OP

We're a community looking to bring **HEALTHY, LOCAL, AFFORDABLE** food to South Brooklyn but **NOT WITHOUT YOU!**

BECOME A MEMBER
As a member you have a say in what we carry, how we operate and a hand in getting us off the ground!

SHOP WITH US
A store is our goal but for now we're operating as a biweekly buying club. Stop by and learn more!

UPCOMING DISTRIBUTIONS
Friday, April 19
Tuesday, April 30
5:30 to 7:30pm at the First Free Church
6501 6th Avenue (Parking Available!)

****Get FTOP CREDIT for your work****

 fb.com/bayridgefoodcoop

Meet the *Linewaiters' Gazette* Reporters and Editors—Part One

By Alison Rose Levy

Taigi Smith



A member for over a year, Taigi Smith has been a professional journalist for almost 20 years, and currently works for a major television network. A published author, she is the editor of an anthology, and her writing has appeared in *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *New York Newsday*, *Essence* and numerous literary anthologies.

"Why Folks Fly the Coop," her most recent article, "ruffled a few feathers... and I also like writing service pieces like the recent piece on foods that can help breastfeeding women produce more milk. I could've never written that story for my 'day job.'"

Smith loves the kale, the baked goods and the chocolate bars dusted with sea salt. "I'm addicted to the beauty aisle," says Smith. Her daughter, Savannah, is a sucker for a good scone, which when frozen "can keep a teething baby entertained for hours."

Brian Dentz



Brian started reporting for two weekly newspapers covering the West Side of Manhattan, later working as a reporter for a daily newspaper in McComb, Mississippi. Currently Dentz works as a freelance television cameraman, shooting news, documentary and reality TV.

Having the privilege to write for the *Gazette* gives Dentz the chance to pursue subjects and issues he's passionate about, giving him the excuse to talk with roof top farmers and fermentation activists. Brian is looking forward to this year's growing

season so he can write about agriculture, hang with farmers and ask many questions.

For Dentz, the Coop is a temple, where he worships once a week. He has prayed at the dry food bin section for about seven years. On every visit he bumps into friends. One favorite corner he likes to explore is the end aisle opposite the chicken section. The many Mediterranean specialty items always intrigue him and make him nostalgic for Spain, where his daughter and wife were born.

Lily Rothman



A member since 2011, Rothman works for the entertainment section of Time.com and *Time Magazine*. Her freelance work has appeared in *Slate*, the *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic.com*, *The Villager*, and *The L Magazine*, among other outlets.

The food-centric pieces Rothman has written for the *Gazette* have impacted her own shopping habits. "I end up taking my own advice, and gotten items I would have never thought to try before, like whole local sardines (not the kind in a can!) and quince paste."

Her favorite special things? Boucheron cheese and kumquats.

Allison Pennell



Allison Pennell is a freelance writer/editor whose work has regularly appeared on *F'd in Park Slope*, *iVillage*, *Babble*, *Parents*, *Brooklyn Breeder* and *RIP Nick Jr. Magazine*, where she was a longtime feature writer and columnist. She's currently procrastinating about whether to start a citywide online franchise for snark and war stories called *Urbanistan*. When not writing,

Pennell tends to the myriad needs of her annoying but lovable family, including but not limited to: walking the dog, parking the car, teaching life skills, breaking up fights and eating organic bon-bons and walking the dog.

"The Coop has a very gemütlich vibe. I like that they make us work together. Even when I hate that," says Pennell. A member for almost a decade, for Pennell, "It always comes as a pleasant surprise that I haven't been fired and my article hasn't been run through a Cuisinart."

Her must have item? Fennel.

"I understand that for many members, the Coop is primarily a store. But for me, it is essentially an experiment in living, and the conversation that tracks and shapes that ongoing process is documented in the Gazette."

—Tom Matthews,
Gazette reporter

Alison Rose Levy



A member for 15 years, Levy has covered the natural health and food movements, and interviewed and written books (including two New York Times bestsellers) with its leaders. In 2007, Levy expanded her coverage to policy and advocacy, and broke the story on fracking on the Huffington Post in 2009. She currently reports on AlterNet and her radio program, *Connect the Dots*.

"After 9/11, seeing the diversity here soothed my heart. The Coop is my local home base community and also my model for what can be. When I first came here, I wondered why there was a GMO Labeling committee. Now GMOs are part of my beat."

Staple foods: "The produce aisle is paradise. Where else can you get organic bitter melon and okra—and lychees (even though they're not organic?)"

Diane Aronson



A member for 20 years plus, Diane Aronson is a professional wordsmith. Project manager, copy chief, associate managing editor, freelance editor, she has worn many different editing hats in the publishing world.

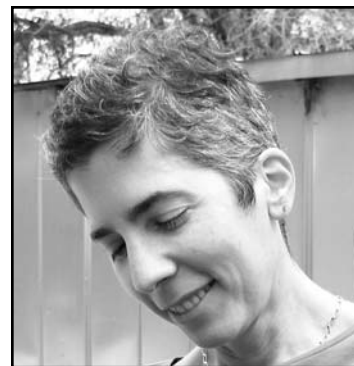
"Whether it's a tense GM vote or a crazy Sunday afternoon at the Coop, we engage with each other as comembers. It's fascinating bond," says Aronson. Whether writing *Gazette* articles or editing them, Aronson loves the foodie/political fusion, which she calls "a blend of *Saveur* and *Mother Jones*. I've learned some delicious tips about food and gained some mind-changing perspectives about the world where that food is grown and consumed."

Current staples are Yogi chai green tea and chocolate-covered candied orange pieces.

"Few places remain where you're not allowed to buy your way out of responsibilities; the Coop is one."

—Hayley Gorenberg,
Gazette reporter

Hayley Gorenberg



Fresh out of college, Gorenberg won a journalism fellowship and later wrote for the Associated Press and edited a community newspaper. Wanting to change the world, Gorenberg went to law school, became a civil rights lawyer, and now works as Deputy Legal Director of Lambda Legal, the nation's oldest and largest national organization dedicated to achieving the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and people with HIV.

A member since 1993, Gorenberg loves "the community of interesting, quirky people who care about good food, social responsibility and the environment. I also appreciate the work requirement that applies to all members, regardless of money. Few places remain where you're not allowed to buy your way out of responsibilities; the Coop is one."

Gorenberg's passions are civil rights, the environment and the arts. Interviewing Coop members who make music, or who work to keep New York's water clean, "let's me just be curious!"

Her staples: Fresh roasted unsalted mixed nuts from the bulk bins. "Nut connoisseurs tell me they're the best in the city."

Tom Matthews



As the executive editor of *Wine Spectator*, (the largest-circulation wine magazine in the world, with 400,000 subscribers and more than three million readers), Thomas Matthews oversees a staff of 40 writers, editors and art directors for both print and Internet operations, based in New York and Napa Valley. He is the lead taster for the wines of Spain and one of the magazine's principal restaurant reviewers and travel writers. Matthews and his wife Sara, a photographer, published *A Village in the Vineyards*, an account of their experiences in France.

A member since the early 1990s, Matthews "dislikes stores of every kind and has avoided shopping at the Coop." But he values the Coop as a "community striving to embody and uphold a set of principles, that begin with cooperation, fairness and sustainability."

"Writing for the *Gazette* allows me to explore this community, through the research I do for my articles, and to be part of its ongoing process of self-understanding and self-expression. I understand that for many members, the Coop is primarily a store. But for me, it is essentially an experiment in living, and the conversation that tracks and shapes that ongoing process is documented in the *Gazette*." ■

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The May 28 Plastic Bag Vote: What It Is, What It Isn't

By Regina Sandler-Phillips

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, May 28, Coop members will be asked to vote on the following proposal:

To phase out the free distribution of plastic roll bags on the Coop's shopping floor by 6 months from the date of the GM vote. Shoppers are welcome to reuse plastic bags already taken from the Coop and elsewhere. Environmental Committee and other concerned Coop members will continue to work with our General Coordinators to educate our membership, provide a wider range of light-weight reusable bags for purchase, and determine the most equitable and sustainable adjustments for weighing produce and bulk products.

The Environmental Committee has sponsored this proposal with the support of many concerned Coop members, in ongoing dialogue with our General Coordinators. We welcome the growing awareness and discussion of this issue in the Gazette, at General Meetings and elsewhere, and want everyone to understand the issues at stake.

We have sponsored this proposal to protect the Coop's triple bottom line. Our Mission Statement (see the centerfold of every Gazette) and Environmental Policy (see the Coop website) commit the Coop to what is known as a "triple bottom line," or TBL. First introduced in the mid-1990s as an accounting framework to evaluate the sustainability of business ventures, the TBL integrates concern for the "three P's" of Profits, People, and the Planet. In other words, the Coop is obligated in its bottom-line impact to balance financial success with social and environmental sustainability.

The uncontrolled distribution of 2,579,520 never-biodegradable plastic bags each year—7,067 each day—violates the social and environmental principles of our triple bottom line. We urge all concerned Coop members to vote with us to uphold our TBL and sustain the quality of life for all concerned, as per the language of our six-month phase-out proposal:

"Shoppers are welcome to reuse plastic bags already taken from the Coop and elsewhere."

Contrary to the language used by some detractors, this is NOT a "ban on plastic bags" at the Coop. It is an initiative to phase out their free distribution. Plastic bags will still be used at the Coop, and will still be available for purchase. But be aware: every plastic bag we discard—even after multiple uses—ends up choking our environment. Plastic never biodegrades, and continues to release toxins.

"Environmental Committee and other concerned Coop members will continue to work with our General Coordinators to educate our membership."

Educational efforts include not only improved signage, but also concerns

for store design and how our merchandise is displayed. For example, the current proliferation of plastic bag rolls among such dry and naturally-enclosed produce as avocados and onions sends a message that runs counter to our best educational efforts.

In the aisles where such plastic bags are distributed, if you look up, you will see that vivid educational signs have long been in place to encourage the use of reusable bags. Unfortunately, since these signs—as well as the reusable bags available for purchase—are generally not at eye level, they are almost always overlooked.

"Environmental Committee and other concerned Coop members will continue to work with our General Coordinators to...determine the most equitable and sustainable adjustments for weighing produce and bulk products."

Our computer checkout system cannot currently accommodate more than one "tare weight"—i.e., the percentage deducted from the price of a bulk product to account for container weight. From a TBL perspective, the most equitable short-term solution may be to adjust the uniform tare weight to an average weight of ALL bags—including plastic bags—used for bulk purchases.

In this way, the Coop and individual shoppers can share financial responsibility for the sustainability to which our TBL has committed all of us. The six-month phase-out period will facilitate clarification of this and related issues.

"Environmental Committee and other concerned Coop members will continue to work with our General Coordinators to...provide a wider range of light-weight reusable bags for purchase."

Our Environmental Committee has long been working to make a broader selection of reusable bags available for purchase—including bags whose tare weight is significantly less than the muslin bags currently on sale at the Coop. We look forward to continued cooperation in providing additional reusable bag options, and welcome the practical tips that have been and continue to be shared by many members.

At the General Meeting discussion of this issue in May 2012, member questions reflected a general willingness to uphold our TBL over convenience and cost—with one member even declaring that she "would be thrilled to pay" for sustainable alternatives to plastic bags.

Gazette articles and letters have reflected a similar trend. In "Are Coop Shoppers Willing to Give Up Plastic Bags?" (5/3/12), the last word comes from new Coop member Liz King: "It's hard to remember to bring [bags] from home. But I'd be proud of myself for remembering to do it." And member Tony Luchese in the 11/29/12 Gazette affirmed: "Plastic bags should continue to be made available, but for purchase and not for 'free'... Hopefully, this will result in the shoppers using fewer bags, and using the bags they've already purchased again and

again...[which] could greatly reduce the amount of plastic bags ending up in the waste stream."

Most recently in the 3/7/12 Gazette, Brent Kramer observed: "Neither plastic produce bags nor reusable shopping bags take up any room in a backpack or jacket pocket. Keep one there!"

Even if we occasionally forget to bring reusable bags, we all have choices whenever we shop. **Whatever bags we use, when we pay for them, we accept responsibility for the catastrophic environmental costs of plastic that are usually not passed along to us as consumers.**

While we would all appreciate more convenience in our shopping, the Coop has never been a "convenience store." Our triple bottom line, with its commitment to people and the planet as well as profits, is what makes the sustainable difference. Help us to protect it on May 28! ■

For more info about the proposal to phase out the free distribution of plastic bag rolls, visit www.ecokvetch.blogspot.com/p/phase-out-faq.html.

Exporting Cooperation:

Gazette reporters are seeking information for an article on expanding the cooperative model to other food coops, businesses, and organizations.

If you have any experience with this, or know of any studies, contact Ed Levy at levyed@earthlink.net

RETURN POLICY



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

REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

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

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

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

NEVER RETURNABLE

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

RETURNABLE ONLY IF SPOILED BEFORE EXPIRATION DATE
Packaging/label must be presented for refund.

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

RETURNABLE

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

Bread and Circuses

The first century Roman poet Juvenal first used the phrase "Bread and Circuses" in lamenting the only-remaining cares of a population grown apathetic to politics and the place of Rome in the ancient world. It has come to be a common phrase describing the public's interest in spectacle and satisfaction of base needs, and disinterest in culture, politics, or progress.

Below is a list of breads and circus acts. Can you tell which is which?

Puran Poli
Corde Lisse
Columba Pasquale
Roman Ladders
Danish Pole
Bulkie Roll
French Sticks
Devil Sticks
Rolling Globe
Appam Hoppers
Diabolo
Puftaloon
Nudger
Bannock
Jultagi
Injera
Bammy
Risley
Tissu
Lyra
Pretzel

Puzzle author: Stuart Marquis. For answers, see page 15.

BROOKLYN FOOD COALITION

Labor Activists and Community Residents: Join Us In a Rally to Support Golden Farm Supermarket Workers

Saturday, April 6, from 1 to 3 p.m., at Church Ave. and Fourth St.

By Jean Weisman

In 2008, the workers at Golden Farm, an intermediate size supermarket in Kensington, filed a complaint with the New York State Department of Labor because they weren't receiving minimum wage or overtime pay. In 2011, after an article was published about their working conditions, the owner began to pay them minimum wage, overtime pay and an extra hour of pay after 10 hours. They contacted New York Communities for Change and the law firm Advocates for Justice and filed a lawsuit for back pay. In May of 2012, a majority of the workers voted to join the union Local

338 RWDSU/UFCW. They are currently negotiating a contract, demanding raises above the minimum wage, paid sick days, holidays, personal days and vacation days.

New York Communities for Change played a critical role in organizing support for the workers. They have been demonstrating outside the store with community residents urging the owner to sign a new contract. They leafleted in this diverse community with leaflets in English, Spanish, Russian, Polish and Bangladeshi. They talked to many residents who normally shop in the store and asked them to support a boycott. They orga-

nized community meetings with equipment for simultaneous translation. Numerous articles were published in the press about the struggles of the Golden Farm Workers.

According to PACER, the website for the court docket, they recently won a settlement in back pay of \$100,000 for 13 workers who filed a suit.

According to Lucas Sanchez, an organizer for New York Communities for Change, they are currently supporting workers in 30 different stores throughout the city. Many of the workers in the stores have successfully won cases for back pay. The support they received from community residents, other organizations such as the Brooklyn Food Coalition and the unions has been critical to the success of their struggle.

Felix Trinidad, one of the leaders of the struggle, died in July 2012 from stomach cancer. He had pains in his stomach which he thought were ulcers that would heal with time. He didn't have medical insurance or paid sick days so he continued to work. He finally went to a hospital when he started spitting up blood after he lifted a milk crate. He is survived by his wife and two children. After he died, community members raised money to support his family. City Council member Brad Lander (D-39th District) is calling on the owner to negotiate a contract with the workers and give back pay to Trinidad's widow. He stated in the Daily News, "His low-income family has no other source of income; they're surviving on contributions and donations. The right thing for Sonny Kim to do is to help them out."

According to an article in the Daily News, Sonny Kim, the owner of Golden

Farm has filed a \$3 million lawsuit against the organizers of the boycott, charging them with abusive demonstrations which have resulted in a 20% loss of sales since the boycott started.

One resident, Eleanor Rodgers, has gone knocking on doors to get support from her neighbors and talks to other mothers in the playground. She stated in the Daily News "We're really fond of the shop, but we're really horrified to hear how badly the workers are paid."

According to Victor Hernandez Silva: "It's an ugly feeling when someone is mistreated because he is Mexican, an immigrant. We don't want to harm the business. We all make our living there. We just want what Felix wanted: justice, a fair salary, a couple of days to go to the doctor, a day of rest if you are sick."

In addition to supporting the struggle of the Golden Farm Workers, the Brooklyn Food Coalition has supported a City Council resolution for a living wage, collective bargaining and improved working conditions for farm workers in New York state, and better working conditions for restaurant workers and chicken workers. In order to have healthy food, workers must be able to have access to bathrooms, clean drinking water, safe and healthy working conditions and decent pay. We have encouraged members of the Coop and the Brooklyn Food Coalition to support the struggles of the workers that produce the food that we eat. If you would like to work with the Labor Committee of the Brooklyn Food Coalition and receive FTOP credit, contact us at jweisman@igc.org. ■

FROM THE ARCHIVES

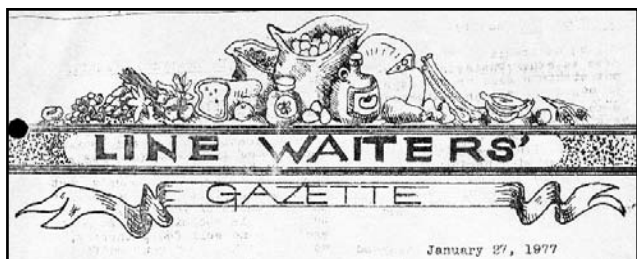
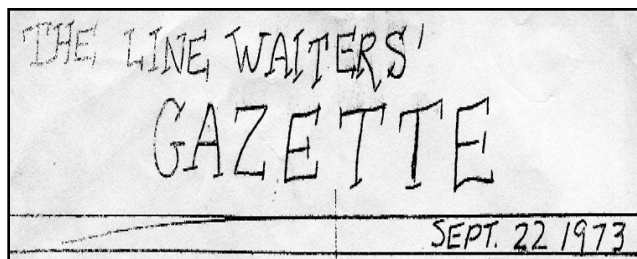
Finding the Right Look

The first issue of the *Linewaiters' Gazette* came out on September 22, 1973. The newsletter's name came from the familiar reality that shopping at the Coop meant waiting in line. *Linewaiters'* editors solicited suggestions for different newsletter names in the May 12, 1977, issue. The newsletter briefly became the *Coop Gazette* but reverted to the original just three issues later. Our guess is that the lines were too damn long.

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* nameplate that is still used today first appeared in the September 18, 1983, issue. Prior to that, the nameplate went through a number of changes, and some of the highlights are displayed here.

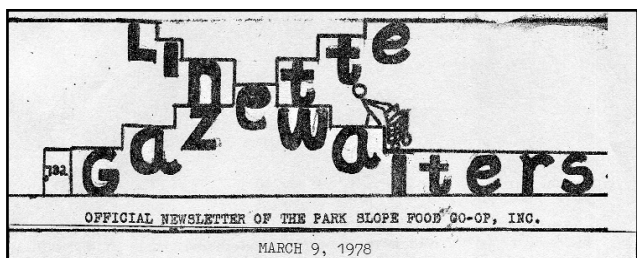
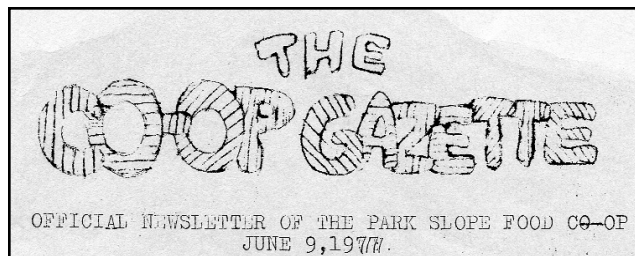
Do you remember the early *Linewaiters' Gazette* identity changes? Share your stories and memories with the PSFC Archives Committee by e-mailing archivecommittee@psfc.coop.

The first issue was handwritten and featured a simple handwritten nameplate.



The LWG issues from the first four months of 1977 utilized a cornucopia-like nameplate.

For three issues in 1977 LWG was briefly known as the *Coop Gazette*.



Some of the Spring issues from 1978 featured a fun stairs masthead.

The Coop has a new committee:

Animal Welfare

A subcommittee of the Environmental Committee.



We brought you the informational flyer about the Coop's turkey and turkey-replacement products before Thanksgiving.

You can look forward to more buyers' guides to help decode the terms and symbols producers put on packaging to describe animal treatment or whether a product was tested on animals.



For more information visit our blog at www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com/, where you can find out what we're planning and get information about products currently on the shelves. We are excited to serve members' needs and answer your questions about the welfare of animals and the sources of animal products the Coop sells.

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series Presents: *The Botany of Desire*

By Adam Rabiner

The Botany of Desire, a film based on Michael Pollan's best-selling book of the same name, finds common ground in four very different plants: apples, tulips, marijuana and potatoes. Each, it seems, in its own unique way, has capitalized on a different thread of human desire to further its own evolutionary success. The apple was able to spread beyond its own humble origins in Kazakhstan in Central Europe by appealing to humans' sweet tooth. The potato overcame its isolation in South America because it's an ideal food staple and appealed to humans' desire to control. Tulips succeeded beyond their natural habitats in Central Asia because of their aesthetic beauty and marijuana proliferated because of its power to alter human consciousness. Pollan tells each plant's story in four

separate chapters, each with its own fascinating history.

For most of their history apples were a bitter fruit, considered evil not just because Adam was tempted by one (the Bible is actually vague on the particulars but it was more likely to have been a pomegranate) but because since the sweet apple was a rarity, their primary use was to be distilled into alcoholic cider. Through grafting man learned to produce a consistently sweet fruit. With the help of a little good PR and marketing (the legend of Johnny Appleseed who was actually a real person and expressions like "an apple a day keeps the doctor away") apples are now universally beloved.

Tulipmania, one of the world's first financial bubbles, took place in Holland from 1634-1637. Tulips, an exotic flower from a distant land were the thing to have in your garden if you were a

Dutch elite. At its height, a single rare type of tulip bulb was worth as much as a Grand Canal house (equivalent to a New York City 5th Avenue town house). The bubble finally burst one day when at auction no one bid and the prices came crashing down. A flower bulb was once again just a flower bulb. Despite this setback, tulips today comprise a large part of the global demand for fresh cut flowers. Today, as in the 17th Century, tulips continue to have their devotees and many people make their living by breeding them to produce new and exciting colors.

Cannabis, a lowly weed, was legal in America in the 19th century, an ingredient in many a medicinal tincture. In the early 20th century it was mostly associated with the African American jazz scene of New Orleans. It was not until the 1960s that its use exploded. Today it's one of the most popular drugs, as

well as the heart of a multi-billion dollar legal and illegal global industry.

Potatoes are uniquely capable of feeding millions of people while taking up minimal acreage. A farmer can feed his family for a year by planting potatoes on a half-acre plot. When in 1845 a fungus landed on Irish soil turning the potatoes in the fields into a black mush—the Great Potato Famine—one million people, or an eighth of the country's population, perished.

Each of these plants has a different story, and that of the potato, in particular, allows Pollan to lecture on the fragility and dangers of mono-cultures, as he has done in many other food-related documentaries.

Together, though, they illustrate a larger and more philosophical point that is not part of the standard lexicon about the food system, namely that some plants use us just as certainly as we use them. Human beings may think we are in charge, believing, as Genesis tells us, we are to replenish and subdue the earth, having dominion over fish, fowl and every living thing that moveth upon the earth. But Pollan makes a clever and quite convincing argument of a more Buddhist nature. Humans do not sit apart from the rest of God's creations. We are an integral part of the web of life. ■

The Botany of Desire will show Tuesday, April 9, 7 p.m., Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Refreshments will be served.

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?

Saturday, April 13
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 11
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 23
7–9 p.m.

The Park Slope Food Coop's Diversity and Equality Committee is holding a series of workshops for 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.

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.

What Is That? How Do I Use It?

Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

Mondays, April 8, 15
12 to 2:45 p.m.

You can join in any time during a question-and-answer session on the shopping floor.

Look for tour leaders in produce aisle.

VALET BIKE PARKING IS HERE ON SUNDAYS!

strollers & scooters & carts too!



Every Sunday, April 7–November 24, from 3:30–8 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, stroller, scooter or personal cart, 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

COOP HOURS

Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 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.

Friday, Apr 19, 8:00 p.m.

The Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture
and the Park Slope Food Coop present:



PROSPECT CONCERTS



Anne Keating. The *Village Voice* raves, "Keating is a wise mix of Lucinda Williams songwriting, Gillian Welch guitar and a vocal all her own... a cross between Willie Nelson and John Prine and you don't get any better than that." Keating appeared live on the BBC Radio (UK) *Bob Harris Show* and has gone on to perform at leading festivals, playing on the bill with the likes of John Hiatt, Dan Bern, Boris McCutcheon, and Shannon McNally. On her fourth and newest album, *Water Tower View*, Keating is at her best, delivering beautifully crafted songs.

Alexis Cuadrado and the Miles Away Band. Back by popular demand, after a stunning performance last season. Alexis is an award-winning jazz bassist and composer originally from Barcelona who has been a Brooklyn resident for the last 12 years (and a PSFC member for 10!). For this special occasion, and with the support of a fantabulous 10-piece band made of PSFC member-musicians, he'll present a selection of pieces from the electric Miles Davis repertoire, bringing the jazz-funk to the Prospect Concerts. Not to be missed!



www.ProspectConcerts.tumblr.com

53 Prospect Park West [at 2nd Street] • \$10 • 8pm [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 13
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Third Thursday
APRIL 18
7:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.

Last Sunday
APRIL 28
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

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

PLASTICS

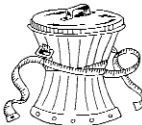
What plastics do we accept?
Until further notice:

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

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

PLASTIC MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEAN & DRY

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



This Issue Prepared By:

Coordinating Editors: Stephanie Golden
Erik Lewis

Editors (development): Erik Lewis
Joan Minieri

Reporters: Frank Haberle
Ed Levy
Alison Rose Levy

Art Director (development): Eva Schicker

Illustrators: Lynn Bernstein
Deborah Tint

Traffic Manager: Barbara Knight

Thumbnails: Kristin Lilley

Preproduction: Helena Boskovic

Photoshop: Terrance Carney

Art Director (production): Dilhan Kushan

Desktop Publishing: Diana Quick
Michael Walters
Oliver Yourke

Editor (production): Lynn Goodman

Puzzle Master: Stuart Marquis

Final Proofreader: Nancy Rosenberg

Index: Len Neufeld

Advertisement: Eric Bishop

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.

Alexis Adams	Natalie DeOliveira	Ana Gordon-Loebl	Margaret Mageau	James Price	Samantha Sleeper	Dina(Diana) Turetsky
Mahesha Anderson	Joseph Dwyer	Rodney Graham	Douglas McCurry	Blessing Marie Quine	Susan Sloan	Lisa Veyka
Langstraat	Benjamin English	Jamie Hambrick	Hallie McNeill	Angelica Ramdhari	Ada Smailbegovic	Eleonora Vizzini
Tobias Armborst	Rachelle Faroul	Chelsea Harris	Jazmin Mena	Kati Rediger	Marek Sobolewski	Hilary Wallis
Erin Barnes	Mark Flummerfelt	Jess Hart	Dawn Miller	Oraia Reid	Marta Sobolewski	Stephanie Wan
David Beasley	Carlota Fluxa Van Delzen	Jason Howey	Lucienne Monfiston	Allen Riley	Chelsea Sprayregen	Kate Warther
Esther Blanchard	Valerie Fogel	Freyana Irani	Arian Nakhaie	Meredith Riley	Christina Summers	Evan Weiss
Tanyia Brand-Jones	Victorya Fogel	Priya Jain	Miles Orton	Amelia Saddington	Garth Swanson	Katherine Whelan
Michaelle Cadet	Rita Foley	Stephanie Jenkins	Lindsay Owen	John D. Samuel	Isabella Tcheyan	Tammi Williams
Candace Carponter	Giulio Fossati	Prema Kelley	Paul Owen	Allan Schoening	Michael Tcheyan	Rachael Wilson
Sharon Chandally	David Frisco	Henry Langstraat	Noah Pedrini	Alexandra Schwarz	Georgeen Theodore	
Mette Christiansen	Max Frumes	David Laspina	Carson Peterson	Jennifer Shin	Jim Thomson	
Barbara Cipriani	Marc Ganzglass	Arlee Leonard	Angela Pisciotta	Josh (John) Shirley	Kristin Thoreson	
Daniel Cook	Alysha Glenn	Sara Livingston	Neil Porter	Anita Sidler	O'Ganna Titus	

COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the three weekly New Member Orientations. To pre-register, visit 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 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Channels: 56 (Time-Warner), 69 (CableVision), 84 (RCN), 44 (Verizon), and live streaming on the Web: www.bricartsmedia.org/community-media/bcat-tv-network.

General Meeting Info

TUE, APRIL 30

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, MAY 7

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the May 28 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Apr 18 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Apr 8
May 2 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Apr 22

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Apr 18 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Apr 10
May 2 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Apr 24

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the open monthly General Meetings, to which all members are invited, 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 on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, at the Coop Community Corner and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 30, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

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 on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, 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

• 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 on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, 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) • Board of Directors' vote • Meeting evaluation • 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

apr 4
thu 7:30 pmFood Class: Cherry Blossom—
Inspired Dishes

It is big news when cherry blossoms bloom in southern Japan in March. From late March to early April, Japan is covered in pink blossoms. Lots of people throw parties under the cherry blossoms in the parks into the wee hours of the night. They celebrate with bento boxes and sake. Tonight, chef **Hideyo Yamada** will teach you how to make cherry blossom-inspired dishes in vegan- and gluten-free style. Hideyo is a chef instructor at the Natural Gourmet Institute, private chef and health counselor, specializing in pastry, sushi and Japanese food. She is a certified Holistic Health Counselor and graduate of the Institute of Integrative Nutrition and the Natural Gourmet Institute. *Menu includes: pink terrine with red cabbage and grapefruit; cherry-blossom potato salad; asparagus buckwheat risotto; rhubarb sorbet.*

ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. Please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by March 21 to make a request.

Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.

apr 5
fri 7 pm

Film Night: My Brooklyn



A film by Kelly Anderson and Allison Lirish Dean. Cosponsored by the Diversity and Equality Committee. *My Brooklyn* follows director **Kelly Anderson's** journey as a Brooklyn gentrifier, to understand the forces reshaping her neighborhood. The film documents the redevelopment of Fulton Mall, a bustling African-American and Caribbean commercial district that—despite its status as the third most profitable shopping area in New York City—is maligned for its inability to appeal to the affluent residents who have come to live around it. As high-rise luxury housing and chain retail replace a hundred small businesses, Anderson uncovers the web of global corporations, politicians and secretive public-private partnerships that drive seemingly natural neighborhood change. The film's ultimate question is increasingly relevant on a global scale: who has a right to live in cities and determine their future? Anderson's films include *Never Enough*, *Every Mother's Son* (with Tami Gold), *Making a Killing* (with Tami Gold), *Shift*, and *Out at Work* (with Tami Gold). She is an Associate Professor of Media Studies at Hunter College and has received fellowships from the NEA, NY State Council on the Arts and the Rockefeller Foundation.

To book a Film Night, contact Faye Lederman, squeezestone@hotmail.com.

apr 6
sat 3 pmHaving Trouble
Getting Pregnant?

Nine sneaky causes of infertility and how to fix them. Learn how to resolve mystery infertility; eliminate toxins that impair fertility; make IVF and IUI work the first time; cook meals that help you get pregnant; and identify the foods and supplements that boost your fertility. See how to clear blocked tubes; normalize your cycle; dissolve fibroids and cysts; do fertility acupuncture at home; prevent miscarriage; and boost men's sperm count and quality. Pre-registration suggested: to register call (646) 483-4571 or e-mail GreenGemHealth@gmail.com. **Rebecca Curtis**, M.A., M.F.A., HHC, AADP, is a certified holistic nutritionist and the founder of Green Gem Holistic Health. **Mary Hart**, M.S., L.Ac., is a nationally board-certified acupuncturist and the founder of Healing Heart Acupuncture.

apr 7
sun 12 pmRelieving Chronic Pain with
The Alexander Technique

Chronic pain can make a person feel like he or she is trapped in a tunnel with the walls closing in, just trying to get through the day. In this workshop, we will learn how to find more freedom from pain triggers. The Alexander Technique is a nonmedical, nonsurgical approach for improving coordination, balance, and vitality that has been taught for more than 100 years. It is required curriculum at institutions like Juilliard because of

its ability to transform patterns of tension and stress. Coop member **Dan Cayer** is a nationally certified Alexander Technique teacher working in the field of pain, injury, and stress. After a serious injury left him unable to work, or even carry out household tasks like cleaning dishes, he began studying the Alexander Technique. His return to health, as well as his experience with the physical, mental, and emotional aspects of pain, inspired him to help others.

apr 9
tue 7 pmSafe Food Committee Film Night:
The Botany of Desire

Featuring Michael Pollan and based on his best-selling book, *The Botany of Desire*, this film takes viewers on an eye-opening exploration of the human relationship with the plant world. The film shows how the apple, the tulip, marijuana and the potato have evolved to satisfy our yearnings.

apr 12
fri 7 pmWordsprouts: Group Reading:
To Mark National Poetry Month

Tina Chang, Brooklyn Poet Laureate, is the author of poetry collections *Half-Lit Houses* and *Of Gods & Strangers* and co-editor of the W.W. Norton anthology *Language for a New Century: Contemporary Poetry from the Middle East, Asia, and Beyond*. She teaches poetry at Sarah Lawrence College. **Sarah Heller** received her BA from Bard College and her MFA in poetry from NYU. She teaches Creative Writing at Rutgers University, and was the Executive Director of the Authors League Fund from 2000-10. Her work has been published or is forthcoming in *RealPoetik*, *Painted Bride Quarterly*, *Pembroke Magazine*, *NextBook*, *The Temple/El Templo*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *The Tule Review*, *Thin Air*, *The Apocalypse Anthology* (Flying Guillotine Press), *Literary Companion to Shabbat* (NextBook Press), and *Hayloft*. **Suzanne Wise** is the author of the poetry collection *The Kingdom of the Subjunctive*. Her poetry can also be found in the anthology *Legitimate Dangers: American Poets of the New Century* and in the journals *American Letters and Commentary*, *Bomb*, *Bone Bouquet*, *Catch Up*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Guernica*, *Ploughshares* and elsewhere.

To book a Wordsprouts, contact Paula Bernstein, wordsproutspsc@gmail.com.

apr 19
fri 8 pm

Anne Keating, Alexis Cuadrado



Anne Keating. *The Village Voice* raves, "Keating is a wise mix of Lucinda Williams songwriting, Gillian Welch guitar and a vocal all her own...a cross between Willie Nelson and John Prine and you don't get any better than that." Keating appeared live on the BBC Radio (UK) *Bob Harris Show* and has gone on to perform at leading festivals, playing on the bill with the likes of John Hiatt, Dan Bern, Boris McCutcheon, and Shannon McNally. On her fourth and newest album, *Water Tower View*, Keating is at her best, delivering beautifully crafted songs. **Alexis Cuadrado and the Miles Away Band.** Back by popular demand, after a stunning performance last season. Alexis is an award-winning jazz bassist and composer originally from Barcelona who has been a Brooklyn resident for the last 12 years (and a PSFC member for 10!). For this special occasion, and with the support of a fabulous 10-piece band made of PSFC member-musicians, he'll present a selection of pieces from the electric Miles Davis repertoire, bringing the jazz-funk to the Prospect Concerts. Not to be missed!

Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$10, doors open at 7:45. Prospect Concerts is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.

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



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.

apr 4–may 10 2013

apr 20
sat 11 am

Babywearing Talk & Try

You ask yourself: How do I babywear in a wrap or as a knapsack? There are so many options, where do I begin? You ask us, “Why babywear?” It’s convenient: for getting around NYC and while traveling. It’s great for early stages of baby’s self-regulation. Helps parents be mobile and get things done around the house or around town. For a very long time, people from all walks of life all over the world babywear for good reason, so why not? You can have any parenting philosophy and babywear. Bring your carrier! Try others’ carriers! Figure out how to safely carry your baby in a (few) carrier(s). Learn to do different carries (wrap, SSC, mei-tai, tandem-wear, toddler-wear, newborn-wear). Main speaker: Bianca Fehn, certified babywearing educator and local store founder of Metro Minis. Workshop is moderated by Coop member **Evonne Cho**.

apr 20-21
sat-sun 9 am–7 pm

Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

CHIPS Soup Kitchen, located at 4th Avenue and Sackett Street, is the recipient of much of our edible but unsaleable perishable food. They also need donations of nonperishable foods. 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.

apr 21
sun 12 pm

It’s Your Funeral

Planning for your own death now (as opposed to later) is a practice that can enable you to live in the moment, face your own mortality with courage—and create an end-of-life service that reflects your values. The talk will cover how to plan a low-cost, back-to-basics funeral or memorial service, as well as offer information on green cemeteries near New York City, cremation pros and cons, biodegradable urns, blended-faith/alternative ceremonies, and more. You’ll get a glimmer of what funerals of the future might look like—and leave with planning literature for yourself or for someone you love. Coop member **Amy Cunningham** is a licensed funeral director at Greenwood Heights Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc., a full-service funeral home on Fourth Avenue in Brooklyn.

apr 26-27
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 28
sun 12 pm

Parenting Through Divorce

Join two experienced child and family psychologists for a discussion on how to parent through divorce. Learn how to address common concerns children have in a divorce and how to help your child manage the changes divorce brings. Topics will include speaking to your kids about the split, managing visits, resolving conflicts about rules, dealing with new partners, and behavioral changes in your child. Parents of children of any age are welcome, feel free to bring specific questions or concerns. **Dana Parchi**, Psy.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist specializing in work with children and families. She has been a Coop member for eight years. **Genevieve Rosenbaum**, Ph.D., has 20 years of experience in hospitals and private practice working with children, adolescents and parents.

apr 30
tue 6:30 pm

Five Element Acupuncture

Living in harmony with the seasons is the foundation for health and longevity in Chinese medicine. This talk will explain the fundamentals of Chinese medicine theory and the five-element tradition. How can we align ourselves and live in harmony with our environment and the seasons? How can we learn from the virtues and challenges of each season? As we transition into Spring, we move from potential (water) into action (wood). Like everything green and growing, the energy of wood is what allows us to face everything and avoid nothing as we rise up toward our highest goals. Wood is what helps us stretch out of contraction into expansiveness with vision, flexibility, and purpose. There will be a talk, short meditation, discussion, and lots of great suggestions about how to enhance your health and well-being during this season. **Sarah Chase**, MAcOM, and **Martha Oatis**, MAcOM, are grateful Coop members and licensed acupuncturists/herbalists.

apr 30
tue 7 pm

PSFC APR 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: MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up

II. Open Forum

III. Coordinator and Committee Reports

IV. Meeting Agenda

Item #1: Personnel Committee Election (15 min)

Election: Candidates for the Personnel Committee will be presented to the General Meeting for election. —submitted by the Personnel Committee

Item #2: Agenda Committee Election (15 min)

Election: One candidate for the Agenda Committee will be presented to the General Meeting for election. —submitted by the Agenda Committee

Item #3: Vote to Send Letter to Gov. Cuomo and Dr. Shah to Oppose Closing of LICH (30 min)

Proposal: Vote to have PSFC send letter to Gov. Cuomo and Dr. Shah of NYS Department of Health opposing closure of Long Island College Hospital. —submitted by Saul Melman

Item #4: Review of New General Meeting Location (30 min)

Discussion: The General Coordinators will discuss the factors that led to the decision to change the venue of the General Meeting and invite members to provide feedback on the suitability of the new General Meeting location. —submitted by the General Coordinators

V. Board of Directors Meeting

VI. Wrap-Up. Includes member sign-in for workslot credit.

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.

may 2
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: An Evening with Our Neighbor Chef Gautier



Chef **Jacques Gautier** will share his experiences of running two successful restaurants and will demonstrate three dishes from his Latin-inspired menu at Palo Santo. Gautier not only lives on Union St., about a block from the Coop, he owns, operates and is the chef of two wonderful restaurants on Union St.: Palo Santo and Fort Reno. Sustainability is an important concept in both these restaurants. Organic waste from both restaurants gets composted, which helps grow his rooftop salad greens and other seasonal vegetables. Chef Gautier is a graduate of the Natural Gourmet Institute and has worked in the renowned kitchens of Vong in NYC and Azie in San Francisco. At age 20 he was invited to cook at the James Beard House, the youngest chef to have received such an honor. *Menu includes: yellow plantains stewed in coconut milk; arroz verde (green rice) with shrimp; tender mustard greens.*

ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. Please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by April 18 to make a request.

Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.

still to come

may 3

Film Night

may 7

Agenda Committee Meeting

may 5

Reclaiming Legal Standing to Ban Fracking

may 10

Wordsprouts



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, REVISITED

DEAR MEMBERS:

It's unclear why the editors, or whoever authored the additions, chose to append notes to my last letter (totaling more than half-again the size of the letter itself). Whatever the intention, the notes, I believe, for the most part only served to confuse the issues, all of which stand as I stated them: the General Meeting (GM) *advises*, the Board of Directors decides. And, accordingly, candidates should understand the duties of the Directors

and avoid including in their candidate statements promises to regard the general meeting as the highest decision-making body at the Coop, a mistaken premise. Nor, in light of the facts, should the *Gazette*, in a section entitled "The Role of the Board", include the following inaccurate statement: "From our inception in 1973 to the present the monthly General Meeting has been the decision-making body of the Coop." This is not true.

As to the specifics of the editors' addendum to my letter:

First, there was no need to quote Article VI, Section 2 of the Coop Bylaws,

which unnecessarily simply re-affirmed the essence of my letter: "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". This is precisely what I had already said: Our monthly meetings are Board of Directors meetings, and the GM constitutes only that part where members discuss and sometimes *give advice* to the Directors, who then decide.

Second, as to Article VI, Section 4, also appended to my letter, this ambiguously-worded clause unfortunately only confuses the issue: "Except as otherwise provided, all matters shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and voting." This may give the appearance that "a majority vote of those present and voting" refers to the GM when, based on Article VI, Section 2 (above), it must clearly refer to the board of directors, since the word "decided" cannot refer to final authority by the GM, which it lacks. Thus, this clause neither clarifies nor contradicts the fact that, as I wrote, the GM advises and the directors decide.

As to the relationship between NYS Cooperative Corporation Law (CCL) to Non-Profit Corporation Law (NPCL), the principle is that NPCL controls and applies everywhere except where cooperative law overlaps or explicitly states an exception. But CCL is silent as to the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors, and hence these are governed exclusively by NPCL, and the latter, in conformance with general Business Corporation Law (BCL), assigns to the Board of Directors of any corporation the final decision authority on all matters affecting the corporation.

I can do no better than to close by again quoting the Coop attorney: Directors "are legally bound to use their business judgment and act in the best interests of the corporation, and if they believe that a deci-

sion of the GM is illegal or irresponsible, they should not ratify it" (<http://www.foodcoop.com/go.php?id=70>).

Sylvia Lowenthal

ACCOUNTABILITY TO MEMBER CONCERNS

DEAR MEMBERS:

I enjoyed reading Willow Lawson's GM report in the last issue. What a petty idea that is to have a staff gift policy. If we need to think ahead for our growing Coop, we should have our focus on all our committees and making them accountable to individual members' specific concerns. Right now they are not—they can ignore any inquiries or criticism that comes their way. The Chair Committee is a self-selected group, not an elected body. Why is this being tolerated in a growing Coop?

Your fellow member,
Elizabeth Tobier

BOW & WOW

My poor near-sighted terrier
Is forced to wear thick glasses
And though he could be merrier
He's adjusting as time passes.

No longer does he wonder
Just who it is approaching
But recognizes pooches
Without requiring coaching.

He's made a host of friends
Among the park brigade
Especially a hound
Who needs a hearing aid.

So now the mixed-breed buddies
Go romping in The Bronx
With one on the lookout for autos,
The other all ears for honks.

It's closer than a marriage,
Precluding the threat of divorce;
The pair have forged an alliance
That's a canine tour de force.

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 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, fac-

tual 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.

MEMBER SUBMISSION

Milk Not Jails

By Nikki Crook

On March 31, 2013 the New York State Legislature will pass its budget for the year. Urban and rural politicians, Democrats and Republicans are wrestling with ways to meet the needs of residents across a large state in another year with high unemployment and insufficient revenue. What's one simple way the state can fix money that's not even on the table? Release just one person from prison and instantly save \$70,000 per year.

Currently, New York State has extremely harsh sentencing laws that require judges to send people to prison even if incarceration has been proven to be ineffective as the go-to remedy. Recent studies about the NYPD's stop-and-frisk program demonstrate that the state wastes \$75 million per year unlawfully arresting people carrying small amounts of marijuana. Our currently criminal justice system sends primarily urban residents to prison in rural prison towns. 90% of New York's prisons are in rural districts, where they are often referred to as "the last factory in town."

Milk Not Jails is a grassroots campaign aiming to end upstate New York's economic dependence on the

prison industry by supporting sustainable alternatives. It provides a hopeful new model for how the economic relationship between New York City and upstate New York might function. Instead of sending enormous numbers of city residents to prison upstate and allowing our dollars to follow them, thereby creating prison-industry jobs, we could instead be buying from small, non-industrialized farms, thus creating environmentally and socially responsible upstate economic growth. In this way, we could relieve the pressure on legislators to keep prisons full so that their constituents stay employed.

In order to realize this vision, Milk Not Jails partners with dairy farmers who publicly support its policy agenda, marketing and selling their products to urban consumers through its non-profit distribution company. Milk Not Jails was started by a small collective of Brooklynites who hope that this small-scale marketing and distribution effort can actually mobilize enough consumers and voters to boldly assert a new statewide agenda and transform the short-sighted and dysfunctional ways New York tax dollars are invested. Their long-term vision is to turn this non-profit distribution business into a worker- and producer-owned cooperative of dairy farmers.

And the Park Slope Food Coop can become a part of the Milk Not Jails solution. Several Coop members are involved in the broad Milk Not Jails initiative and hope to lead a discussion at an upcoming General Meeting about how we, as consumers and voters, can support Milk Not Jails. There are many ways to do this. The Coop can purchase the Ronnybrook and Hawthorne Valley products that we already stock, through Milk Not Jails. The Coop could pass a resolution to publicly endorse Milk Not Jails, which adds 16,000 voices to their grassroots agenda and encourages more farmers to get involved. Coop members could also agree to receive work credit for volunteering for Milk Not Jails.

The Milk Not Jails agenda fits right in with the Coop's priorities: it supports a food distribution system that prioritizes humans rights and safeguards the environment, while providing consumers with high-quality and healthy products. And it comes at almost no cost to the Coop. We could be stocking precisely the same products while simultaneously supporting Milk Not Jails, and there is certainly room within the Coop's large and growing membership for a small amount of our Coop work to go to Milk Not Jails. ■



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BDS TOPICS:

YES TO AN 80% MAJORITY

DEAR EDITOR:

I write in favor of Jesse Rosenfeld's discussion topic at January's General Meeting where he proposed that any decision to boycott need 80% support at a General Meeting not just a simple majority. Boycotts are the Coop's most extreme weapon and therefore should be used only when an overwhelming majority of the Coop supports them. It is not undemocratic to require super majorities to take action; amending the constitution and ceasing filibusters in the Senate require more than a simple majority. Of course members can simply personally boycott products, companies or countries that they find offensive without making an official Coop decision on the boycott. But when it comes to the Coop taking an official stance against products this should be done by an overwhelming majority, else we risk alienating nearly half the membership and fracturing our amazing institution.

Sincerely
Murray Lantner

NO TO AN 80% MAJORITY

TO THE EDITOR:

I thought the Feb. 21 issue of the Linewaiter was excellent and inspiring, actually.

Personally, I find Mary Buchwald's letters informative and educational, and I thank her for her consistent contribution to the debate.

I oppose requiring an 80% supra majority on boycotts. Another name for that is "minority rule," as in Apartheid or the former Rhodesia.

Democracy for Everyone,
Ann Schneider

LET'S VOTE

TO THE EDITOR:

I only half pay attention to all the letters on the BDS. But what is clear to me, is the anti-BDS people are afraid of a vote, and afraid that they could lose. Hence roadblock after roadblock.

First, the cost for a Coop wide vote was said to be too expensive, and quoted at something like \$25,000. This was ignoring that a vote could be included along with the vote for the Board of Directors for a minimal additional cost. Then, money is spent to rent an inconvenient venue to have a vote to have a

vote. Now the anti-BDS people are proposing a super-majority for any boycott. Despite the long letters arguing why, such a majority is simply an attempt to give a small minority control over the outcome.

Look, let's get it over with and have a vote included with this Spring's vote for the Board of Directors. And, as it has always been, a simple majority wins.

Don Wiss

EXTENDING A HAND

DEAR COOP MEMBERS:

At the January General Meeting, a young Palestinian-American woman spoke of her alienation by the Coop's 'No' vote at Brooklyn Tech for an Israeli goods boycott. While I have written several times of how a huge percentage of members would feel alienated by a boycott of Israel, she has been feeling the flip side of this in her own way already for at least a year. To this woman I write: I believe you and in the sincerity of your words. So in the spirit of Passover and the spirit of cooperation, I implore you or any fellow Palestinian-American member, please join me to get more Palestinian products on the shelves. I support empowerment—yours, and by extension, everyone's. When even the founding members disagree as to whether "the Coop is political", the most productive road to empowerment here is purchasing power.

We could record our hunt for Palestinian products (Bay Ridge maybe?) on a blog, or in the LWG. Who knows, our efforts could even open our eyes to the other. No joke—my hand is extended to you in peace and cooperation. For the record, this will be the second time since the January GM that I called for your attention. My first attempt was inexplicably buried by the editors on the last page of the *Gazette* some time ago.

I look forward to your response, and anyone else's. Please write to me at eightypercentmajority@gmail.com.

It's time to change the conversation.

Jesse Rosenfeld

PROTESTS DEMAND
END TO TRADE WITH
ISRAELI AGRICULTURAL
COMPANIES

COOP MEMBERS:

On February 9, demonstrations were held in Palestine and across 40 European cities to educate and protest against the booming agricultural trade with Israel that results in the deliberate destruction of Palestinian farming. Part of launching this new global campaign, all the major Palestinian agricultural organiza-

tions and several civil society groups issued an appeal to European solidarity networks, non-governmental organizations and trade unions to call upon governments and supermarkets to end trade with Israeli export companies like Mehadrin and Hadaklaim. The most effective way of doing this is to follow the lead of the Co-Operative supermarket in the UK which decided in 2012 not to trade with any company that sources produce from Israel's illegal settlements. These companies, in effect, are financing Israeli violations of international law. They participate in Israel's colonization of Palestinian land by using stolen Palestinian water and growing cash crops for export markets in illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory.

Many of the 40 European protests targeted Mehadrin, a large Israeli export company that supplies citrus fruits, dates and other fresh produce to supermarkets across Europe valued at two-thirds of Israel's \$2 billion annual agricultural exports to Europe. As many as 60 percent of the illegal settlements in the Jordan Valley are heavily dependent on exporting agricultural produce. This thriving international trade with European markets is one of the main reasons Israel is discussing plans to increase the amount of land available to agricultural settlements in the valley by 130 percent.

Europe's actions: a large demonstration outside Mehadrin's Swiss distribution center; the company was protested in a major fresh produce show in Berlin; more than 50 French activists occupied (for an hour) the customs office in Montpellier to protest the nearby port of Sete being used to import produce from Mehadrin; protests were held at supermarkets in more than 14 other French cities, in Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands; UK campaigners picketed more than 35 stores of major supermarket Sainsbury's pressing it to cut its ties with Mehadrin and EDOM, another Israeli company operating in the settlements.

West Bank actions: olive trees were planted on the land of Madama village to replace those cut down by illegal settlers. Following other actions, a conference on boycotting Israeli agricultural firms was attended by hundreds of farmers and activists on Monday.

Gaza actions: Hundreds of farmers and activists marched toward the buffer zone near the border with Israel where regular attacks and incursions by the Israeli military force farmers to abandon their land or take huge risks to tend to their crops. They planted olive trees and rallied carrying banners calling for a boycott of Israeli agricultural pro-

duce. The siege of Gaza prevents farmers from accessing basic equipment and has made exports of fresh produce almost impossible. This further benefits Israeli agricultural companies like Mehadrin and Hadaklaim.

Sources: Michael Deas, Adam Horowitz, Palestinian BDS National Committee

Mary Buchwald
Brooklyn For Peace
PSFC members for BDS
www.psfcbds.wordpress.com

AN OBNOXIOUS
LETTER: EDITORS,
WHERE WERE YOU?

According to the *Gazette* Letters Policy, "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..."

A letter in the previous issue clearly violates this. In it the writer ridiculed Jesse Rosenfeld's proposal that an 80/20 majority be required for any future boycott votes. Although he didn't refer to Mr. Rosenfeld by name, it is perfectly clear from recent *Gazette* articles, Letters to the Editor, and a GM discussion who his derision is directed at. I'm wondering why the letter was allowed to be published.

Apart from the nasty, insulting tone, I'm also wondering what there is about the idea of a 80/20 requirement that struck such a deep nerve. Also, it's easier to ridicule someone's idea than to take the trouble to mount a coherent argument against it.

The requirement for a supermajority is hardly new, hardly "the ravings of a joker" or "a piece of performance art," to quote the letter writer—unless, of course, he thinks that the people who wrote the U.S. Constitution and bylaws of most corporations (including PSFC) were kidding or acting when they adopted a supermajority requirement for certain decisions. All of them were well aware of the wisdom of having new, potentially divisive measures approved by a very large majority. In view of the political, social and financial cost to the Coop as well as the emotional toll on many members even after the boycott referendum was defeated, the rationale for Mr. Rosenfeld's idea and its merits are as clear as his concern for the Coop community.

The letter is not amusing, clever or cool. Before the writer slams any other ideas, he would do well first to take the trouble to try to understand them and the context from which they were conceived. He might also consider exploring his need to ridicule people, particularly those obviously well-intended.

Ruth Bolletino

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

Two, three-year terms on the Board are open. To vote you may use a proxy or attend the Food Coop Annual Meeting on June 25, 2013. Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates at the March 19 GM and also at the June 25 Annual Meeting. Candidate Statements (unedited and presented in alphabetical order):

DEENA HAYS



I am writing to ask you to elect me to the Park Slope Food Coop Board of Directors. I am a long-standing member of the Park slope Food Coop and have learned much listening to other members, observing work and shopping at the Coop and doing a work shift as I expect all members have. I ask for your vote because I have spent my life developing myself such to handle my life as a business. In my judgement what is needed for the Board of Director position is

to interact with those in attendance at the meeting such the membership is able to draw the appropriate conclusions for themselves as to if it is wise to offer specific advice for acceptance.

Should the membership choose to offer the advice much to the silent objection of the Board of Director, in knowing myself and the Coop, could I comment or ask a question to create an awareness that would have not otherwise occurred? Could I create a recognition of what is unknown, unconsidered, or overlooked such a more wise course could be considered?

It is my hope to talk with the membership and design with them what is considered to be the platform needed to make the Coop what the membership

needs it to be. I currently have a petition to the United States Congress at <http://deena-kristihaysworks-foryou.webs.com/>. Select the more option then petition to Congress. It is my hope all members of the PSFC will support the petition, sign it at the March 19, 2013 meeting, and make use of the seminars listed on the need-petition results page. We need the Park Slope Food Coop to meet our needs. I need to know what my platform should be to meet your needs. It is my hope through interacting with the membership at the meeting March 19, 2013 together we will determine how to decide what my platform should be.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope to receive your vote! ■

ZOEY LASKARIS



At the ripe old age of five I made the conscious decision to join the Food Coop. I worked the childcare shift, responsibly eating bagels and awaiting the arrival of my mother who also happened to be working shifts. I am approaching 28 years old and I haven't strayed far, I became the co-squad leader of my receiving shift three years ago and I still enjoy eating bagels. With the following statement I seek your vote in the upcoming election as a candidate to serve on the Board of Directors.

The late Barry Commoner, a pioneer of environmentalism and my close mentor, taught me to respect voices of dissent, and when necessary, to embody them. General Meetings are a platform where a vast variety of opinions are expressed. As Board member I will deeply consider the value in all of them before routinely honoring the voice of the majority.

After earning an MPH in Environmental and Occu-

pational Health, I began to work as the director of a three-year study monitoring the cardiovascular health effects among World Trade Center responders. In conducting this job, I am foremost responsible for the ethical treatment of 6,000 individuals. Beyond this, the maintenance and statistical analysis of a flux of sensitive data and ensuring that we are in compliance with the guidelines of our fiscal plan rest in my hands. I have had to practice a keen sense of foresight, organization, and decision-making when carrying out this position. I will apply this knowledge if given the opportunity to serve on the board.

My personal life reflects my dedication to the values of the Coop. As an avid bicyclist, commuting 30 miles a day year round, to and from my office in Queens, and as someone who loves to cook and bake, I too cherish the availability and taste of excellent food. Beyond the Coop, I support local farmers that use organic growing practices as a worker and currently a friendly helping hand at the Grand Army farmer's market. Engaging in communities beyond the Coop with socially and environmentally conscious behaviors not only spreads the ideals that the Coop works hard to maintain, but it can show you that my dedication to those ideals goes far beyond

purchasing good food.

The Coop's growing faction of young members need a representative who is closely connected with their ideas and who can carry on the torch. If you are a new Coop member who is excited to be part of the Coop, but feels a lack of respect on account of your "new member" status—I will stand for you. The Coop's large constituency of old-timers who have earned a place of seniority by participating in the development of the Coop from its roots needs someone to sit on the Board with an innate understanding of its foundation—I will stand for you. I have grown up with the Coop, I am young, I have practice in making responsible decisions, and I have ideas of what the Coop does well and how it can improve. Tired of advocating for the Coop and aiding people in understanding the Coop's rules at dinner parties, I am moved to seek a formal position as a Board member in order to help guide the resolutions that will form the Coop's future. My candidacy is endorsed by the General Coordinators and I have received encouragement to run from members of the Coop's community. I would greatly appreciate your support in granting me the opportunity to serve with the other members already on the Coop's Board. Thank you. ■

SARA MATTHEWS



In 1992 I was having dinner with friends in Park Slope, and I thought the mixed nuts they were serving were delicious, among other things. They explained that the nuts had come from the Food Coop, and shortly thereafter, my husband and I became members.

I had no idea what a wonderful community I was joining. I originally worked FTOP on the Receiving Committee's early morning shift, lugging boxes of vegetables around in the basement with Denney and some of the other great Receiving Coordinators.

Later, around 2000, I worked as one of the designers on the Renovation Committee, when we doubled the size of the Coop with a \$1.5-million renovation that transformed the physical space, and allowed us to more than double our membership. Working on this project taught me many valuable lessons—about the Coop's needs and goals, about idea gener-

ation and conflict resolution in a group setting, and about how much work it really takes to make such an ambitious dream come true.

Once the renovation was complete, I looked for a new work slot. I was fortunate to join the Sign Committee, where I have served as Co-Chair for a number of years. Our group of graphic designers is working to reduce visual chaos in the Coop, by upgrading the signs and communications all around the Coop. Once again, the projects require a deep understanding of how the Coop works, and how to improve its functionality given the needs of its members and the structure of its organization.

During these two decades at the Coop, I have learned about the physical spaces we inhabit, the goods we sell, and the ins and outs of how the Coop operates on a daily basis. I have also had the opportunity to get to know many of the Coordinators. I respect their work and our incredible Coop that they have helped to guide into almost 40 years of successful existence.

I believe in the mission of the Coop, where we share responsibilities and cooperate with each other to achieve our goal of providing members with wholesome, healthy food for their families.

I believe that the members' opinions as voted at the General Meeting are paramount. However, if it happened that decisions made by the General Meeting were illegal or irresponsible, I would not be in favor of ratifying them.

I am originally from Atlanta, Georgia, where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from Georgia Tech. For over 20 years I have worked as a wine photographer, traveling to wine regions all over the world. I have had seven books of my photography published, and have done a number of solo exhibitions of my work, most recently in Mendoza, Argentina. People I meet on my travels often ask me where in the world I would most like to live, since I have been fortunate enough to see so much of it. I can answer honestly in one word: Brooklyn. I love my neighborhood, my borough and my city, and the Food Coop is one of the big reasons why.

I hope you will consider voting for me to become a Member of the Board of Directors of the Park Slope Food Coop. I have been endorsed by the General Coordinators and would be honored to serve on the Board as your representative. ■

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



CLASSIFIEDS

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THE HOUSE ON 3rd ST. B&B-serving the Slope for over 20 yrs. Parlor floor-thru apt. sleeps 5 in comfort & privacy, queen bed, bath, double living room, kitchenette, outdoor deck. Visit our website at house-on3st.com. Click our FB link or call Jane at 718-788-7171. Ask about bargains for last minute bookings. Let us host you!

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"LIFE CHANGES" SUPPORT GROUP Every age brings change, challenge and opening. Process present and past, explore what's next, together. Facilitated by Margaret de Cruz, wholistic bodymind therapist and mental health counselor. mrde-cruz@gmail.com. 718-499-7258. margaretrosedecruz.blogspot.com.

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ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—34 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 23-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccione.law.com.



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GARDENER: Is your yard a mess? Does your garden need sprucing up? I can help! I'm skilled in garden maintenance, design, pruning, planting, windowboxes and more. BBG-trained. Organic practices. Reasonable hourly rate. Coop member for 25+ years. Nancy 718-788-3306 nancybrooklyngardener@earthlink.net

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HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in 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.

BODY-MIND THERAPIES Relax and feel. Explore "stuck" places. Therapeutic massage, mental health counseling, healthy lifestyle coaching, mindfulness methods w/Margaret Rose de Cruz. margaretrosedecruz.blogspot.com. mrde-cruz@gmail.com. 718-499-7258.

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, APR 6

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Seed Swap & Celebration: 8th Annual Educational & Community Festival. Gardeners and gardeners-to-be share seeds, skills and seeding and transplanting info. GMO discussion. Preview a new film. OPEN SESAME: *the Story of Seeds*, Free. At The Old Stone House 4th St. & 5th Ave. Information: www.permaculture-exchange.org

8-10:30 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe: Young Political Songwriters Night: Sima Cunningham, Jacob Bernz, Arjuna Greist at the Community Church of NYUU 40 E. 35 St. Wheelchair-accessible. For info call 212-787-3903 or see www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$18 general/\$10 members/more if you choose, less

if you can't/no one turned away

SUN, APR 7

11 a.m. Sunday Platform: "Occupy Poetry" Join the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture's Writers Circle as they raise their voices to stand-up, sit-in and protest the tidal wave of economic forces threatening Brooklyn's long standing communities and traditions. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 PPW @ Second St. www.bsec.org.

FRI, APR 12

6:30 p.m. Women's Open Performance and Poetry Event. Women and trans folk only, at The Commons, 388 Atlantic Ave. \$10-\$20, supper provided. Mariposa, featured artist. Call Resis-

tance in Brooklyn 212-748-9829 to perform or for childcare.

SAT, APR 20

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Our Spring Civic Sweep will take place Saturday on Fifth Ave. between Third and Fourth Sts., in front of Old Stone House/JJ Byrne Playground. Once again, we look forward to having Food Coop volunteers at this event, bringing tools and carts.

SUN, APR 21

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players: Walsh Cooper Drucker Trio Eugene Drucker, violin; Roberta Cooper, cello. Diane Walsh, piano. Admission is free; Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture at the Central Library 10 Grand Army Plaza Brooklyn.

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Saturday, March 16th

12:00 Class about the Traditional Latin Mass
1:00 Sung Mass with Gregorian chant

LatinMassBrooklyn@gmail.com

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Columba Pasquale - Dove-shaped Easter bread
Roman Ladders - Group acrobatics on a pair of ladders
Danish Pole - Performance on a loosely fixed vertical pole
Bulkie Roll - Basic New England sandwich roll
French Sticks - Alternative name for Baguettes
Devil Sticks - Juggling of a baton by hand-held sticks
Rolling Globe - Balancing on a very large ball
Appam Hoppers - Bowl-shaped pancake of Sri Lanka
Diabolo - Juggling a spool on a taut string
Puffaloon - Australian fried scone
Nudger - Long soft English roll
Bannock - Scottish quick bread
Jultagi - Korean tightrope walking
Injera - Spongy Ethiopian flatbread
Bammy - Jamaican cassava flatbread
Risley - Juggling of one acrobat by another - with his feet
Tissu - Act on a suspended fabric strip
Lyra - Aerial hoop performance
Pretzel - Knot-shaped snack, OR a contortionist act

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

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

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

IMANI Q'RYN



I was elected to the Board of Directors of the Food Coop almost eight years ago. I am honored to have served in this capacity. Now, I respectfully seek your vote to allow me to continue in this position. I've lived in Fort Greene for over 30 years. I'm a classically trained singer and work as an independent real estate broker. My partner and I have lived together for 25 years and we have two cats. I joined the Coop in 1998 when I started eating organic food. I couldn't afford not to join! I love the Coop, its energy, the diversity of the membership, the ideals of cooperation and democracy and above all the beautiful food at unbelievable prices. The Coop is a reflection of what's possible in the world. It's a privilege to be a part of it. I also serve as a member of the Chair Committee, which chairs the General Meeting on the last Tuesday of each month. For me one of the best parts of the General Meeting is the committee reports which

inform us about issues not only affecting the Coop but the environment, our health, local farmers and even other countries to name but a few of the topics that have been covered. It has hit home a number of times that what we do, what we eat, has an impact on the world. Each of us makes a difference. I started going to the General Meetings about 11 years ago. Initially, I went for work slot credit and was surprised to discover that the meeting was small compared to the vast size of our membership and that the diversity which I saw while shopping at the Coop was not powerfully reflected in the meeting. I thought to myself, "Here is the decision-making body of the Coop and only a few members are making these decisions and even fewer people of color." I wondered, "What can I do to encourage greater diversity and participation in the meeting?" I live by the words of Gandhi who said, "Be the change you seek to see in the world." I decided to join the Chair Committee soon after my first meeting. I have been committed to making all people feel welcomed at the meeting, being fair and open to all sides of an issue and to being clear on the policies and how the meeting is run. I am encouraged that in the last few years our General Meeting attendance has grown signifi-

cantly due to a change in the work slot credit policy. Since being on the Chair Committee involves being at the General Meeting, which is also the Board Meeting, there is no conflict in my holding both of these positions. When I found out that there was a precedent of a Board member also being on the Chair Committee I decided to stay with the Chair Committee. The Chair Committee is in need of new members and my leaving could put a strain on the other members. If you have interest in being on the Chair Committee please let us know. In closing, I have intimate experience with Coop policies, procedures and the workings of the Board of Directors. I think our cooperative process works and as a Board member I respect the members' deliberations and will strive to ensure that the General Meeting remains the highest decision-making body in the Coop. I will also continue to encourage diversity in the General Meeting as well as all aspects of the Coop. I welcome members to contact me by e-mail at iqrealtysales@aol.com. My candidacy has been endorsed by the General Coordinators of the Coop and I welcome that support. Please vote for me. Thank you for your consideration. ■

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 15, 2013, 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 late-May. If you do not receive a packet, pick one up at the entrance desk or outside the Membership Office. ■

MEMBER SUBMISSION

Share and Share and Like: Yerdle Connects Your Friends, Making Sharing Easier

By Barent Roth

In the last few years there have been several start-ups attempting to make sharing your outgrown, unwanted, seldom-used items easier. The latest effort, yerdle.com, comes from Adam Werbach, former Sierra Club president, Andy Ruben, former Chief Sustainability Officer at WalMart, and Carl Tashian, from the founding team of Zipcar. Earlier sharing efforts attempted to harness the Internet community, aiming to fill the collaborative need left open by Craigslist or FreeCycle. Sharing goods reduces both waste and material demand while simultaneously building community and saving users money, yet none of the groundbreaking sharing companies had been able to generate the critical

mass needed for sustained success. So what is different about the new collaborative consumption sharing start up yerdle? Friends. Today the easiest way to reach a large enough pool to facilitate sharing is through Facebook, so yerdle began by signing in their users through the ubiquitous social network. The premise is simple, sharing items is significantly easier with your Facebook Friends (or your Friends of Friends) because of the built in screening process. Sharing is based on trust so yerdle, a free service, starts the process with those people with whom you already have a trusted connection. Yerdlers post items that they're willing to give away or loan to their friends, and then friends select, or try to nab, the things that they want. However, unlike a

crass online competitive hunt, the donors have the ability to find the best home for their shared items. Since yerdle launched on Black Friday of 2012, it has recently added a mapping filter allowing users to limit their search based on geography, making it easier for New Yorkers to find local goods from nearby friends. Our consumption patterns have to change. Especially when you consider Paul Hawken's revelation in *Natural Capitalism* that only one percent of the total North American materials flow ends up in products that are still being used within six months of their purchase. We need to share—as kids we did it all the time—in fact the Coop is a form a sharing services. Sharing goods offers materials another cycle, reducing both production demand and landfill waste, while saving money. Sharing also helps us connect with our community and for those with simple social media skills, yerdle now offers the best chance yet for making easy sharing a reality. ■

THANK YOU!

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

Eliza A.	Daniel D'Oca	Angela Gius	Charlotte Kaiser	Emi Matsuyama	Faye Richards	Ward W.
Aleksandr Allen	Gosha Danilov	Stephen R. Goldberg	Emily Kay	Sara Matthews	Meredith Riley	Paget Walker
Madison Bailey	Megan Davidson	Adam Gonzales	Alex Kendall	Jared McGuire	Janice Rodecap	Winton Wedderburn
Marisa Baumgartner	Elizabeth Dickinson	John Gordon	Robina Khalid	David McMahon	Nancy Romer	Kathryn Weselcouch
Korby Benoit	Etta Dixon	Alison Hamburg	Terri Kohler	Kumiko Mitarai	Sarah Scheffel	Alessa B. Wirberg
Jane Berentson	Erika Doering	Hazel Hankin	Allison LaFave	William Naess	Eric Schoenfeld	Daria Witt
Patricia Black	Melissa Dubbin	Jean Hartig	Destin Joy Layne	Casey O'Shea	Jules Skloot	Ophra Wolf
Sarah Burns	Michael Dwyer	Laure Henry	Roberta Lee	Tina Pamintuan	Ashley Springer	Alexandra Yannias
Katherine Callahan	Drew Elliott	Jane Hodge	Judith Loeb	Jennifer Pawlitschek	Luke Stern	Jeremy Z.
Ariana Cameron	Kim Fisher	Grant Huang	Rita Loomba	Johnatan Perez	Christopher Stewart	Tamara Zahaykevich
Johanna Chambers	Lewis Friedman	Tania Kabakova	Candice Martin	Eleina Pomerants	Nathan Storey	Christopher Zei
Ramon Cruz	Leah Gilliam	Rachel Kahan	Nathasha Mashkevich	Mike Ricca	Molleen Theodore	