

Established  
1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE

100%  
SOY BASED  
Ink System  
Contains no lead or other  
toxins

Volume HH, Number 20

October 3, 2013

## Searching for Member #1

By Taigi Smith

Urban legend has it that in the old days, back in the 70's, members actually used aliases when joining the Coop.

It all started with an e-mail from a source who works in the Membership Office. Her cryptic message went something like this, "Hey Taj. I heard Member #1 is an alias. The person doesn't exist. I want to be Member #1. You should look into this." Curious to know more about this alias, I dialed my source. "Are you sure Member #1 doesn't exist?" to which she replied, "Someone in the Office told me that back in the 'old days,' members didn't have to produce I.D. to join, thus causing some members to 'join using fake names.'" It seemed to me that name fraud was going down at the Coop back in the 70's and as a reporter, I was determined to get to the bottom of this very peculiar story.

My initial search started with Membership Coordinator Annette Laskaris. I sent her an e-mail asking for contact information on Member #1. For good measure, I also requested contact information for unlucky Member #13 and the unmistakably devilish Member #666. Within a day, Ms. Laskaris wrote back. "Nobody has the #1. It is only used for internal business." In this business, it isn't unusual for a hot trail to go cold, but I felt it necessary to call my source to set the record straight—there was no Member #1. To this, she responded cryptically. "Yes, there is. I work in the Office and I saw that name in the computer myself. It was clearly an alias." To back-up her claim, she gave me the names of two other women who work at the Office and who could confirm the existence of not one—but two—aliases...

Ellen Weinstat has been a member of the PSFC since 1981 and if anyone could help me find Member #1, it was Ellen. I explained that there was a rumor going around the Coop that early members of the Coop used fake names when signing up. "We didn't request that people use their birth names," recalls Ellen. "If somebody had a chosen name, they could use that name. Member #1 was a number used to test programming," and Member #2 was a

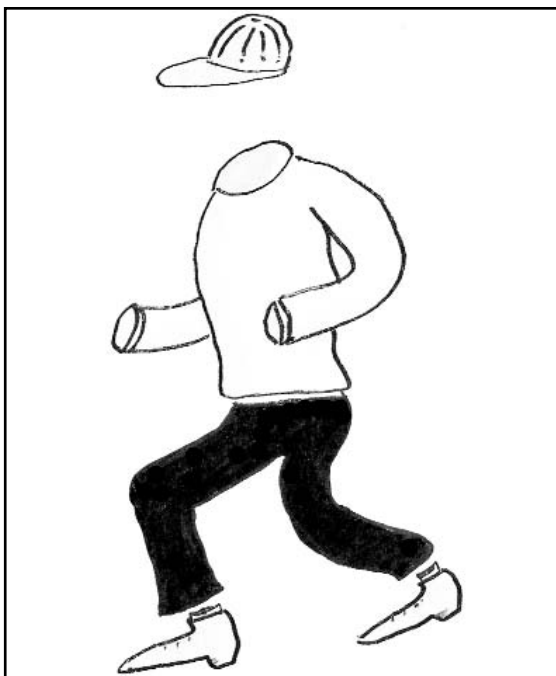


ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

Member #1 doesn't exist.

number assumed by the IT person at the time, explained Ms. Weinstat. "The first real number was Member #3," said Ellen who went on to explain the humble beginnings of our beloved Coop. "When we first opened, we had 1,500 people who had money in the Coop. These members were in alphabetical order. They were anyone at that time who had money invested in the Coop." Most interesting, was that members were organized alphabetically, and not by number, meaning Member #1 may not have been the first person to join, after all. "The first 1,500 member numbers were in alphabetical order, not in chronological order, and that's how the number system began."

In fact, remembers Weinstat, there was a time when the Coop operated renegade style. "There was at least a year or two without numbers. We had a name that started with Aa, and that person got the first number. If your name started with Zy, you got the last number. From the first 1,500 numbers, you can't tell when someone joined, but that they were members when the numbers were given

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## Coop 'Summer Camp' at World Fellowship Center

By Hayley Gorenberg

Now that many Coop families have headed back to school, it turns out that summer camp memories aren't just for kids. A bevy of long-time Coop members have journeyed for years to camp and swim, sing songs and make friends at the World Fellowship Center, which this summer celebrated its 73rd year "as an inter-generational camp and conference center promoting peace and social

justice through education and dialogue, inspired by nature," as its website says.

The WFC summer season that has just drawn to a close welcomed many Coop members to what the Center calls "a unique, affordable, progressive oasis on 455 acres in the splendor of New Hampshire's White Mountains." Some of them studied peace, social justice and the environment, and others simply

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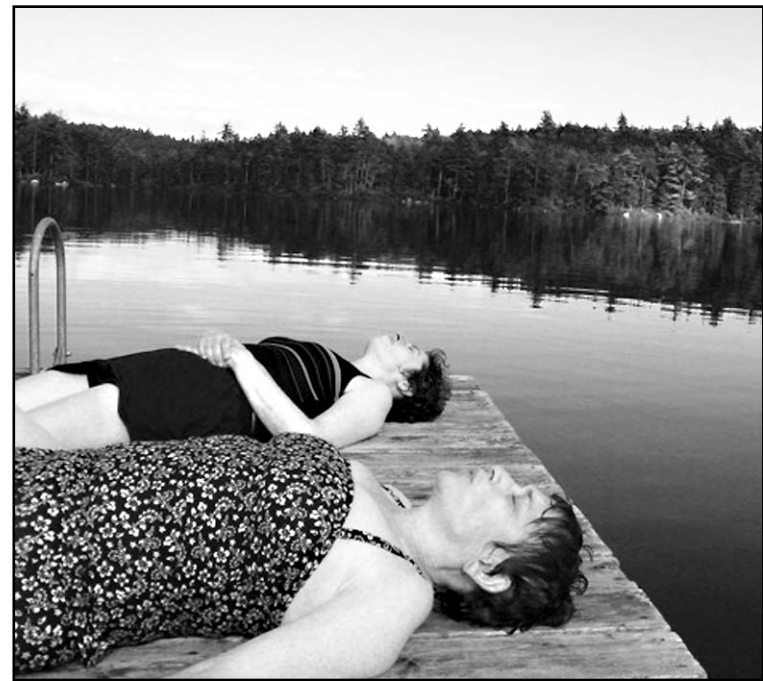


PHOTO BY ELLEN WEINSTAT

Cara Schwartz (foreground) relaxing on Whitten pond.

### Next General Meeting on October 29

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The October General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 29, 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.

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

## Coop Event Highlights

**Thu, Oct 3 • Food Class: Power Foods for Performance**  
7:30 p.m.

**Fri, Oct 4 • Film Night: The Mosuo Sisters** 7:00 p.m.

**Tue, Oct 8 • Safe Food Committee Film Night:**  
*The Corporation* 7:00 p.m.

**Fri, Oct 18 • Wordsprouts: Publishing Party**  
7:00 p.m.

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

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## Member #1

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out.” Shortly thereafter, members were issued membership cards. It was a day Ellen Weinstat, now proud owner of #3456, still remembers. “We lined up on the stairs and went in. I got number #3456. It almost never fails to get a response at the front desk—when people are paying attention.”

So who, in fact, was the first person to join the Coop? Chances are, it was member #634, better known as Joe Holtz. He’s one of the founding fathers of the Coop and joined way back in 1972. “Basically, just about everything we buy comes from the Coop. Usually it’s my wife who buys from the Farmer’s Market. She does it in Manhattan. Near work. On her lunch hour,” says Holtz. “The highest number right now is over 68300. We have 16,000 current members and there’s

been 68,000 numbers altogether. If you take 16,000 and divide it by 68,000, you get about 23%. Twenty-three percent of the people who have ever been members are members. I think that’s a really great retention rate over a 40-year period,” says Joe. “That says something positive about the Coop for me,” who wears the title General Manager like a proud poppa.

**So who, in fact, was the first person to join the Coop? Chances are, it was member #634, better known as Joe Holtz.**

So, if anyone knew about Member #1, it would be Joe Holtz. “There had to be a Member #1 in the beginning. At some point, in the 1970’s, the computer technician gave everybody a number.” That lucky #1, recalls Ellen Weinstat, went to “Minnie O.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY COOP ARCHIVISTS

Joe Holtz, then.

LaTangelo.” And Minnie’s relative, “Honey Bell Tangelo,” is listed as Member #10 in the Coop’s computer. “That was a take off on a certain type of citrus. It’s a delicious fruit. That was a made-up name based on the fruit,” recalls Holtz. Minnie O. LaTangelo even had her own advice column that ran in the *Linewaiters’ Gazette*. “The column was called ‘Ask Minnie’ but it only lasted a few issues.” But if Minnie O. LaTangelo wasn’t real, who

**General Manager Joe Holtz, now.**

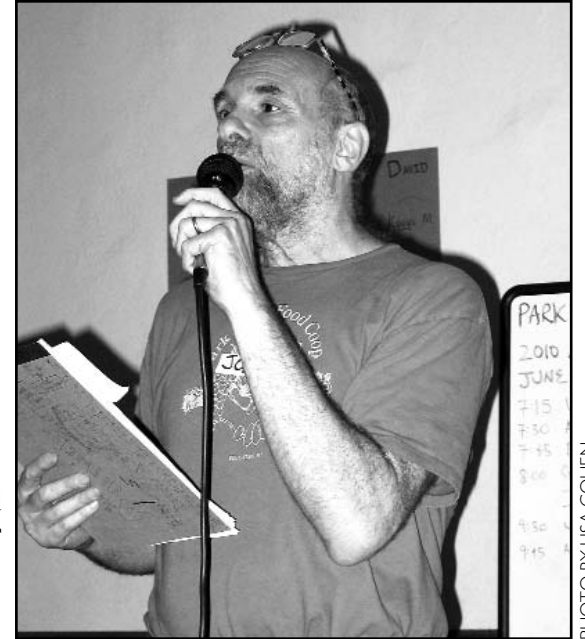


PHOTO BY LISA COHEN

dished out advice when wayward shoppers turned to “Dear Minnie,” for guidance? It turns out that Joe Holtz, founding member turned General Manager, also contributed to the advice column. “I was part of Dear Minnie. It was 25 years ago. It was kinda like ‘Dear Abby’

for the *Gazette*.”

As for unlucky member #13, that person is no longer active. Neither are Member #’s 3 and 4. However, Member #5, who wouldn’t return repeated calls, is real. He sounds like a nice man. His first name starts with an M. I assume it is not an alias. ■

## Coop ‘Summer Camp’

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communed with the great outdoors, picking blueberries, hiking and biking, and indulging in Whitton Pond, where guests swim, canoe, row and fish.

Billing itself as “camp with a social conscience,” World Fellowship Center invites participants to explore “issues of justice, freedom and peace as our society shapes itself for future generations.”

“Be careful. Attendance at WFC may be addictive!” warned Brent Kramer, a veteran of the PSFC Construction Committee, who joined the Coop soon after its founding. He and his family have visited WFC nearly every year for three decades. “My family didn’t have much vacation money, and we had done camping at state parks, and found that not very relaxing (gathering firewood, cooking, cleaning, setting up and breaking camp, etc.),” wrote Kramer.

The sense of community at WFC induced Kramer to serve on the organization’s board in the late 1980s and



Anita Shapiro, Liz Salen and Linda Wheeler playing Boggle. Cara Schwartz’s favorite view of Mt. Chocorua as seen from the WFC camp.

to present summer programming. “I still feel very at home there,” Kramer said, “And my grown kids feel that way even more.” He added, “I’ve always been a joiner and active in any organization I’m part of, so, for example, as a guest at WFC I’ve fixed things that I found broken without any ‘authorization’ to do so—in the same way I try to do that at PSFC!”

Coop member Liz Salen has been

traveling to WFC for most of the 23 years she’s been a Coop member. She especially remembers a talk given by Gene Robinson, “a gay man who was then the Episcopal bishop of New Hampshire—fabulous speaker and wonderful human being,” and a concert by a fellow Coop member featuring a special version of the national anthem. “It was so moving that the entire audience rose to its feet as if to signify acceptance of her piece as a more relevant anthem.”

**“Be careful.  
Attendance at WFC  
may be addictive!”**

Salen eventually joined the World Fellowship Center’s board of trustees, and serves to this day. “It feels good to know that there’s a place where we can go to be with people who share the attitude that peace, social justice and responsible stewardship of the planet are more important than striving for material success,” she explained. “It’s inspiring to meet and hear from others who are working

toward these goals. But even more important than simply meeting people is the opportunity to talk with, hang out with and get to know a truly diverse bunch. And because program presenters usually stay overnight or for a few days, it’s possible to have extended conversations with them. This past summer we heard a talk by Evan Hadingham (senior science editor of my favorite TV show, *Nova*) about climate change, and the next day we wound up hiking together.” She continued, “Probably the most important impact of WFC is the influence it’s had on my kids. I have a 24-year-old daughter and an 18-year-old son. Each first came to WFC at the age of 3. Kids love WFC for the freedom it allows them and for the opportunity to meet, play, and hang out with kids from all kinds of families and all kinds of backgrounds. Many kids learn to swim and canoe in Whitton Pond. They also learn about the world and political issues by being around adults who are talking about these things.”

Coop member Isabel Pinedo, a pro-

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ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY WASYLENKO



# Gonna Miss Me When You're Gone

By Allison Pennell

**T**he Park Slope Food Coop is a hard act to follow. You may not realize it when trying to jockey between the carts to get through any given aisle but just speak with those who've moved on to greener pastures and you'll hear the same refrain: there's nowhere else like it.

Larissa Phillips left Brooklyn three years ago for a more bucolic life in the Hudson River Valley. The thing she probably expected to miss least about city life was what she found herself missing most: the Food Coop. She recounted her first shopping trip upstate for me the other day:

"I spent a full 20 minutes in the pickle section reading all the labels before walking out without my pickles. It was awful. The organic sections are like from 20 years ago: everything looks kind of pallid and floppy and is prohibitively expensive."

In the years since, Phillips and her family have taken up farming and raising their own food (if you are in the mood for weekend rustication you can



PHOTO BY LARISSA PHILLIPS

**Larissa now lives in the Hudson Valley but misses the Coop's pickles, produce and meat sections.**

stay at their farmstay—[www.honeyhollowfarmstay.com](http://www.honeyhollowfarmstay.com)). Her Facebook page is a catalogue of the virtues and rewards of country living. But she still misses the Food Coop terribly.

Finding a comparable chicken, Phillips told me, means spending a whopping \$30 to buy organic and fresh from her farmer neighbor. "You just can't get what you can get at the Food Coop anywhere else for those prices." There's a coop in Albany but the selection is slim and prices are higher than Whole Foods. It does have bulk shampoos and household products, though, a big parking lot and no lines, laughs Phillips. And heirloom greens like purslane and lamb's quarters are common backyard weeds so you don't have to buy those. Her neighbors think it's hilarious that Coop members pay to buy weeds.

For Emma Sussman Starr—a lifelong Park Sloper who moved for her husband's work first to Connecticut and now to Maryland—it is the sheer, overwhelming scope of grocery shopping outside the city that makes her pine for the simple life at the Food Coop.

Her local food store, Giant, is reportedly "huge and has a million things" but she still has to go to Whole Foods if she wants good produce. "And then you realize you forgot the syrup and it's a football field away. Part of me would rather have less choice," Starr laments.

Aaron Goodman moved to the Bay Area last July and his findings are basically the same.

"Shopping is lame. The stores are huge and overwhelming. Safeway in particular has a million varieties of everything. I really don't care about what kind of orange juice I get, and I don't like having to choose. Obviously prices are higher and the quality of the produce is not as good."

Marty Stiglich, the Coop's longtime cheese

buyer, moved to Chicago in 2007 when his wife was transferred, and he misses the Coop community so much that he comes back and fills in for vacationing staffers to get his Food Coop fix. For Stiglich, who worked alongside some 500 members every month for years and became friends with many, the loneliness of shopping has been the greatest hurdle to overcome.

*"Other coops try to have good prices and policies but can never quite get there when they have to pay everyone working in the store in dollars rather than in food."*

"The first two years shopping in Chicago, I didn't even get eye contact. I always thought the Coop was about community. The saving of the money wasn't as big a deal to me as the loss of all that camaraderie."

Starr and Phillips both miss the people of the Coop too. "I used to see people I knew every time I went shopping. It was just such a friendly, nice place," recalls Starr. "Now I'm an anonymous shopper." Per Phillips, "It was like being in the village marketplace, I liked the small town friendliness."

In Pittsburgh where they moved last year, long-time Coop members Michael Winks and P.J. Corso have also struggled to find a replacement for the Food Coop. Like the other expats I spoke with, their local food coop is not worker-based, and the



PHOTO BY EMMA SUSSMAN STARR

**Emma Sussman Starr moved to Maryland but pines for the simple shopping life at the Food Coop.**

prices are along the lines of Whole Foods. "There's just no parallel to the PSFC. It's the only beast of its kind in terms of the food and price," Winks tells me. Like Phillips, Winks has gone back to the land to try and cobble together a comparable meal, trading his labor at local farms to get good vegetables at an affordable price.

Stiglich joined the Dill Pickle Food Coop in Chicago. He says that members can work two hours a week for a 20% discount but the coop is small and doesn't have any buying power to negotiate lower prices, which run higher than Whole Foods. And foods like cheeses coming in through the NYC ports take an additional two weeks to reach the shelves in Chicago so nothing is as fresh.

Starr has discovered the same. She reported being all excited to join the local food coop but it



PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP ARCHIVES

**Marty Stiglich misses the freshness of bulk and cheeses.**

turned out to be tiny and super expensive. And then they stopped carrying the kale chips from the Coop she missed, and it was no longer worth a special trip.

Sarah Strombeck, who left the Food Coop to head back home to North Carolina, says it's the singular model of the Coop that makes it so hard to follow. "What I miss most is the Coop itself because it's such a big middle-finger to the way the rest of our society is structured, just a shining example of the type of world (and workplace) we all should be creating."

After 10 years at the PSFC, former staffers Anngel Delaney and Delia Yarrow moved up to Ithaca, NY, and have managed to strike a balance by doing what seems unfathomable to most of us...they stayed members by filling in for staffers on leave or vacation. Like Stiglich, Delaney has found there's simply no match for the Park Slope Food Coop's model.

"The Coop is a crazy, awesome place full of amazing people. There is nothing like it without member labor being part of the equation. The prices, the priorities, and the people are all different at other grocery stores," she said.

Then Delaney nailed it, "Other coops try to have good prices and policies but can never quite get there when they have to pay everyone working in the store in dollars rather than in food." ■

## WISH LIST:

### What the Exiles Miss Most

**Larissa Phillips:** pickles, produce and meat sections

**Emma Sussman Starr:** yogurt-covered almonds, papaya spears and produce

**Aaron Goodman:** odd seasonal vegetables like bitter melon, cherimoya, and odd cheeses

**Michael Winks:** bulk millet and produce

**Marty Stiglich:** freshness of bulk and cheeses

**Anngel Delaney:** cheap, fresh bulk products and mind-blowing cheese

**Sarah Strombeck:** the staff



## Coop 'Summer Camp'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

fessor of film and media at Hunter College, leaves talks and programming aside when she visits WFC. "I'm an intellectual!" she said. "I get a lot of political and intellectual stimulation at work. For me a vacation is a change. More often than not, I would just rather play Scrabble with people." She compared attending WFC to spending time with "an extended family." She is pleased that WFC "feels like a second home. It was very welcoming from the beginning."

Pinedo has attended the World Fellowship Center every summer for more than a decade, after PSFC staff suggested it in response to her "bemoaning the fact that there was no adult day camp."



This summer, the World Fellowship Center celebrated its 73rd year "as an inter-generational camp and conference center promoting peace and social justice through education and dialogue, inspired by nature."

"I went by myself and loved it," she said. "I wanted to be outdoors. I wanted a very sociable environment." She highlighted the communal dining at WFC.

"People are very friendly, and everyone asks where you're from and wants to get you involved in conversation."

She enjoys swimming and rowing on Whitton Pond, and points out that one can enjoy WFC very economically. "There's one fee for room and board, and nothing else to pay if you don't want to."

Years after she first attended WFC on her own, she now travels there with her husband and meets their "World Fellowship friends" each summer. "It's just this really pristine serene environment at the pond. It feels untouched. Access to it is very limited. Because of glacial boulders, you can't operate any motor vehicles on it, so it's very quiet. It's a whole other world."

Cara Schwarz, who joined the Coop in 1986 and works on the Coop's Concert Committee, first attended the World Fellowship Center for a singing workshop about five years ago, and has returned several times since then.

"I go for the singing workshop, but also for the beauty of the place and the relaxed atmosphere," she said. "It's just so beautiful. I really enjoy spending time in the water. I love looking at that beautiful mountain, Mount Chocorua. I like the fact that they feed you. The salads are wonderful, because they're all fresh and from their garden."

A highlight this summer, from Schwarz's point of view, was meeting a group of Congolese people now residing in the United States, Canada and England. Schwarz learned more about the challenging political situation in

their country of origin, and on the lighter side enjoyed learning Congolese dance with them. For her part, Schwarz, a retired teacher of deaf and hearing-impaired people, offered to teach them and other WFC attendees a song in sign language.

Shopping Squad member Kelly Anderson screened her documentary *My Brooklyn, Our City* at WFC in July. In addition to "wonderful hiking and swimming," she enjoyed "the overwhelming lack of pretension and friendliness of the people there." She opined that the Coop and WFC shared a "non-corporate and cooperative vibe."

Former Coop General Coordinator Linda Wheeler has spent part of each summer at the World Fellowship Center for 28 years. After she retired from PSFC, she evolved from WFC guest to seasonal staffer; she spends four months per year at WFC.

Wheeler was first drawn to WFC for "the ability to vacation with like-minded people. We had previously vacationed in state campgrounds where we looked for neighboring sites with children our children's ages." She views WFC as an "integral part of my life." She wrote, "Many of my friends in New York are people I met at World Fellowship Center." One recalled fondly that one summer she started counting Coop attendees in the WFC dining room. By the time she was done, she realized 23 Coop members were sharing her vacation! ■

For more information about the World Fellowship Center, visit [www.worldfellowship.org/](http://www.worldfellowship.org/).

PHOTO COURTESY OF WORLD FELLOWSHIP CENTER



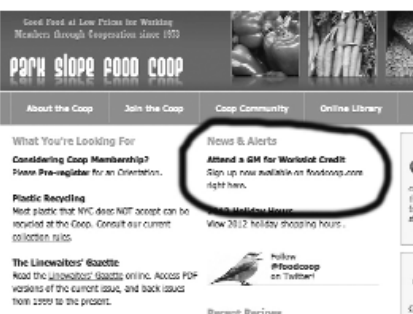
ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY WASSYLENKO

### Attention Web Developers

Do you want to help build the new PSFC website and fulfill your Coop work requirement at the same time? The Coop IT staff is doing a survey of our membership to determine the popularity of various web technologies. Based on the results of the survey we'll be working with members to begin new development on [foodcoop.com](http://foodcoop.com). If web development work for the Coop sounds good to you, please take the survey by either scanning the QR code above, or visiting: <http://websurvey.foodcoop.com/>



To receive workslot credit for attending the monthly General Meeting, members must sign up in advance in one of the following three ways:



◆ On the Coop's website ([www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com))

◆ Add your name to the sign-up sheet in the ground floor elevator lobby



◆ Call the Membership Office

### Members Sought for PSFC Personnel Committee

If you know how to work collaboratively and believe you could make a contribution to the Coop, we would love to hear from you. The Personnel Committee is an elected group of members that serves in an advisory capacity to the General Coordinators (the Coop's collective managerial team), supporting them with/in performance evaluations, succession planning, developing human resources policies and in the hiring/termination of General Coordinators when/if either of those actions is necessary.

We would like the Personnel Committee to reflect the diversity of the Coop. We are especially interested in people who have skills in finance, running a business, upper-level management, organizational development, personnel and human resources. Applicants should have a minimum of one year of Coop membership immediately prior to applying, experience doing workshops at the Coop and excellent attendance.

The Personnel Committee meets with the General Coordinators on the third Tuesday of every month from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. Additional work outside the meetings is also required.

If you are interested, please do the following two things: e-mail your resume and a letter explaining why you would like to be part of the committee to [pc.psf@gmail.com](mailto:pc.psf@gmail.com), and go to <http://bit.ly/120Dn2s> to fill out a short questionnaire.

## SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series Presents: *The Corporation*

By Adam Rabiner

One of the pleasures of *The Corporation* is listening to America's foremost, left-wing, social critics, all gathered in one place and ganging up to support the film makers' contention that if a corporation was a person (and legally it is), it would be a psychopath. It's a rare film that features working-class documentarian Michael Moore, radical linguist and philosopher Noam Chomsky,

and historian Howard Zinn, author of the famous *A People's History of the United States*, among others, collectively voicing their opinions on this singular topic.

Corporations, first created in the 17th century, are now the dominant institution of our time. They represent a paradox, having brought the world great wealth, but also enormous problems. This film goes to great lengths to argue

that these problems, including many around the food system, are not the result of "bad apples" as defenders of business and industry are likely to contend, and the media to echo, but rather because corporations are amoral, soulless constructs that are designed, and function, to explicitly benefit their shareholders, not the wider community of stakeholders. Corporations are not so much malevolent actors as they are extremely efficient machines created to maximize short-term profits and push external costs, for example pollution, to non-consenting third parties.

*The Corporation* makes this point through a series of case studies. For example, Monsanto, in its rush to make money selling DDT which it developed in the 1940s, hid internal studies linking the pesticide to cancer and birth defects. Similarly, Monsanto attempted to trivialize risks linking rBGH, or artificial growth hormone, to ill effects on both animal and human health. Monsanto's own files showed that Posilac, as rBGH was commercially known, caused stress and pain to cows due to mastitis, an udder infection. This, in turn, led to greater quantities of pus and medicines in milk products and the spread of antibiotic-resistant microbes. *The Corporation* shows how Monsanto used lawsuits to intimidate television networks and silence investigative reporters.

*The Corporation* also explores the patenting of genes and Monsanto's development of "terminator seeds" that commit suicide rather than propagate, a "perversion of evolution," according to environmental activist and anti-globalization author, Vandana Shiva. Also taken up is the privatization of "the commons"—land, air, water—with specific attention on Cochabamba, Bolivia, where Bechtel Corp. attempted to take over the public water systems and charge citizens a quarter of their daily wage of \$2.00, spurring mass protests that forced the company and the complicit Bolivian government to back down. So too, *The Corporation* takes on GATT, the WTO, and free trade in general, and examines the links between fascism, Nazism, and corporations, specifically IBM, whose nascent punch-card computer was used to catalog

the atrocities and run the logistics of concentration camps. *The Corporation's* method is to fling a lot of mud at the wall and to see what sticks.

Many of these stories have been told, in much greater detail, in other Plow-to-Plate feature documentaries. *The Corporation*, for all of its entertaining polemics, is like a sampler CD. You get a flavor for the different controversies around the food system and if you like the song, you go out and buy the album.

In that light, for a closer look at a specific issue, poverty and hunger in America, come to November's film, *A Place at the Table*, as well as this month's feature. *A Place at the Table* highlights that as corporate profits are at an all-time high, so too is hunger, even while politicians on the right are attempting to eviscerate food stamps.

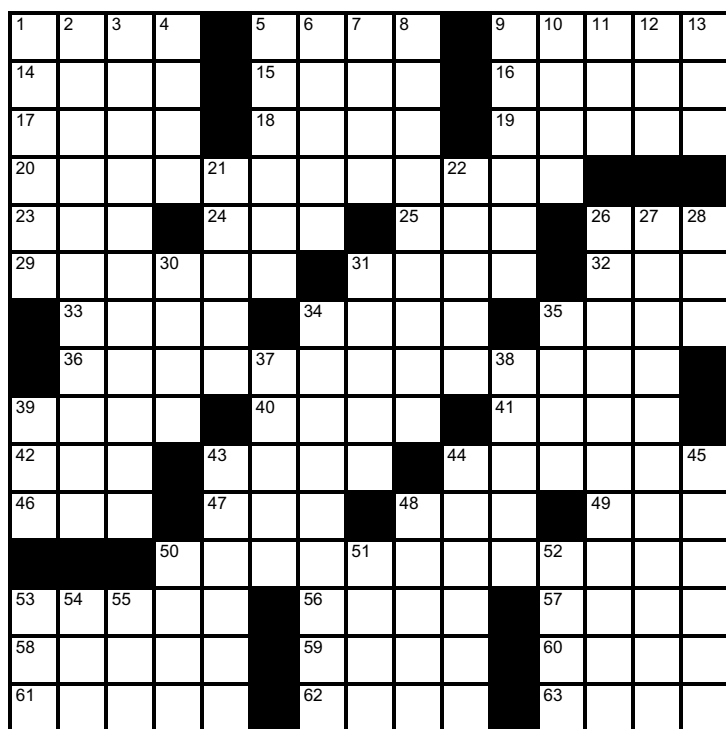
Corporations are likely here



to stay. But as Michael Moore states at the end of *The Corporation*, so is the power of the people to keep them in check. Staying involved, seeing these films, and taking action is one way to do that. ■

*The Corporation* will show on Tuesday, October 8, 7 p.m., Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

## Crossword Puzzle



## Across

1. X-rated stuff
5. Declare openly
9. Z-Series Blade maker
14. Yothers of Family Ties
15. Prefix with gram
16. Sticky
17. Jump shots have them
18. Talk like this
19. Adams who photographed Yosemite
20. VP of the CIA?
23. Suffix with legal
24. Battleship letters
25. Lost actor Daniel \_\_\_\_ Kim
26. Denom. established in 1830
29. Like some modern pirates
31. Has title to
32. My lips \_\_\_\_ sealed
33. Work (up)
34. Country music's Paisley
35. Garfield dog
36. VP of the KGB?
39. New York's \_\_\_\_ Field
40. Final four?
41. Class that might have finger painting and naptime
42. Prefix with lateral
43. Mia of Ferris Bueller's Day Off
44. Just enough to whet one's appetite
46. Saldana of Avatar
47. Cy Young Award factor
48. Writer Umberto
49. One of a snorkeler's pair
50. VP of the Screen Actors Guild?
53. South American capital city whose name translates to the peace
56. Pop \_\_\_\_
57. Big boats
58. Sundance entry, usually
59. \_\_\_\_ contendere (court plea)
60. Fraction of a min.
61. Burn badly
62. Bite like a rat
63. Sock \_\_\_\_ me!

## Down

1. Fights (off)
2. 1995 Best Supporting Actress winner
3. Affectionate nickname for the TV comedian called the thief of bad gags
4. Don't \_\_\_\_ me, bro!
5. Birthplace of St. Francis
6. Crop-damaging animals
7. Movin' \_\_\_\_ (The Jeffersons theme)
8. 2013 Brad Pitt film
9. Skateboarders and snowboarders compete in them
10. Four-star
11. NYSE listings
12. Thing to drive off of
13. Olive \_\_\_\_
21. Announced a decision
22. Classic John Updike short story set in a grocery store
26. Tenet of chivalry
27. It may be requested when approaching the bar
28. Get it?
30. Jai \_\_\_\_
31. Language of eastern India
34. It became an Olympic sport at the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing
35. Neither esta nor esa
37. Didn't \_\_\_\_ you?
38. Slangy request for a high-five
39. Informal comeback to How come?
43. Took by force
44. Don't delay!
45. Romanian Rhapsodies composer
48. \_\_\_\_ Gay, historic plane displayed by the Smithsonian
50. Colorado ski resort
51. Nobel Prize subj.
52. Eastern royal
53. Fleur-de-\_\_\_\_
54. Nelson Mandela's org.
55. iPhone, e.g., briefly

Puzzle author: David Levinson Wilk. For answers, see page 15.

## Follow the Food Coop on

twitter



@foodcoop

## COOP'S 40TH



PHOTO BY TOM MOORE

The Coop's 40th birthday party September 28. Full coverage coming soon in the Gazette.





G M O S H E L F L A B E L I N G C O M M I T T E E R E P O R T

# The GMO Shelf Labeling Committee Suggests Banning New GMO Products from Coop Shelves

By Greg Todd

Many thanks to Kristin Wartman, who reported in the September 5 issue of the *Linewaiters' Gazette* about GMO labeling at the Coop. Her report helped bring to light the many difficulties we have encountered over the years in executing the June 2000 mandate of the General Meeting to label GMOs. Just to elaborate a bit on the Committee's history, we actually were labeling a list of 30 GMO products on the shelves of the Coop between approximately 2003 and 2006. This practice was discontinued in early 2007 when it was determined that the list being used, which was derived from a list provided by Greenpeace, had not been researched to the satisfaction of Coop members and staff. It was in that year that we began our own research project which involved reading the labels of some 8,000 products. Products that contained GMO ingredients, principally soy, corn, canola or derivatives, and that were not USDA-certified organic, were tagged and their producers were sent a series of three letters asking whether the product in question contained GMO ingredients. The final letter advised the producer that we would label the product as "possibly GMO" if the producer didn't respond. Producers of some 550 products

were sent this series of letters. Despite what we thought was this threat of harsh punishment, 95% of the producers failed to respond.

Now six years later, we feel the tide is finally turning against GMOs. Lead by the Proposition 37 effort in California for mandatory GMO labeling that was narrowly defeated last year, many other states have introduced mandatory labeling legislation. According to the group Right To Know GMO,<sup>1</sup> 27 states have GMO labeling legislation pending and two, Connecticut and Maine, have actually passed such legislation. In New York, a GMO labeling bill was narrowly killed in committee earlier this year. The Coop itself has contributed \$1,000 to both the Proposition 37 campaign and the Washington State I-552 labeling campaign, which is on-going.

Mainstream retailers are also joining the bandwagon. Whole Foods is now committed to label all GMO products on its shelves by 2018<sup>2</sup> and even Wal-Mart was in meetings with its providers in January to consider how it could label GMOs<sup>3</sup>. Large Mexican

restaurant chain Chipotle is getting a lot of press over its decision to label GMOs on the website menu, but not in-

are high risk of being GMO, unless the products are USDA-certified organic or certified GMO free by the Non-

the Coop is to look for green "non-GMO" dots on Coop shelf labels, meaning that the product has been certified as GMO-free by the Non-GMO Project, or buy only USDA organic products. If this isn't possible for you,

GMO Avoidance Chart		
Crops considered "high-risk" of being GMO	Animal-derived sources	Microbes and microbial products
Alfalfa Canola Corn, except popcorn Cotton Papaya Soy Sugar beets Zucchini and yellow summer squash	Milk Meat, hides and skins Eggs Honey and other bee products	Enzymes, including chymosin Microbial cultures and starters
Processed/processing inputs and ingredients, and related derivatives, derived from crops, livestock, or microorganisms:		Livestock Production Inputs
Amino Acids Aspartame Ascorbic Acid, Sodium Ascorbate, Vitamin C Citric Acid, Sodium Citrate Derived from glucose syrup. Ethanol Derived from corn or GMO sugar beets. Flavorings, "natural" and "artificial" Also the carrier may have GMO risk. High-Fructose Corn Syrup Hydrolyzed Vegetable Protein Lactic acid Maltodextrins Microbial growth media Molasses Derived from sugar beets, beginning 2008 crop. Monosodium Glutamate Sucrose Derived from sugar beets, beginning 2008 crop. Textured vegetable protein Including soy protein. Xanthan Gum		The following inputs may not be used unless verified as compliant with the Non-GMO Project Standard.  rBGH, rBST (recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone or recombinant Bovine Somatotropin)  Semen See Guidance at 1.2.1.6. Vaccines Veterinary Medicines Microbes and microbial products Enzymes, including chymosin Microbial cultures and starters Including yeast

store menus.<sup>4</sup> Perhaps closer to our situation are small retailers such as Berkeley Natural Grocery, Jimbo's (both California-based) and Berkshire Coop Market (Massachusetts). Each of these small local retailers are banning the addition of new products with ingredients that

GMO Project. In addition, Jimbo's is refusing to promote any product that contains high-risk ingredients unless they are certified as GMO-free by the Non-GMO Project.<sup>5</sup> It occurs to us at the GMO Shelf Labeling Committee that until producers are forced by public pressure or state legislation to begin GMO labeling themselves, the Coop should adopt the policy of not knowingly adding products with high-risk ingredients unless they are certified as non-GMO. We welcome your feedback. If it's as positive as we expect, we will submit an appropriate proposal to the General Meeting Agenda Committee on the topic. E-mail your thoughts to [gmolabeling@psfc.coop](mailto:gmolabeling@psfc.coop). In the meanwhile, the best way to avoid buying GMOs at

consider avoiding products with high-risk ingredients on the product labels. Just to be clear what these ingredients are, below is a table showing the foods considered high-risk of being GMO by the Non-GMO Project. October has been declared "Non-GMO Month" by the Non-GMO Project. As in years past, the GMO Shelf Labeling Squad will be tabling in front of the Coop at various times during the month. In addition to free Non-GMO Project buttons and decals, we will be selling Non-GMO Project tote bags for \$10, at cost. ■

For further information on the topic of GMOs, visit the Non-GMO Project's website [www.nongmoproject.org/](http://www.nongmoproject.org/) or go to our website [www.gmodanger.wordpress.com](http://www.gmodanger.wordpress.com).

M E M B E R S U B M I S S I O N

## Free Documentary Films on Palestine And Israel, Screening in Park Slope October 5 and 19

By Thomas Cox

Letters in the *Gazette* do not give Food Coop members enough background to understand the human rights issues in Palestine and Israel today. Now we have an opportunity to watch a film documenting the daily difficulties faced by ordinary people in Gaza, on Saturday, October 5, 7 p.m., here in our neighborhood. *Where Should the Birds Fly?*, by filmmaker Fida Qishta, a young woman from Gaza, will be shown at Park Slope United Methodist Church, Sixth Ave. at Eighth St. On Saturday, October 19, 7 p.m., also at Park Slope Methodist, *Roadmap to Apartheid* will be presented. A collaboration between filmmakers Eron Davidson (Israel) and Ana Nogueira (South Africa), with a comparison between apartheid South Africa and the Israel/Palestine conflict, this documentary traces the future of one conflict from the past of another.

Both films are sponsored by the church's Social Action Committee. Co-sponsors include Brooklyn For Peace; Jewish Voice for Peace NY; Jews Say No!; Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church; NYC Queers Against Israeli Apartheid; Riverside Church Israel-Palestine Task Force; Brooklyn Ethical Culture Society's Ethical Action Committee; and our very own Park Slope Food Coop Members for Boycott, Divestment, & Sanctions. Please join us in exploring peaceful alternatives to the present-day polarization in Israel-Palestine. Come early for the 6 p.m. potluck dinner (e-mail [psumcevents@earthlink.net](mailto:psumcevents@earthlink.net) to let us know what you are planning to bring), and stay afterwards for the discussions. Our goal is to provide an opportunity for local residents to learn about and openly discuss the Palestinian and Israeli relationships and conflicts. ■



## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## Fair Expression and Principles of Community

## Part I: The Limits of Free Speech

By Constantine Kaniklidis,  
Scholars for Peace in the  
Middle East (SPME)

First Amendment protections are not, and never have been, absolute, and liberty is not license, as evidenced by these content-based constraints on expression: advocacy of illegal conduct, obscenity, child pornography, defamation, deceptive commercial speech, copyright infringement, certain proscribed forms of hate speech considered “performative speech” including group libel, and others, all without constitutional protection.<sup>1,3,69</sup> Right to self-expression does not trump dignitary rights,<sup>1</sup> despite banalities like “let the marketplace of ideas work...the cure for bad speech is more speech...intoned by otherwise intelligent people who ought to know better.”<sup>3</sup> The experience of dozens of countries with hate speech constraints unambiguously shows these neither invariably, nor even frequently, weaken the respect accorded free speech, nor commence any “slippery slope” to totalitarianism<sup>4</sup> or “snowball effect toward censorship.”<sup>3</sup>

Thus, the **speech continuum** of expressive acts—from free speech to hate

speech that vilifies its target based on identity “indicia” of race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or other group identity traits—not being absolute, is constrainable under societally and morally compelling reasons. Both incitement to acts of group libel and discrimination, as well as incitement to hatred being infictive of societal harm, are species of hate speech not entitled to protection under international laws (like the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR),<sup>5</sup> the American Convention on Human Rights (ACHR),<sup>6</sup> and others)<sup>8,39-42</sup> which proscribe advocacy of hatred including incitement to hatred, hostility, or discrimination, these laws now representing customary international law and as such binding on all signatories, including the U.S. (much to Twitter’s surprise and dismay; see below).

## Principles of Community

The set of principles under international law forming content-based constraints on freedom of

expression in the interests of furtherance of the social welfare, cohesion and harmony of the Community for the common good, are known collectively as **Principles of Community** (and have recently inspired similar Principles of Community for “academic speech” zones of the campus). These recognize that dissemination of virulent lies targeted by identity may nurture and promote hate crimes via desensitizing people to the real-world consequences of bigotry,<sup>23</sup> and that free expression is bounded by the communal/societal goals of fostering inclusiveness, respect, and a welcoming environment<sup>35</sup> so as to preserve and enhance social welfare. Principles of Community operate under the assumption that words and accusations which at their core demean, defame and degrade must be sanctioned,<sup>36</sup> and such constraints have also been upheld by U.S. Law<sup>9-10</sup> which found that accumulation of vilifying comments, by creating an “intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment”, engender an atmosphere of fear, silenc-

ing, and shame for the targets.<sup>11-12</sup>

## Bankruptcy of the ‘Marketplace of Ideas’

The dictum that truth always triumphs over persecution if both are allowed free expression is a reassuring platitude which all experience refutes: history is rich with real instances of truth put down by persecution. One example, of dozens one could proffer: the truly massive free flow of abolitionist ideas and literature did not peacefully overcome slavery via the exercise and exchange of logical arguments and counterarguments as to its evils, but rather it took a civil war, not a “marketplace of ideas” and exchanges, to end the practice.<sup>1,3,25-26,69</sup>

Others: the preludes of erosive anti-Semitic expression and propaganda in the Weimar Republic enabled the Nuremberg Laws and then the death camps; decades of systematic propaganda and imagery of the Indian savage legitimized the expropriation of tribal lands and removal of native Americans;<sup>1,3,69</sup> and racist and dehumanizing Arabic

discourse about blacks contributed to the perpetuation of black slavery in contemporary Mauritania,<sup>1,25-26</sup> are all historical examples of gradually inculcated linguistic paradigms that justified and fomented injustices, showing that the insidious development of group hatred through propaganda threatens to popularize hatred itself,<sup>27</sup> and puts the lie to the claim that rights can best be protected by uninhibited and unrestricted speech inclusive even of hate speech/propaganda.

## Going Forward

In the next part of this series on the **speech continuum**, we trace Principles of Community in real-world actions against hate speech and propaganda: against anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim content<sup>44-51</sup> and viciously anti-gay content (with calls for murder of LGBTs: #BrulonLesGaysSurDu / “Let’s burn gay people”<sup>61,62</sup> on Twitter; and against hate speech on Reddit and Facebook. ■

[Adapted from, and all references found in: Kaniklidis, Constantine. *Unfree Speech and Principles of Community. At: The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict: Evidence-based Reports.* <http://freespeech.evidence-watch.com>]

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## Getting Rid of Roll Bags is BAD for the Environment

By Don Wiss

The Environmental Committee is proposing that the Coop should stop distributing roll bags. But keeping them is the most environmentally sound choice.

First, when a roll bag ends up in a sealed landfill, the carbon is sequestered. There is no impact on global warming.

The EC makes the assumption that there are no other effects on the environment involved. They ignore the impact of cleaning the bags to reuse them. They ignore that alternatives also have a cost.

It is not even clear to me that bags can be properly sterilized for reuse. At what temperature does my hot water have to be? 165°F? According to *Consumer Reports*, two-thirds of chicken is bacterially contaminated. Buyers of the leaky whole chickens at the Coop now put them in a roll bag. With-

out roll bags the buyers may simply put them in their basket, expecting to later transfer them to a box at checkout. Now you have a bacterially contaminated basket and checkout counter. Most people don’t wash their cantaloupes or avocados before slicing them. If roll bags are eliminated, I suggest you start doing so.

There are environmental and monetary costs to cleaning a roll bag (and washing a cantaloupe and avocado). Water has a cost. It is a limited resource. Hot water is expensive. Cold water costs 1.2¢ per gallon. Hot water can cost .05¢ per gallon, or possibly more, though it depends on the water temperature, how efficient the heater is, and what fuel is used to heat it.

In my case I have a very efficient heater and my hot water is only 120°F, but there

is a long run of pipe to my kitchen sink. I have to dump four gallons of water before the water gets hot. When I’m done that is four gallons of hot water wasted in the pipe. The .01¢ cost of a roll bag is puny in comparison. As 120°F is not going to sterilize anything, I’d have to thoroughly soap the outside and inside of the bag.

Most hot water here is heated with natural gas. Unlike a sequestered roll bag, burning natural gas does contribute to global warming.

Many of the vegetables are kept wet in the produce cases. Since the member is planning to cook them, they aren’t concerned about contamination. Without a plastic bag, the produce is placed on the scale wet. Now the checkout person has to use a paper towel to dry off the scale. (And also dry it off after a leaky chick-

en.) All that has happened is a cost transfer from a roll bag to a paper towel. Not much has been saved here.

Roll bags are also used when people buy loose bagels and rolls. Without them members may simply put the rolls on top of their other packages. Gluten crumbs may fall to the bottom of the basket. So now the basket may not only be bacterially contaminated, but the celiac now has to worry about gluten contamination. And the shopper has to worry about bagels and rolls contaminated by wet chickens. You can’t wash bagels and rolls!

The citywide bans in LA and San Francisco, and the countrywide ban in Ireland, do NOT include bags used for produce, meat products, etc. The language of the bans includes these exceptions. I’d like to presume



that these exceptions were included for a good reason.

So many people want to vote on this issue that the Coop will have to spend thousands of dollars to rent a larger meeting space. I encourage people to go to the EC’s blog at [www.ecokvetch.blogspot.com/](http://www.ecokvetch.blogspot.com/) and urge them to drop their misguided proposal before this money is spent. And if they don’t drop it, I encourage you to come to the meeting and vote it down. ■

**COOP HOURS****Office Hours:**

Monday through Thursday

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Friday &amp; 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. The e-mail address for submissions is GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop. Drop disks in the wallpocket described above. 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, October 18, 8:00 p.m.**

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



## PROSPECT CONCERTS



**Jodi Shaw** is a Canadian-born poet/performer with a unique voice and vision. Her music has been described as "hauntingly erotic," "mystical" and "hard to pin down." One reviewer, upon hearing her latest release *In Waterland* for the first time, remarked that he was "partially shocked." Another calls the album "a revelation, nothing less than stunning." Her work has drawn comparisons to Feist, Fiona Apple, Imogen Heap, Tori Amos, and the Beach Boys.



Downbeat calls **Melissa Stylianou** "a gifted composer and an appealing singer" and, moreover, "an original." Stylianou's newest album—*Silent Movie*, her fourth disc and first for the New York-based Anzic Records—is an evolutionary step, with Stylianou presenting her fresh takes on beloved jazz standards, original compositions, and left-field songs from Johnny Cash to Joanna Newsom, backed by a collective of top musicians from the New York scene. Of the new recording, *JazzTimes* had this to say: "Now, with *Silent Movie*, she settles into a spellbinding groove that advances her to the forefront of contemporary vocalists, rivaling the storytelling élan of Joni Mitchell and Carly Simon."

[www.ProspectConcerts.tumblr.com](http://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**

## 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.

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WELCOME!

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

Will Ainger	Meghan Bulfin	Joao Garcia	Stella Kim	Michael McIntosh	Lana Povitz	Jennifer Shelbo	Travis Wolf
Ethan Ardelli	Louisa Cannell	Pooya Ghorbani	Kevin King	Tina Mestvirishvili	kiki Rakowsky	David Silberstein	Tom Woodcock
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Julia Bowes	Natalie Fairchild	Amy Keefe	Randy Maitland	Brian Olin	Kyle Schanzer	Dimitri Timchenko	
Cody Brgant	Leigh Fondakowski	William Keniston	Karla Maldonado	Lucy Pack	Carl Schlachte	Brooks Traendly	
Fatima Vijou Bryant	Melissa Forbis	Alexander Kennedy	Matt Marcus	Marko Pankovich	Naomi Schwartz	Monika Wagenberg	
	Simcha Galimidi	Renat Khalikov	Patrick McGrath	Jason Pedicone	Zach Schwartz	Jane Willis	



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, OCTOBER 29

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, NOVEMBER 5

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 7:30 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the November 26 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Oct 17 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Oct 7  
Oct 31 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Oct 21

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Oct 17 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Oct 9  
Oct 31 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Oct 23

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 29, 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 in the rack near the Coop Community Corner bulletin board and at General Meetings. Instructions and helpful information on how to submit an item appear on the submission form. The Agenda Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the agenda for the GM held on the last Tuesday of the month. If you have a question, please call Ann Herpel at the coop.

Meeting Format

**Warm Up (7:00 p.m.)** • Meet the Coordinators • Enjoy some Coop snacks • Submit Open Forum items • Explore meeting literature

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

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

**Agenda (8:00 p.m.)** The agenda is posted at the Coop Community Corner and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

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

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

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

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

• Advance Sign-up required:

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

Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

Each member may take advantage of the GM-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendar year.

• Certain Squads not eligible:

Eligible: Shopping, Receiving/Stocking, Food Processing, Office, Maintenance, Inventory, Construction, and FTOP committees. (Some Committees are omitted because covering absent members is too difficult.)

• Attend the entire GM:

In order to earn workslot credit you must be present for the entire meeting.

• Signing in at the Meeting:

1. After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.  
2. Please also sign in the attendance book that is passed around during the meeting.

• Being Absent from the GM:

It is possible to cancel without penalty. We do ask that you remove your name if you know cannot attend. Please do not call the Membership Office with GM cancellations.

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

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

park slope  
FOOD COOP

## calendar of events

oct 3  
thu 7:30 pm**Food Class:  
Power Foods for Performance**

Susan Baldassano, Coordinator

Whether you are a recreational athlete or a casual exerciser, learn more about sport and exercise nutrition and hydration strategies at this sports nutrition class. Chef **Lisa Fencik** will offer both a scientific approach to eating for performance as well as the practical how-to approach, including menu ideas and recommendations for pre- and post-exercise meals and snacks. Lisa is a registered dietitian with training in sports nutrition from Teachers College, Columbia University. *Menu includes: green pre-sorkout smoothie; cabbage and tempeh with a curry almond sauce; chocolate aduki bar.*

**ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. Please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by September 19 to make a request.**

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

oct 4  
fri 7 pm**Film Night: The Mosuo Sisters**

*The Mosuo Sisters* is a tale of two sisters living in the shadow of two Chinas. Juma and Latso, young women from one of the world's last remaining matriarchal societies, are thrust into the worldwide economic downturn when they lose their jobs in Beijing. Left with few options, they return home to their remote village in the foothills of the

Himalayas. But home is no longer what it was, as growing exposure to the modern world irreparably alters the provocative traditions of the Mosuo. Determined to keep their family out of poverty, one sister sacrifices her dream of an education and stays home to farm, while the other leaves to try her luck in the city—changes in fortune that test each sister in unexpected ways. Editor/producer **Amy Foote** is a freelance editor based in Brooklyn.

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

oct 5  
sat 3 pm**Anti-Aging: Facial and  
Whole-Body Rejuvenation**

Learn how to use natural oils and acids that promote cellular renewal and regeneration in your skin; give your face a youthful glow by stimulating collagen production; practice facial massage techniques that relax smile lines and lift sagging jowls; implement three essential beauty routines; improve digestion and minimize inflammation, the number-one cause of aging; eradicate cellulite and minimize wrinkles; and promote longevity and awaken your natural beauty. To register, call Mary Hart of Healing Heart Acupuncture (917) 797-7445 or e-mail Rebecca Curtis: GreenGemHealth@gmail.com. Coop member **Rebecca Curtis**, M.A., CHN, AADP, is a certified holistic nutritionist and the founder of Green Gem Holistic Health.

oct 8  
tue 7 pm**Safe Food Committee Film Night:  
The Corporation**

In the mid-1800s, corporations began to be recognized as individuals by U.S. courts, granting them unprecedented rights. *The Corporation*, a documentary by filmmakers Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott and author Joel Bakan, delves into that legal standard, asking: "What kind of people would they be?" Applying psychiatric principles and FBI forensic techniques, and through a series of case studies, the film determines that this entity, which has increasing power over the day-to-day existence of nearly every living creature on earth, would be a psychopath. *The Corporation* won the Best Documentary World Cinema Audience Award at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival.

oct 18  
fri 7 pm**Wordsprouts: Publishing Party**

The Park Slope Food Coop's Reading Series

Memoirist **Donna Minkowitz** and novelist **Thomas Rayfiel** will read from their recently published books. Donna's new memoir, called *Growing Up Golem: Learning to Survive My Mother, Brooklyn, and Some Really Bad Dates*, was published in September by Magnus Books. She won a Lambda Literary Award for her first memoir, *Ferocious Romance: What My Encounters with the Right Taught Me about Sex, God and Fury*, and she has also written for *The New York Times Book Review*, *Salon*, *The Village Voice*, *Ms.*, and *The Nation*. **Tom Rayfiel's** latest novel, *In Pinelight*, was published in September by TriQuarterly Books/Northwestern University Press. Tom is the author of five previous novels, including *Colony Girl* (a *Los Angeles Times* Notable Book of the Year) and *Parallel Play* (a "Pick" in *People* magazine.) When not writing, he stocks the Food Coop's dairy cooler at 5:30 a.m. **To book a Wordsprouts, contact Paula Bernstein, wordsproutspfc@gmail.com.**

oct 18  
fri 8 pm**Jodi Shaw and  
Melissa Stylianou**

**Jodi Shaw** is a Canadian-born poet/performer with a unique voice and vision. Her music has been described as "hauntingly erotic," "mystical" and "hard to pin down." One reviewer, upon hearing her latest release *In Waterland* for the first time, remarked that he was "partially shocked." Another calls the album "a revelation, nothing less than stunning." Her work has drawn comparisons to Feist, Fiona Apple, Imogen Heap, Tori Amos, and the Beach Boys. *Downbeat* calls **Melissa Stylianou** "a gifted composer and an appealing singer" and, moreover, "an original." Stylianou's newest album—*Silent Movie*, her fourth disc and first for the New York-based Anzic Records—is an evolutionary step, with Stylianou presenting her fresh takes on beloved jazz standards, original compositions, and left-field songs from Johnny Cash to Joanna Newsom, backed by a collective of top musicians from the New York scene. Of the new recording, *JazzTimes* had this to say: "Now, with *Silent Movie*, she settles into a spellbinding groove that advances her to the forefront of contemporary vocalists, rivaling the storytelling élan of Joni Mitchell and Carly Simon." **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.**

oct 20  
sun 12 pm**Chronic Pain:  
A Different Response**

As months and years go on, chronic pain grows more difficult to alleviate. Despite our best intentions, we often develop habits and responses around the pain that are not helpful. Do we unconsciously tighten our muscles to protect ourselves? Are we able to calm flare-ups or does the situation tend to escalate? In this experiential workshop, we will learn how to meet pain with a different response. Utilizing the skills of the Alexander Technique and our own inner wisdom, we will develop tools to respond to pain in a new way so that we can start moving forward with our condition. Coop member **Dan Cayer** is a nationally certified Alexander Technique teacher working in the field of pain, injury, and stress.

oct 25  
fri 7 pm**Cheese Class**

We invite Coop members to learn more about the wonderful cheeses the Coop has to offer. This event will be limited to 30 people on a first-come, first-seated basis. Our guest speaker will be Sergio Hernandez of Bklyn Larder. He personally selects all the cheeses, meats and grocery items and tastes and develops recipes for all the prepared

**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.



# oct 3–nov 16 2013

foods sold at the counter. Sergio started working with food at 15. His culinary career took him to Vermont by the time he was 22, where Sergio gained a whole new appreciation for seasonality, local farms and small-production dairy and cheese. Sergio moved to New York City in 2004, and met the owners of Franny's. The trio immediately connected and Sergio became their first general manager at this now-celebrated Park Slope eatery. This workshop is brought to you by Coop member **Aaron Kirtz**, who has worked in the cheese industry since 2003, and sells cheese to the Coop via Forever Cheese.

**oct 27**  
sun 12–2 pm

## Sound for Meditation And Health

Music is a way into a deeper silence that relaxes our bodies and minds. In this workshop, as we pay attention to our breathing and the effect of the music on us, discover a calmness of energy and focus. Listen to Indian ragas, Celtic music and Bach on the violin, and sing together, no prior experience necessary. **Michael Braudy** is an experienced violinist in Western, North Indian and Celtic music, and has taught music and meditation for more than 30 years. A versatile improviser, Michael collaborates with poets, storytellers, dancers, theater and mime, and performs in the U.S. and abroad. From a deep commitment to music for meditation and health, Michael gives workshops on sound and meditation, and has collaborated in recordings of Indian ragas for health and Celtic music.

**oct 29**  
tue 7 pm

## PSFC OCT General Meeting



Meeting Agenda to be announced. For information on how to place an item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the Coop office. **Meeting location: MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.**

**oct 29**  
tue 7 pm

## Improve Your English Pronunciation

You're a skilled, competent individual. A consummate professional in your field. And yet you feel that your pronunciation in English is holding you back in business or in your life. Whatever the associations may be with speaking English with a non-native accent, they exist. But the good news is—you can take control of how you present yourself to others! In Accent Training, you learn to differentiate the sounds that are pronounced differently in your native language than in English. Then you learn how to move your articulators to create those sounds in English. And, with steady, methodical practice, soon you see that you're able to imitate the American accent—and your speech is clearer to everyone around you! **Nataliya Ostrovskaya** takes a structured, neuroscientifically-backed approach to learning an accent. Nataliya teaches Accent Reduction at Kingsborough Community College.

**nov 1**  
fri 7 pm

## Film Night



Film to be announced.  
**To book a Film Night, contact Faye Lederman, squeeze@stone@hotmail.com.**

**nov 2**  
sat 12 pm

## Parents: Do Your Children Ever 'Push Your Buttons'?

Share stories and hear perspectives that can help you "keep your wits about you" while raising your children. **Sharon C. Peters**, MA, is the director of Parents Helping Parents and a step, birth, and adoptive parent. In her work she meets with individual families and leads workshops at her Park Slope office and for schools and community organizations throughout New York. She is a grateful long-time Coop member.

**nov 2**  
sat 3 pm

## The Gems of Excellence

Is your marriage/relationship falling apart? Is your family falling apart? Are you falling apart? Would you like to keep it together? Experience the Gems of Excellence program, and see rapid changes in your life and the life of your loved ones. The Gems of Excellence is one of the programs of Geotran. Geotran is a numeric, geometric and digital language of all possibilities that speaks to the memory field that is around us. It is based on quantum physics and it's not a talk therapy. Be curious. This unique technology will be demonstrated by **Marija Santo-Sarnyai**, CNHP and Geotran practitioner. Discovering her passion for helping people get their life back gives her the greatest joy and meaning.

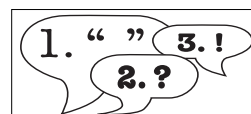
**nov 2**  
sat 6–8 pm

## When Can I Retire?

This question—When can I retire?—can cause anxiety, confusion and denial. Learn how to calculate when and if, you will have the money to retire and what your income and lifestyle will be. We will review the financial factors that impact retirement and what actions and strategies are available to achieve the best result. **Arthur Goodman** is a long-time Coop member and fee-based financial planner in who practices in Brooklyn.

**nov 5**  
tue 8 pm

## Agenda Committee Meeting



The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com. **The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 26, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

**nov 7**  
thu 7:30 pm

## Food Class: Let's Cook Root Vegetables



Learn how to cook healthy and simple-to-prepare vegan and gluten-free dishes with a focus on root vegetables. The chef will discuss the health benefits of vegan and gluten-free food, as well as introduce you to some traditional vegetarian Japanese dishes. Chef **Hideyo** was born and raised in Tokyo, where she was trained as a sushi chef. She is currently a chef instructor at the Natural Gourmet Institute, in both the chef's training and recreational programs. And she is a private chef and a health coach. **Menu includes: summer roll with caramelized onions and Chinese five-spice tofu; glazed beets and sweet potatoes in orange-rosemary flavor; carrot mousse with spicy apricots; kimpira gobo (shredded burdock root and carrots with sesame seeds).** **ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. Please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by October 24 to make a request.** **Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.**

## still to come

**nov 9** Blood Drive

**nov 15** Prospect Concerts

**nov 12** Safe Food Committee Film Night

**nov 16** Ten Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

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

## THANK YOU

## EDITOR:

I would like to thank, belatedly and inadequately but very sincerely, the person who turned in my wallet when I absentmindedly left it on the cashiers' counter around noon on Monday morning, September 9. Thanks also to the folks in the Office who took care of it and immediately reached out to me. I missed it as soon as I got home, but there was already a telephone message waiting for me with the welcome news that it was in good hands.

I was so discombobulated by identity-theft horrors that I failed to ask who my benefactor was and try to say thanks on the spot.

Steve McFarland

## GET RID OF THE POORLY MADE PENCILS

## EDITOR:

I bought a dozen made-in-China pencils at the Coop recently. They are the worst possible pencils: The eraser breaks off the first time you use it and the lead snaps immediately after sharpening. Why is the Coop buying/selling these pencils? Did anyone sample these pencils or did we just accept them from a supplier? Surely there are other options.

Janine Nichols

## ALL MEMBERS CAN ADD TO LWG CONTENT

## COOP MEMBERS:

Members, perhaps you, like myself, feel discouraged when reading this paper's Member Submissions or Letters to the Editor because the same handful of people keep submitting articles/letters issue after issue about the same 2-3 topics. Perhaps you, like me, feel that the *Linewaiters' Gazette* has been monopolized for too long, but you wonder how we can regain use of this medium for more members. Does this resonate for you?

I am writing this letter to the editor today because my threshold for frustration has been reached, and I want to say that we—Coop members—can change the content of both the Member Submissions and Letters to the Editors sections! In order to do this we must take action to do this: We must write!

What a thrill it would be to read a Member Submission about (\*gasp\*) FOOD! What are you making this season? I bet there are members out there who are engaging in their own personal goals of eating locally for a year, or eating on a budget of \$40/week or less, or someone who spent the summer doing a farming internship or learning about preserving food, or making great homemade condiments. Wow—this is now part of my own brainstorming session!

Truly, this letter is a sincere and heartfelt request to all members: please consider writing something. Personally, I would love to read pieces/letters from other members. We are blessed with an incredibly diverse membership—let's hear from you!

In Cooperation,  
Charlene Swift

## FILTERED WATER

## EDITOR:

I was just reading a *Linewaiters' Gazette* article from August 3, 2006 ["Environmental Committee Report" "Bottled Water vs. Water Filters" (Part II of two articles)]. I was wondering if the Coop would get their own reverse-osmosis water filters, and sell the water to Coop members bringing in their own containers. Among other operational challenges, I wonder how much broken glass there would be...

Marcos Reyes

## GMO FOODS IN THE COOP

## EDITOR:

The controversy surrounding GMO foods is predicated on the assumption that they are less healthy to eat. This is not proven. It is clear that some GMO foods (such as Monsanto's Round-Up Ready seeds) are not good for the environment, but it is not at all clear that all GMO foods are. In the article in the *Gazette* ("Should the Coop Carry Genetically Modified Foods?" by Kristin Wartman, Sept 5, 2013), Greg Todd, facilitator of the Coop's GMO Committee states clearly that there is no way to be assured that the product you are buying does not contain GMO ingredients. While labeling might help, it is probably too late for that. It is reasonable to assume that any product containing soy or corn grown in the U.S., or containing derivatives of soy or corn, might contain GMOs at some level. And of course, as Allen Zimmerman notes, there are other GMO products as well. As the horse has left the barn for the most part, at least on corn and soy, it seems like tilting at windmills to try to keep the Coop entirely GMO-free.

Coop members should remember that many of the items we think of as "natural" have been modified by human intervention over time, sometimes over quite a short time period. Some of the apple varieties stocked by the Coop were released only in the 1960s (see Wikipedia listings of cultivars). Virtually all the produce we buy today has been modified by selective breeding and other farming techniques to enhance certain characteristics and suppress others. Apparently Ruby Red Grapefruit was developed partly through irradiation (see Wikipedia on grapefruit). What is called GMO is a newer technique for making our produce fit the needs of

our eating habits. While "organic" produce may be more likely to be free of pesticide residues (probably a good thing), there is no proof it is otherwise healthier.

I would like to see those who are concerned about GMOs in food put forward some substantial scientific evidence about the harm they see from GMO products. Aside from Round-Up Ready and similar pesticide-oriented products, I don't know what the fuss is about. Right now, it seems more like fear mongering. Time for some solid evidence instead of more *Gazette* articles that play on a poorly defined fear.

In cooperation,  
Adam Segal

## PLANTOCIDE

## EDITOR:

It has recently come to my attention that our Cooperative sells "Baby Kale" and "Baby Arugula." Where is the outrage? These defenseless plants are sowed by exploitative farmers who use valuable land resources with the specific intent to "harvest" them before they reach an age of maturity. These babies aren't even given the opportunity to give back sufficient oxygen to offset the carbon dioxide created by the planting process. Moreover, once shorn, these babies are "pre-washed" (a mark of prejudice associated with those who regard individuals unlike them to be dirty) and transported packed in plastic boxes. It is a travesty and I'm very disappointed that this has not been the subject of attention.

David Slarskey

## GET EDUCATED ABOUT GMO'S

## EDITOR:

In 'Should the Coop Carry Genetically Modified Foods?' Kristin Warren calls for clear labeling. As a plant scientist who chose a career in agriculture to help 'feed the world', I have been involved in the GMO debate since graduate school. It is too easy for GMO opponents talk about ' Frankenfoods' and imagine that GMOs crops contain synthetic genes designed to maximize profit. What they fail to appreciate is that, in many cases, the intention of the modification is to transfer a gene that already exists in nature to confer disease resistance and hence eliminate the need for chemical sprays.

Throughout my career I have seen many excellent plant transformation studies that fulfill this desire, allowing crops to flourish in resource-challenged countries, combating preventable diseases and eliminating the need for chemical-intensive farming practices. These inspiring projects include:

- The development of 'Golden rice' to provide Vitamin A via a staple food eaten daily by half the population in countries that currently suffer 1-2 million deaths and 500,000 cases of blindness each year due to Vitamin A deficiency. Using genes from a daffodil and a soil bacterium, scientists have developed Vitamin-A-enriched strains of rice to curb the incidence of death and blindness.

- Florida's orange juice industry has been crippled by 'citrus greening,' a bacterial disease spread by insects. To contain the disease, growers can either cut down trees (leaving them

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## LETTERS POLICY

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

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

You may submit on paper, typed or very legibly handwritten, or via email to [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop) or on disk.

## Anonymity

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

## Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, 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.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## BDS TOPICS:

## WHAT HAPPENED IN JENIN?

## EDITOR:

In the September 5 issue of the *Gazette*, many supporters of Israel criticized my reference, in a letter in the previous issue, to the Israeli attack on Palestinians at the West Bank Jenin refugee camp in early April 2002. They vehemently denied that the attack was a massacre and said that “only” 52 Palestinians were killed, 48 of them “militants.”

I refer members to reports from the Electronic Intifada including those of April 7, 2002, by Arjan E. Fassed, July 31, 2002, by Ali Abunimah, and August 28, 2002, also by Mr. Fassed, for more information about what happened during that attack.

I encourage members to read the April 9, 2002, Haaretz report in which Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is quoted as saying privately that the battle in Jenin was a “massacre.”

Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International produced reports of the attack on Jenin, available on their websites. Both organizations were blocked by the Israeli military from entering Jenin for many days after the attack. They reported that the actions of the Israeli military may constitute “war crimes” and “crimes against humanity.”

The United Nations never was allowed to send observers into Jenin. Its August 1, 2002, report is based on those of other groups.

How many Palestinians were killed during that Israeli attack? The Israeli military bombed and bulldozed hundreds of homes. The number of corpses under the rubble could not be counted.

I urge members to see the film *Jenin*, available on YouTube.

**The Campaign to Boycott Israeli Goods at the Coop.** To members who want simply to shop and do their workshifts, the debate between those that support the Israeli government’s military occupation and colonization of Palestinian land and those who oppose these policies may seem unnecessary and divisive.

But those of us who oppose this 46-year-old occupation want the Coop to join the Palestinian-initiated Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against the Israeli persecution of Palestinians. We want members to know more about Palestine/Israel and what we perceive as distortion in the

Israeli/Zionist discourse. We want the Coop to stop selling Israeli goods, like Sodastream. Its production in the Occupied West Bank violates international law.

We invite you to the showing of two films about Palestine at the Park Slope Methodist Church, Sixth Ave. and Eighth St. Saturday, October 5, 7-9 p.m.: *Where Can the Birds Fly?*; Filmmaker Fida Qishta (Gaza). Saturday, October 19, 7-9:30 p.m.: *Roadmap to Apartheid*; Filmmakers Eron Davidson (Israel) and Ana Nogueira (South Africa).

For books on these subjects, I recommend those of Ilan Pappé, *A History of Modern Palestine and The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*, Benny Morris, *Righteous Victims* and 1948, and Noam Chomsky, *Gaza In Crisis: Reflections on Israel's War Against the Palestinians*.

Please see our website [psfcbds.wordpress.com](http://psfcbds.wordpress.com).

Naomi Brussel  
PSFC members for BDS

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DECLARES PALESTINE SOLIDARITY ACTIVISM PROTECTED FREE SPEECH ON THREE CALIFORNIA CAMPUSES

## MEMBERS:

**Around August 27, 2013:** The U.S. Department of Education (DOE) declared that Palestine solidarity activism is protected free speech. Three separate legal claims, filed by pro-Israel individuals and groups, against the University of California at Berkeley, Santa Cruz and Irvine, alleged that Jewish students face a “hostile” and “anti-Semitic” atmosphere on campus [“a disturbing echo of incitement, intimidation, harassment and violence carried out under the Nazi regime”] because of Palestine solidarity activism and Muslim student organizing.

**The complaints alleged violations** under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act prohibiting institutions that receive federal funding from discriminating based on race, color and national origin. After a year-long investigation by DOE’s Office of Civil Rights, the department said protests were “expression on matters of public concern” and that “exposure to such robust and discordant expressions even when personally offensive and hurtful, is a circumstance that a reasonable student in higher education may experience.”

**The Office of Civil Rights** concluded: events described by complainants (street theater criticizing Israel’s policies, mock military check-

points, defacement of a sign belonging to a Jewish student group, demonstrations supporting Palestinian human rights, remarks during divestment debates, walls simulating Israel’s separation barrier) “do not constitute actionable harassment.” Following the DOE’s decision, Chancellor Dirks (Berkeley) remarked: “The campus takes great pride in its vibrant Jewish community and in the many academic and cultural opportunities available to members of that community and others interested in its history and culture. We will continue our ongoing efforts to protect free speech rights while promoting respectful dialogue, maintaining a campus environment that is safe for all our students.”

**Attorneys from civil rights organizations** advocated for students during the investigation. The Center for Constitutional Rights, National Lawyers Guild and Advancing Justice-Asian Law Caucus celebrated the DOE’s decision. “The organized legal bullying campaigns have failed.” “Political activity for Palestinian human rights does not violate the civil rights of Jewish students; colleges and universities have an obligation to create an environment supporting freedom of expression.”

**Students for justice in Palestine** responded: “we feel vindicated that the DOE has rejected this attack on our freedom of expression. We will continue to advocate in accordance with our values regarding human rights and social justice. It is long past time that students engaging in First Amendment activities are able to do so without fear. The use of civil right law to stifle Palestinian solidarity activism on California campuses has seen a major defeat.”

**Focus on Palestine:** October Film Nights: Park Slope United Methodist Church, Saturday, October 5, 7-9 p.m., *Where Should the Birds Fly?*, filmmaker: Fida Qishta (Gaza). Saturday, October 19, 7-9:30 p.m., *Roadmap to Apartheid*, filmmakers: Eron Davidson (Jewish Israeli) and Ana Nogueira (South Africa); post film discussions; optional potluck dinners, 6 p.m., PSUM Church: Sixth Ave. and Eighth St.

References: Nora Barrows-Friedman, Alex Kane, Larry Gordon

Mary Buchwald  
Brooklyn For Peace  
PSFC Members for BDS  
[www.psfcbds.wordpress.com](http://www.psfcbds.wordpress.com)

## BLOOD LIBEL IN LINEWAITERS’ GAZETTE

## EDITOR:

Naomi Brussel’s casual mention

of the “Jenin Massacre” of April 2002 perpetuates the classic anti-Semitic blood libel. Despite the exposure of the claim as a fraud, despite the fact that the U.N. (no friend of Israel) accepted that the Battle of Jenin was a military action where 52 Palestinians died, most of them armed combatants, in the mind of Ms. Brussel and her fellow travelers, it was the evil Israelis/Jews who massacred the Arab innocents. Twenty-three IDF soldiers also died, a much higher number than would be expected, because the decision to fight on the ground rather than through use of aerial attack was made by the IDF in order to minimize civilian casualties. It’s also worth remembering why “Operation Defensive Shield” was launched by the IDF. In March 2002, around 130 civilians were murdered in several bomb attacks, culminating in the slaughter, by suicide bomber, of 30 civilians and wounding of 140 civilians at the Park Hotel in Netanya during the Passover celebration. Jenin was known to be the launching area for at least half of the terrorist attacks perpetrated on Israel in the previous months. The IDF launched the counter-offensive and encountered booby-trapped houses and the worst kind of hand-to-hand urban combat with well-armed militants. The terrorists were taking cover among the civilian population, as they tend to do, thus maximizing risk to any civilians so that they can then make claims of war crimes against the IDF and libel Israel further. It is a fact that the Israelis/Jews value life far more than their enemies; it is a tenet of Judaism as well as a Western value. There is plenty of documentation of the opposite approach of the leaders of Israel’s enemies. ([www.peacewithrealism.org/quotable.htm](http://www.peacewithrealism.org/quotable.htm))

Ms. Brussel is mystified by what would drive a person to become a suicide bomber. Firstly, no suicide bomber works alone. There are always handlers. Secondly, many of the people involved are alienated or mentally confused or, more so when adolescents are used in this heinous act, utterly brainwashed into believing that the Jews are monsters, “apes and pig,” the cause of all the suffering of the Palestinians, and that the murder of Jews will not only be a step to liberation, it will also grant a direct pass to Paradise. And there is also the monetary reward for the family, the kudos of martyrdom and the family’s proof of their devotion to the cause. And the whole concept of suicide bombing is so appalling that it is a very powerful tool of terrorism.

Itta Werdiger Roth



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



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

with no crop) or use insecticides (costly, and the grower can no longer produce organic oranges). With no immunity found in cultivated citrus, growers authorized the development of a transgenic orange variety with a

gene from spinach that produces a protein to attack invading bacteria. Transgenic trees resist the disease without pesticides, and growers will soon harvest organic oranges.

- Most chestnut trees in the US

have been wiped out by chestnut blight, a fungal disease, necessitating imports of over \$10 million of European chestnuts annually. Supported by the American Chestnut Association, scientists located a resistance

gene in wheat, and have planted over 100 varieties of transgenic chestnuts to test their resistance. It looks likely that the local chestnut industry is resurrected, and with an organic crop!

These examples demonstrate the use of a gene that already exists in nature, transferred to confer resistance to a debilitating disease. The resulting crop does not require chemical

sprays, hence satisfies the Coop's mission of supporting 'non-toxic, sustainable agriculture'.

Fear not that the orange crop will taste like spinach, or the chestnut crop like wheat. Get educated! Demand a crash course in basic genetics and learn the difference between a gene's origin and its function!

Plant scientists join the green lobby in their desire for organic, sustainable agriculture, an alternative to chemical-intensive farming, and alleviation of world famine. I am a mother, a green-living, bicycle-commuting, organic-eating health nut and passionate Coop member, and I join the chorus calling for labeling, public education and more digestible information, so that we might understand the many humanitarian and environmental benefits of transgenic crops and make informed decisions.

In cooperation,  
Jennifer Henry, PhD

**Coop Job Opening:**

**Receiving Coordinator: Produce Buyer**

**Description:**

The Park Slope Food Coop is seeking two people to become Receiving Coordinators and join the produce buying team. These are career positions. Under the supervision of a General Coordinator/Lead Buyer, team members are responsible for purchasing the Coop's fresh produce in a fast-paced environment driven by high sales volume. The produce buying team makes and coordinates complex buying decisions, negotiates prices, nurtures vendor relationships, and maintains the high quality and extensive selection of produce available to our members. The produce buying team must respect and promote local/sustainable/ethical principles.

Specific responsibilities include (in conjunction with team members):

- Continue our longstanding buying practices: high quality, low prices, fair return to farmers.
- Analyze and monitor sales history to create accurate orders.
- Check deliveries for accuracy, freshness, appearance and flavor. Reject poor quality produce upon delivery.
- Maintain accurate assessment of inventory through quality assessment and inventory checks.
- Review invoices for accuracy, price changes and make adjustments for shortages and overages, coordinate returns and track credits due from suppliers.
- Prepare/authorize/enter vendor payment information into the Coop's accounting system.
- Communicate ordering deadlines and changes in delivery time to relevant staff.
- Share responsibility for daily setting and maintenance of the produce aisle: supervising and directing the work of other staff and members to provide a fresh, bountiful, attractive produce display and accurate up-to-date price signage.
- Regular supervision and training of members working in the produce aisle. Contribute to the development of a robust, ongoing training program aimed at increasing overall knowledge among and support of members working in the produce aisle.
- Be knowledgeable about organic, local and national produce issues. Understand organic produce and Organic Standards Act. Understand integrated pest management and other minimal treatments. Understand irradiation, genetic modification and conventional production.
- Communicate with members about product availability and use, produce trends, new products and interesting facts in person, over the phone, in the *Linewaiters' Gazette*, at General Meetings and on foodcoop.com.
- Continue to expand product knowledge.

**Requirements:**

**Required Skills**

- Handle multiple demands, work under pressure, meet deadlines, and follow-through.
- Skillfully delegate work, and manage and motivate others.
- Professional level verbal and written communication skills.
- Attention to detail and good organizational skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills. Able to cooperate with a diverse group of co-workers and members.
- Supervision and/or training.
- Flexibility, openness, willingness to learn and take on new responsibilities.
- Facility with computers, Macintosh a plus.
- Comfortable with math. Knowledge of weights, and measures.
- Ability to lift or move up to 50 lbs. repeatedly, every day.

**Desirable Skills**

- Professional experience working with produce and/or purchasing and negotiating skills.
- Knowledge of produce varieties and growing seasons.
- Experience in planning, developing and implementing systems, procedures and policies.

**Work Environment:**

Buying produce at the Coop is taxing, both physically and mentally. Ours is a fast-paced environment driven by high sales volume (14 times the national average per square foot overall, more than 100,000 pounds of produce sold per week) and limited selling space. These positions will involve juggling competing priorities under very tight and inflexible deadlines, intense physical activity such as lifting, standing for long periods, working inside produce coolers, working outside in all weather, maneuvering in small crowded spaces, working in noisy environments near loud equipment. Staff offices are crowded and require working in close physical proximity to others. Our staff must be able to focus on details while attending to our paging system, phones and radios, member questions and the ambient noise created by the work of other staff and members.

**Hours:**

Monday-Friday, approximately eight hours a day. At least three days will start between 4:30 and 5:00 a.m. We strive to create jobs that can be completed within 40 hours a week. Based on the needs and intensity of produce work, these positions may frequently require more than 40 hours a week, in particular during the training period, busy times of the year and during vacation coverage. In addition, there is an expectation that produce buyers will make themselves available to our vendors via phone and e-mail outside of normal working hours.

**Wages:**

\$25.80 per hour

**Benefits:**

- Paid Holidays: July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day
- Paid Vacation: three weeks per year increasing in the 4th, 8th & 11th years
- Paid Health and Personal time: 11 days
- Health Insurance\*
- Dental and Vision Plan\*
- Pension Plan\*
- Life Insurance\*
- 401(k) Plan
- TransitChek Program
- Flexible Spending Account
- \*Benefits with no payroll deduction.

**Prerequisite:**

Must be a current member of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least one continuous year immediately prior to application.

**How to Apply:**

Provide your resumé along with a cover letter explaining your relevant qualifications, skills and experience. Materials will only be accepted via e-mail to: hc-producecoordinator@psfc.coop and put "Produce Buyer" in the subject field.

Applicants will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their materials. Please do not call the Membership Office to check on the status of your application. Applications will be reviewed and interviews scheduled on a rolling basis until the position has been filled. If you applied to a previous Coop job offering, please re-submit your materials.

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

**What Is That? How Do I Use It?**

**Ask Me Questions  
About Coop Foods**

**Monday, October 14, 12 to 2:45 p.m.**

**Monday, October 21, 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.**

**EXPERIENCED REPORTERS  
Please Apply**



**Workslot Description**

We have four distinct *Linewaiters' Gazette* teams—each producing an issue every eight weeks. You will develop and produce an article about the Coop in cooperation with your team's editor every eight weeks.

**For More Information**

If you would like to speak to an editor or another reporter to learn more about the job, please contact Annette Laskaris in the Membership Office or e-mail her at annette\_laskaris@psfc.coop.

**To Apply**

Please send a letter of application and two writing samples at least 800 words long (one sample must be a reported interview, *not* a Q&A) to annette\_laskaris@psfc.coop. Your letter should state your qualifications, your Coop history, relevant experience and why you would like to report for the Coop. Your application will be acknowledged and forwarded to the coordinating editors, Stephanie Golden and Erik Lewis.

**Seeking to Diversify the Gazette Staff**

The *Gazette* is looking for qualified reporters. We are interested in using this opportunity to diversify our staff. We believe that we can enrich the quality of the *Gazette* and serve the membership better with a reporting and editing staff that more closely resembles the mix of Coop members.





## CLASSIFIEDS

### BED & BREAKFAST

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!

### CLASSES/GROUPS

MEDITATION Stressed-out? Want to be more centered and calm? Mina has studied with Jon Kabat-Zinn, Thich Nhat Hanh and Toni Packer. Private sessions or class. Convenient Park Slope location. Call Mina Hamilton, 917-881-9855.

GENTLE YOGA Back problems? Recovering from an injury? Feel too "out-of-shape" to do yoga? Nurturing class or private sessions. Convenient location. Call Mina Hamilton, 24 years serving Park Slope, 917-881-9855.

### EMPLOYMENT

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY Asst. needed in holistic optometric office in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Interest in holistic health and exp. working w/children and adults necessary. P/T after-school hours Monday and Tuesday. Please send a personally composed cover letter with resume to alteyedrl@aol.com.

### HOUSING AVAILABLE

Vacation cottage on 1 acre on great South Bay E. Patchogue for sale. Solar-heat pool, perennial gardens, views, water sports. Near towns of Bellport and Patchogue

with cultural and nature activities. Only one hour from NYC. Contact: Riva.Rosenfielda2yahoo.com. or 718-768-9610.

### HOUSING SUBLETS

LARGE, QUIET, FURNISHED ROOM in Prospect Heights brownstone, mid-October to mid-March available to mature, friendly, responsible coop member. Share kitchen + bath with retired teacher + a cat. Moderately priced. Susan, 718-636-9089.

FULLY FURNISHED lower duplex brownstone apt. avail. 11/1/13 thru 12/7/13. 1 br., sleeps 4 w/additional queen sofa bed. 1 & 1/2 bath, full kitchen, WBFP, wifi, cable, deck, garden. 4th St. near Fifth Ave. \$1,000/ wk., 2-wk. minimum. Contact: Mike or Nancy @ 718-832-1569.

### MERCHANDISE NONCOMMERCIAL

MEXICAN HOLIDAY CRAFT SALE for Friends of Oaxacan Folk Art ([www.fofa.us](http://www.fofa.us)). Gorgeous wood carving, weaving, jewelry, ceramics, all budgets. \$5-500. Friday, Oct. 25, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. (\$25 admission incl. food). Saturday, Oct. 26, 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 20 Plaza St. East F12 on Grand Army Plaza. 718-230-3333.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—35 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 resi-

dent; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at [www.tguccione.law.com](http://www.tguccione.law.com).

EXPRESS MOVES. One flat price for the entire move! No deceptive hourly estimates! Careful, experienced mover. Everything quilt padded. No extra charge for wardrobes and packing tape. Specialist in walkups. Thousands of satisfied customers. Great Coop references. 718-670-7071.

Haircuts, Haircuts, Haircuts, In the convenience of your home or mine. Adults: \$35-\$40; Kids: \$15-\$20; Call Leonora at 718-857-2215.

PRIVATE VOICE AND PIANO for all ages, all styles. I am jazz-trained in Paris, 7 years experience teaching. I travel to students' homes in Park Slope and surrounding areas. Also, I offer Skype lessons. [www.lyndol.com](http://www.lyndol.com). [lyndol@me.com](mailto:lyndol@me.com).

TAX & ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS. Take the worry out of taxes. 30 yrs. experience serving individuals & small businesses, including the arts, finance, startups & IRS negotiation. Kind & reassuring manner. Free yourself by calling Jeffrey Gilfix CPA. 917-337-1319.

### SERVICES HEALTH

Are you struggling to make sense of your emotions, patterns, behaviors or relationships? If you're considering psychotherapy or counseling, I can help. I'm an experienced therapist who uses an individualized, eclectic approach to work with children, adolescents and adults. Adria

### To Submit Classified or Display Ads:

Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, display ads at \$30. (Classified ads in the "Merchandise-Non-commercial" category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form. Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2" x 3.5" horizontal).

Submission forms are available in a wallpocket near the elevator in the entrance lobby.

Yes, he picks up after himself.



651 503 4288

[JIMisinBKLYN.com](http://JIMisinBKLYN.com)

Liana Smith-Murphy, LMSW  
Play therapy, child & adolescent psychotherapy

34 Plaza Street East  
Suite 109  
Brooklyn, NY 11238  
716.345.5653  
[liana.smithmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:liana.smithmurphy@gmail.com)  
[www.brooklynplaytherapy.com](http://www.brooklynplaytherapy.com)

### VACATION RENTALS

HAVEN OFF THE HUDSON Friendly, historic 3-season wooded community in Westchester County.

Klinger, LCSW, 718-965-2184.

Coop offers hiking, tennis, pool, wifi, café, organic community garden, social activities. Beautiful Hudson riverfront nearby. Studio, 1- and 2-bedroom cottages, \$25K - 160K. [www.reynoldshills.org/bungalowshop](http://www.reynoldshills.org/bungalowshop). Contact Mel 347-307-4642 or [melgarfinkle@yahoo.com](mailto:melgarfinkle@yahoo.com).

## Crossword Answers

S	M	U	T		A	V	O	W		X	A	C	T	O
T	I	N	A		S	O	N	O		G	O	O	E	Y
A	R	C	S		S	L	U	R		A	N	S	E	L
V	A	L	E	R	I	E	P	L	A	M	E			
E	S	E		U	S		D	A	E		L	D	S	
S	O	M	A	L	I		O	W	N	S		A	R	E
	R	I	L	E		B	R	A	D		O	D	I	E
	V	L	A	D	I	M	I	R	P	U	T	I	N	
C	I	T	I		W	X	Y	Z		P	R	E	K	
U	N	I		S	A	R	A		A	T	A	S	T	E
Z	O	E		E	R	A		E	C	O		F	I	N
				V	I	N	C	E	N	T	P	R	I	C
L	A	P	A	Z		I	C	O	N		A	R	K	S
I	N	D	I	E		N	O	L	O		N	S	E	C
S	C	A	L	D		G	N	A	W		I	T	T	O

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop).

Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.

### SAT, OCT 5

8 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe: The Mountain Maidens; The Johnson Girls. At the Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 E. 35 St. Wheelchair-accessible. For info call 212-787-3903 or see [www.peoplesvoicecafe.org](http://www.peoplesvoicecafe.org). \$18 general/\$10 members/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

10 a.m. Battery Park City Parks Conservancy's day of fun for the entire family includes the GO FISH family performance by Moona Luna and a Special Bird-

ing event - Raptors: Bird of prey. Info at [www.bpcparks.org](http://www.bpcparks.org).

7 p.m. Film Night at Park Slope United Methodist Church: Focus on Palestine. Explore peaceful alternatives to the present day polarization in Israel-Palestine. *Where Should the Birds Fly?* Film-maker: Fida Quishta (Gaza). Post film discussion. Optional potluck dinner: 6 p.m. PSMC Church: Sixth Ave. and Sixth St.

### SAT, OCT 19

4 p.m. powerHouse invites you to a food tasting. *Franny's* by Andrew Feinberg and Francine Stephens

at 1111 Eighth Ave. (btw 11 & 12 Sts.), Brooklyn. For more info please call 718.666.3049 [rsvp@POWERHOUSEon8th.com](mailto:rsvp@POWERHOUSEon8th.com) Melissa Vaughan prepares wonderful dishes using recipes from *Franny's*, the cookbook inspired by the local restaurant of the same name. Authors will be on-hand to sign books.

### SUN, OCT 20

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players present Robert White, tenor at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture Central Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn. Free Admission

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](http://www.foodcoop.com)



# Coop Job Opening: Java/Web Software Developer

**Description:**

The Park Slope Food Coop has an immediate opening for a Java/Web Software Developer. You will be joining our staff of two Java developers and a network/system administrator. Our staff prefers to build software and services using open source and open standards.

Specific responsibilities include (in conjunction with team members):

- Participate in designing a new application framework for the Coop.
- Lead the makeover of the foodcoop.com website.
- Create documentation, including code and procedures, to share your knowledge and responsibilities with other team members.
- As a member of the team, help with everyday technical issues (e.g., printers, usage issues, workstation maintenance, etc.)

**Requirements:**

**Required Experience**

- Must have a BA/BS in computer science/engineering or equivalent experience.
- Capable of designing, developing, and integrating a wide variety of software components.
- Knowledge of a standard end-to-end development process, including version control, build scripts, and automated testing.

**Required Skills**

- Proficiency in Java in a Linux, Unix or Mac environment.
- Web application development experience using technologies such as HTML, JavaScript, CSS on the client and PHP, Perl, Python, Ruby, or Java on the server.
- Database design and implementation experience (MySQL preferred).

**Desirable Skills**

- Development experience using Eclipse.
- Server-side development with Java using technologies such as JDBC, Spring, Servlets, etc.
- Linux/Unix shell scripting.
- Drupal experience.

**Employment & Benefit Details:**

- Work week: 40 hours; flexible schedule
- Salary: \$87,260.88 per year
- Paid Vacation: 5 weeks per year
- Paid Holidays: July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day
- Paid Health and Personal Time: 11 days per year
- Health Insurance\*
- Dental and Vision Plan\*
- Pension Plan\*
- Life Insurance\*
- 401(k) Plan
- TransitChek Program
- Flexible Spending Account
- \*Benefits with no payroll deduction.

**Prerequisite:**

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

**How to Apply:**

Please e-mail a cover letter with your resumé to hc-programmer@psfc.coop. All members who submit both a cover letter and resumé will receive a response. Please do not call the office to check on the status of your application.

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

# Coop Job Opening: Bookkeeping Coordinator

**Description:**

The Coop is hiring a Bookkeeping Coordinator to help in the oversight and coordination of our bookkeeping activities. Involvement may include many areas of bookkeeping including: reconciliations (bank accounts, debit/ebt, individual GL accounts), accounts payable, cash received bookkeeping, processing of member investment refunds/product refunds, and more. All staff positions also coordinate and oversee member labor.

The bookkeeping department is small and though each staff member may focus on a particular area of bookkeeping, this new position requires a willingness to learn all areas and back up other bookkeeping staff as needed.

**Requirements:**

A degree in Accounting is preferred. Experience using enterprise-level accounting software is essential (our current package is Acumatica), as is the capability to coordinate and test accounting software releases/rollouts, with transfer of knowledge and instruction to other staff as needed. Advanced knowledge and experience using Office suite programs, specifically Excel (macros, pivot tables, etc.), is highly desirable.

We look for applicants who maintain high standards of accuracy, and display initiative, common sense, and a troubleshooting/questioning mentality. Excellent organizational and social/communication skills are required.

**Hours:**

Approximately 35 hours distributed evenly over 5 days. The initial schedule will be Monday through Friday during a training period, transitioning to a Tuesday through Saturday permanent schedule. At times, schedule flexibility (and additional hours) will be necessary when covering work for other bookkeeping staff.

**Wages:**

\$25.80/hour.

**Benefits:**

- Paid Holidays: July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day
- Paid Health and Personal Time: 11 days per year
- Paid Vacation: three weeks per year increasing in the 4th, 8th & 11th years
- Health Insurance\*
- Dental and Vision Plan\*
- Pension Plan\*
- Life Insurance\*
- 401(k) Plan
- TransitChek Program
- Flexible Spending Account
- \*Benefits with no payroll deduction.

**Prerequisite:**

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

**How to Apply:**

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

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

## EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES

### Bathroom Cleaning

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 12 to 2 p.m.**

Work with a partner to deep clean the Coop's bathrooms. Tasks include scrubbing floor tiles, cleaning toilets, mopping floors and stocking the bathrooms. You will work with only natural cleaning products. This job is perfect for members who like to clean and are conscientious about doing a thorough job.

### Vitamin Worker

**Monday, 8 to 10:45 a.m.**

**Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**

On this special shift, you will be working with the Receiving Coordinator to check-in vitamin orders, organize vitamin area in the basement and on the shopping floor. You will label products and shelves, and related tasks. If interested contact the Membership Office.

### Check Store Supplies

**Monday, 6 to 8 a.m.**

This workslot is responsible for restocking supplies on the shopping floor, at check-out lanes, entrance desks and the cashier stations, and in the basement. This is a task- and detailed-oriented job, ideal for someone who likes working independently and is pro-active. Please speak to Alex in the Membership Office or contact him at alex\_marshall@psfc.coop if you are interested.

### Entrance Desk

**Weekday AM**

**Monday, 5:45 to 8:15 a.m.**

Supervised by Membership Coordinators, you will be staffing the entrance desk in hours of the weekday before the Coop is open to shoppers. Primarily you will be checking in working members, informing

them of their member and household status, and handing out entrance-desk slips to members who need them. Entrance workers provide an essential member service and must be welcoming, polite, able to read and interpret information on the entrance-desk screen, able to clearly convey information about member status directly to members. Entrance workers also provide a key security function, and must remain alert throughout the shift, which may have slow periods. Therefore, reading, writing, talking on the phone, texting, etc., is not allowed. Punctuality and good attendance will be essential, as you will be the only entrance worker scheduled at this time of day. Paid Membership Coordinators will be present to train you on your first (and second) shift, and then to support you and answer questions going forward.

### Office Set-up

**Monday-Thursday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

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

### Store Equipment

**Cleaning**

**Monday, 6 to 8 a.m.**

The Coop is looking for members to clean the checkout area of the store. It entails cleaning the scales at each checkout and vacuuming around the base of the check-out station as well as sweeping and occasionally mopping. You will work under the supervision of a staff person.

## Interested in Engaging Coop Work? Disciplinary Committee Seeks NEW Members

### Skills needed:

Communication  
Problem solving  
Conflict resolution  
Dealing with difficult situations and people  
Investigation  
Writing  
Research

**Our work includes**

- Applying Coop's rules and regulations
- Discussing policy issues related to the DC's work
- Investigating allegations of uncooperative behavior by members and engaging in problem solving
- Daily email contact with DC members to discuss cases
- Participating in mediation, disciplinary hearings, and other conflict resolution methods

**Requirements:**

**In order to be considered for this position, any candidate must:**

- be a member for at least a year
  - have good attendance record
  - possess the ability to work on a team
  - communicate clearly
  - have good writing skills
  - have computer proficiency (excel, word, emails) is essential
  - attend an evening meeting every six weeks
- We work on average 6 hours per month, more than the required work shift hours. You will be credited and your hours banked for future use.*

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

*Join us to make the Coop the best place it can be for everyone.*

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

