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1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE

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SOY BASED  
Ink System  
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Volume II, Number 16

August 7, 2014

## Allen Zimmerman: Produce Zen Master

By Kristin Wartman

Allen Zimmerman's great love for the Coop is clear. After all, he says, "I always had a crush on the Coop and wanted to work here." So it will be bittersweet when Zimmerman retires next year upon turning 65 in March. I recently sat down with him to talk about some of the many things he's experienced and learned over his more than 40 years as a member and employee of the Coop, and what will come next.

A born and bred New Yorker, Zimmerman grew up near Coney Island, and since his teens has worked in retail and the service industry, including a three-year stint as a cab driver. When asked about what that experience was like, he says matter-of-factly, "Besides the armed robberies it was great." (There were two.) Zimmerman was also the manager at a discount and used bookstore in lower Manhattan until 1988, when the Coop was able to pay staff enough so he could quit that job and come work at the Coop full time. Prior to that, Zimmerman said, the Coop was a labor of love that required tremendous hard work on the part of the founders. "The Coop was carried on the backs of very underpaid management for the first 15 years," he said.

One of those founders

was Joe Holtz—he was also the produce buyer who trained Zimmerman. "One of my first responsibilities was to cover his vacations. It is a testament to him that I was able to do an acceptable job in my first week here, following a 10-page handwritten instruction on a yellow pad—and it told me everything I needed to know," Zimmerman said. "I got my real education from him and I got a secondary education from reading every box that I touched. That accumulated knowledge helped me become the produce buyer."

*The constantly changing nature of the job is also what makes the work so exciting, he said. "It's never the same, you can't master it. The saddest thing about retiring—you know, it's use it or lose it with your brain—is that it's infinitely and profoundly changing. You can keep learning it but you can't know it."*

Zimmerman prides himself on getting the best produce for the Coop, and for many members the produce section is a major draw—and according to Zimmerman, it has always been that way. But he also remembers a time when the Coop had to

use various broken-down refrigerators to store the produce. "It started out pretty primitive, but I was always impressed with the produce as a member," he said. These days the Coop sells the equivalent of a case of produce a minute, which is one of the best ways to keep everything fresh. "It's all we try to do: get it up, get it out—but pay attention to it, too—clean up that bad leaf, soup kitchen the bad stuff, compost the worst stuff, and try to prevent needing to do that by buying the best of it."

Developing relationships with local farmers is what makes the Coop's produce so special, and Zimmerman has made this a top priority. One of the most dynamic farms partnering with the Coop is Hepworth Farms, which according to Zimmerman has allowed the Coop to grow exponentially. "Neither of us could have done it very well without the other," he said. "They would have grown, we would have grown, but boy did we do it well because we did it together." Hepworth grew pesticide-free foods for the Coop before organic became mainstream and ubiquitous, Zimmerman said, and he directly talked them into getting certified. Since then, Hepworth has grown to a few hundred acres and they buy more farmland every year, he

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ILLUSTRATION BY VALERIE TRUCCHIA

## SURVEYING QUESTIONS: Coop Web Developer Matt Kleiman on the Ins and Outs Of the New Website Survey

By Lily Rothman

Pause by the check-in desk at the Coop recently, and you may notice a new stack of paper—bright turquoise slips. They carry a message

that will be familiar to members who follow the Coop on Twitter, or who have read the *Linewaiters' Gazette* coverage of the effort to redesign the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### Next General Meeting on August 26

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The August General Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 26, at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

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

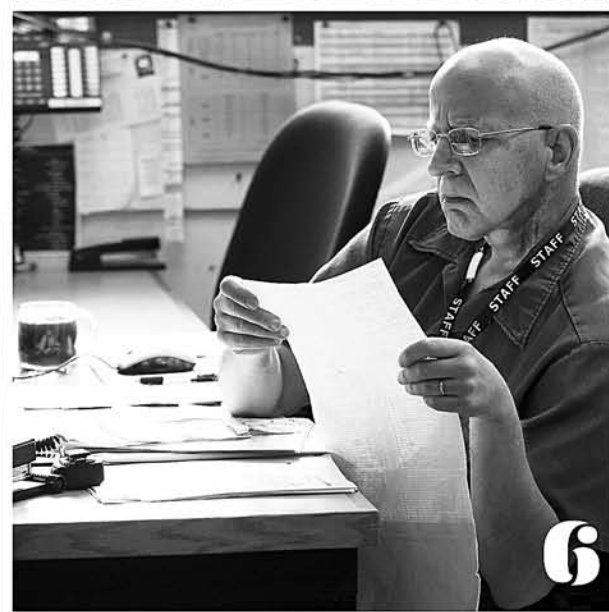
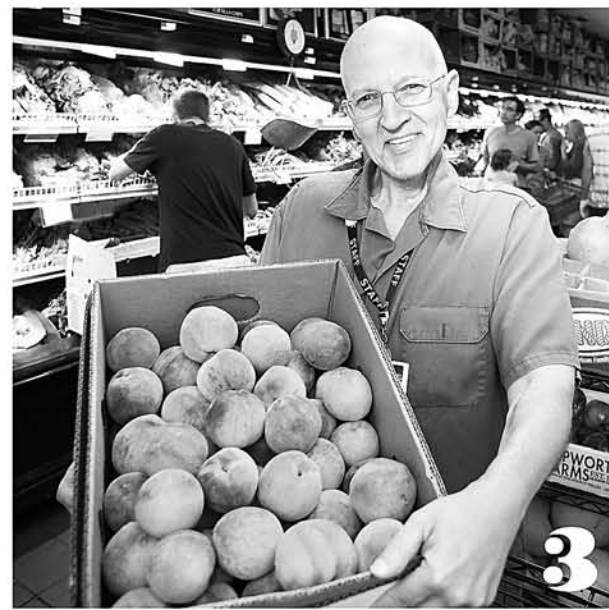
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## NO NEW-MEMBER ORIENTATIONS

Due to renovations on the Coop's second floor we will NOT hold Orientations until early September.





**Allen Zimmerman, the Coop produce buyer at work [1 & 2] With Jess Eipper and Kate D'Adamo of the morning receiving team. [3] Displaying the first of the season's local minimally treated peaches. [4 & 5] Inspecting the day's produce before the Coop opens its doors in the morning. [6] At his desk in his office.**

PHOTOS BY WILLIAM FARRINGTON

## Zimmerman

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said. "[Hepworth] made our produce part of what people talk about. Most farms don't grow more than a dozen commodities and they grow over a hundred. And they also do something that most farms can't do—they grow for us. We say, 'Can we have Shiso?' And they say, 'Mid-September.' They really are so responsive."

At peak season, the Coop buys four full truckloads of produce from Hepworth Farms a week and is a large part of the reason the Coop can now boast that over 80 percent of its produce is organic. But perhaps even more importantly in this era of climate change and Big Agriculture, Hepworth Farms is less than 100 miles away, making it our key local provider.

Zimmerman remembers a time when the operative word in produce was organic, now it's all about being

local. "In the '90s members said, organic, organic, organic, now all I've just been hearing is local, local, local." But Zimmerman emphasizes that the reason local produce has become so important, is because this is what the members want, as was the case with organics in the '90s. "We went from no organic when there wasn't organic, to it being more than 80 percent, and it wasn't Joe [Holtz] or me imposing our will on the Coop, it was the Coop talking to us and us listening to the Coop. Members vote with their dollars, it's easy to know what the members are buying and not buying. I try not to impose my values on the members but try to make my values and member values coincide."

Now that local food is what Coop members really crave, the signage posted about which produce comes from less than 500 or 100 miles away has become very important. In New York City,

getting local produce is harder than it is in many other cities in the country. "Half of our 500 mile radius is the Atlantic Ocean," Zimmerman said. "But we have to define it as a one day drive—a 10-hour drive to us seems to be a reasonable distance in the belly of the beast." Hepworth Farm is actually less than 100 miles away, so "an amazing amount" of our produce comes from under 100 miles, Zimmerman said. "You might want to get more than a few miles outside of New York City before you eat something that grows in the dirt," he added. "I'm not putting down Brooklyn Grange or anybody's backyard, but on a production scale you want some distance."

Zimmerman says that one of the best parts of the job is trying to have his finger on the pulse of the Coop. "I know what I want to do—but is what I want to do better than what members want me

to do. I believe in member support." The constantly changing nature of the job is also what makes the work so exciting, he said. "It's never the same, you can't master it. The saddest thing about retiring—you know, it's use it or lose it with your brain—is that it's infinitely and profoundly changing. You can keep learning it but you can't know it."

There's a lot more Zimmerman will miss about being the produce buyer and a General Coordinator for the Coop. "I know I'll miss the people I work with; the people I work with may know that I'm a maniac about service, and I believe in service in every aspect of your life," he said. "Being able to serve here and having a job that you can look in the mirror and feel good about and having a daughter who is proud of what I do—that's really good stuff."

Aspects of the job he won't miss? "There's loads of stuff I'd love to not do any-

more—like parts of supervising others—that might even be less fun for me than it is for them."

The first thing Zimmerman wants to do when he retires is be bored. "I want to feel that," he said. He also plans to travel and to relish in the simple pleasures of having a coffee on a bench in front of his apartment building and watching people go by. "If I were to summarize what I want to do after I retire, it's not work." But he won't be entirely absent from the Coop either, "I will talk to the people I've trained. I'm training them hard and as fast and thoroughly as I can but I won't have the job done when I'm ready to stop working and I'm happy to lend a hand and I'm happy to cover a vacation or two," he said. "In the way that some people have separation difficulties—I probably have that—and knowing [I can lend a hand] helps me to say goodbye to the Coop." ■



## Web Survey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Coop's website. "Take our two-minute survey," it implores, reminding members that—even if they don't know the first thing about website design—they too can be a part of the project.

That's because, as you'll soon learn, Park Slope Food Coop web developer Matt Kleiman is expert at building a website, as are the rest of the team of members and other staffers working on the project. However, as of mid-July, fewer than 300 members, out of the many thousands eligible to participate, had taken the survey—but it's not too late for the rest of the membership, as the survey will remain active for at least several more weeks.

Here, Kleiman talks to the *Linewaiters' Gazette* about the rhyme and reason of the survey, and why it's worth members' time to fill out:

**Linewaiters' Gazette ("LG"):** How did the website team decide to include a survey in the process?

**Matt Kleiman ("MK"):** We started working with Jeremy Zilar and Tiff Fehr—both of whom work at *The New York Times*, and they're both members—and Jeremy had come up with this idea for a more elaborate [survey] process. A survey was the most broad net that we could try, to capture everyone's thoughts and opinions. Maybe as early as February or March we started talking with Jeremy and Tiff.

**LWG:** Did deciding to include a survey mean adding a lot more work to the project? What goes into creating something like that?

**MK:** Well, first we came up with a lot of questions. We had a survey that probably would have taken 15 or 20 minutes to answer. Then we enlisted the help of some experts, people who do user research for a living, some of them like Torben Brooks, who's the Use Experience Manager at *The New York Times*, kind of consulted with us. We showed him the survey we'd come up with, which took many weeks [to develop], and he pointed out the need for brevity and helped us pare it down quite a lot. Once we had it down to a smaller amount and we put it into a website that does surveys, that's when we sent it to some more people who are experts in the field and got more opinions. It's really been an iterative process.

**LWG:** Which questions didn't make the cut?

**MK:** We had a lot more questions that had nothing to do with the website. Questions like, "How do you get to the Coop?" It was a multiple-choice question. "A personal car" or "I walk" or "I take a bike." A bunch of different things. They might be useful another day for a different survey.

**LWG:** But they're not so helpful for a website.

**MK:** Exactly. Especially when the goal was to get a survey that can be done while you're in line waiting for the checkout. I don't know if we quite have reached the goal.

**LWG:** I guess it depends how long the line is!

**MK:** After like a day or two [of the survey being live] the average time was like five minutes. The average time [as of mid-July] is six-and-a-half minutes.

**LWG:** What were the goals overall, in terms of the information you wanted to get? What was the most important thing to find out?

*People should take part in the survey because it's a part of the process that everyone can take part in.*

**MK:** There is no number-one thing, for sure. The survey is just one aspect of this very big, inclusive process for redesigning the website. Usually creating a website is either a very top-down thing, in a corporation let's say, where some people in the company decide you need a website or a redesign and get a bunch of people in a room and make decisions and get it done from there. The other side of that is design by committee. If you've ever heard that term, it has very negative connotations.

What we're trying to do we call "design by cooperation." It's really quite a novel approach, attempting to include as much of the 16,000 members as we can in the process. So it's very ambitious. I don't even know that it will work, but we're going to do our best, and with the survey that's our one chance to include as many people as possible. Every one of the 16,000 members has a chance to be a part of getting their voice heard.

Once we start getting more responses we'll start reaching out to people to do interview-style research, so that's a chance where we can

get individual stories. In fact there were a bunch of questions that we cut that we're definitely going to keep for interviews, because they ask you to tell us a story about how you use the website. There was a question like, "Has there ever been a time that the website failed you in some way?" That's a story.

**LWG:** Is there an end date, at which point the survey will be taken down?

**MK:** No, right now there's no end date. We're kind of taking an agile approach to that, actually. Do you know about agile methodology in programming?

**LWG:** No, but I can guess what the connotations would be.

**MK:** The very basics of it is that you try something to see what happens and then do more, instead of planning the whole thing right from the beginning. It's a process that helps a lot of start-ups survive. We're letting the survey run its course. We're starting it in the summer, which is not the best time to be doing a survey of the entire membership because we lose a lot of people for summer vacations and summer leave and stuff like that, so I definitely want to keep it up through the beginning of the school year. By that point more people can be exposed to it. But we're going to start doing interviews sooner than that; we can leave the survey up while we're starting to do interviews.

**LWG:** If a Coop member feels like they could do something else with their free five minutes, how would you convince them it's worth the time to take the survey?

**MK:** I'm not a marketing expert so I'm a little afraid of what I might say to everyone! But in my mind a very pragmatic thought is that, the reality is, this is likely the best chance that a member has of providing input, just by the nature of large numbers.

Why should they do it? Just to be part of the process. I think there are a lot of negative feelings about the website amongst the Coop membership. Our website has not kept up with the pace of technology, and in addition it really doesn't portray the amazing-ness that is the Park Slope Food Coop. People should take part in the survey because it's a part of the process that everyone can take part in.

Members can find the survey at [www.new.foodcoop.com](http://www.new.foodcoop.com). ■



**The Coop is  
redesigning its website,  
and you're a part of it.**



Please take our  
2-minute survey:  
**Go to [new.foodcoop.com](http://new.foodcoop.com)**

PAPER SURVEYS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE ENTRANCE DESK

## Sudoku

Sudoku is a puzzle. You are presented with a 9x9 grid of squares, and that grid is divided into 3x3 zones.

You solve the puzzle by filling the empty squares with single-digit numbers so that every zone, column and row uses each of the numbers from 1 to 9.

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

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

# Midsummer Loving

By Joanne Colan

Come summertime, we Coop members truly celebrate our love of fruit. Luckily for us, an abundance of it, all ripe, sweet, juicy and local, hits its stride come August and lingers lovingly like a long summer day till well into September. Here's a guide to the fresh fare filling the long, chilled aisles. While you fill up your cart, make the most of the ice-cold air—a refreshing respite from the heat of sweltering summer days.

The queen fruit of the season announced her coronation not all that long ago. Cast your mind back a few months when the first signs of warm weather stepped trepidatiously along the city's streets, still cautious a snap of frost may blight the path. Until one day as if by magic, a dusting of candy pink and powder white appeared, bobbing atop tree branches and perfuming the air with Spring's sweetest scent. Ornamental yet punctilious, as so often is nature's way, the flowers of the *Prunus* genus set the clock for bells to toll just in time for midsummer.

And here we are—a procession of local stone fruit fresh from harvest. The proper thing to do is hang up your bunting and greet its arrival with a fanfare of good eating. A wide sampling of all that is on offer is heartily encouraged—nec-

tarines, peaches, cherries, apricots, plums. White, yellow and donut peaches. All fuzzy and heart-shaped and bursting with the taste of sunshine. Dapple dandy pluot plums.

If we're loopy for fruit, we are positively mad for melons. A peculiar thing really when you consider staggering home in searing August heat weighted down by these galumphing gourds, heavy as the barometric pressure of a looming electric storm. Ah but the taste, 'tis worth every ponderous ounce for that sweet succulent fragrant taste. And this summer, the Coop can virtually guarantee, thou shalt not stagger home in vain. Right now, the Sycamore Honeydew melon is indeed guaranteed the best tasting Honeydew from the best Honeydew grower. So brace yourselves, flex those shopping bag carrying biceps, and look forward to the redolent rewards of mouth-watering melon.

Let's take a moment here, if you will, to pray to the harvest gods and give thanks for words like "guarantee" appearing in a *Gazette* article about produce. While the Coop stores are stocked full and the shelves brimming, alas ne'er a thing no more in the almanac is writ large nor sure. In the words of the wise and practiced Allen Zimmerman, "the more you know the more you know you

don't know and the more you have to be afraid of." A saying for our times and the plight of today's farmer, Coop and customer. An unprecedented lack of snowfall in the California moun-

tains means no water supply, and a week without watermelons. A lack of rain so affects the taste of one tender crop of cantaloupe it is rejected and returned. August's fiery furnace shows

no mercy to fine green leaves and delicate red and yellow fruits, exposed for days on end to an unrelenting sun and thus unable to withstand some withering here and wasting there. But



ILLUSTRATIONS BY DIANE MILLER

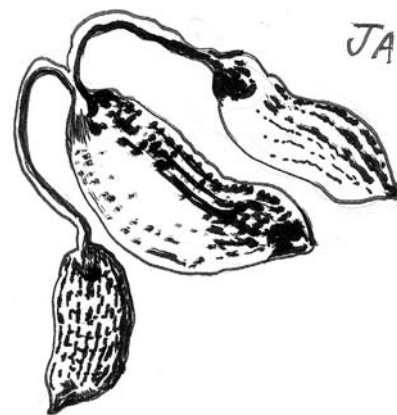
## UNUSUAL CUCUMBER VARIETIES CARRIED BY THE COOP



SUYO



CRYSTAL APPLE



JADE



ARMENIAN

DIANE MILLER



my fellow members, do not despair—rejoice instead in all that the Coop does offer, enduringly, from its seasoned set of savvy farmers and suppliers. For they too are faring along with us as best they can, despite knowing we really just don't know anymore and perhaps have much to fear.

*Come summertime,  
we Coop members truly  
celebrate our love of fruit.  
Luckily for us,  
an abundance of it,  
all ripe, sweet, juicy and  
local, hits its stride  
come August.*

Now, back to the story at hand. Allow me to introduce our protagonist—another gourd in fact but make no mistake, this one's light and crisp and possibly the coolest kid in town. A local fellow yet he goes by Persian or Armenian. Some may know him as Suyu, Kirby, Jade or the more exotic Crystal Apple. Close friends might just say cuke. A master of disguise, he can appear long and thin, short and fat, or as round and plump as a small bulbous melon. Thick skinned or thin, seedless or not, you'll want to slice him and dice him and toss in a salad. And remember, with this partner in crime, the story winds up one way or another in a pickle.

The month of August is a flowery affair with fresh cut blooms jauntily joining the produce aisle. When available, they make for a dazzling display of eye-popping color. This might explain their somewhat short-lived glory—no sooner have cut flowers appeared than they're all gone. A brilliant yellow display of Sunflowers recently sold out almost instantly and boxes of pink, red and scarlet Zinnias dwindled fast. The coral-esque Cockscomb, both ornament and vegetable, will be available from time to time throughout the month. And yes you guessed it, sold out before you can say fresh cut Cockscomb! (You might be prompted to

correct me here, reminding me the flower is named for its resemblance to the comb on a rooster's head. I personally find it looks rather more like coral—a prettier comparison at that!) Anyway, to sum up—be sure to scoop up an armful of flowers when you happen upon them in the produce aisle. Going, going, gone!

Slightly less fleeting among florals are the edible kind. Bright orange squash blossoms are currently delivered several days a week. Abundant in Mexico where they're known as flores de calabaza, the blossoms are popular as a quesadilla filling. A common choice is to deep fry of course, simply battered or stuffed with a creamy cheese first, then served with a fresh squeeze of lemon and coarsely ground salt.

To make salad even more summery this summer, try "Flower Power" from Remembrance Farm. Available Mondays and Thursdays, the salad mix is daintily strewn with edible flowers—truly midsummer in a bowl.

Then there are those items that turn us otherwise placid members into a frenzied mob. Cue the local tomato. Cherry, grape, heirloom or plum, so sweet and juicy is this fruit of the vine that we gotta have it, so badly in fact that Allen Zimmerman calls August "the tomato stampede/riot/craze/berserkness" (!). The cure? Why, to eat more tomatoes of course. Equally addictive this month is local corn. And while this next tip might add to the mayhem, I strongly suggest you make a take-no-prisoners dash'n'grab, for word has it the Coop's local crop of corn has never tasted this good!

One more tip before we part—in the parched heat of midsummer, when the outdoor air is hot and still, gather your thirsty toiled selves and linger a while along the Coop aisles. Not only will the crisp climate lift the heat from your scorched head, but the overflowing boxes and bags of lush August harvest will inspire some well deserved loving this summer. ■

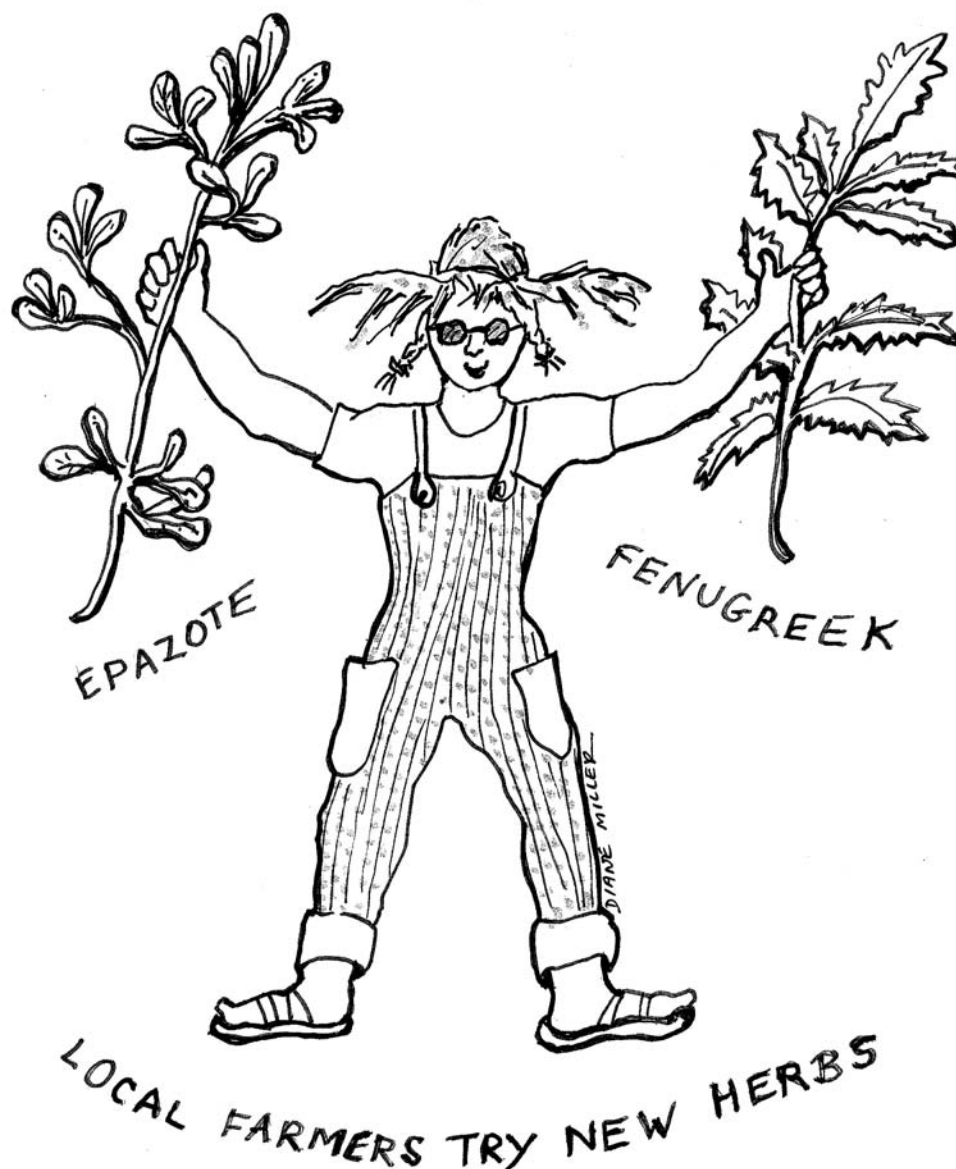
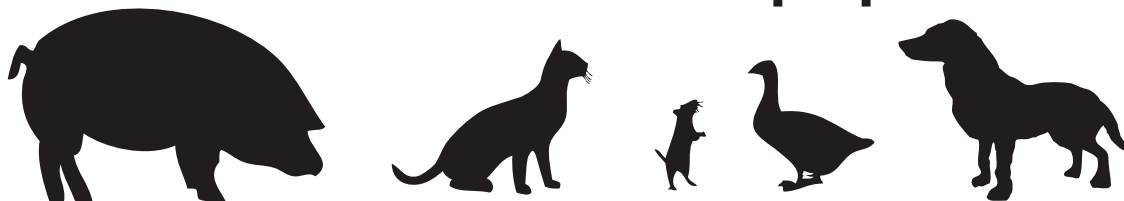


ILLUSTRATION BY DIANE MILLER

Did you ever wonder exactly what those humane claims on product labels at the Coop mean? Or want to confirm which items we carry are not tested on animals?

**The Animal Welfare Committee provides transparent animal welfare information about the Coop's products.**



We work with staff, the Coop's vendors and external research resources to provide species- and issue-specific information for YOU, the Coop member. You can find us online at our blog and twitter account and you can find our guides all around the Coop, next to their relevant products!

**Find us here!**

**Blog: [www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com](http://www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com)**

**Twitter: @psfcanimals**

**Current Guides:**

Eggs (next to egg case)

Milk (next to milk case)

**Animal Testing**

(aisle 5, closest to the back of the aisle)





## SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

## Plow-to-Plate Movie Presents: Seeds and GMOs in October and January

By Adam Rabiner

In October we present GMO OMG and in January to kick off the year we will screen Plow-to-Plate curator Sean Kaminsky's film, *Open Sesame—The Story of Seeds*. *Open Sesame* addresses genetic contamination, loss of diversity, and seed extinction. Seeds, the building blocks of fabric, foods, and fuels, are "shifting from a common heritage to sovereign property." Kaminsky, a member of the Park Slope Food Coop's Food Labeling Committee, shows that corporate patenting of seeds (Monsanto owns 82% of the world market) is slowly destroying the tradition of one generation of farmers passing seeds to the next.

Jeremy Seifert's documentary, *GMO OMG* explains how GMOs are affecting our health and the environment and tells how giant chemical companies are taking over the food supply and limiting our freedom to choose GMO-free food. *GMO OMG*, like *Gasland 2*, is also about a growing food movement and the power of citizens to change the political debate. Jeremy Seifert is to GMOs what Josh Fox is to fracking.

What follows is a Q and A with Sean Kaminsky and Gregg Todd, leader of the Food Labeling Committee.

**PtP:** What is the squad up to?

**Todd:** We are putting green dots on foods that are certified as non-GMO by the Non-GMO Project. We're also redesigning our bulletin board on the regular checkout line and discussing a proposal to ban new products containing GMO ingredients. This is being done by a number of retailers elsewhere in the US.

**Kaminsky:** I was working on *Open Sesame* when I joined the labeling squad. As a new member, I was a bit surprised that the PSFC didn't already label GMO products and that we were still allowing new products that contained GMO ingredients. Other coops have instituted bans or no longer purchase new products that contain GMOs. I hope that we will one day follow that example. That said, it's a complex issue for the PSFC to deal with for various reasons. The current labeling initiative whereby non-GMO products are indicated by a green "Non-GMO" dot is definitely a step in the right direction.

**PtP:** Why should viewers go to two films dealing with a similar topic?

**Kaminsky:** There are so many aspects to explore in regards to the issues of seeds and GMOs. Ten films

could easily be made and there still would be pieces that were left out. And of course those issues keep changing and evolving with time. *Open Sesame* and *GMO OMG* each cover different parts of the issue with completely different styles. Of course there is some crossover. But these are complex issues and learning about them from two different perspectives can only be helpful. I definitely encourage people to come to see both films.

**Todd:** GMOs were never designed to help consumers, only producers and growers. We are thus in effect the silent partners in this arrangement whose only job is to buy GMOs and be quiet about it. Personally I find that quite appalling. We are the guinea pigs in a massive experiment perpetrated without our knowledge or consent. Any films that create awareness of this reality should get a wide screening.

**PtP:** How is the truth in labeling case going in New York State and nationwide?

**Todd:** The truth in labeling movement is growing despite industry and governmental efforts to suppress it. Vermont has passed a mandatory GMO labeling law. In New York, labeling legislation

made it out of committee for the first time in over a decade. Over 20 states have legislation pending. More and more people are asking, why are so many people suffering from allergies? Why are so many people over weight? Why are diabetes, high blood pressure and cancer so prevalent? We'll never know the answers to these questions until we know what's in our food.

**PtP:** What's the future of the squad?

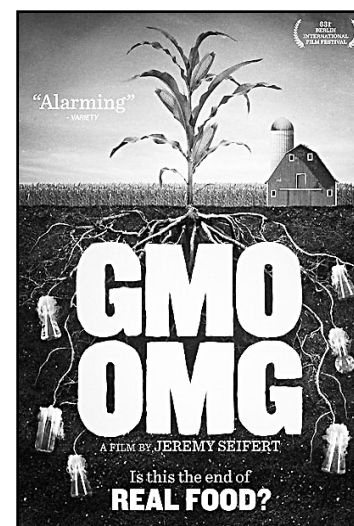
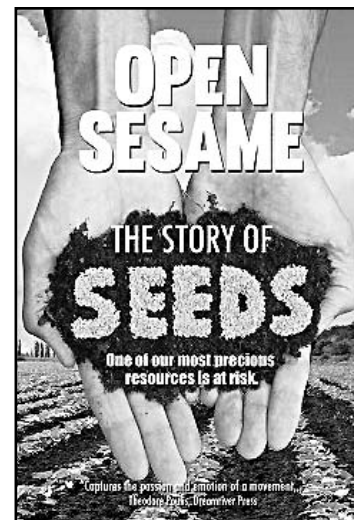
**Todd:** The shelf labeling squad's work is tied to the labeling movement in general. It's impossible for the squad to step too far ahead of what's required by law. But we can be in the vanguard and that's what we're trying to do with our proposal to ban new products with GMO ingredients.

**PtP:** What should I be looking for in food labels?

**Todd:** The short answer: look for the green dot on shelf labels! Watch our *GMO* display on the regular checkout line for more shopping tips as we improve it over the coming months.

**PtP:** How has *Open Sesame* been received since its Manhattan premier in April?

**Kaminsky:** We premiered at the Union Square Theater in NYC and down in Washington DC on Earth Day.



Since then we've had over 25 screenings and counting in theaters and community venues across the country. It's been very inspiring to receive emails from people and hear about direct actions people are taking as a result of having seen the film. One woman in Rhode Island who works for Whole Foods saw the film and set-up a cash register fundraiser to support Seed Savers Exchange at Whole Foods across the state. She's also organizing a free seed saving workshop in partnership with Seed Savers Exchange.

**PtP:** As curator of the Plow-to-Plate movie series, how do you feel about screening your own film?

**Kaminsky:** I felt a bit awkward about it at first and I'd like to point out that it wasn't initially my idea! One of my fellow PtP members suggested it. That said, I'm very proud to be part of the "Plow-to-Plate" series both as curator and to be able to screen my first documentary feature as a director. ■

*Open Sesame—The Story of Seeds* will show on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 7 p.m. *OMG GMO* will show Tuesday, October 14, 7 p.m. Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

# WANTED

## One to two graphic artists to work with the BROOKLYN FOOD COALITION

contingent for the People's Climate March (Sept. 21).

Help create beautiful graphic messaging  
for this important event.

FTOP credit available.

Contact [climatechangeBFC@gmail.com](mailto:climatechangeBFC@gmail.com)



## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## The Courage of a Patriot

By Robert Graziano

There are moments in every man's life when he questions his own core beliefs; those truths that are the very center of his soul. My moments seem to come late at night, in the wee hours when almost everyone is asleep and the streets are quiet and empty. It is then that I try to understand what I believe in. When it comes to courage my mind always wanders back to something I

read years ago. It was in the back pages of a man's memoirs. There I found this simple story.

Michael Christian was a bombardier-navigator who was shot down over North Vietnam in 1967. He had grown up near Selma, Alabama, in a poor family, and he had not worn shoes until he was 13 years old. He was captured and incarcerated in the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" with other American prisoners of

war. For some time Mike had been gathering scraps of cloth, and with a needle he had fashioned from a piece of bamboo, he laboriously sewed an American flag. He then sewed his flag into the inside of his blue prisoner shirt. Every afternoon, before the prisoners ate their soup, Mike would hang his shirt on the wall of the cell and together they would recite the "Pledge of Allegiance." No other event of the day had as much meaning for those prisoners.

One day the guards discov-

er Mike's flag, during a routine inspection. They immediately confiscated it. That evening, they took Mike outside. For the prisoners' benefit as much as Mike's they beat him severely. When they had finished, they dragged him bleeding and nearly senseless back to the cell. His cellmates helped him crawl to the sleeping platform. After things calmed down, they lay down and began to go to sleep. Before drifting off to sleep, one of his cellmates looked towards the corner of the cell and there in the dim

light of one of the naked bulbs sat Michael Christian. He had crawled there, his eyes nearly swollen shut from the beating, and had quietly picked up his needle and thread and began to sew a new American flag.

Please repeat after me "I Pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

How simple, How easy, How safe. ■

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## Rally to Stop the Sale of Brooklyn Heights Library; Sign New Online Petition: 'Citizens Defending Libraries'

By Mary Ann Fastook

"Mayor de Blasio: Rescue Our Libraries from Developer Destruction" is the opening salvo of the petition to be delivered to Mayor Bill de Blasio, City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Comptroller Scott Stringer, Public Advocate Letitia James, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and 18 other targets.

### Petition Statement

"We demand that Mayor de Blasio, all responsible elected officials, rescue our libraries from the sales, shrinkage, defunding and elimination of books and librarians undertaken by the prior administration to benefit real estate developers not the public. Selling irreplaceable public assets at a time of increased use and city wealth is unjust, short-sighted, and harmful to our prosperity. These plans that undermine democracy decreases opportunity, and escalate economic and political inequality, should be rejected by those we have elected to pursue better, more equitable, policies."

### Citizens Defending Libraries (CDL)

A group of concerned citizens was formed to protect the public interest by opposing these wrong-headed and counterproductive plans under Mayor Bloomberg. CDL has since worked together with other groups such as the Commit-

tee to Save the New York Public Library and Library Lovers League, collected more than 17,000 signatures on a petition to stop the sale of libraries given to Mayor Bloomberg (*Gazette* 7/11/13).

### Petition Background

In July, 2013, Public Advocate and mayoral candidate Bill de Blasio joined CDL and other opponents of the library real estate deals on the steps of the 42nd Street Central Reference Library calling for Mayor Bloomberg to halt the proposed sales of "public land permanently to private parties." Such sales included the New York Public Library's Central Library Plan, involving the sale of New York's most heavily used Mid-Manhattan branch and the 34th Street Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL), and the Brooklyn Public Library's plans for selling the Brooklyn Heights and Pacific branches.

### Under Mayor de Blasio

NYPL Central Library Plan was abandoned after an independent audit disclosed it would cost \$500 million, hundreds of millions more than the publicized estimate. The scheme called for sale and shrinkage of libraries: demolish the stacks of the 42nd Street Central Reference Library, exile books to New Jersey, and move Mid-Manhattan and SIBL into a much smaller space (the demolished stack area). NYPL had already spent \$18 million on architect's and consultant fees.

Note: Hovering in the background was the 2008 sudden, secretive sale of the Donnell Library in Manhattan, a transaction on which later library sales are largely modeled, netted the NYPL a pittance and space for a much smaller branch library, largely underground projected to open in 2015. The penthouse, just one apartment in the 50-story luxury tower replacing Donnell, is on the market for 50% more than the sale netted.

### Brooklyn Heights Library

In connection with the proposed sale and shrinkage of the Brooklyn Heights Library, it was revealed that about half the development rights for the site had been transferred years before, to the developer, Forest City Ratner, which is now in a position to be a gatekeeper profiting from the transac-

tion. The number of books in the BPL/NYPL libraries are being drastically reduced, emptying shelves of millions of books as library officials prepare to launch the real estate deals that require them to accommodate reduced collections in smaller spaces. Brooklyn Public Library trustees and officials continue to express enthusiasm for the proposed sale and shrinkages of libraries, saying that they are assessing "all" the libraries in Brooklyn for such "opportunities."

The Brooklyn Heights branch is prominently in their sights. (Pacific Library is no longer on the front burner.) The proposed sales of libraries in Brooklyn should be subject to a much higher level of public scrutiny than they have yet received, including review from the City Council and the State Attorney General. It is clear that library officials and

trustees do not always think in the same terms as the public when considering priorities and what is in the public's best interest.

### Importance of Libraries

In the Center for an Urban Future report, more people visited public libraries in New York than every major sports team and every major cultural ins9

titution combined. New York's public libraries are the lifeblood of a democracy. They have contributed to making our city economically vital and a cultural powerhouse. We must not abandon them now.

Please sign the new online petition at from MoveOn.org, also found on the "Citizens Defending Libraries blog:

[www.petitions.moveon.org/sign/mayor-de-blasio-rescue-2?source=s.tw&r\\_by=5895137](http://www.petitions.moveon.org/sign/mayor-de-blasio-rescue-2?source=s.tw&r_by=5895137)  
[www.citizensdefendinglibraries.blogspot.com/](http://www.citizensdefendinglibraries.blogspot.com/) ■

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## COOP HOURS

### Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday

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

Friday & Saturday

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Shopping Hours:

Monday through 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](mailto: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.

# SUMMERTIME

## DON'T FORGET YOUR COOP SHIFT!



If you plan on being away during one of your workslots, please make arrangements to have your shift covered.

One way to do it is to use the Shift Swap at [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)!

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

## YOUR CO-WORKERS WILL LOVE YOU FOR IT!

### RETURN POLICY



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

#### REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

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

#### CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

### CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

Produce\* Bulk\* (incl. Coop-bagged bulk)  
Cheese\* Seasonal Holiday Items  
Books Special Orders  
Calendars Refrigerated Supplements  
Juicers & Oils  
Sushi

\*A buyer is available during the week-days to discuss your concerns.

NEVER  
RETURNABLE

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

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

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

RETURNABLE

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

### This Issue Prepared By:

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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.

Shamara Alterno	Gerald Brun	Jessica Durand	Adam Hartke	Maria Martinez	Thomas Pensabene	David Sher	Ana-Mercedes Vila
Alan Ando	Fabien Caperan	Robert Kai	David Herrera	Christine (Ellen) Maxon	Peter Perry-Friedman	Lisa Shimamura	Alden Von Ziegesar
Rachel Andrews	Kathrine Castellana	Erlenbusch	Jennifer Herrera	Kathryn McConnell	Fiona Purdon	Shaul Shtock	Jordan Warner
Ariella Angert	Meghann Chambers	Andrew Farrell	Nicholas Herro	Christine McAndrews	Nicholas Quah	Shirley Shulman	Matthew Watson
Edward Angert	Patrick Cherry	Wellah Farzan	Edward Herzman	Jennifer Miller	Srikanth Rajan	Andrew Sidesinger	Kara Wayman
Kathleen Bahan	Tasneem Cherry	Jason Feifer	Sarah Hodgson	Georgiana Mitrus	Nicholas Renaudeau	Tracy Sidesinger	Jenna Weiller
Dawn Bailey	Angela Cimo	Christina Gemdjian	Laura Hossenlopp	Anne Monloubou-Sekinger	Andrea Reyes	Aisha Silva	Carter Weiss
Katherine Ball	Carla Correa	Juliana Georghan	Jennifer Hou	Lisa Moore	Urte Reyes-Ermisch	Maritza Silva-Farrell	Elena Weiss
Violet Baron	Tracy Cotton	Rachel Germond	Mimi Huang	Ali N'simbo	Scott Roben	Julie Simpler	Daniel Wheale
Kyle Barron-Cohen	Gabriel Cruz	Micah Gertzog	Kristen Hudson	Catherine Nemser	Grace Robinson	Tajinder Singh	Rachel Wieder
Brittany Barton	Christopher	Julian Gill-Peterson	Leonard Kim	Ruth Nervig	Ilana Rosenberg	Keare Smith	Julia Wojcik
Aviva Berman	Cunningham	Scott Ginsberg	Tina Kim	Seth Newcom	Garry Sabatini	Adam Spiegel	Jun Wu
Maria Bermo	Brian DaSilva	Caty Gordon	Angelina Krahn	Cynthia Nguyen	Sonia Salas	Gayathri Srikanthan	John Wysocki
Zac Bloom	Antony De La Cruz	Matthew Gove	Esther Leitner	Aleksandra	Amy Sanford	Kati Stadum	
Joyce Boney	Yvonne Delacruz-Graber	Craig Graber	Lauren Libreth	Nikolovska	Michelle Sarante	Lisa Talma	
Lena Boney	Barbara DeMarco	Bettina Gronning	Michael Littleton	Anna Padgett	Jessica Scheer	Colleen Tates	
Igor Borchakovshi	Anthony DiSenso	Tina Gupta	Pablo Lopez-Yanez	Laura Stacy Passmore	Michael Schub	Sinan Topuz	
Julia Borchakovskaia	Lucy Doyle	Sean Hampton	Andrew Martin		Stephen Scribner	Leo Trudel	
Sawad Brooks		Joanna Hanlon	Agustin Martinez		Jamie Seet	Travis Vander Hoop	

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](http://foodcoop.com) or contact the Membership Office. Visit in person or call 718-622-0560 during office hours.

Have questions about Orientation? Please visit [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com) and look at the "Join the Coop" page for answers to frequently asked questions.

The Coop on the Internet

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

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

FRIDAYS 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](http://www.bricartsmedia.org/community-media/bcat-tv-network).

General Meeting Info

TUE, AUGUST 26

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, SEPTEMBER 2

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the September 30 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

August 21 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, August 11  
Sept. 4 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, August 25

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

August 21 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, August 13  
Sept. 4 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, August 27

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 26, 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 p.m.)** (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:

After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.

• 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.

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## This Proposal was Discussed at the July 29 General Meeting

By Susan Metz

The PSFC will form a Fair Trade Education Squad (FTES) to keep members informed about how ongoing international trade negotiations might affect our ability to maintain our values and realize the goals of the Park Slope Food Coop as put forward in our Mission Statement.

From our mission statement: "We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment... We seek to avoid products that depend upon the exploitation of others... We strive to reduce the

impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations..."

Two huge trade agreements are being negotiated in secret: the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) with 11 Pacific-Rim countries and the TransAtlantic Investment Partnership with the European Union (TTIP). From experience with previous Free Trade Agreements (NAFTA and DR-CAFTA) and leaks of the text, we know that the treaties would have deep and disruptive impacts on many aspects of our daily lives that have nothing to do with tariffs and trade. Labeling of GMO foods and ban-

ning fracking would be blocked. An immediate effort is to prevent the current administration's and corporate lobbyists' efforts to push the treaty through Congress with no debate nor amendment. The Coop joined that campaign by passing through our GM governance process a year ago a letter asking elected representatives to vote No on Fast Track.

Free Trade prioritizes investors' rights to what they consider a reasonable profit. Fair Trade protects human rights and labor rights and the environment. The corporate mass media, including the NY Times and

NPR, do not report thoroughly on what passing free trade agreements means for us. The website Public Citizen Global Trade Watch covers the issues.

We can and must have the facts. Assigning a group of members to research, analyze, publish and disseminate reliable information is in the interest of the Coop as an enterprise, of individual members and our community. The text of the proposal to form a Fair Trade Education Squad to do that work describes how the squad will be constituted. With your help, we will refine the proposal and present an improved version at

an upcoming GM for a vote. Your participation, raising concerns and questions as well as making suggestions, is essential.

Because the Coop meeting room will be unavailable due to construction during the summer, we will have focus groups at the Communications Commons in the Central Brooklyn Public Library at Grand Army Plaza in room #2. Every comment will help to improve the proposal. Stop by or stay for the whole discussion: Wednesday, August 6, from 7 to 9 p.m.; Saturday, August 9, 10 a.m. to noon; Tuesday August 12, 10 a.m. to noon. ■

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## Making the Coop Safe for Hypocrisy

By Ruth Bolletino, Ph.D

The last *Gazette* included an article about the Diversity and Equality Committee (DEC), explaining that it addresses issues of discrimination within the Coop. It was signed by Naomi Brussel.

In the ongoing BDS section, one anti-Israel letter, about the current Gaza-Israel fighting, was also signed by Brussel.

That a DEC member is also a BDS organizer and frequent spokesperson is an alarming and infuriating commentary on the Coop. BDS is a well-financed, highly organized international, multi-pronged anti-Israel movement. Masquerading as a pro-Palestinian human rights initiative, it does little to help Palestinians—but much to thwart an equitable peace and fuel anti-Jewish

sentiment worldwide.

Since Israel retaliated in Gaza, Jews are being targeted in increasingly violent anti-Israel protests in the UK, and European and Latin American countries. In Paris pro-Palestinian rioters marched into a Jewish suburb, torched cars, lobbed firebombs into a synagogue, and burnt Jewish-owned stores to the ground. An Antwerp mob shouted "Slaughter Jews." In Berlin an imam's sermon beseeched Allah to destroy Zionist Jews: "Count them and kill them to the very last one," he prayed. In Frankfurt the cry was "Jews to the Gas." British Jews experienced a doubling of anti-Semitic incidents, from verbal abuse to attacks on buildings and people. In the Netherlands the home of a chief rabbi

(not Israeli) was attacked twice in a week.

The virulence is also closer to home. In San Francisco 300 people demonstrated for Hamas. Another anti-Israel demonstration occurred in Chicago. For some time Jewish university students—notably at Vassar, Columbia, Barnard, University of Michigan, Chicago's Loyola, San Francisco State, and Toronto's Ryerson University—have been harassed by anti-Israel groups. Boston police had to rescue Jewish students from a "die-in" protest against Israel's Gaza operation.

Jews are terrorized because of their religion or because they support Israel. Does anti-Zionism really have nothing to do with anti-Semitism?

Despite unceasing rocket attacks on Israeli citizens in recent years, French immigration to Israel hasn't been higher since 1948. In July 430 French Jews immigrated there, following 3,500 last year; 500 more are expected soon to join them. Since the Holocaust Israel has been the place of last refuge for endangered Jews. They know that only in Israel can they be defended to the death. Each cry now of "Gas the Jews" with its hideous undertones underscores the need for a refuge.

Meanwhile, BDS propo-

nents in the *Gazette* ignore reputable media reports. Before Israel began defending itself 4,800 unguided Gaza rockets hit southern Israel since 2001. Nearly 50% of children there suffer PTSD; high rates of miscarriages and depression were reported. While Israel spent millions for missile-defense systems and bomb shelters, Hamas spent millions for missiles and concrete for tunnels to store explosives and arms, and now uses civilians, including children, to shield their rockets and ground operations. While Hamas targets civilians indiscriminately, Israel sends unprecedented warnings before targeted strikes. BDS's "news" about the only Middle East democracy is distorted, vicious and disproportionate, ignoring mass human rights atrocities in Syria, Central Africa, Libya and anywhere else. (Does "Electronic Intifada," a favorite reference, sound like a balanced news source? Ms. Brussel, for actual news I suggest you try CNN or CBS.)

Brussel's article pointed out that PSFC Coop membership includes people with diverse roots and beliefs. She didn't mention that some members are Israelis, some are American Jews. *Gazette* letters from those of us protesting and correcting BDS's fictitious accusations are hardly mere expressions of political differences, as one

*Gazette* editor described them.

Clearly Israel's Gaza strike is revealing deep prejudices in the world, not causing them. As storm clouds gather here and around the world, under our indignation many of us experience frightening memories and thoughts. Many of us, even as children, have been aware that if our grandparents or parents had not come to this country, we might have been killed for no reason but our heritage—or not born at all. Besides our knowledge about Holocaust history, many have had personal experiences of being seen and treated like a stereotypical "other."

BDS is irrelevant to PSFC, and painful to many members. Free speech doesn't include hate speech and group defamation. The Respect section of the *Gazette* Letters Policy apparently pertains only to disrespect toward individuals, not groups. However, if someone submitted a letter demonizing LGBTs or people of color instead of Israelis, I wonder how the editors, coordinators and the DEC would respond...

Particularly NOW, when the world needs anything but hate, STOP HATE AT PSFC AND STOP BDS IN THE GAZETTE! ■

([www.tabletmag.com/scroll/18022/anti-israel-protests-make-the-case-for-israel?](http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/18022/anti-israel-protests-make-the-case-for-israel?))

### THE GAZETTE INDEXES

If you are interested in the history of the Coop or in when and how particular subjects have been discussed in the *Gazette*...

Send an e-mail to Len Neufeld, *Gazette* indexer, at [lenneufeld@verizon.net](mailto:lenneufeld@verizon.net), to request PDF files of either or both of the following indexes:

An alphabetized list of the titles of all articles published in the *Gazette* from 1995 to the present, with issue dates.

An alphabetized list of all subjects (including people's names) discussed in *Gazette* articles from 1995 to the present, with article titles, issue dates, and page numbers.

Many of the *Gazette* issues referenced in these indexes are available as PDFs on the Coop's website.



park slope  
FOOD COOP

## calendar of events

aug 26  
tue 7 pm

## PSFC AUG General Meeting



Items will be taken up in the order given. Times in parentheses are suggestions. More information on each item may be available on the entrance table at the meeting. We ask members to please read the materials available between 7 and 7:15 p.m.

**Meeting location:** MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

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

**I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up**

**II. Open Forum**

**III. Coordinator and Committee Reports**

**IV. Meeting Agenda**

**Item 1:** Eden Foods Discussion (30 minutes)

**Discussion:** What should be the Coop's response to Eden Foods? Boycott? Shelf Labels? A letter? Eden Foods, like Hobby Lobby, has sued Obamacare to restrict their employees' contraceptive healthcare. —submitted by Lisa Guido and Matthew Wills

**Item 2:** Election of Diversity and Equality Committee (30 minutes)

**Discussion:** To elect all members of the Diversity and Equality committee (DEC). Background on the Committee, procedures, etc will be presented as well.

—submitted by George Perlov, DEC

**Item 3:** Support for People's Climate March on Sept 21 (30 minutes)

**Discussion:** We endorse the People's Climate March and the Food Contingent of the March ([www.peoplesclimate.org](http://www.peoplesclimate.org)).

—submitted by Nancy Romer

**V. Board of Directors Meeting**

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

For information on how to place an item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the Coop office.

sep 19  
fri 8 pmStephanie Rooker & Ben Tyree;  
Mamie Minch

Potently intelligent, pensively psychedellic, vocalist **Stephanie Rooker** draws her influences as deeply from conscious hip-hop as from jazz, soul, and funk. She delivers songs of personal and societal empowerment with a voice that is at once evocative and healing. Guitarist **Ben Tyree** wields virtuosic ability, eclectic tastes, and the power to move people—either with a buoyant groove to get audiences out of their seats or with emotional depth to touch a listener's soul. Park Slope local singer and guitarist **Mamie Minch** sounds something like a well-fleshed-out 78-rpm record. She's known around town for her Piedmont-style fingerpicking chops, her big deep voice and her self-penned antique-sounding songs. She's played music all over the world and Brooklyn, with all kinds of excellent people, including Dayna Kurtz, the Roulette Sisters, Jimbo Mathis and CW Stoneking.

**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.**

sep 30  
tue 7 pm

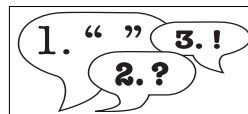
## PSFC SEP General Meeting



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.**

sep 2  
tue 8 pm

## Agenda Committee Meeting



The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 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](http://foodcoop.com). **The next**

**General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

## still to come

**The Food Coop's  
second-floor meeting room  
will be unavailable for  
Coop events through early  
September, due to office  
renovations on that floor.**

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## Eden Foods Deprives Employees of Their 'Right to Choose': The 'Hobby Lobby' of Natural Foods

By Brent Kramer

Michael Potter, sole owner of the 150-employee natural foods giant Eden, with over \$50 million in annual sales, is morally opposed to contraception. When the Affordable Care Act required him to add that coverage to his employees' health plans, he—like Hobby Lobby—sued the federal government, argu-

ing that the requirement interfered with his religious rights.

While the courts originally denied his claim, it is clear that under the recent Hobby Lobby decision granting privately held corporations "religious rights," Potter will be able to continue to "specifically exclude coverage for contraception and abortifacients" from his employees'

health plans. (Whether equivalent coverage can be paid for by the government is not yet resolved).

The Central Co-op in Seattle recently checked Eden's sales, and noted that they had fallen; while they did not remove the products from their shelves, they communicated this fact to Potter with the implication that his policy

endangered these products' continued presence on their shelves ([www.dailykos.com/story/2014/07/17/1314628/-Eden-Foods-is-OFF-THE-SHELVES-at-Seattle-Co-op-thanks-to-you?detail=email#](http://www.dailykos.com/story/2014/07/17/1314628/-Eden-Foods-is-OFF-THE-SHELVES-at-Seattle-Co-op-thanks-to-you?detail=email#)).

While we work to overturn this atrocious Supreme Court decision, those of us who believe that corporations are not people should make clear

to Potter that his employees are not his children, and that we will pressure him to change his regressive policies. CREDO (the "progressive" cellphone company) has started a petition, available at [www.act.credoaction.com/go/5219?t=4&akid=11160.2267067.cQoWRb](http://www.act.credoaction.com/go/5219?t=4&akid=11160.2267067.cQoWRb)

[www.act.credoaction.com/go/5219?t=4&akid=11160.2267067.cQoWRb](http://www.act.credoaction.com/go/5219?t=4&akid=11160.2267067.cQoWRb).

And in the meantime, please join me in avoiding buying Eden Foods products.

Source: [www.forbes.com/sites/clareoconnor/2014/07/03/hobby-lobby-fallout-catholic-soy-milk-mogul-wont-cover-drugs-that-prevent-procreation/](http://www.forbes.com/sites/clareoconnor/2014/07/03/hobby-lobby-fallout-catholic-soy-milk-mogul-wont-cover-drugs-that-prevent-procreation/). ■

### Coop Job Opening: Receiving/Stocking Coordinator

#### Description:

The Coop is hiring a Receiving/Stocking Coordinator to work evenings and weekends.

The evening and weekend Receiving/Stocking Coordinators oversee the smooth functioning of the Coop. They work with squads to ensure that the Coop is well stocked, and that produce quality is maintained.

The ideal candidate will be a reliable, responsible self-starter who enjoys working with our diverse member-workers. Applicants must be excellent team players, as they will be sharing the work with several other Receiving Coordinators.

Applicants must have excellent people skills, excellent communication and organizational skills as well as patience. Applicants should be able to remain calm in hectic surroundings, have the ability to prioritize tasks, teach and explain procedures, delegate work, give feedback, and pay attention to several things at once. Comfort with computers is expected.

Experience working in a grocery store, working with food, or working on a PSFC Food Processing squad is a plus.

We are looking for a candidate who wants an evening/weekend schedule. This is a high-energy job for a fit candidate. You must be able to lift and work for hours on your feet including in the walk-in coolers and freezer.

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

**Hours:** Approx. 39 hours in 5 days/week: Primarily evenings and weekends, some shifts until 11 p.m.

**Wages:** \$26.24/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.

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

#### How to Apply:

Please provide your resumé along with a cover letter explaining your relevant qualifications, skills and experience. Materials will only be accepted electronically. E-mail resumé and cover letter to [hc-receivingcoordinator@psfc.coop](mailto:hc-receivingcoordinator@psfc.coop). Please put "Receiving 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.**





## VALET BIKE PARKING IS HERE ON SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS!

*strollers & scooters  
& carts too!*



**Every Saturday,  
April 5–November 22,  
1:00–5:15 p.m.  
and  
Every Sunday,  
April 6–November 23,  
3:30–7:45 p.m.**

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

Just drop off your bike, stroller, scooter or personal cart, do your shopping or your shift, and hop back on.

No locks, no worries, no theft.

Service operates rain or shine.

Look for us in front of the yellow wall.

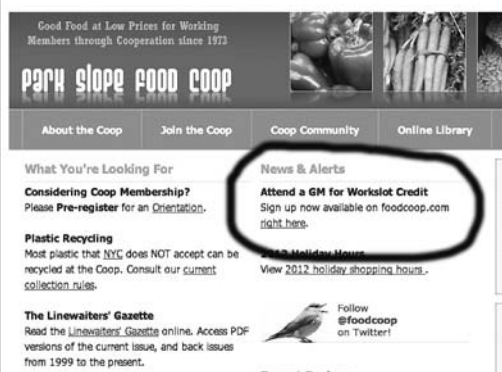
**Note: no bike check-in on  
Saturdays after 5 p.m. or  
Sundays after 7:30 p.m.**

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



**PSFC  
Shop & Cycle  
Committee**

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

## Looking to help new coops form in Brooklyn while getting a tax deduction?

Support the Fund for New Coops—a project of the Park Slope Food Coop.

### THE FUND FOR NEW FOOD COOPS

a Project of the Park Slope Food Coop

The Fund for New Coops will make low-interest loans to start-up coops that use the full-member labor model like ours. Loans will be extended to qualified start-ups to address problems and maximize the chances that start-ups will flourish.

### How can you donate?

- Use the scannable Fund for New Coops donation cards available on the shopping floor
- Donate directly from the Coop's website, [foodcoop.com](http://foodcoop.com). Follow the link for the Fund for New Coops and select the DONATE button
- Mail a check—made out to the Fund for New Food Coops—to:  
FJC, 520 Eighth Ave., 20th Fl., New York, NY 10018

Help nascent coops that want to use our model: Contribute today!

## 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.

### FRI, AUG 15

6:30 p.m. Sunset Jam on the Hudson: Improvise on African, Latin and Caribbean rhythms the Robert F. Wagner, Jr Park (Battery Park City) drumming circles. The gatherings are led by master drummers MAGUETTE CAMARA and MARY KNYSH. Instruments are provided or bring your own. Free Drop-in. For more Info 212.267.9700 or [bpcparks.org](http://bpcparks.org).

### SAT, AUG 16

11 a.m. Stories for all ages: I have a dream and other wishes with Storyteller Therese Folkes

Plair. Teardrop Park Battery Park City (Lower Manhattan) For more info: [bpcparks.org](http://bpcparks.org).

### SUN, SEP 21

People's Climate March New York City, All Day, Info at: [peoplesclimate.org/march/](http://peoplesclimate.org/march/).

### SAT, OCT 11

8:00 a.m. The Run for The Rings, Half marathon or 5k benefit run for Michael Ring. Coop member and Prospect Park Track club events organizer and volunteer. For more info: [www.nycruns.com/races/?race=run-for-the-rings](http://www.nycruns.com/races/?race=run-for-the-rings).

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

**Thanks for your cooperation,  
The Park Slope Food Coop**

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

## CO-OP UNIVERSITY?

## DEAR COOP,

I'm tired of what's happening in higher education, and I want to do something about it. As tuitions increase willy-nilly, administrators increase their numbers and salaries, student debt is off the charts and their educational experience is mediocre, instrumental, and myopic. Student workers and doctoral students have no collective bargaining rights to demand fairer treatment in their institutions. Adjuncts swell in number, receiving little pay, few benefits, and fewer opportunities to establish meaningful relationships with students and meaning-

ful autonomy in their research. Meanwhile, faculty fight for scraps as budgets shrink, intellectual freedom decreases, and their confidence wanes to take a stand against university appropriation of property, administrative biases against subject matter that do not directly relate to business or technological innovation, or transitions to online learning environments. Politicians, finally, remain one-dimensional in their rhetoric: education is meant to increase our competitiveness in global markets. Education has become a private business now, like so many public goods, and the fetishes of technology over community, commodity over

experience have crept in like weeds.

I've been working on these issues for a few years now as an academic and an activist, and I've decided they boil down to questions about governance. If a university was cooperatively governed, for example, I believe the problems we face in higher education would not be as pronounced. A cooperatively run university could provide another kind of public higher education as an alternative to current practices. Just as we've seen with food, member-owned higher education could lower costs, increase participation, reduce alienation, and increase access to higher quality educational experience. There has been

growing interest in the possibility of a cooperative university in New York City, but the first step towards making this happen would be to study precedents, logistics, and other practical facets of such a prospect.

A study group is forming to think about these questions. Would you like to join? Our Coop is hugely successful, and its members know a thing or two about cooperative governance. I think what we know about food could translate to education. The time is right for such an experiment. If you're interested in getting together with other folks and reading, talking, and thinking about cooperative governance and education, e-mail me at

david.backer@gmail.com.  
David Backer

## NOT A MEMBER OF THE ONE PERCENT

## MEMBERS:

Being on a tight budget, I often shop in the Brooklyn Chinatown. Prices there are often 30% to 50% less than at the Coop. No, the produce is not organic, but you can get vegetables that the Coop doesn't carry, besides various sauces and condiments. When I was there recently, they had watermelons that were comparable in size to the ones at the Coop. Coop melons averaged \$12.50. In Chinatown they were \$4.50, quite a difference.

## LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

## Anonymity

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

## Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

1. The *Gazette* will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author's first-hand observation.
2. Nor will we publish accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.

3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

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

## Respect

Letters must not be personally derogatory or insulting, even when strongly criticizing an individual member's actions. Letter writers must refer to other people with respect, refrain from calling someone by a nickname that the person never uses himself or herself, and refrain from comparing other people to odious figures like Hitler or Idi Amin.

## The Park Slope Food Coop is looking for a Font Server Administrator

who will administer Universal Type Server 4 for Macintosh. This is a workslot, not a paid position. We have seven workstations using UTS, and we are also using Adobe CC and Quark 8. Currently workstations are using OS 10.7.5, but we have plans to update shortly to OS 10.8. Updating, maintenance and testing of UTS to work with current versions of OS plus Adobe CC and Quark 8 are required. The Coop currently uses the UTS extensis font server to produce a bi-weekly newsletter and internal documents. Hours are as needed, for FTOP credit.

Contact: ann\_herpel@psfc.coop.



What Is That? How Do I Use It?

## Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

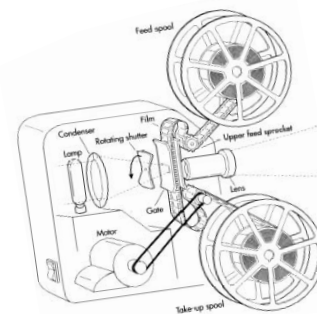
Every Monday, 12 to 2:45 p.m.

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

Look for tour leaders in produce aisle.

## ARE YOU A BROOKLYN-BASED FILMMAKER?

Would you like to screen your work at the Coop?



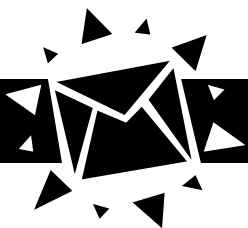
Then submit your film for possible inclusion in the Coop's Friday Film Night Screening Series.

If you're a Coop member you'll receive one FTOP credit for screening and offering a Q+A with your film. If you're not a member, it's still a chance to spread the word about your work and build your fan base by screening for a local audience.

We accept documentary and fiction, both features and shorts (we program shorts as a group).

**Please e-mail Gabriel Rhodes for details at [gabrielrhodes@me.com](mailto:gabrielrhodes@me.com).**



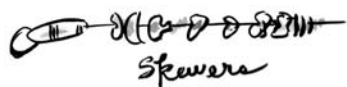


## L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R

The Coop carries the best, mostly organic produce. Wonderful. Except not all members of the Coop are members of that glorious 1%. Over the years, the Coop has become somewhat elitist with prices to match. How about some watermelon and other (probably not organic) produce that us lesser souls can afford.

I love watermelon, but I can't pay \$12.50 for that wonderful antidote to NYC summer. Surely we can get watermelons at a more realistic price.

Martin A Ettlinger



## EDEN FOOD

## TO THE EDITOR,

Please consider boycotting Eden Foods.

[www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/07/07/eden-foods-insurance-fight-hobby-lobby/12321525/](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/07/07/eden-foods-insurance-fight-hobby-lobby/12321525/)

Giuliana Ciampoli

## RETIREMENT POLICY

## TO THE MEMBERS,

I find it very interesting that the *Gazette* articles on retirement policy are so biased against changing it. In the 7/10 edition, June Finer is quoted twice, voicing her opposition to changing

retirement policy, yet (according to the article) she no longer lives in a Brooklyn or shops at the Coop. Another member opposed to any changes is quoted as saying, "if they can shop, they can work," yet when asked to elaborate on this comment, she was unable to. No other support for the survey or policy change is given except David Laibman's. Joe Holtz is quoted throughout the article stating his strong opposition saying that everybody "...contributes sweat equity," and "the culture of the Coop includes doing your share." But it's not true that everybody contributes sweat equity or does their share. At the General Meeting a few

months ago, when David Laibman first introduced the possibility of a retirement policy change, Joe Holtz was asked if paid Coop Staff and their families work shifts. He said they don't. He claimed that a person from the Department of Labor once said that employees couldn't do unpaid work. The question of whether they could work as a condition of shopping at the Coop, rather than a condition of employment wasn't discussed. When asked why the family members of employees don't work shifts, the answer was that if the family member was suspended for missing shifts, it would be awkward to tell the employee that he or she

couldn't shop. Does that sound like everybody is doing their share? If Joe Holtz is so concerned with not having enough people to work shifts, why doesn't he propose that family members of employees work, just like everyone else.

When Holtz implies that the Laibman survey is some kind of operation which would "...nosy into people's lives", he goes too far. Enough from the bully pulpit, let the Coop members decide what's the right thing to do.

Barbara Storace



## BDS TOPICS:

## PERCEPTIONS OF BIAS

## TO THE EDITOR,

Two pieces by N. Brussel in the previous reveal how the Coop ignores the principles of inclusiveness it espouses.

One was an article about the Diversity and Equality Committee (DEC), of which Brussel is a member, the other a typical letter of hers hyperbolically bashing Israel, this time assigning all blame for casualties (in her word, a "massacre") to Israel as it defends itself against a terrorist group so hell-bent on destroying the country that it embeds its weaponry among its own civilians, using them as human shields and even directing them back into areas that Israel had previously alerted them to leave in order to avoid casualties during the necessary action to destroy the terrorist arsenal.

Brussel details how a "perception of discrimination" among some members led to discontinuing an important procedure to reduce theft at the Coop. By contrast, at least two official complaints to the DEC plus hundreds of *Gazette* letters objecting to the seemingly permanent platform for demonizing Israel were deemed outside the committee's purview. This particular perception of bias didn't warrant even a discussion with the committee.

Given this, the irony of the following statement by Brussel should be lost on no one: "For all of us to have a positive experience at the Coop, we need to identify and prevent situations in which bias and discrimination may develop". But is the Coop not turning a deaf ear to the many Jewish Israel-supporters at the Coop who for five-and-a-half

years have exposed the offensive bias of BDS, widely regarded as a prejudicial hate movement, in holding Israel (Jews) alone responsible for the Israeli/Palestinian conflict?

Moreover, the very relevance of this seemingly permanent crusade to the Coop has been repeatedly challenged, especially via an overwhelming rejection by what is hailed as the "deciding" body at the Coop but obviously is not, as higher powers—the *Gazette* editors, the Coordinators and the DEC—have overridden the spirit of the general meeting's decision.

There is much talk these days about "proportionality" in war, a complicated subject that arises primarily when Israel responds to lethal rocket-fire aimed at its civilian residents. But what is clearly disproportionate is close to six years of BDS advocacy within this Food Coop relative to the handful of Israeli products on our shelves. Clearly the goal of dismantling the Jewish state is not a "Coop-related" topic, a stated requirement for member publication in the *Gazette*. Yet this hate movement has become the signature issue and probably the most enduring topic ever publicized in the *Gazette*. It remains a stain on Coop leadership in their collective lack of moral courage to stop the hate.

Sylvia Lowenthal

# GIDEON LEVY, HA'ARETZ ISRAELI JOURNALIST: INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION [ICC] WILL BE A WAKE-UP CALL FOR ISRAEL WHO WILL NOT CHANGE BY ITSELF

## MEMBERS:

On July 22, 2014, Democracy Now, [www.democracynow.org](http://www.democracynow.org), with Amy

Goodman and Aaron Mate, held a lengthy interview with Gideon Levy in Tel Aviv, the Ha'aretz columnist and a member of the editorial board. Levy has written a weekly column, "Twilight Zone," focused on Israel's occupation in the West Bank and Gaza. He discussed several of his recent articles on Israel's massive military offensive against Gaza, Operation Protective Edge.

**Article: "Israel Does Not Want Peace"** - You just have to look at the record. I mean, sure, Israel wants peace. Israel just doesn't want a just peace. It is all about justice. Give me one example in which there was a genuine readiness to put an end to the occupation. It was all about gaining time, maintaining the status quo: the West Bank occupied, Gaza under siege, peaceful life in Israel. The ultimate proof is building the West Bank settlements that say to the Palestinians and the world: Israel has no intention to give up this piece of land.

**Article: "Israel's Real Purpose in Gaza Operation? To Kill Arabs"** - Again, I wish I wouldn't write those harsh things, but look at reality. A war between Israel and Palestinians (including Lebanon) look always the same: Israelis killing many, many civilians, and the Palestinian resistance is trying to fight back. It's a meeting between an elephant and a fly, in terms of capabilities and equipment. And it always ends up the same, with hundreds and hundreds of civilian casualties on the Palestinian side, with many, many fewer casualties on the Israel side.

**Article: "Lowest Deeds from Loftiest Heights"** - Watching the horrible scenes in Gaza, you see none or almost none watching the Israeli TV. Only by watching international networks you see the real tragedy there. Someone is accountable for this. The pilots, elite in Israeli society, cannot remain without responsibility, or at

least some kind of moral doubts about what they are doing. They should confront the civilian victims, whole families exterminated in recent days. My article created a huge public debate in Israel. It became very unpleasant maybe dangerous, Ha'aretz decided I had to take a bodyguard.

**Article: "What Does Hamas Really Want?"** - We tend not to listen to our enemies. Israel is just using the violence right now without listening to their conditions. The conditions ask for freedom for Gaza, to lift the siege. There is not one unjust demand among them. Doesn't it serve the interests of Israel, seeing Gaza free, building its economy and not living under inhumane conditions in the biggest cage in the world, which creates only more hatred and more violence?

Note: July 25, 2014: a French lawyer filed a complaint on behalf of the Palestinian Justice Minister at the International Criminal Court (ICC), accusing Israel's military of having carried out "war crimes" in the Gaza Strip.

Mary Buchwald  
BrooklynForPeace.org  
PSFC members for BDS  
[www.psfc4bds.wordpress.com](http://www.psfc4bds.wordpress.com)



## EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES

**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****Wednesday, 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 checkout station as well as sweeping and occasionally mopping. You will work under the supervision of a staff person.

**Bathroom Cleaning****Tuesday, 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.

**General Meeting Set-Up****Tuesday, early evening**

Adaptable, physically energetic, team workers with excellent attendance needed to help set up and break down the space where the General Meeting is held. Contact Adriana Becerra, Membership Coordinator, [adriana\\_becerra@psfc.coop](mailto:adriana_becerra@psfc.coop).

**Van/Truck Driver for GM Delivery/Pick-Up****Last Tuesday night of the month**

Member with a van or truck needed to pick up and load the team of workers and gear from the Coop at 5:30 p.m. and drop them off at the local General Meeting venue (currently M.S. 51) and help unload. Then, be on call to return to venue for pick-up and loading of workers and gear between hours of 8:45-10 p.m., and drive back to Coop. You must be dependable, with good attendance. Contact Adriana Becerra, Membership Coordinator, [adriana\\_becerra@psfc.coop](mailto:adriana_becerra@psfc.coop).

**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.

**BROWNSTONE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES***"tech support for people"*

Mac, Windows, phones, tablets and more.....

**[www.tech11215.com](http://www.tech11215.com)**718-930-2286 • [info@tech11215.com](mailto:info@tech11215.com)**Math Tutor**

I am a NYS-certified/NYC-licensed math teacher with 23 years experience. I provide clear, precise explanations to develop problem-solving skills, while building confidence and ease in the world of math. I have successfully tutored students for Regents, SAT, GRE, professional qualifying exams and all school levels. For remediation or enrichment, traditional or common-core, **Call David Cohen at (718) 857-5968.**

## CLASSIFIEDS

**BED & BREAKFAST**

HOUSE ON 3RD ST AT 6TH AVE Parlor floor thru sleeps 4 in privacy, AC, wifi, kitchenette, deck, 12' ceilings, \$170 a night for 2. Visit our site at [houseon3st.com](http://houseon3st.com) or call us, 718-788-7171. Enjoy modern comfort in true Park Slope style. Grandparents our specialty! We want to be your hosts in the Slope.

**CLASSES/GROUPS**

DRUM AND HAND DRUM LESSONS Study drumset and hand drums with a world class professional. Over 20 years experience in NYC and around the world. Jazz, rock, funk, hiphop, world sensibilities. References, reasonable rates. Your place or mine. If it's not fun, what's the point?! 917-769-6240.

**MERCHANDISE**

Piano. This excellent Baldwin Spinnet can be delivered to your home for \$1000. Ideal for a beginner / intermediate player or a small apartment. Call Ben Watts 646-764-0865, come and try it out, email [benandtiina@verizon.net](mailto:benandtiina@verizon.net) for pictures.

**MERCHANDISE-NON-COMMERCIAL**

FOR SALE: Women's beautiful green suede Susan Bennis Warren Edwards cowboy-style boots, size 10, \$100 or BO; tall, red Hunter rubber boots, new, size 9, \$50; Merrell shoes, gray, new, size 8 1/2, \$25. Call 718-786-1598.

**SERVICES AVAILABLE**

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—36 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 24-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at [www.tguccione.com](http://www.tguccione.com).

MADISON AVENUE HAIRCUTTER is right around the corner from the food Co-op, so if you would like a really good haircut at a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154, I charge \$60.00.

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.

**VACATION RENTALS**

3-SEASON BUNGALOWS Studio, 1- and 2-BR houses in historic bungalow community near Peekskill and the Hudson River, 1 hour NYC. Pool, tennis, organic community garden, social hall w/internet, social activities. \$25k-\$87k. [www.reynoldshills.org/bungalow-shop](http://www.reynoldshills.org/bungalow-shop). Contact Mel: 347-307-4642, [melgarfinkel@yahoo.com](mailto:melgarfinkel@yahoo.com), or 347-715-3735.

Rent pvt bed & bath in PASSIVE SOLAR farmhouse. Organic food & bedding provided by farmer. Hypoallergenic furnishings. PERMACULTURE gardens. Secluded ravine w/16' WATERFALL & picnic site. Woods, beaver pond also on farm. Sharon Springs near Cooperstown. No pets. \$400/wk or \$1200/mo plus food. 518-860-8602.

Join us for the theatrical debut of award-winning environmental feature documentary  
**A WILL FOR THE WOODS**  
A last act, a gift to the planet.

August 15th - 21st  
Village East Cinema  
2nd Ave. at E. 12th St.  
Times, trailer, & info: [awillforthewoods.com](http://awillforthewoods.com)

**Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle**

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

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)