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Volume II, Number 25

December 11, 2014

Holiday Bounty at the Coop: Special Products Brighten the Shelves



No shortage for the sweet-toothed family members.



Historic Brooklyn calendars sold 20 copies in two days.



A candle for every creed.

By Frank Haberle

Winter holiday season is now upon us, when experienced Park Slope Food Coop members brace themselves for pre-holiday Coop shopping in much the same way that they might prepare for rush hour in the Times Square subway, or a Sunday afternoon in the Lincoln Tunnel. Many of us can only look toward the crush of humanity winding its way through the Coop's crowded aisles with dread and woe. But while we squeeze through the front doors this season we can take heart in two things: first, the Coop is well-stocked with a great quantity of the

products we've come to rely on to prepare special meals and gifts for our friends and families; and secondly—somewhere, somehow—the staff have managed to create space to bring in seasonal items that make our holidays extra-special.

The 2014 holiday season may be remembered as a remarkable year.

The 2014 holiday season may be remembered as a remarkable year. Veteran Produce Coordinator Allen Zimmerman points out that it has not always been easy

coordinating with suppliers to keep the shelves up to speed with demand during the hectic holiday season. "Each year, it seems, when the holidays come, we carefully study our prior year's experience and we plan every detail to ensure that nothing gets messed up," Zimmerman says. "And every year one of our suppliers always gets something wrong. It's like hitting a speed bump. But so far this year, remarkably, we only had a few gaps in supplies of key items, for less than a day. We are sorry that we disappointed some members. Next year we'll try again to be perfect; let's see

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11/18/14 General Meeting



ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

By Alison Rose Levy

The November 18, 2014, General Meeting (held a week early due to Thanksgiving) was chaired by David Moss of the Chair Committee.

The meeting began with the Open Forum along with the announcement of an open position on the Chair Committee, which is not an elected position. Interested Coop members may contact the Chair Committee.

Next, Yello Goller, an FTOP worker, spoke about the unus-

tainable fishing practices of Bumblebee Tuna, which products the Coop stocks. An employee of Greenpeace, she pointed out that in unregulated ocean regions, Bumblebee uses giant fish traps which capture vulnerable endangered species. "Let's introduce Open Natural and kick Bumblebee to the curb," she proposed. General Coordinator (GC) Joe Holtz requested further information in order to look into this suggestion.

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The December General Meeting Is Canceled

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is typically held on the last Tuesday of each month. The December General Meeting, however, has been canceled.

The January General Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 27, at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

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

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Coop Event Highlights

- Fri, Jan 2 • Film Night: *Portrait of Wally* 7:00 p.m.
- Tue, Jan 6 • Agenda Committee Meeting 8:00 p.m.
- Fri, Jan 9 • See What the PAFCU Offers 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- Fri, Jan 9 • Wordsprouts:
New Poetry for a New Year 7:00 p.m.
- Sat, Jan 10 • See What the PAFCU Offers 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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

Holiday Bounty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

where that gets us.” From a shopping standpoint, another factor that has helped things run more efficiently is the addition of extra checkout stations, and cashier stations that can now weigh items, helping both the express lines and the regular lines run more quickly and efficiently. As a result, the Coop continues to move at a brisk clip even through the holidays.

Preparing the Coop for Holiday Meals

Turkey is, of course, a very popular item during the holidays. Receiving Coordinator Heather Rubi, who shares responsibility for meat purchasing for the Coop, was able to overcome a shortage this year while benefitting local, smaller farms. “We usually purchase a huge amount of Bell & Evans turkeys,” Rubi says. “But they called us a week before our order was to be delivered, and told us that they could only deliver

20 turkeys from our original order of 410 turkeys. This put us in a bind, but I called every farmer I knew to make up for the loss. These birds have been a tad more expensive, but these aren’t coming from huge operations, and I think it’s a good thing to support the smaller guys. I hope our members enjoyed the range of turkeys we were able to purchase from the smaller farms this season.” Turkeys this year came from McDonald Farms (heritage turkeys), Garden of Spice, Finger Lakes Farms, and Fisher Hill Farm. “All of our birds are high quality, but if I had to recommend one, I’d say McDonald Farms,” she adds. “He does a great job, and he’s supplied to the Coop for many years.”

The produce aisles see a much higher volume during the weeks encompassing Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and New Year’s, when people tend to create bigger holiday meals. “The emphasis in the produce aisles is not so much on bringing in specialized produce,” Zimmerman says, “as it is on bringing in much higher quantities. We sold 11,040 pounds of sweet potatoes and 3, 612 bags of cranberries in the two-week period ending the Sunday after Thanksgiving.” Collard greens are a popular item, part of the New Year’s Eve dinner tradition for many



PHOTOS BY ROD MORRISON

Coffee mugs are a festive gift.



This end cap holiday display has good taste.

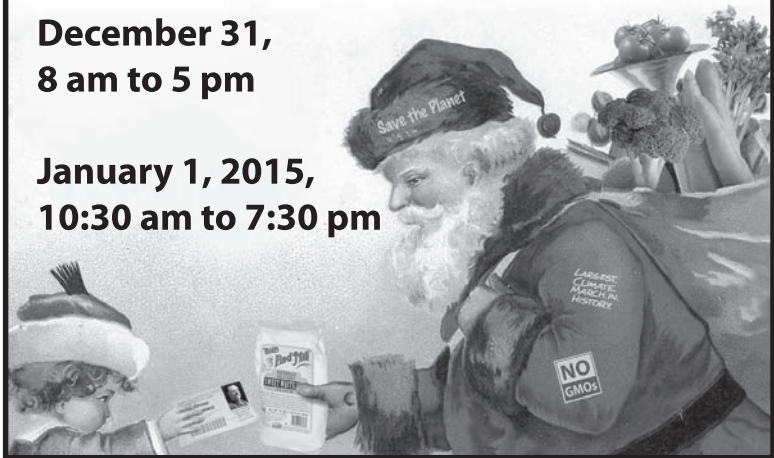
HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS WILL BE:

December 24, 8 am to 5 pm

December 25, CLOSED

December 31, 8 am to 5 pm

January 1, 2015, 10:30 am to 7:30 pm



Rally to Ban Fracking at Governor Cuomo’s State of the State Address

Wednesday, January 7, 2015
11:30 AM to 2:30 PM • EMPIRE STATE PLAZA, ALBANY
— THIS EVENT IS INDOORS —

At the State of the State Address, it is urgent that we send a loud, clear message to Governor Cuomo: **NOT ONE WELL! BAN FRACKING!**

Governor Cuomo has announced that he will complete his secret fracking review by the end of the year. Despite an overwhelming body of science that proves how fracking endangers our health and environment, Cuomo could open New York to this hazardous process soon.

On January 7, we must pack the Empire State Plaza and demand that Cuomo ban fracking, reject fracking infrastructure and lead our state in a transition to safe renewable energy.

Buses and carpools will provide transportation from throughout the state.

For more information and to sign up for transportation, visit our website: NYAgainstFracking.org



The Park Slope Food Coop is a co-sponsor of this rally.

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.

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

Puzzle author: James Vasile. For answers, see page 15.

Coop families. With Hanukkah, the Coop’s produce aisles are stocked with herbs, onions, potatoes, beets and apples. For Christmas, the Coop brings in more chestnuts as well as cranberries. “If the cranberry season lasts until Christmas,” Zimmerman adds, “then we’ll sell a lot of cranberries.” A special produce item for Christmas is cactus pear. As he explains it, “this comes from an Italian tradition, a Christmas treat. With cactus pear, you can simply cut off the end, cut the skin open and the whole skin peels away like a jacket. You can eat everything inside them.” The cactus pear, Zimmerman points out, makes a cameo appearance in the book *The Island of the Blue Dolphin*, when the characters eat a plant they refer to as “Tuna.”

Calendars, Cookies, Candles and Gifts

Tucked into end caps and corners of shelves throughout the Coop are special products brought in especially for the holidays. An example of an end cap that offers something for almost everybody is at the front of the bread aisles (3A), where there is a remarkable assortment of food products—rainbow quinoa, sea-salt truffles, holiday cookies, tree-ripened roasted chestnuts and Uncle Steve’s Spicy Arrabiata Sauce (a spicy marinara sauce). Just across the aisle (at the front of 3B, the freezer aisle) are kitchenwares and tablewares that include an assortment of potential gift items like decorative table napkins, coffee mugs and cutting boards—as well as more interesting practical items like Soap Socks (for soaking pots) and Cover Blubbers (a flexible food storage container). At the top of aisle 4A are cookie cutters; at the front end of 5B by the cash registers are candles (Hanukkah candles, Buddha candles, Pine Tree and Bees wax candles). The end cap of 5A features an assortment of cranberry sauce and

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11/18/14 GM

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GC Reports

GC Mike Eakin reported on the Coop's finances, in the final report of 2014. The gross margin is 17.12%, better than last year. Most items are marked up by 21%, with extra markup on vitamins. Due to the upstairs office renovation, orientations were canceled from July 15 to October 15, resulting in a drop in new members. Membership is currently down 1%. Since 20% of membership turns over each year, Eakin is hopeful that membership numbers would soon catch up.

GC Jessica Robinson spoke next and urged members to shop early. Holiday shopping hours will be as follows:

- Christmas Eve, (Dec. 24): 8-5
- Christmas Day, (Dec. 25): closed
- New Year's Eve (Dec. 31): 8-5
- New Year's Day (Jan. 1): 10:30-7:30.

Robinson also appealed for more member labor throughout the holiday season. "If you have make-ups to do, the Coop needs workers early in the morning, Monday through Friday. If you don't feel like you are being well-utilized, approach paid staff and they will help to put you where you are most needed," she said. Coop members can bank shifts even if they are not FTOP.

Next GC Allen Zimmerman noted that he is currently supervising and training those who will be produce buyers after he retires. He is often asked, "Why don't we have clementines, pink lady apples, satsuma mandarins, or Navel oranges?" He pointed out that, "Nothing is worse than a piece of fruit that is gorgeous and does not taste

good yet. We won't carry them until they taste good."

Blue Moon Acres Farms, a Coop supplier, cultivated its first crop of various rices with low arsenic levels. In deciding whether to stock it, Zimmerman asked how many present would like to buy organic rice from a small, local farm, and many hands were raised. He then asked how many present would pay an asking price of more than \$10/lb. This time, not as many hands were raised. He cited that according to *Consumer Reports*, rice's arsenic levels are typically very high—100 parts per billion, while this new rice has only 10 parts per billion. Joe Holtz pointed out that supplies from California, where the Coop sources its rice, is considered "safe" by the FDA at about 50 parts per billion.

Committee Reports

Willy Naess, from the newly formed International Trade Education squad said that the squad is seeking two new members. The squad drafted a letter to Congress people from New York City requesting them to oppose fast tracking a new breed of international trade agreements. A letter in the November 27 *Gazette* provided further information.

Agenda

The first item by Mimi Bluestone was a discussion only with no formal proposal. In the wake of the recent People's Climate March, Bluestone, a volunteer with 350.org, drew attention to a proposal before the New York City Council to divest pension plan funds from fossil fuels. She discussed why the Coop might consider supporting this proposal.

Given a projected global temperature rise of six degrees by 2050, Bluestone pointed out that, "The challenge is to make

the transition to a non-polluting non-greenhouse gas producing energy economy. Divesting is a strategy to make the necessary change."

In response to the presentation, one member asked whether there was a safe alternative form of energy. Bluestone replied that solar, geothermal, wind and others were being used.

Joe Holtz recommended that when Bluestone returns with a proposal, that she look at the Coop mission statement and link this proposal to both the food supply and ways that the Coop acts as a good "environmental citizen."

Coop Retirement Survey

Next, David Laibman introduced a proposal authorizing

a study to gather data for a later evaluation of the Coop membership retirement policy. He said that, "No one could reconsider the policy unless we have this data on the ages and joining dates of a membership sample."

The proposed study would solicit members exiting the Coop, aimed at a sample size 600-700.

The current retirement policy is calculated based on a combination of age and years worked as a member. To retire at age 60, members have to belong for 30 years or more; or at age 65

they must belong for 20 years.

Although the Coop knows when members have joined, it has never collected data on members' ages.

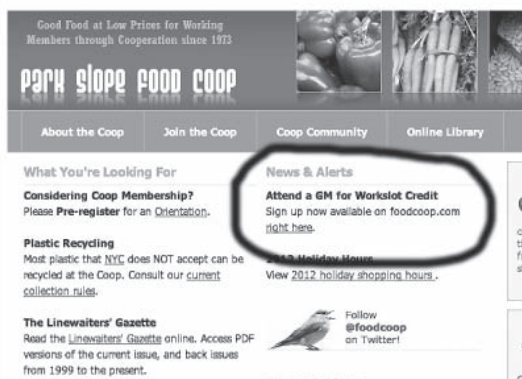
Bill Penner, a member of the Coop Board of Directors, mentioned that the retirement policy has already been amended once and that it was a contentious issue. He pointed out that Laibman had participated in a recent effort (in 2014) to reduce the retirement age. Penner also raised questions about how the data would be obtained and how accurate it would be.

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ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

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)



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



◆ Call the Membership Office

Special Ordering Temporarily Suspended



We will NOT be taking special orders from Fri 11/14/14 to Sun 01/04/15

Special ordering will resume Mon 01/05/15

Vitamin/Supplement special orders are suspended indefinitely and will NOT resume on Mon 01/05/15

Strengthening the General Meeting

By Ed Levy

As anyone who has attended more than a few GMs knows, they can be a thrilling experience of participatory democracy, a hotbed of partisan wrangling or a tangled knot of parliamentary confusion, sometimes all in the same evening. What you experience at a GM may also depend, Rashomon-like, on how much or little you understand its workings. For example, if you are among the attendees who are there for work slot credit, and usually that is most of them, the GM may be, roughly speaking, like one of those videos they make you watch in high school if you want to pass driver's ed. If you are a General Coordinator with an intimate knowledge of the issues, or someone who feels deeply about them, the GM is a place where you can influence people's thinking and voting. If you're someone who

just needs to be heard, you'll find a tolerant assemblage of fellow members who'll let you, to a point.

Of course, the body of the GM is in constant flux, its size and composition changing from meeting to meeting—along with how well informed its members are. By analogy, suppose the U.S. House of Representatives had 43,500 representatives (instead of 435), and at any given session only one percent then showed up, a largely different one percent each time. And imagine that most had not had training in parliamentary procedure since middle school student council. Then add to these difficulties monthly business in two and a half hours!

There you have the messiness of the General Meeting. Yet somehow this amorphous, contentious, rushed, under-informed and somewhat manipulated body gets stuff done.

It makes important decisions. It declines to make others. Its very unwieldiness guarantees that the Coop can't act precipitously. And when a meeting is going well, and not snagged on procedure, the combined wisdom in the room and the back and forth of debate can reframe and throw light from unexpected angles on an issue. As Churchill once quipped, "Democracy is the worst form of government, except for the all the others."

The recent failed proposal to conduct a survey that would give the Coop data it could use to revise its retirement policy provides a good example of the strengths and weaknesses of the GM. Flawed to begin with, because it would have involved the Board of Directors in ways the Board does not and cannot function, the proposal brought to the floor was subtly (and at times overtly) opposed by the Coordinators. Three Board



ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

members also spoke against it, one of them going so far as to impugn the motives of the presenter. Yet it emerged almost accidentally through the debate on the proposal that (1) the number of people retiring from workslots has increased dramatically over the last year; (2) reliable data about members' ages and the number of years they have worked is needed, in order to see where the Coop's demographics are headed; and (3) a more accurate study than the one proposed is feasible. (What remains less clear is why the Coordinators, who are very concerned with the retirement issue, do not just propose a study of their own—or simply carry one out, since it seems safely with their authority to gather whatever information they need to protect the Coop's future.) In any event, the proposal failed, the need for a study remains, new light was thrown on how that might occur, and the can was kicked down the road.

Sometimes serendipitously, sometimes deliberately, the GM guides the Coop from month to month, guided in turn by a usually adroit Chair Committee that keeps the ship from capsizing even in rough, uncharted parliamentary seas. For the most part, one comes away feeling pretty good about being a part of such a large, progressive, committed and influential community.

Does the GM Work as Well as It Could?

In conversations held over the last few months with members and staff, the *Linewaiters' Gazette* distilled a few ideas for strengthening the GM.

- We could re-establish the warm-up session. There

used to be a 15-minute period before the meeting began when people could gather in a small group to learn more about how the GM works. That quarter hour, from 7 to 7:15, has morphed into a sort of settling in period, when people pick up the agenda items and other literature on the lobby tables before the Open Forum begins. Retiring General Coordinator Allen Zimmerman, a veteran of many GMs, has already volunteered to lead the first revived warm-up session.

- The Chair could adopt a more proactive, encouraging, policy toward participation, especially when time permits. The decision-making process benefits from wide input.

- Committee reports could be more artfully presented, using visual tools where they can help. As one member put it, "Chair committee reports should also share more information. If there is something presenters want people to walk away with, they should make sure it's clear, so people don't have to fish it out."

- We could reduce the number of GMs for which members receive work slot credit from two back to one. The second workslot, or an orientation, could be a kind of civics lesson focusing on how the GM and some of the committees work.

- The Guide to the General and Annual Meetings, the rules of order, need to be more widely known and available. The rules book should once again be brought to every meeting and printed in the *Gazette* from time to time.

- The Agenda Committee may need to be more vigilant in shaping what is brought to a meeting. As one regular

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Coop Job Opening:

Part-time Repairs/Maintenance Receiving Coordinator

Description:

The Coop is hiring a part-time Receiving Coordinator to focus on maintenance and repairs. Schedule will include Sunday evening and one weekday to be determined.

The position entails general Coop facilities upkeep in coordination with other staff. Candidates should have demonstrated experience in several of the following:

- Electrical including circuits, lighting, and small motors
- Plumbing including copper pipes, pvc pipes, bathroom fixtures, and pumps
- Carpentry including building repairs and painting
- Mechanical duties including product assembly and installations
- Sourcing, ordering and picking up supplies from local vendors
- Interfacing or sourcing with outside contractors
- Keeping maintenance records, planning maintenance schedules and documenting procedures

This Receiving Coordinator will also supervise member-labor to deep clean areas of the Coop including refrigerated cases, coolers, and back yard on Sunday evening; and provide support to the Sunday evening maintenance Squad Leaders and squads to keep the store clean and well maintained.

The ideal candidate will be highly energetic, organized, and a reliable, responsible self-starter who is able to cooperate with a diverse group of co-workers and members. This position requires an ability to prioritize tasks, teach/explain procedures, delegate work and give feedback. Candidates should be able to lift or move up to 50 lbs. and work in cold environments.

Hours: Approx. 16 hours in 2 days, Sundays 4 p.m.-12 a.m. plus another weekday to be determined.

The Coop is looking for candidates who strongly desire a part-time schedule for the foreseeable future. Ability to occasionally work another shift during the week is a plus.

Wages: \$26.24/hour.

Benefits: This position offers New York City mandated sick pay only.

Prerequisite:

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

How to Apply:

E-mail your resumé and cover letter to hc-receivingcoordinator@psfc.coop. Please put "Maintenance" 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.

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series Presents: Food Design

By Adam Rabiner

When you think about design you may picture current fashion trends, a sleek sports car, or the latest iPhone release. Probably food does not come to mind. But the 2010 documentary *Food Design* by Austrian designers Martin Hablesreiter and Sonja Stummerer will change that. They argue convincingly that design has been intrinsically related to all aspects of food since a caveman took his first bite of a woolly mammoth. In fact, it is humankind's tendency to whip, mix, chop, and otherwise transform food that makes us unique and sets us apart from other animals.

While our species has been forging new paths of assembling, preparing, cooking, and innovating with natural ingredients for thousands of years, food design is now a high art displayed by haut chefs pushing gastronomic boundaries, as well as by food scientists and marketers creating fine-tuned and tested products that hopefully appeal to consumers' needs, wishes, and dreams.

Food Design shows us that no aspect of any new food product is left to chance. Europe introduces 10,000 new products each year and in a Darwinian survival of the fittest, only one out of 20 of these will still line supermarket shelves two years later. For this reason, food designers conduct extensive research and development paying strict attention to every sense: color, smell, taste, sound, appearance and also functionality, texture, consistency, and overall coherence (a combination of appear-

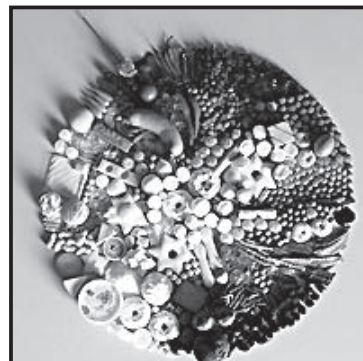
ance, taste, and how a product is used).

Surveys of consumers have shown that people associate the color red (strawberries, cherries, watermelon) with sweetness and juiciness which is why in a package of multicolored gummy bears the popular red ones outnumber the others by 10:1. Conversely, black denotes decay and death, which is why sorting through your kids' Halloween haul licorice is likely to be the only candy you'll find that looks like tar. Consumer preference is also why butter appears yellow, as does vanilla ice cream, though the bean itself is black not white. Interestingly, when food colors were altered from their natural state (for example serving red cauliflower) testers rejected these changes demonstrating the strong psychological component to how we perceive and taste food.

*It's really our
schnozzle
that tells us if food is
ripe or rotting.*

Our sense of smell, more so than even taste, determines how we savor food. With our mouths we can detect sweet, salty, sour, and bitter, but our nose does all the rest. It's really our schnozzle that tells us if food is ripe or rotting, a fact not unappreciated by food designers.

The crunch of a potato chip, the snap, crackle, and pop of your breakfast cereal, even the effervescent fizz of your favorite beer, all have been recorded and tweaked as carefully as a record producer making Taylor Swift's



latest studio album. The sound a cookie or cracker makes when you bite into it reveals (hopefully) freshness and is affected by its dimensions, thickness, ingredients, sugar content, baking process, heat level, and a host of other variables. All of this has been studied and incorporated into the production process!

We could go on about texture and consistency (they're important), mouth-feel, and how your tongue acts as your throat's gatekeeper, determining what you swallow and what you spit out in disgust. *Food Design* also delves into food's utility—think about those cup shaped nacho chips that so niftily scoop up the salsa. But I will leave something for the screening. Rest assured, you will never think about, or see, smell, hear, or taste food in the same light again. ■

Food Design screened on December 9, 2014.

PSFC Construction Committee Needs Another Welder

The PSFC Construction Committee has an opening for an additional welder. The job includes picking up a variety of items in need of repair (u-boats, hollywood carts, street carts, conveyor stands, loading-zone signs, etc.) in your own vehicle, taking them to your own shop, repairing them and returning them to the Coop, and, of course, reporting your hours to General Coordinator Mike Eakin, or his backup. The Coop reimburses for supplies and excess electric-demand charges.

E-mail: ibraim_dauti@psfc.coop



Attention children's book writers and illustrators!

The Food Coop's Fun Committee is considering a future children's book fair event and wants to find a pool of children's book writers and illustrators who might be interested in participation.

If you are and are interested, please contact Tasha Paley at tashapal@gmail.com



CALLING EXPERIENCED INDEXERS!

Help the Archives Committee create a subject index of the notes that have been taken at every General Meeting from 1976 to the present. From administrative decisions to committee reports to product sale debates, these GM notes need an index to make one of the Coop's most important primary sources more accessible.

This is a temporary project and can be done for FTOP or make-up credit. If you're interested, please e-mail archivecommittee@psfc.coop by December 31 and tell us about your interest and skills in indexing, as well as how long you've been a Coop member.



The Agenda Committee is urgently seeking new members! Join the Committee and help set the monthly General Meeting agenda.

Requirements:

- ◆ Attend monthly Committee meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00 p.m.
- ◆ Attend at least five General Meetings per year
- ◆ Have a cooperative spirit and willingness to work in a collaborative committee environment
- ◆ Be interested in the ongoing business of the Coop
- ◆ Have a good attendance record

If interested, contact Ann Herpel at 718-622-0560 or ann_herpel@psfc.coop. The Committee will interview applicants before submitting candidates to the GM for election. We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Increasing Members' Recycling Opportunities: PSFC Partnering with TerraCycle

By Rosemary Calderon

What is TerraCycle?

TerraCycle is a highly awarded, international upcycling and recycling company that collects difficult-to-recycle packaging and products, that would otherwise be destined for landfills, and repurposes the materials into affordable, innovative products. More than just a recycling company, TerraCycle is on a mission to be a driving force behind increasing environmental awareness and action. Their goal is to be a trusted resource for families, schools, communities, and corporations to find tips, stats, facts, tactics, and news to help us live a greener, cleaner lifestyle. Together, we can support their vision: Eliminating the Idea of Waste®. TerraCycle is widely considered the world's leader in the collection and reuse of non-recyclable, post-consumer waste. You can go to their website at www.terracycle.com to learn more about them.

What is the Environmental Committee's (EC) plan to use their services?

The EC would like to establish a formal partnership between the PSFC and TerraCycle. This partnership will routinely provide members an opportunity to recycle packaging materials from products sold at the Coop not currently accepted in the NYC recycling waste stream—similar to when the Coop collected

specific plastic containers before the NYC accepted them for recycling.

How would it work?

The PSFC signs up for what are called TerraCycle "brigades." These brigades accept specific product packaging materials. Currently there are over 40 different brigades. For purposes of products sold at the PSFC, we would focus on brigades like the baby food pouches, plastic sandwich bags (which also accepts the small bulk plastic bags), cracker and cereal liner bags, salty snack bags, energy bar wrappers, water filters, etc. We would enroll the PSFC in several brigades and hold collections as a work shift, probably starting with one per month, then moving to twice a month as participation grows. These brigades are free to join and TerraCycle provides free shipping labels for the collected packaging materials to be sent to them, thus the Coop incurs no fees to participate in any of the brigades. TerraCycle also provides an opportunity to collect much more waste than those designated free brigades. They offer a Zero-Waste program which allows for a far broader collection of materials, however, the Zero-Waste program comes with fees ranging from \$50 to \$125 per box depending on the size of the box. This fee is per each box col-

lected. The Zero-Waste program the EC is interested in promoting to the membership is the one for Plastic Packaging. This would allow for all types of soft plastic packaging to be collected (e.g., plastic vegetable and fruit bags, bread and muffin bags, salad bags, large bulk roll bags, etc.).

As a way of generating knowledge and enthusiasm among the membership, the EC has and will be providing introductory and educational information about the TerraCycle brigades and conducting one or two collections prior to a formal discussion presentation at the January General Meeting. Provided that the GM discussion is positive and members are in support of a PSFC-TerraCycle partnership, a proposal will come up for a formal vote in a subsequent GM. It will likely include two parts, one for participation in the free brigades and one for participation in the fee-based collection.

Exactly what sorts of waste would they collect?

Currently the EC is focusing on the following Brigades:

1) Plastic sandwich bags—as this will allow us to recycle not only the regular plastic sandwich bags, but more importantly, the small plastic bulk bags (though NOT the larger roll bags or shopping bags); the bags do not have to be cleaned and the pricing sticker can

remain on the bag.

2) Baby food pouches and caps—any brand

3) Cereal bag liners—these are the liners that come in cereal boxes, cracker boxes, the larger bulk cereal bags not in boxes, and similar such liners

4) Energy bar wrappers—any brand

5) Snack bag wrappers—any size chips or salty snack bags (seaweed snacks not included)

6) Brita Water Filter—any part having to do with a Brita Water Filter system

What does TerraCycle convert the materials into?

TerraCycle's team of scientists and designers have found ways to recycle and upcycle the waste they collect into hundreds of cool new products like fence posting, back packs, spray bottles, picture frames, note books, flower pots, tote bags, clocks, etc. Check out their website at www.terracycle.com/en-US/products.html to see a comprehensive list and pictures of all the products TerraCycle creates with the waste collected. When they upcycle a piece of waste, they leverage both the material it is made from and the original shape of the waste. When they recy-

cle, they transform the collected waste into new products through a variety of processes like injection molding. Best of all, when you're done with a TerraCycle product, you can put it back in the original Brigade collection program and get credit for the waste a second time.

How would this benefit Coop members?

The benefit to the Coop members is intrinsic in that it allows them the well-being of keeping more waste out of the landfill. Additionally, once our waste is received and checked in to the TerraCycle facility, the PSFC will be credited with TerraCycle points. TerraCycle points can be redeemed for a variety of charitable gifts, or for a payment of \$0.01 per point to the non-profit organization or school of our choice. We would target any raised funds to non-profit projects/organizations currently supported by the Coop—the soup kitchen, anti-fracking efforts, and supporting the establishment of more food coops.

The EC will be holding TerraCycle collections on Saturday January 24 and Saturday February 28 both from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Coop. Please start saving up your eligible waste for deposit on those collection days and support our efforts for a greener tomorrow! ■

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. 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 Flr., New York, NY 10018

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



COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Seeking Member Feedback

Dear Members,

Pursuant to the resolution of the October General Meeting, we seek your feedback on the draft letter to Eden Foods printed below. Please submit your feedback and comments as a Letter to the Editor to be published in the December 25 *Linewaiters' Gazette*. Deadline for submission is Monday, December 15 at 12:00 p.m. For more details on submission guidelines see foodcoop.com or the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. After member comments and feedback are received via the *Gazette*, a letter will then be sent to Michael Potter, the owner of Eden Foods.

Draft Letter to Eden Foods

Dear Michael,

Thank you for being a national leader in promoting ethical and transparent food production. We appreciate the care you have taken in supporting local agriculture, and bringing excellent products in BPA-free packaging to the U.S. market long before any other manufacturer. Your commitment to healthy food

is not superficial. Thank you also for your participation years ago at the Coop's anti-GMO forum. It was a pleasure meeting you and learning from you the challenges you faced in building a company that truly cares for the health of the farmer as well as the consumer.

We are writing today to express the concerns our mem-

ber-owners are having about a non-grocery matter—your pursuit of a lawsuit seeking exemptions from provisions of the Affordable Care Act. The membership of the Park Slope Food Coop requests that you carry the care and concern with which you approach food production into the rest of your public stance, and drop out of the ACA lawsuit.

Should the boss have a say in employees' private healthcare decisions? We at the Park Slope Food Coop say no. As an employer, the Coop does not impose on the particulars of what our employees need or don't need from their healthcare providers. A good employer pays for health insurance as part of employee compensation, and that is where the involvement should stop. We stay out of

personal medical decisions, and we think you should too.

At our October 28, 2014 General Meeting, Coop members voted to contact Eden Foods to express these concerns regarding Eden Foods, Inc. v Burwell. The Park Slope Food Coop membership did not ask for a boycott of Eden Foods, partly on the understanding that your employees recently re-upped their health insurance through 2015.

You've stated, "We believe in a woman's right to decide, and have access to, all aspects of their health care and reproductive management. This lawsuit does not block, or intend to block, anyone's access to health care or reproductive management"; but those words do not ring true as long as Eden Food is involved in an ACA suit seek-

ing exemptions to birth control coverage.

We request that you take definitive action and withdraw from the judicial limbo of Eden Food v. Burwell. This lingering suit is a distraction from the good and important work of organic food production in which you are a respected, valuable leader.

Healthcare decisions belong between an individual and their doctors, and should not be in the hands of their employer. We hope Eden will stay out of their employees' private decisions and continue to provide quality health insurance to their employees.

On behalf of our 16,200 members, we welcome your response.

Joe Holtz, General Manager
Ann Herpel, General Coordinator

MEMBER SUBMISSION

The Real Lesson: Never Again—Anyone

By Thomas Cox

When we remember the Holocaust of World War II and respond "never again!" to the atrocities of that time, perpetrated mainly by German Nazis, I'm sure that most of us think of the totality of the human toll. This destruction and slaughter on a mass scale included Jews, Gypsies, Poles, communists, homosexuals, Soviet POWs, and the mentally and physically disabled. In total, approximately 11 million people were killed.

It would be unfortunate for survivors of any one of these groups of victims to mourn only for those they most identify with, and disregard the others. The real lesson of the Holocaust is that the world must look beyond the needs and desires of any particular race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, or legal status, and seek justice and human rights for all people.

The tragedy of events in Palestine leading up to the declaration of the state of Israel in 1948 is that Palestinian Christians and Muslims were denied basic human rights very soon after the Holocaust. The world did not learn its lesson. Britain withdrew from the territory of Palestine that it had controlled since World War I, knowing full well that the recent immigrants from Europe, the Ashkenazi Zionist Jews, had plans in place for the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians.

The wish to "de-Arabize" Palestine was a crucial pillar of Zionist thinking from Theodor Herzl, the father of modern political Zionism, to David Ben-Gurion, a leader of the Zionist paramilitary Haganah who went on to become the first Prime Minister of Israel. Zionists wanted to expand beyond the borders of the Partition Plan that was advanced by the United Nations in 1947, to create a state on most of what had been Palestine, with an overwhelming Jewish majority population.

Of course an expulsion on this scale could not be conducted without extreme measures of violence. Thousands died in conflict, on the forced marches to Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon and elsewhere, and in the ensuing deprivations. Hundreds of Palestinian villages were depopulated and destroyed to keep the inhabitants from returning. In other villages and cities, homes of Palestinian Christians and Muslims were given over to Jews.

The scale of atrocities described by Palestinians as the Nakba (Catastrophe) was great, but of course it did not reach anything like the carnage in Europe. During the 1948 conflict, around 85% (or 720,000 people) of the Palestinian Christian and Muslim population of what was to be called Israel fled or were expelled from their homes, driven forcefully by Zionist

paramilitary groups or driven by fear. Israel still to this day has not honored its promise and legal requirement of repatriation.

In order to avoid misunderstandings and incorrect inferences, please note that nothing in this article claims or implies that Nazis and Zionists are equivalent. Rather, the point is that we need to treat all victims of atrocities with fairness and compassion. Something quite wrong is happening in Israel today. Palestinians are being forced to live on ever-smaller fragments of land as Jewish-only settlements expand in the illegally occu-

pied West Bank. Jewish settlers and soldiers in occupied Palestine commit violent attacks on Palestinians with impunity. Christian and Muslim Palestinian land is confiscated to build walls and Jewish-only roads and housing.

Reuven Rivlin, the current President of Israel, recently noted the depth of the problem. "It's not just Jews against Arabs . . . At some point, something came over Israel so that everyone has his own ideas—and everyone else is an enemy . . . I'm not asking if we've forgotten how to be Jewish," President Rivlin said, "but if we've forgotten how to be human."

How do we at PSFC do our part? Ridding our Coop

shelves of SodaStream products is certainly one way we could come together as a community to make a decision and take an action in complete accordance with our beliefs. When the SodaStream company built its main production facility on land outside Israel, on illegally confiscated Palestinian private property, it created a major setback for both the Israeli and Palestinian people. Now SodaStream is claiming that it will move its facility inside Israeli borders, but the building will likely be on confiscated Bedouin land, and there is virtually no chance that the West Bank facility property will be returned to its rightful owners. ■

FOLLOW
the Food Coop on

twitter



&



Instagram

&

Pinterest @foodcoop

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. Drop disks in the wallpocket described above. Receipt of your submissions will be acknowledged on the deadline day.

Classified & Display Ads: Ads may only be placed by and on behalf of Coop members. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, business card ads at \$30. (Ads in the "Merchandise-Non-commercial" category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form (available in a wallpocket on the first floor near the elevator). Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2"x3.5").

Printed by: Tri-Star Offset, Maspeth, NY.

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

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



PROSPECT CONCERTS

Singer, songwriter and arranger **Pyeng Threadgill** grew up surrounded by music and steeped in New York's downtown arts scene. Drawing influences from a vibrant mix of jazz, funk, soul and the blues, she channels an earthy, celebratory strength in her voice, as heard on her recordings *Sweet Home: The Music of Robert Johnson* (2004), *Of the Air* (2005) and *Portholes to a Love* (2009), which won her a fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts. At this year's Prospect Concert show self titled "SNOW," Pyeng shares her musical boundaries in unique interpretations of songs from her catalog and personal favorites.



An entertainer with outrageous visions and smiles for miles, **Elijah Tucker** and his band, including Craig Dreyer on keys and sax, creates a warm Rock 'n Soul party anytime they take the stage. "Tucker evokes all the joys of rock and roll on [his second solo release] *Saturn*, but underscores it with a thoughtfulness and maturity that is compelling." —Wildy Haskel, *Wildy's World*

www.facebook.com/ProspectConcerts

53 Prospect Park West [at 2nd Street] • \$10 • 8pm [doors open at 7:45]
Performers are Park Slope Food Coop members and receive Coop workslot credit.
Booking: Bev Grant, 718-788-3741

RETURN POLICY

park slope
FOOD COOP

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.

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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.

Marcelle Abrego	Ellie Damashek	Chris Fennell	Jennifer Jurewicz	Erin Miksic	John Schaefer
Karin Akre	Anastasia Danilova	Kate Galassi	Wedee Kao	Alexander Mills	Madeline Scheffler
Willa Armstrong	Ann Davidson	Seeta Pena Gangadharan	Dana Lynn Karwas	Paola Mottura	Stefanie Smith
David Atteway	Scott Davidson	Jessica Garz	Allsun Kilgore	Stephen Nessen	Lou Svahn
Monique Baron	Jaclyn Davis	Amelia Golden	Alicia Lanzieri	Lilian Parra	Mira Svatovic
Caylin Hughes Bathon	Marcelo De Oliveira	Erin Greenwell	David Leventhal	Veronica Pastore	GraceAnne Svendsen
Claire Beaumont	Jeremy Dean	Emma Grunebaum	Victoria Leventhal	Daniel Pena	Katja Thieme
Mary Berecka	Marco Dees	William Harris	Dale Lord	Shannon Post	Marcus Thieme
Rachel Carmean	Anyah Dover	Richard D. Hart	Joseph Lueben	Amy Rafaniello	Joelle Wilshinsky
Charlotte Cerf	Anna Duensing	Tracy Hart	Nicholas Marcantonio	Mark Rashkov	Samuel Wilshinsky
Daniell Cohen	Siobhan Duffy	Seth Horvitz	Anna Martinez	Lauren Reiff	Brenda Wyetzner
Leah Concannon	Henry Dwyer	Ivy Howell	Leslie Matelis	Peter Reyes	Bernard Yan
Stacy Courtright	Emily Eisner	Naimonu James	Jason Maxey	Alicia Reynolds	E-Lynn Yap
Emily Cox	John Esturino	Russell Janzen	Linda Mcewan	Tia Richards	Fauzia Zaman-Malik
Veronica Cranston	Maya Feller	Pablo Johnson	Josue Mendez	Alicia Ritson	Danna Zhang
Flore Dallennes	Vinz Feller	Robert Jost	Maria Mendez	Raphael Ruttenberg	

COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

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

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

The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

FRIDAYS 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Channels: 56 (Time-Warner), 69 (CableVision), 84 (RCN), 44 (Verizon), and live streaming on the Web: www.bricartsmedia.org/community-media/bcat-tv-network.

General Meeting Info

TUE, JANUARY 6

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the January 27 General Meeting.

TUE, JANUARY 27

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Gazette Deadlines

Letters & Voluntary Articles:

Dec. 25 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, December 15
Jan. 8 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, December 29

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Dec. 25 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, December 17
Jan. 8 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, December 31

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, January 27, 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.)

- Submit Open Forum items
- Explore meeting literature

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.) Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting.

If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

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

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

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

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

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

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

• Advance Sign-up required:

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

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

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

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

• Certain Squads not eligible:

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

• Attend the entire GM:

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

• Signing in at the Meeting:

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 pro-cessed and healthful foods.** We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others. We support non-toxic, sustainable agriculture. **We respect the environment.** We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations. We prefer to buy from local, earth-friendly producers. We recycle. We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment. **We are committed to diversity and equality.** We oppose discrimination in any form. We strive to make the Coop welcoming and accessible to all and to respect the opinions, needs and concerns of every member.

park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

dec 12
fri 4–6 pm

See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

Representatives from the PAFCU will also meet at the Coop on December 13, January 9, and January 10.

dec 13
sat 10 am–12:30 pm

See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

Representatives from the PAFCU will also meet at the Coop on January 9 and January 10.

dec 19
fri 8 pmPyeng Threadgill,
Elijah Tucker

Singer, songwriter and arranger **Pyeng Threadgill** grew up surrounded by music and steeped in New York's downtown arts scene. Drawing influences from a vibrant mix of jazz, funk, soul and the blues, she channels an earthy, celebratory strength in her voice, as heard on her recordings *Sweet Home: The Music of Robert Johnson* (2004), *Of the Air* (2005) and *Portholes to a Love* (2009), which won her a fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts. At this year's Prospect Concert show self-titled "SNOW," Pyeng shares her musical boundaries in unique interpretations of songs from her catalog and personal favorites. An entertainer with outrageous visions and smiles for miles, **Elijah Tucker** and his band, including Craig Dreyer on keys and sax, creates a warm Rock 'n Soul party anytime they take the stage. "Tucker evokes all the joys of rock and roll on [his second solo release] Saturn, but underscores it with a thoughtfulness and maturity that is compelling."—Wildy Haskel, *Wildy's World*
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.

dec 30
tue 7 pm

Learn to Read Your Labels

Reading labels on your food can be tricky. What does "all-natural," "USDA-organic," "GMO-free," "gluten-free" mean? Learn to read your products and the meaning of ingredients. Having the knowledge gives you the choice of what you buy. This presentation will define the different food labels and

teach you how to read your produce and packaged food labels. Learn how to read your cosmetics and how to have a safe kitchen and bathroom for you and your family. Coop member **Arianna Sertoli** is a health coach certified from the Integral Institute of Nutrition, is a yoga teacher certified at Yoga Works and Bend & Bloom, and is an advocate for Beautycounter cosmetics. She is from Italy and moved to the United States 11 years ago.

jan 2
fri 7 pm

Film Night: Portrait of Wally

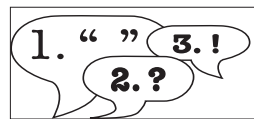


Portrait of Wally chronicles the 13-year court battle over the restitution from the Austrian government and The Leopold Museum to the Bondi family for the war time theft of art work by Egon Schiele. The "Wally" case brought the story of Nazi art looting into the open, eventually forcing museums in Europe and the U.S. to search their own collections for suspect objects. Many museums ended up returning art to Jewish families who had abandoned hope until "Wally" showed that institutions could be held accountable for holding property stolen during the Holocaust. Cinematographer, two-time Emmy-award winner and Food Coop member **Samuel Henriques** will be in attendance for a brief Q & A after the screening.

To book a Film Night, contact Gabriel Rhodes, gabrielrhodes@me.com.

jan 6
tue 8 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting



The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for future General Meetings. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com.
The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. No General Meeting will be held in December.

jan 9
fri 4–6 pm

See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

Representatives from the PAFCU will also meet at the Coop on January 10.

jan 9
fri 7 pmWordsprouts:
New Poetry for a New Year

Join us for an evening with three Brooklyn poets, reading some of their new poems, and discussing writing poetry. **Taylor Mali** is one of the most well-known poets to have emerged from the poetry slam movement and one of the original poets to appear on the HBO series "Def Poetry Jam." A four-time National Poetry Slam champion, he is the author of two collections of poetry and a book of essays, *What Teachers Make: In Praise of the Greatest Job in the World*. **Susan Brennan's** poems appear in various publications. Her chap-

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

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

dec 12 2014—feb 3 2015

book, *numinous*, is forthcoming from Finishing Line Press. *Drunken Oasis*, her full-length book of poems, is published by Rattapallax Press. She co-wrote *Vegas—Based on a True Story*, which premiered in competition at the 2008 Venice and 2009 Tribeca Film Festivals, and wrote the script for the award-winning, million-plus-hits Web series, *Verse*, a poetry murder mystery. **Caitlin Grace McDonnell's** chapbook of poems, *Dreaming the Tree*, was published by Belladonna Press in 2003 and her first full-length book, *Looking for Small Animals*, was published by Nauset Press in 2013. Her poems and book reviews have been published in *JMWW*, *Washington Square*, *Chronogram* and others periodicals.

jan 10
sat 10 am–12:30 pm

See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

jan 10
sat 2–5 pm

Auditions For Our Coop Kids' Variety Show



Coop members ages 4-18 may audition on Saturday, January 10, 2-5 p.m. or Sunday, January 18, 12-3 p.m. in the Coop second-floor meeting room. To reserve an audition spot contact **Martha Siegel**, 718-965-3916, msiegel105@earthlink.net. You must audition to be in the show. Polished act not required for audition; we can help you polish it. Singers and other musicians, poets, jugglers, stand-up comics, rappers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, etc. (no lip-synching please). Performance date is Saturday, March 7. New show time is 5 p.m. at the Old First Church. We look forward to hearing from you!

Another audition takes place on Sunday, January 18, 12-3 p.m.

Performance date is Saturday, March 7, 5 p.m., at Old First Church.

jan 13
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: The Story of Seeds



Open Sesame: The Story of Seeds. A film by Coop member **Sean Kaminsky**. Most people don't know that one of the world's most precious resources is at risk. Seeds provide the basis for everything from fabric, to food, to fuels. Seeds are as essential to life as the air we breathe or water we drink. Over the past 100 years, seeds have steadily shifted from being common heritage to sovereign property. Large corporations are stealing seed varieties from under us by slowly patenting them. Corporate-owned seeds now account for 82% of the worldwide market. This groundbreaking film will help others learn what is at stake and what can be done.

jan 16
fri 8 pm

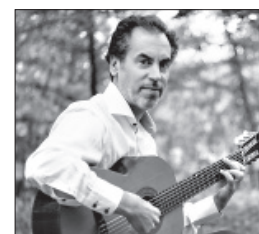
Jenny Hill & Liquid Horn, Tomas Rodriguez



Jenny Hill presents an evening of music inspired by Brazil, Africa, and American jazz, featuring **Todd Isler** on drums and percussion, **Jerome Harris** on bass, **Debbie Deane** on vocals, and **Stefan Bauer** on vibes. Jenny Hill, saxophonist and flautist, is currently working with the Easy Star All-Stars, Denis Leary and the Enablers, and leads her own

jazz group, Liquid Horn. Bill Milkowski of *Jazz Times* calls her "an accomplished composer-arranger and first-rate soloist, with some bold playing on tenor, soprano and flute. Highly recommended." **Tomas Rodriguez** has a unique repertoire for the solo guitar based in the folkloric music of Galicia, Spain, of his ancestors, coupled with little-known and unique arrangements of the music of the African kora and touching on contemporary flamenco. Rodriguez' own compositions, emerging from these diverse musical inspirations, include original choros, Venezuelan waltzes and flamenco granainas. Critic Norman Weinstein (*Christian Science Monitor*) wrote, "Rodriguez plays with a passionate originality, with an individual touch, drawing from the musical heart of the Latin world. The folk and classical traditions of Spain and South America are richly evident in his playing, but he transmutes them into a sound clearly, fervently his own." He is joined by **Jerome Harris** (bass), **Barry Kornhauser** (bass, cello) and **Urbano Sanchez** (percussion) and possibly a few surprise guests.

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.



jan 18
sun 12–3 pm

Auditions For Our Coop Kids' Variety Show



Coop members ages 4-18 may audition on Saturday, January 10, 2-5 p.m. or Sunday, January 18, 12-3 p.m. in the Coop second-floor meeting room. To reserve an audition spot contact **Martha Siegel**, 718-965-3916, msiegel105@earthlink.net. You must audition to be in the show. Polished act not required for audition; we can help you polish it. Singers and other musicians, poets, jugglers, stand-up comics, rappers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, etc. (no lip-synching please). Performance date is Saturday, March 7. New show time is 5 p.m. at the Old First Church. We look forward to hearing from you!

Performance date is Saturday, March 7, 5 p.m., at Old First Church.

jan 22
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: Women, Food and Desire



Eating to answer your cravings. Chef **Alexandra Jamieson** will discuss her latest book, *Women, Food and Desire*, which addresses cravings and how to listen to our bodies for a healthier fuller life. Books will be available for sale at this class. Chef Alex, CHHC, AADP, is a best-selling author, functional nutrition coach, detox expert, professionally trained healthy gourmet chef, and "cravings whisperer." She has been seen on *Oprah*, *Martha Stewart Living*, *CNN*, *Fox News*, *USA Today* and *People* magazine. Alex was the co-star and co-creator of the Oscar-nominated documentary *Super Size Me* and *The Great American Detox Diet* and offers remarkably sane—and tasty—advice on how to detox, live healthfully and feel fantastic. Her books *Vegan Living For Dummies* and *Vegan Cooking For Dummies* offer plant-based advice to anyone who wants to eat healthier. She lives in Brooklyn, where she juggles, somewhat gracefully, raising her eight-year-old son, running her company *AlexandraJamieson.com*, and riding her bicycle to the Food Coop. *Menu includes: omega-3 citrus tapenade; creamy parsnip and cauliflower soup; rich dairy-free hot cocoa.*

ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. If you would like to request an ASL interpreter, please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by January 8.

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

still to come

jan 24

Qi Gong Health Practices

jan 30

Cheese Class

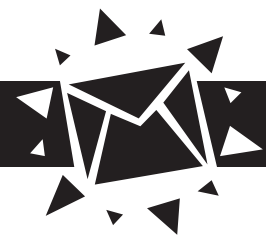
jan 27

PSFC JANUARY General Meeting

feb 3

Agenda Committee Meeting

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



THE LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE IMPOSES NEW POLICIES

TO THE EDITOR:

The *Gazette's* Coordinating Editors have introduced new policies, notable among them being that the editors will require 75% "original writing," thus restricting unattributed material passed off as one's own, i.e., plagiarism!

One might have guessed that some regularly appearing letters were "cut-and-paste" jobs. One wonders why they were permitted for so long, since the "Submission Guidelines" printed in each issue states that editors review submissions for, among other things, "attribution of factual statements."

But there's more to wonder at. These new policies aren't being presented for approval to the General Meeting. They're not even being instituted provisionally, pending a GM vote, which would almost certainly be approved. Rather, they're being imposed. We

could not imagine the Environmental or Safe Food Committees, for example, imposing without GM approval what products the Coop can sell. This is, after all, a cooperative, and the members of the *Gazette* Committee are Coop members earning their workslot credit. The *Gazette* is and should be independent of management, but they are not independent of the membership at large.

The *Gazette's* editorial staff has a long history of highhandedness, something which has over many years stimulated contentious GM debates. The editors finally changed some unapproved and despised practices unilaterally after one such GM discussion in 2009, but abuses still happened. They finally indicated in a written statement to the 10/29/2013 GM ("Statement by *Gazette* Editors and Reporters") that in future they'd seek prior GM approval for their policies. Then, at the 4/29/2014 GM, they submitted for approval new editorial policies meant to further reform these practices, including a review process for

member writers who disputed editors' decisions about the writer's text.

Why, then, have they not done the same with these just-announced policies? And further, why have they not made any effort to change their published guidelines to reflect the reforms approved at the 4/29/2014 GM? Newer members and members who were not at that GM, or had not read—and remember—the 3/6/2014 article ("Linewaiters' *Gazette* (LWG) Policies") will have no idea what recourse they have—indeed that they even have any recourse—when editors demand textual changes.

The editors seem to be trying to reestablish their old, assumed prerogatives. The Coop should be careful of tolerating this sort of behavior, as it violates the Coop's spirit, and probably its actual bylaws. If any of these issues are ever taken up again by the GM, it should also consider requiring the committee's Coordinating Editors to stand for election rather than allowing the cur-

rent self-appointed ones to enjoy lifetime tenures—free to impose whatever restrictions on member expression they choose.

David Barouh

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE CONVERSATION

TO THE EDITOR:

At long last, the editors have come out in print against the uncooperative spirit expressed for past few years in the Letters section of the *Gazette*. Though I am always the hero of my own story, I admit some of my own submissions have contributed to that spirit.

Erik Lewis' letter last issue, imploring all of us to engage in civil dialogue, has inspired me to submit my own idea: create a space and time where membership from all sides of the Middle East conflict can meet regularly and discuss the issues (I'm sorry, but we can't call it an Israel-Palestine conflict anymore when two tiny players have always been the pawns of oil, the Cold War, Islamic fundamentalism, the Sunni/Shiite divide, modernism, etc.). Imagine a set of people-to-people initiatives providing the opportunity to meet and hash it out with words, with evidence, with facts, with the weight of good arguments, and with the full presence of moderators that respect everyone's existence as human beings who seek peace. Ok, it's pie-in-the-sky but I'd like to see more productive ideas, sans the usual blame or indictment, from others who have contributed to the uncooperative spirit at our cooperative: those who claim that Hamas doesn't use human shields, those who robotically copy n' paste the latest internet rumor like that Woody Allen boycotts Israel, or those who proposed boycotting Israel to begin with.

Can't we conceive that there are alternative explanations for Middle East imbroglios? Perhaps two hot world wars plus a cold one shaped the region, not Zionism or the PLO. Perhaps boycotting Israeli cultural/educational institutions only sidelines all worldwide cultural and educational institutions working for peace. Perhaps economic boycotts only kill Palestinian jobs, not Israeli companies. If you can see how such boycotts are absurdly simplistic and counter-productive, you can see why BDS is part of the problem.

One reason why I've called

repeatedly to cement a minimum 80% vote in our by-laws for any new boycotts is because it encourages cooperation. People would have to think first about their positions, abandon hysteria and accusations, and aim elsewhere besides a split down the middle. After that is established, productive proposals at the GM regarding the Middle East are more certain.

To read the letters that have come out over the years, no one at the Coop knows enough about the region to end any conflict. So we should rethink our approach and act like a cooperative, utilizing our abundant creativity for the interests of the entire membership.

It's time to change the conversation. Finally.

J. Rosenfeld

LIVE YOUR ETHICS

TO THE EDITORS:

I have noticed a tendency recently in these letter pages and at the GM for people to declare that the Coop isn't a political entity. This must be a consequence of the great expansion of membership we've seen in the twenty years I've been a member: I must assume some haven't read our mission statement. Good food at good prices comes about precisely because of the politics of the Coop.

I joined BECAUSE the Coop is a political entity. I joined to help separate myself from the oligarchical corporations who largely rule the country and who sell all that garbage in for-profit supermarkets. I joined because I believe that cooperation is an alternative to neo-liberal capitalism. I don't fool myself on how small a dissent this is, but it is something, and I mean to defend it.

Shopping is a moral act, which is why I shop and work here. As a case in point, I stopped buying Eden Foods' beans, products I regularly purchased, as soon as I heard of that company's president's belief that women are less than fully human beings. He, and his defenders, phrase it differently, of course, but that's what it amounts to, that's what the anti-birth control/anti-women's health-and-sexuality argument always boils down to, and I will not buy it. I urge others to do the same, and to otherwise live the ethics they signed on for in joining this institution.

Matthew Wills

ADDITIONAL NEW POLICIES ON LETTERS AND MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

In the interest of promoting civil discourse and upholding the main purpose of letter and member submissions to the *Linewaiters' Gazette*, the Editorial Board of the *Gazette* has created additional policies for "Letters to the Editor" and member submissions:

Letters and member submissions cannot contain gratuitous personalization—that is, needlessly identifying a Coop member and directing the substance of the letter/article to him or her, as in a polemical debate. Letters and articles should deal mainly with ideas and not persons. Letter/article writers will be asked to reword their submissions in accordance with this guideline.

Letters and member submissions must be mainly (that is 75% or more) original writing, and the opinion of the writer. Submissions that are essentially cut-and-paste, pass-along writing from other publications will be rejected, and the writer asked to re-submit with original writing.

Punctuation and Formatting Disclaimer:

Because of typesetting-software limitations and the compressed schedule of producing each *Linewaiters' Gazette* issue, there is no guarantee that special formatting, including boldface, italics and underlining, will be reproduced accurately.

—The Editors, *Linewaiters' Gazette*

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.



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

MAKE IT STOP!

TO THE EDITORS,

I would like to respond to the editors' column that appeared in the last issue under the title: "To the Writers of Letters to the *Linewriters' Gazette*. If I am to understand the position in this article correctly, the letters to the *Gazette* are to serve members as a "...platform to express themselves on issues that they feel are important to the Coop and/or Coop members."

Things that may be important to members, but are not directly related to the Coop, do not, in my opinion belong in the *Gazette*. While the idea, if not abused, would make perfect sense, we see the actual poisonous fruits of this misguided

policy every week in your BDS/Middle East pages. We have long since "jumped the shark" with our endless "BDS/Middle East" letters. I am sure that I am not alone in wanting it to stop. So I am sorry, but if the irrelevant, divisive BDS letters shall continue, so shall I.

If I can parse the above, I would guess that the Editors believe, that while endless letters about this controversy is not "important to the Coop", it must be "important to Coop members." Letters that pertain to the running of our Coop are of course important to the Coop. Even the BDS stuff, prior to our Coop vote on that topic could be construed to be informing the membership about an upcoming issue requiring their vote. But now?

I guess you Editors think that continuing to read this stuff every week is important to us Coop members. I would love to know how you reached the conclusion that reading about BDS is important to the Coop membership, but my articles, on Evolution are not.

Well I am the person writing the Evolution letters, and sadly they shall continue. Let us be clear, I write as a protest, I do not submit them for any other purpose. So contrary to the article they don't "purport to be a protest," THEY ARE A PROTEST! I call my writing "drivel" because it has no place, like the reams of BDS stuff, in our paper. I urge all like-minded people to indeed flood the *Gazette* with letters on topics that are import-

ant to them, but not directly related to Coop matters.

I apologize for the *Gazette* workers who have to work to get these letters (mine included) ready for publication. But here is the reality of your editorial decisions: until either the *Gazette* stops publication, or peace love and harmony break out in the Middle East, we are stuck reading this stuff every week FOREVER. I cannot stomach it. If the editors feel that my letters are a "denial of service" attack on the *Gazette's* letter page, may I extend the analogy by suggesting the installation of a Spam Filter, to rid your page of irrelevant letters. This spam filter resides in your red editor's pen, and it is time to use your role as editors to

edit the letter page.

Eric Eisenstadt

IN SEARCH OF COOP MEMBERS FROM THE 1970s

TO THE EDITOR:

Were you around the Coop in the 1970s? Are you in touch with someone who was? If so, let's talk! I'm a doctoral candidate at NYU working on a history of the Coop, and I'm looking to interview early members about their recollections and reflections. Please contact me by e-mail (lpovitz@gmail.com), phone (646-737-6192), or Twitter (@cinnamon_peeler).

Lana Povitz

BDS/MIDDLE EAST

BDS HOLOCAUST IMAGERY

TO THE EDITORS,

A BDS supporter's declaration that he isn't a Holocaust-denier (Distorted History in Rieman Letter, 11-27-14) is small comfort to those of us who lost family in the Holocaust. But his claim that he didn't imply an equivalency between Jews and Nazis in his 10-30-14 article ("Never Again") is not wholly credible. If he wished to dramatize the alleged taking of Palestinian property, he could have chosen any of a multitude of such events throughout history, including the European colonization of virtually the entire world. But he chose the Nazi equation and quoted a Holocaust survivor, and somehow we're to believe that this implied no attribution of fascism to Jews. (Note that the "takers" were described as "Jews", not "Israel".)

A more relevant parallel to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict would have been one of the numerous historical partitions of land where populations have been in intractable cultural and/or religious conflict (e.g., India/Pakistan, the breakup of Yugoslavia). But as we all know by now (from reporting in these pages), the Palestinian leadership—which included Nazi supporters of Germany before there was even a Jewish State to complain about—has rejected the partition from minus-day-one and has violently opposed all partition proposals, as witness the recent Hamas assault with its double violation of international law by targeting densely populated Israeli civilian areas and using their own population

as human shields to thwart Israel's self-defense efforts.

The "Nazi card" has been actively played repeatedly on the BDS stage, including a Facebook page's Photoshopped image of emaciated Holocaust survivors holding signs saying "Stop the Holocaust in Gaza" (none has occurred), "Israeli Assassins" (with no evidence given), "Break the Silence on Gaza" (as if there were ever silence on this issue!). And in an eerie echo of the *Gazette's* "Never Again" article, the slogan at the bottom of the offensive image reads, "Whatever happened to 'never again'?"

That's what BDS is about, yet our Coop chooses to promote this destructive movement—and effectively sponsor it, ad infinitum—in the *Gazette's* hateful BDS/Middle-East section, under rules that supposedly allow only Coop-related, civil discourse.

Re the repeated trumpeting of European anti-Israel activism (11-27-14, "318 [unidentified] European Organizations Appeal to the European Union to Suspend the EU-Israel Association Agreement"): It comes as no surprise that the birthplace of Nazism (supported at the time by vast numbers of Germans, by other Europeans, and by Palestinians) would contribute to the latest incarnation of the bi-millennial history of anti-Semitism, i.e., the current crusade to demonize and delegitimize the one-and-only Jewish state, accompanied by growing violence against European Jews and Jewish organizations. See the Times article: "Samantha Power, U.S. Ambassador, Issues Warning on Anti-Semitism in Europe". And note that despite these alleged [unnamed] 318 European organizations, the

German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, as well as other European leaders, stands firmly against these developments. (Unsurprisingly, no sanctions against persistent Palestinian violations of international law are mentioned.)

*www.facebook.com/IAcknowledgeApartheidExists/photos/a.116419295219428.1073741828.116415985219759/321047701423252/?type=1
**www.nytimes.com/2014/11/14/world/europe/samantha-power-warning-on-europe-anti-semitism.html?emc=edit_tnt_20141113&nliid=8230742&tntemail0=y

Sylvia Lowenthal

BDS: UCLA DIVESTMENT

MEMBERS:

Why call for a boycott? ... Why call for divestment? ... Why call for sanctions?

BDS is the Palestinian non-violent strategy of resistance and liberation. BDS serves as a teaching tool for studying the policies carried out under Israel's military occupation of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. Policies that are in clear violation of international law and international humanitarian law. These policies negatively impact, in every way, the lives of Palestinians. Working to build a global solidarity movement for Palestinians, BDS creates a counterweight for change to the status quo: Israel's total domination administered by military force.

At my alma mater, UCLA, on November 18, the undergraduate student council (8 voted in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstained) passed a resolution calling on the University of California system to end all its investments in 11 U.S.-based companies

doing business with the Israeli military and profit from Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories (the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip). These companies become complicit in Israel's illegal occupation and in Israel's human rights violations of Palestinians.

Leading up to the vote, the Students for Justice in Palestine along with more than thirty student groups, representing a wide spectrum of causes, supported the resolution. "They brought the student body along with them to understand how the campus is complicit in Palestinian suffering."

You can read about the UCLA students being intimidated by outside groups and subjected to threats by the Los Angeles City Council at: www.bdsmovement.net.

Members can show solidarity with Palestinian Small Farmers by purchasing, at the Coop, "Equal Exchange, fairly traded, Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oil."

Mary Buchwald

Brooklyn For Peace

PSFC members for BDS

www.psfcbds.wordpress.com

WHAT DID WE DECIDE ON MARCH 27TH 2012?

TO THE EDITORS AND MEMBERS,

I want to correct information in the Editorial Committee Report published in the *Gazette* of November 27, 2014. In describing "new policies they [the editors] have created for letters and member submissions", the editors note complaints "about how political issues in the Middle East pertaining to Israel and Palestine should not be in the

Gazette—particularly after the referendum on whether to vote on whether or not to boycott Israeli products was decided in the negative".

But the Food Coop has never voted for or against joining the boycott of Israeli products.

On March 27th 2012 a general meeting vote was held about whether to hold a Coop-wide referendum about the Coop joining the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel's occupation of Palestinian land and its oppression of the Palestinian people. A referendum is a vote put to the entire eligible electorate about a particular issue. The Park Slope Food Coop Members For BDS proposed a Coop-wide referendum because we wanted all members, whether they could attend a General Meeting or not, to have the opportunity to vote on this important question. We are aware that only a small percentage of Coop members attend the General Meetings. On March 27th, 2012 1005 members voted against holding a referendum. 653 voted for having a referendum. Thus the question was decided by about 10% of our 16,000 members. 1005 Coop members voted to prevent what I think would have been a more democratic process from taking place. Thus about 6% of the members decided not to allow the other 90% of the members to vote on the issue at all.

So PSFC members for BDS will continue our campaign for boycotting of Israeli products. We will soon be bringing a discussion item to the General Meeting, raising these issues again.

Naomi Brussel

Park Slope Food Coop

Members for Boycott,

Divestment and Sanctions

psfcbds.wordpress.com

CLASSIFIEDS

BED & BREAKFAST

HOUSE ON 3RD ST. B+B. Parlor floor thru apt. Sleeps 4. Wi-fi, kitchenette, deck, 12' ceilings, private bath. Visit our website, houseon3st.com, or call us, 718-788-7171. Enjoy modern comfort in true Park Slope style. Grandparents are our specialty!



EMPLOYMENT

2 PERMANENT PART-TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE. Light office work to assist business owner: computers, phone, etc. January start. Mon-Wed & Thu-Fri, 9-5. Near Barclay's Center. Compensation negotiable. Pls email resume to newstart11217@yahoo.com.

MERCHANDISE
NONCOMMERCIAL

FOR SALE: Women's beautiful green suede Susan Bennis Warren Edwards Cowboy-style boots, size 10, \$90 or BO; tall, red Hunter rubber boots, new, size 9, \$45; Merrell shoes, gray, new, size 8 1/2, \$20. Call 718-768-1598.

FOR SALE: Beautiful black leather women's attache case, Nook, 7-day cruise for two to Bahamas! Call 347-581-1380. Email kdg2010@verizon.net.

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.tguccionelaw.com.

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



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HAIRCUTS, HAIRCUTS, HAIRCUTS. Color, highlights, lowlights, perms, hot oil treatments. In the convenience of your home or mine. Kids cut \$20-25. Adults \$35-40. Lenora 718-857-2215.

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DAILY PSYCHOLOGICAL TIPS for weight loss, cancer management, anxiety and parenting. DrHaber.com. [facebook.com/drsandrahaber](https://www.facebook.com/drsandrahaber).

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.

**BROOKLYN
FREE
SCHOOL** Open Houses:
Oct 22, 6pm
Nov 19, 6pm

To learn more about our unique Pre-K thru High School program, visit brooklynfreeschool.org

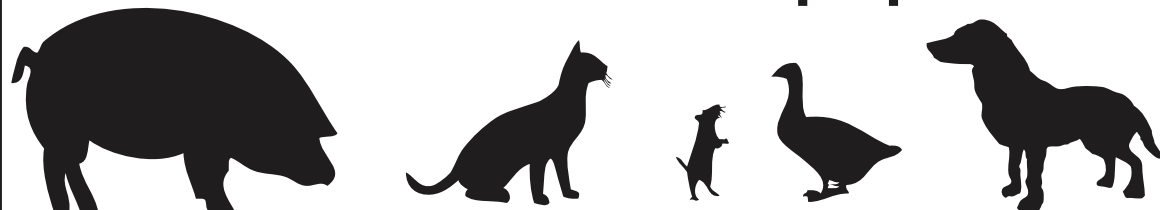
!PERMACULTURE!

Ecology. Community. Economy
UPAT Certificate Course - Five Saturdays
March 14 & 21, April 25, May 9 & 16
at The Old Stone House in Park Slope
Early Registration Discount ends Jan. 1
PERMACULTURE-EXCHANGE.ORG



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

Twitter: @psfcanimals



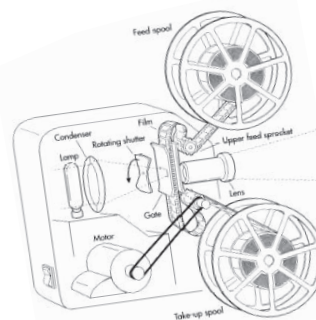
Current Guides:
Eggs (next to egg case)
Milk (next to milk case)
Animal Testing



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

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.**

Holiday Bounty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

stuffing mixes. One end of 6A includes pre-wrapped gift boxes of Anjolie soaps; at the other end are a wide assortment of organic and non-organic chocolate treats. “We do what we can to bring in what is local and what members are looking for,” says Receiving Coordinator Kusi Merello about the chocolates. “We have many holiday items in and more to come.”

Calendars are a very hot item during the holidays. “We need to be careful not to over-order them,” says General Coordinator Elinoar Astrinsky. “Calendars are a perishable item. After January 1, nobody buys calendars. So if I’m ordering \$19,000 worth of calendars for the holidays,

I have to make sure we sell them.” Another challenge is finding places to display the wide range of calendars so that shoppers can see them. This year, children’s calendars are at the end of aisle 4B. At the end of aisle 7 environmental-themed and art-themed calendars appear. Advent calendars are in several locations.

“One calendar we are surprised by this year is a historical Brooklyn calendar, which sold 20 copies in two days. I didn’t think people would really want to look at pictures of Brooklyn; I thought people wanted to look at other places they dream about.” Other popular calendars include one of Inuit Art, a Farmers Almanac, the Kids National Geographic almanac, *New Yorker* covers and



It isn’t the holidays without chestnuts. And easy-to-make stuffing mixes are quite a find.

cartoons. “Anything from the Moomin series flies off the shelves,” Astrinsky adds. The most popular calendar the Coop sells—as many as 300 per year—are calendars with prints from the artist Nicki McLure, who creates two-

color, woodblock-type prints. In addition to calendars the Coop brings in other paper items—blank journals, wrapping paper, greeting cards and boxed note cards. But calendars remain one of the Coop’s fastest moving,

most popular holiday items. As Astrinsky says, “A funny thing I’ve wondered recently is, with all the electronic calendaring going on, do people really still use paper calendars? And when are people going to stop using them?” ■

11/18/14 GM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Monique Bowen, another Director, said that people often tend to under-report and over-report the length of their membership. “How do you know you are not collecting more than once?” she asked.

Laibman said that if members “don’t know the length of their membership, they can go up to the office and check.” He acknowledged that. “My orig-

inal concern was that people who joined later—if you joined at 65 because parents moved in with children—according to the current policy—you cannot retire until 85.”

Morgana, a member on the Maintenance Crew, said, “Since I do research, I can report that people do answer surveys multiple times and give wrong information.”

Another member, Don Wiss, stated that “David could fill his entire obligation by doing many

shifts in one year. What the survey won’t show you is how many 80-year-olds would rush to join, if we change the policy.”

Eunju Lee, another Director, opposed the proposal “not because I don’t have sympathies for people getting older—but because the Coop already recognizes disability, bereavement and other issues disproportionately impacting the aging.”

Laibman amended his proposal to read, “The GM shall

authorize a study of Coop members to obtain information relevant to retirement.”

GC Ann Herpel said that, “Before we had a retirement program, we put people on disability and still do as needed. In some cases, we ask for proof—sometimes we waive the proof. We try to be friendly about that and not make people prove that they are elderly.”

Rashid with the Inventory squad said that, “As a newer member, I would like to know

what was the prior history to this proposal?”

Herpel said that she was confused by the changed proposal. “In the end, the proposal does not refer to who does it, or what is being studied. This is too vague.”

In a show of hands, the proposal failed overwhelmingly.

The minutes were read and the Board of Directors voted to accept the members’ decisions on all agenda items requiring a vote. ■

Strengthening

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

attendee put it, “We seem to get caught up in topics we can’t get out of. Issues come back again and again.” (The Agenda Committee was unable to get back to the LWG with responses to questions in time for this issue, and its process will be covered in a future article.)

And What Are the Rules, Anyway?

Here is a sample. Many people do not know, for example, that:

- Submitters of agenda items (or designated alternates) must be present at the General Meeting to present their items. Committee members do not have to be present when their candidacy is being voted on.
- A motion to extend or limit a discussion must state a specific amount of time and can only be amended regarding that amount.
- A motion to table a motion and move to the next agenda item is not discussed and can be adopted by a simple major-

ity vote. (If a provision to take the item up later has not been included in the motion, the item automatically goes back to the Agenda Committee.)

- No one can chair a meeting who has or might appear to have a conflict of interest with a proposal on the agenda.
- The meeting doesn’t count abstentions. All votes are up or down.
- If the Chair feels a motion is “dilatatory,” meaning that is designed to delay or obstruct the meeting, it can refuse to allow its consideration.
- If the General Meeting decides that important business must be addressed before the next regular meeting, it can vote to hold a supplemental GM on the Tuesday 14 days following a regular meeting
- At any time, members can interject a “point of order,” “point of information,” or “point of personal privilege,” or can move to “assist the Chair” or “override the Chair.” With the exception of a motion to override the Chair, these interruptions do not need to be seconded. Let’s look at them one by one.
- **Point of order.** A point of

order is a reminder of a rule that has been forgotten or is being ignored. If the Chair agrees, the meeting immediately observes the rule. Otherwise the Chair explains why the rule is invalid or irrelevant to the current matter.

Point of information. Any member may interrupt a discussion to introduce facts or data or to ask a question that is important enough that it cannot wait cannot until the member is recognized during the regular course of discussion.

Point of personal privilege. This applies to matters of general comfort or physical emergencies—for example, if someone notices the sound system is not working or that a fire has started.

Motion to assist the Chair. This can occur when it appears the Chair needs assistance to facilitate the meeting and a member knowledgeable about the rules offers specific parliamentary advice on the current issue.

Motion to override the Chair. Any member who disagrees with a decision by the Chair can move to override.

Unless the Chair yields, this then launches a complex process in which the motion to overrule is briefly discussed and then brought to a vote. If the Chair refuses to call a vote on a motion to overrule, any member may call for the vote and the position of Chair is filled by another member of the Chair Committee.

Why the GM Matters

As General Coordinator Ann Herpel put it, “We’ve invested a lot of authority and status and power in the General Meeting and when people finally arrive at one, they should find that it reflects that.” That’s a good argument for committee members, Coordinators and “regulars” refining how they approach and make use of the GM. But the rest is up to us. ■

Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle

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

THANK YOU!

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

Elizabeth Age	Guillaume de	Andrew Hoyles	Ann Meisinger	Josh Sarantits
Ancill	Tournemire	Jennifer Hsu	Kristen Miles	Samara Shapiro
Janet Babin	Jordana DeLory	Justin Hunter	Karen Miller	Kenji Shinagawa
Talia Barrett	Cortney Denison	Benedict Hunting	Nicholas Miller	Jen Simmons
Melissa Bijur	Trevor Dunn	Eric Johnson	Richard Miller	Paula Solomon
Ryan Blum-Kryzstal	Marcia Duprat	Elizabeth Jones	George Monos	Johanna Smith
Melanie Bower	Theresa Elwell	Kwasausya Khepera	Eirene O'Connor	Adam Spiegel
Joshua Breitbart	Natalie Fairchild	Kimiko Kitano	Denise Oswald	Gordon Suber
Lune Brown	Sara Garner	Eric Kratzer	Amy Pearl	Kristin Szytk
Vijou F. Bryant	Daniel Garwood	Perchik	Christopher	Sara Tempel
Christine Burke	Ella Gilboa	Krieman-Miller	Perry-Coon	John Tucker
Robert Cacommo	Aviva Goldstein	Dasha Kunzmann	Krista Plano	Eliza Varner
Elena Callahan	Chase Greye	Briefel	Zinaida Rashkova	Eleanor Wallace
Priya	Molly Haas-Hooven	Maya Lang	Simma Reingold	Brooke Watkins
Chandrasekaran	Annie Halsey	Merida Lang	Faye Rimalovski	David Weinraub
Linda Cohen	Jenn Harris	Sophia Li	Jason Roberts	Livia Woods
Alexandra Collier	Danilo Henry	Jill Linnell	Victoria	Shino Yanagawa
Alexandra Crosier	Margaret Hetherman	Sharon Madanes	Roberts-Wierzbowski	Sharon Yozzo
Jana Cunningham	Suzanne Hillinger	Scott Malone	Anne Rosellini	Eric Zeiler
Isabelle D'Ursel	Melanie Hoopes	Olga McCaghren	Josh Rudder	Jen Ziegler
Megan Davidson	Tim Howard	Carmen McLeod	Diana Samoylova	

★ EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES ★

Receiving Produce
Monday-Friday, 5 to 7:30 a.m.

The Coop is looking for members to work in the produce area. Responsibilities include: lifting boxes, unloading deliveries, stacking boxes in the basement. You should be willing to get or have wet hands while you are working. Boxes usually weigh between 2-20 lbs., a few may weigh up to 50 lbs.

Office Set-Up
Monday, 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.

Kitchen Cleaning
Wednesday, 9 to 11 a.m.

Deep clean all three kitchens in the Coop: child-care, meeting room and staff room. You will work independently to clean countertops, cabinets, drawers, kitchen equipment, sinks and refrigerators. Must be reliable as you are the only person coming to do this job on your day. Please speak to Adriana in the Membership Office, Monday to Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. if you are interested.

Laundry and Toy Cleaning
Saturday, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

This workslot has two responsibilities. You will load laundry into dryer, fold it and redistribute it around the Coop. While the laundry is washing/drying, you will clean toys in the childcare room. You will be working with a partner on these tasks. Please contact Annette or Jana in the Membership Office for further information.

Check Store Supplies
Monday, 9:00 to 11:45 a.m.

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

General Meeting Set-Up
Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.

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.

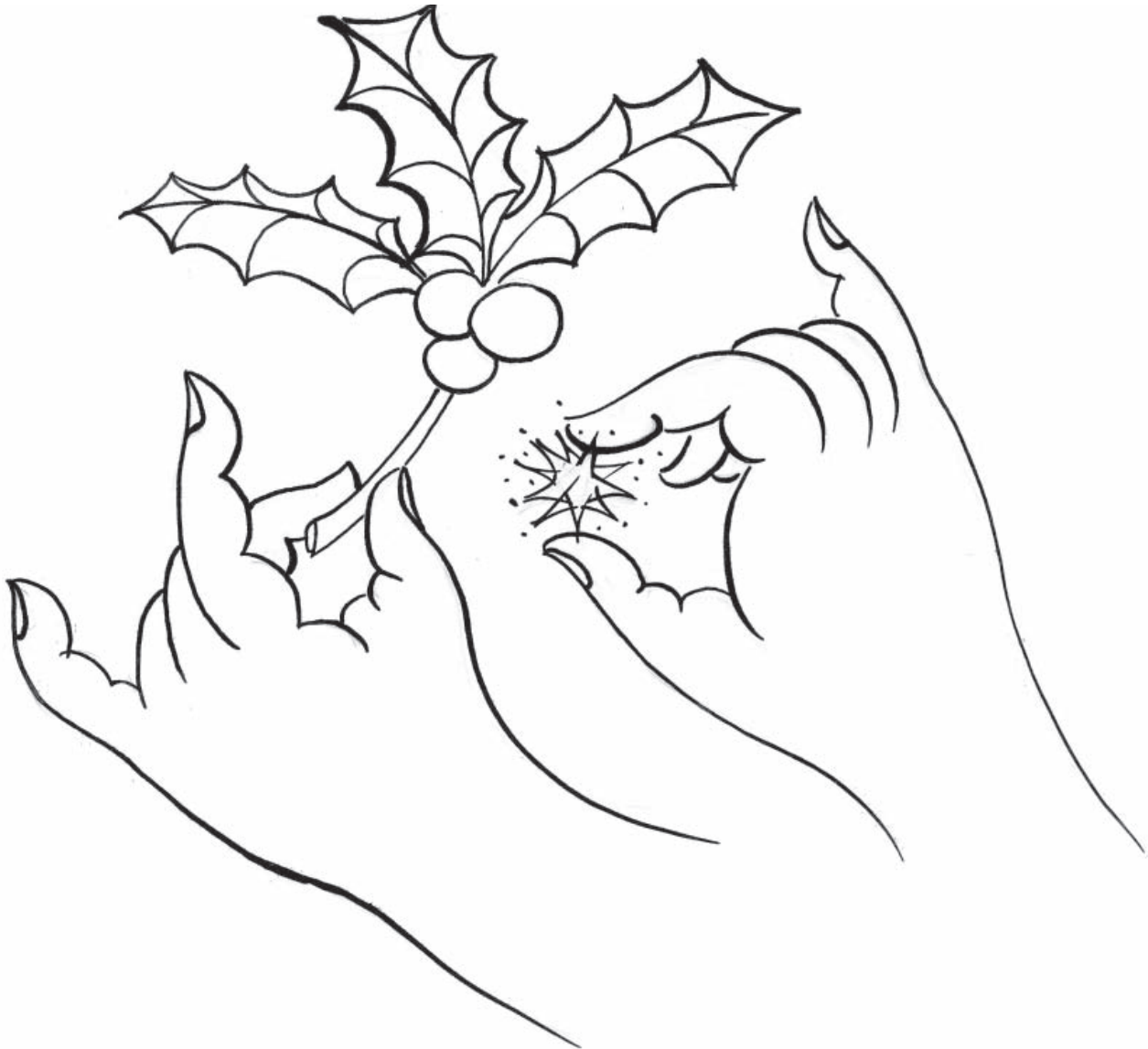


ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT