

Established
1973

LINEWAITERS'

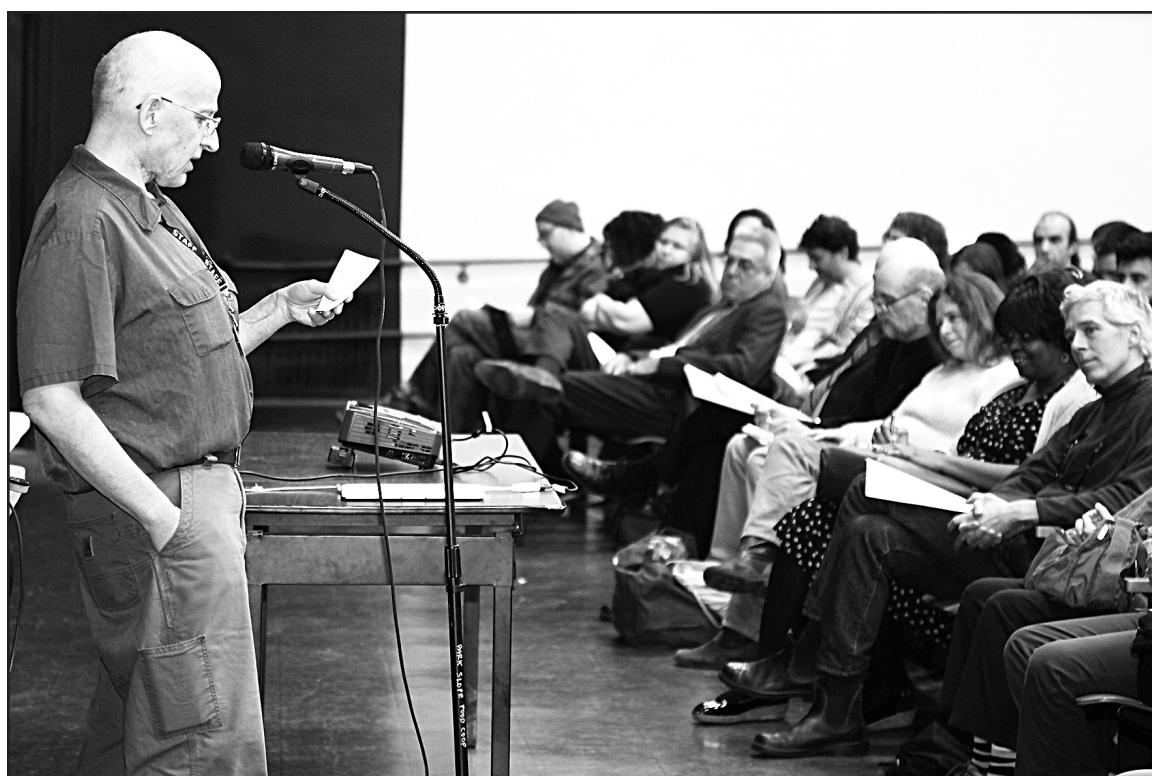
GAZETTE

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Volume JJ, Number 8

April 16, 2015

General Meeting: The Latest on Finances & Zimmerman Says Goodbye



Allen Zimmerman reading his last produce report.

By Taigi Smith

The PSFC held its monthly membership meeting with Allen Zimmerman taking the opportunity to formally pass the baton to a new team of produce buyers, at the March GM. Zimmerman had held the position for about 20 years before finally retiring. But before stepping down for good, Allen took a few moments to disperse a few gems of vegetable buying wisdom. “No GMOs or irradiated produce are allowed,” at the Coop, said Allen.

He also told the member-

ship that during his reign as produce buyer, he chose not to purchase produce from China not because of potential of human rights abuses, but because he didn’t trust the safety of the produce. He also reminded the membership that no matter how hard the PSFC may try to purchase from growers who treat workers fairly, “Farm workers all around the world are exploited. All we can do is try to support the farms that treat their workers fair. Frankly, everything we can afford to eat is being picked

by people who get paid far less than us.”

“Zimmerman is more than just a produce buyer, he’s been a key part of the management team.”

—Joe Holtz

As he turned the reins of produce buying over to new leadership, he reminded everyone in attendance about the importance of eating fresh fruits and veg-

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A History of Shaping the Coop



PHOTO BY LISA COHEN

Receiving Coordinators (left to right): John Horsman, Ross Gibson, Janet Schumacher (General Coordinator, Supervisor of Receiving Coordinators), Peter Wohlsen, Elizabeth Christ, Miriam Eusebio, Rachelle Faroul, Yuri Weber and Kevin O’Sullivan.

By Hayley Gorenberg

She started at the top. General Coordinator Janet Schumacher, retiring this month, remembers sitting at the top of the Coop stairs with a work chart in 1973 “when we were still truly a volunteer organization” and asking—“actually begging”—members to sign up for a work slot. “We soon recognized that it was not effective to rely on volunteer labor, and one of the Coop’s first important decisions was

to institute the work requirement,” said Schumacher.

General Coordinator Joe Holtz credits Schumacher with critical insight, following on the heels of her stairway-top sessions, that kept the Coop alive—and happens to have landed him the job he holds now. Holtz related that in its earliest days, the Coop closed twice for soul-searching and restructuring. First, after opening in February 1973,

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Next General Meeting on April 28

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The April General Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 28, at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

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

Coop Event Highlights

Thu, Apr 23 • NY GMO Labeling Workshop 7:00 p.m.

Sat, Apr 25 • Public Forum on the Trans-Pacific Partnership
2:00-4:00 p.m.Fri, May 1 • Film Night: *Fighter* 7:00 p.m.Thu, May 7 • Food Class:
Feeding Our Deeper Selves 7:30 p.m.

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

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General Meeting

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etables. “It’s better to eat conventional produce than skip produce altogether. The PSFC will try to offer choices,” said Zimmerman. “The most important thing that the buyers do is serve you.” To the new leadership, Allen offered these sage words. “Listen to the members. Members aren’t an interruption of your work. They are your work.”

“Talk to them, write to them, call them.” He also urged the membership to communicate with the produce team, saying, “They are very accessible. Reach out to them. We’re just a bunch of members. You are the pulse.” Allen ended his comments to a rousing standing ovation and a stirring round of applause.

Joe Holtz expressed his thoughts on Zimmerman’s retirement, saying, “We will miss him dearly. He has been so dedicated to the Coop and doing good for the Coop. More than just a produce buyer, he’s been a key part of the management team.”

The meeting included the latest look at the Coop’s finances. Mike Eakin, General Coordinator said, “While our gross margin increased to almost 17 cents on the dollar, the best in the last five years, our expenses increased even more, resulting in a modest loss for the



Monique Bowen, Board of Directors candidate.

first time in eight years.” Eakin added that the Coop’s sales increased the least, rising to \$49.6 million, and Coop sales per member declined slightly to \$3045 per member for the first time in 20 years. He said those numbers probably show that other markets are now selling more and more of the foods that the Coop sells, “It is now available at other markets,” according to Eakin.

He concluded, “We are undertaking actions to reduce our expenses and to increase our sales.”

General Coordinator Jess Robinson talked about changes at checkout. Members will be limited to “4’ish” items at the cashier, while new express line limits will be “one green basket’s worth of product.”

Reports were presented by several committees, includ-

ing an update on a proposed partnership between the PSFC and TerraCycle, a recycling program that collects items not accepted by the New York City recycling program. Greg Todd, the GMO Shelf-Labeling committee chairperson also made a short presentation as did the committee that deals with



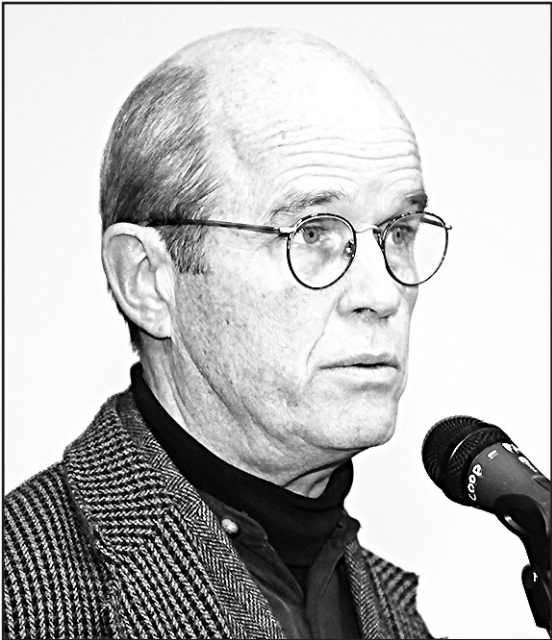
Eunju Lee, Board of Directors candidate.

about the challenges we face as a society. The challenges, said Metz, include a chaotic political economy, contract work instead of jobs for immigrants and women, and people of color being exploited and oppressed. “We are looking for a way to organize ourselves and that’s why the Coop is so import-

tenor and tone of what the membership is saying. Christopher McQuale works in Food Processing and has only been a member of the PSFC for about four months. However, he is running for the Board with years of experience behind him. He has several years of corporate experience, money



Susan Metz, Board of Directors candidate.



Christopher McQuale, Board of Directors candidate.

international trade. There were four agenda items on the March roster. Four candidates running for the Board of Directors spoke to the membership and responded to questions from those in the audience. The vote for the new Board of Directors will take place at the June Annual Meeting. Monique Bowen, who currently serves on the Board of Directors, has held just about every job at the Coop except Receiving. She talked about the inconveniences of shopping at the PSFC, but ended by saying that she finds being a part of the Coop fulfilling. In her crafted speech, Susan Metz, also running for a seat on the Board, talked

ant. We support lower prices with our work-slot labor, said Ms. Metz. Eunju Lee, a current Board member and former Membership Coordinator at the PSFC, has been a member for 20 years. “It’s been a real growth and privilege for me,” said Eunju, who prides herself on listening to the

management skills, people coordinating skills and a great sense of humor. One member, so moved by Ms. Metz self introduction, took to the microphone and asked, “What will you, as Board members do, to make the world a better place and to shake us out of

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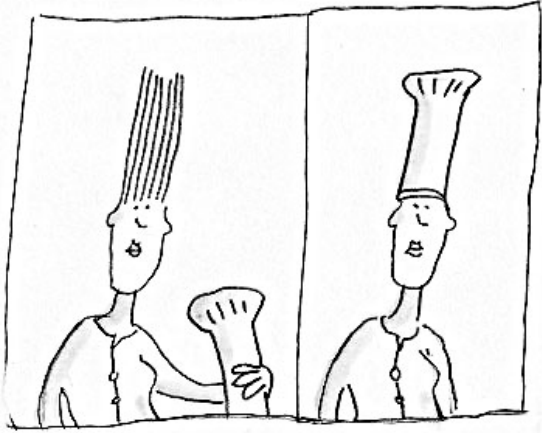


ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

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

Puzzle author: James Vasile. For answers, see page 14.

Schumacher

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Coop made it through the summer and then closed for a month that fall, weakened by fall-off in member labor over vacation months. "We realized, 'We don't know how we could go on, and we really love this place,' said Holtz. "What is the problem? The problem is not nearly everybody is doing the share of the labor they've agreed to do."

"Janet Schumacher always was able to think really big about the Coop."
—Joe Holtz

The work requirement and squad system resulted. "The idea was to create this social glue in the Coop where people would have allegiance not only to the Coop but to the squad, and they would get to know each other and like each other," Holtz explained. Schumacher—who confessed she had missed her first work slot, resulting in a pointed phone call—was part of the core group of people who formulated the ideas.

But even with squads operating, "the communication system wasn't there," Holtz said. The Coop suffered as key information necessary for coordination dropped out of the matrix, week-to-week, as one squad departed and the next arrived. "The squad system, a great system we had invented, required a staff person to make it in the long run. We didn't understand that. But Janet could see it a few months later."

The General Meeting agreed with Schumacher that "the Coop's not gonna make it unless we go from having no employees to one employee," Holtz said. "No one else was saying that. But Janet said it." The result? Hiring Holtz as the Coop's first staff member.

"She always was able to think really big about the Coop," Holtz said. "Janet always had a great analysis of what was wrong, and some ideas of how to change it. She kept wondering about it and worrying about it. That's what an organization needs. It needs as many people as possible to be really concerned about its sustainability."

Schumacher's wide-lens focus on food and sustain-

ability had been polished during work abroad and at home. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Zoology and worked on data collection and medical research at New York University before her decades-long stint at the Coop. She also taught English in the highlands of Ethiopia as a Peace Corps volunteer, where she witnessed extreme poverty and limited food sources in the countryside, fueling her concerns about food security.

"I had always been interested in food," Schumacher said. She found food "very practical, hands-on" during the early '70s, when she found herself in some environments focused on things far more theoretical. At the Coop, she said, "people were really doing something, providing cheap food for people, rather than just talking about doing something."

She met with a Coop committee on Sundays and dove into work. "I ordered food and did inventory and was involved in general running of the Coop. Somebody was a bookkeeper, and somebody was taking our garbage to the dump, and someone organized."

By 1989 Schumacher had completed a Master's Degree in Science and Environmental Journalism and was working at a medical publishing job she didn't like. That year the Coop hired her as a General Coordinator. She handled general ordering, aside from produce. That was the purview of her colleague Allen Zimmerman, also retiring this month. There are details about his service in the General Meeting article in this issue.

While she certainly participated in large, important decisions, Schumacher stressed that "the reason the Coop's been really successful is sometimes not big things, but the daily nitty-gritty. We always had a handle on the invoices, paid bills on time, always had excellent accounting."

Tracking inventory was vital. "We've always had a trim but knowledgeable product selection," she said. "Inventory is really important. It's a little boring but really important. Some new Coop startups immediately folded, because they purchased the wrong thing, it could be perishable, and they lost all their money. We've always had



PHOTO BY USA COHEN

Janet Schumacher helped shape the Coop to become the functioning organization it is today.

super-fresh food and fast turnover. You can't tie your money up in something you can't sell."

Managing inventory involves anticipating member desires, and that foresight involves knowing not only that members consistently and overwhelming favor organics, but also that new diets routinely sweep the popular imagination. Fat-free, gluten-free, paleo or raw, "whether they're good trends or not is somewhat debatable, but people get very excited about them," said Schumacher, who then orders to suit. "We try to balance those type of things with just regular food," she concluded.

"I'm hoping to clear my brain of little Coop facts that I don't need to know, like what aisle is the Sriracha in?"
—Janet Schumacher

Big-picture, Schumacher would challenge Coop members to think criti-

cally about their consumption. She noted members are interested in purchasing locally sourced food, but opined, "it sometimes seems kinda silly how people call themselves 'local,'" noting that the Coop stocks "local" chocolate manufactured nearby, "but we don't have any cacao trees in Brooklyn."

Schumacher credits fair trade as something "I personally feel is very important," and offered a critique about the "new trend of non-GMO" foods. "At first I was surprised that some of the big corporations really jumped on that bandwagon," she said. She then noticed that the "non-GMO" tag in some cases seemed to supplant other adjectives, like "organic" or "fair trade."

On another front, the Coop was working to stock crackers and cookies without trans-fats, which in many cases entailed a recipe switch to palm or coconut oil. Schumacher, having read and traveled extensively, started to note reports of native forests mowed down to plant

palm and coconut trees. "It's very hard not to look at food as being global," she concluded. "Our Coop members are well meaning but they really want organic strawberries 365 days per year. People think they're being very ecological, but when you think about it, it's really not very ecological. You have to consider factors like shipping. Ships have some of the worst working conditions for employees."

Schumacher, who grew up on a dairy farm in southern Wisconsin, urged, "People should look at the whole big picture, the big issues we're going to be facing with global warming, water shortages. How much can we really rely on California?"

"I personally have some mixed feelings about GMO and non-GMO," she said. For example, "there may be some need, to have drought resistance. I think people should consider the big picture and not necessarily focus on 'Let's get rid of this fat that is bad for you and go to this one that is good for you personally but not good for the people in the country where you get the coconut or palm oil from.'"

Schumacher plans to keep learning in retirement, contemplating Internet courses on food security that she will be able to take with "a fresh start in the morning," noting, "It's fun, and it's free, and it's good for people to know."

She hopes to travel more, and as an avid birder, has already scheduled a trip to Bolivia in September. "My main goal is to be outside more often and get some more vitamin D," she said. "I know I'll keep busy. I have lots of interests, and I'm hoping to clear my brain of little Coop facts that I don't need to know, like what aisle is the Sriracha in?" ■



Are you a lighting designer?

Do you know a lighting designer?

Do you know someone who knows a lighting designer?

Do you know someone who knows someone who knows a lighting designer?

The Coop is looking for a member who is a lighting designer or an architect with lighting experience to work with the Energy Efficiency Committee to help improve the quality and energy efficiency of the lighting in the Coop.

If interested, or if you know someone who's interested, please contact the committee by going to the Contact Us page on foodcoop.com — <http://www.foodcoop.com/?page=contact> — and select "Workslot Needs" from the "Person to Contact" dropdown menu.

FTOP work credit will be given.

NON-GMO SHELF-LABELING COMMITTEE REPORT

It's Time to Pass a GMO Labeling Law!

By Greg Todd,
Non-GMO Shelf-Labeling
Committee and Stacie Orell,
Campaign Director, GMO Free
NY

GMO Free NY is a grassroots group allied with Food & Water Watch, Consumers Union, NRDC, NOFA-NY, Sierra Club and NYPIRG in the NY GMO Labeling Coalition.

Our mission is to empower New Yorkers to pressure the NY Legislature to pass Assembly bill A.617 / Senate bill S.485, which requires the label-

ing of genetically engineered (GMO) foods offered for retail sale. The bill has already moved in the Assembly—it was successfully voted out of the Consumer Affairs and Protection committee in March and is now awaiting a vote in the Codes committee, much to the chagrin of the throngs of lobbyists deployed to Albany by the agrichemical and junk food companies and the NY Farm Bureau who are trying to kill the bill.

But despite industry's desire to keep us in the

dark, the time has come for transparency about GMOs in our food. Why? Because there is a rising tide of consumers demanding to know how their food is produced so they can make informed decisions when choosing what to feed their families. Because despite industry claims, there is no scientific consensus that GMOs are safe for us to eat—in fact hundreds of scientists publicly signed a letter to the contrary. Because the FDA does not mandate independently conducted safety testing of GMOs and has no pre-market or post-market oversight of them. Because the American public wants to stop being unwitting guinea pigs for the biotech industry—we've been eating them since 1996 without our knowledge! Because Congress and the FDA are

still turning a deaf ear to the 90% of Americans who want GMOs labeled—in fact there's a bill in Congress that if passed will prevent mandatory labeling at the federal level, block labeling laws at the state level, and allow continued use of the word "natural" on GMO food labels.

Need more reasons? Okay! Because three weeks ago the World Health Organization classified glyphosate (Roundup)—the weed killer doused on GMO crops—as a probable human carcinogen! Because 64 countries already have GMO labeling laws. Consumers aren't confused by these labels, food prices haven't risen, and the sky hasn't fallen. And the same companies that are fighting tooth and nail to prevent labeling here are already complying with the laws in these countries. Because

the FDA recently approved non-browning, non-bruising GMO apples (Arctic Apples) and non-bruising GMO potatoes. And because the USDA and EPA have approved the use of glyphosate in combination with older, more-toxic pesticides such as 2,4-D (an active ingredient in Agent Orange) and dicamba in an effort to combat "superweeds" that have become resistant to glyphosate alone.

There are even more arguments in favor of labeling, but we're out of space!

To find out what you can do to help make GMO labeling the law in NY, come to the discussion we're holding at the Food Coop on Thursday, April 23 at 7 p.m. in the 2nd floor meeting room. If you can't make it, visit www.gmofreeny.net or contact stacie@gmofreeny.net. Thank you! ■



WIN A BRAND NEW BIKE!

Purchase a \$5 raffle ticket in the Membership Office for a chance to win one of the bikes hanging above the express checkouts. Proceeds will be used to support start-up Coops using our member-labor model through the Fund for New Food Coops.

Raffle winners will be announced at the April 28 General Meeting.

GOOD LUCK!

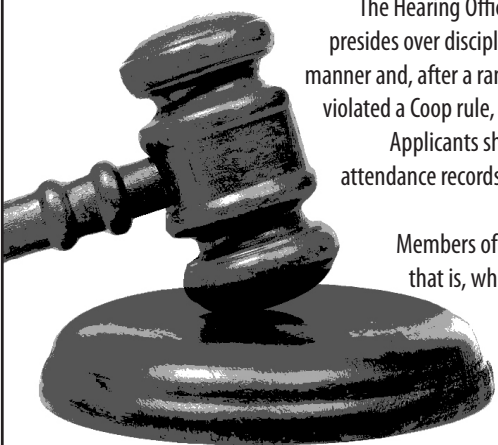
HEARING OFFICER COMMITTEE SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The Hearing Officer Committee is seeking two new members. The committee conducts and presides over disciplinary hearings, ensures that hearings proceed in an efficient and unbiased manner and, after a randomly selected Deciding Group has decided whether an accused member violated a Coop rule, determines what disciplinary action should be taken against the member.

Applicants should be Coop members in good standing for at least two years, have good attendance records and preferably have judicial, arbitration, mediation or legal backgrounds.

Members of the committee meet and earn workslot credit on an as-needed basis only, that is, when hearings are required. Therefore these members must maintain regular Coop workslots in good standing or be FTOP members in good standing.

The nature of the committee's work requires that all members maintain strict confidentiality with respect to all matters on which they work.



The committee seeks an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop membership at large. Those interested, please telephone **Marian Hertz** of the **Hearing Officer Committee** @ 212-440-2743 or e-mail at Marian.Hertz@cna.com.

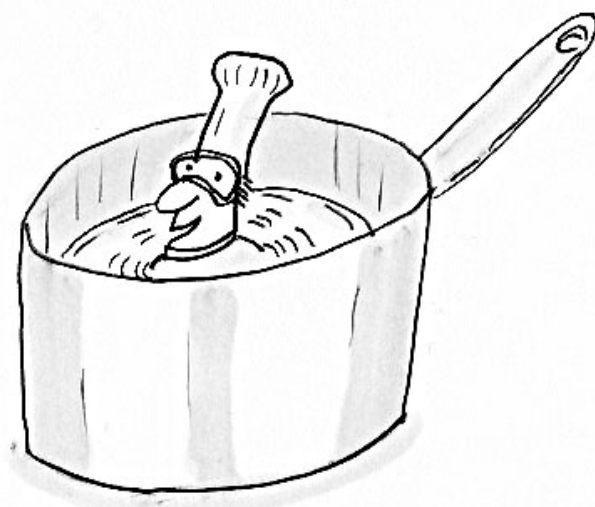


ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

ATTENTION SPRING GARDENERS!

Are you dividing your plants?
Do you have extra flower seeds?
The Tree Care Squad would love donations of your extra plants or seeds for the gardens we'll be planting in the tree pits on Union St.

Plants can be dropped off at the home of the TC Squad leader, on President St., between Fifth and Sixth Aves. Or, if you have too much to carry, we can pick them up from your house.

Please e-mail treepep@gmail.com if you would like to make a donation.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE EDUCATION SQUAD

Investor-State Dispute Settlement to be Discussed at the Public International Forum on April 25 at the Coop

By Bart DeCoursy,
International Trade
Education Squad

"Fast Track" would grant the President authority to push the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) quickly through both houses of Congress. Fast Track bypasses traditional legislative protocol to amend and debate in favor of one yes or no vote on the whole complicated treaty. Should Congress allow the President to bypass Congress, it will be more difficult to stop the TPP. That would leave the United States and eleven Pacific-rim nations in a vulnerable position against multi-national corporations. One aspect is particularly alarming and dangerous. At a Coop public forum on April 25 we will discuss the Investor-State Dispute Settlement mechanism included in a number of "free trade agreements." There is considerable resistance to Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS).

U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI) and 12 House Democrats introduced H.R. 967: Protecting America's Sovereignty Act, legislation to prohibit Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provisions in foreign trade agreements.

The bill states: *This legislation will prevent the inclusion of investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) provisions in any trade agreement between the U.S. and a foreign country. ISDS rules give foreign corporations a special right to sue a government when a law they deem could affect*

their business, such as protecting the environment or public health, hurts a firm's current or expected profits. Under ISDS rules, corporations may seek compensation from a secretive tribunal of corporate international trade lawyers which put investor protections and corporate profits ahead of consumer rights and job protections and outside the U.S. court system.

NAFTA included ISDS with dire consequences for Canadian and Mexican taxpayers.

According to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, Canada has already paid over \$170 million dollars in damages resulting from NAFTA investor-state dispute settlements (not including the tens of millions of dollars of legal costs to defend itself). "Sixty-three percent of claims against Canada involve challenges to environmental protection or resource management measures," according to trade officials.

Mexico has shelled out \$204 million. Interestingly, the U.S. has never lost an investor-state dispute. There is evidence to suggest that the number of cases brought forward and won by investors over states is encouraging more corporations to follow suit. In the first ten years of NAFTA (1995-2005) there were 12 cases brought forward; in the last ten there have been 23. There are currently nine active ISDS claims against the Canadian government, with billions of dollars hanging in the balance.

Note the case of Lone

Pine Resources Inc. versus the Government of Quebec. After passing legislation in 2011 to place a moratorium on "fracking" underneath the St. Lawrence River until sufficient scientific study could be done to determine health risks, Lone Pine decided to sue for the loss of expected earnings from fracked gas. The Calgary based firm opened a branch in the U.S. and used the Chapter 11 provision in NAFTA to sue its own country for \$250 million dollars. This case is still pending.

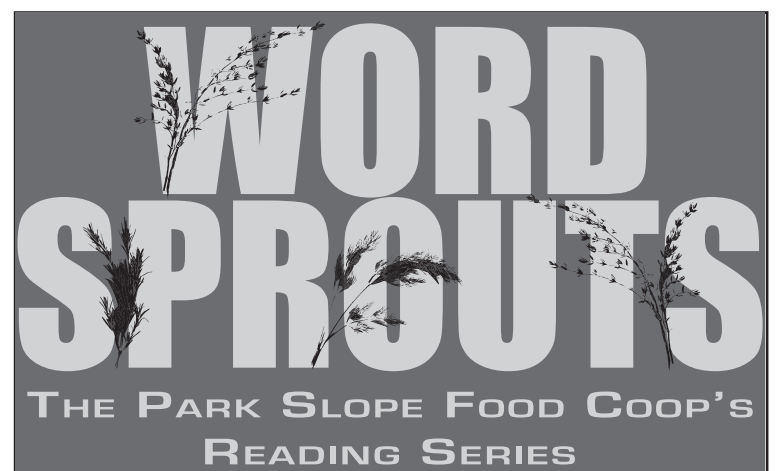
Another case demonstrates how corporations can bend the law to their advantage and manipulate the ISDS system in another "free trade agreement." In 2011, Phillip Morris International sued the Australian Government for passing a law that replaces the company logo on packs of cigarettes with pictures of the physical effects of cigarette smoking. There was no ISDS mechanism in the U.S.-Australian Free Trade Agreement. It had been voted out of the agreement due to a strong public opposition. Phillip Morris opened offices in Hong Kong and created Phillip Morris Asia that had ISDS in the 1993 "free trade Agreement" between Australia and Hong Kong. Phillip Morris was able to then bring the case against Australia that the new legislation, designed to protect public health, would adversely

affect the company's future profits. This case is also still pending.

The Coop joined hundreds of labor, faith, advocacy and community organizations in opposing the President's push to bring the entire 29 chapters (only a handful of which govern traditional trade issues such as tariffs) to one Yes or No vote, depriving

ing Congress, the press and the public from studying and debated the provisions. NO on Fast Track is the campaign. Write cards, call and email all elected officials with this message. Corporate lobbyists are swarming. They have the money. We have the votes.

The Saturday, April 25 Forum will be held at 2 p.m. at the Coop. It is open to non-members. Bring family, neighbors, colleagues and friends to discuss how we can respond. ■



**Are you a writer?
Do you want FTOP credit?**

**Wordsprouts, the Food Coop's
reading series, is looking for you,
for its monthly events in the
second-floor meeting room.**

**Please contact the organizers at
wordsproutspsf@gmail.com.**



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

WEEKEND BIKE VALET PARKING

**Saturdays (April 4 to Nov 21) 1 to 5 pm
Sundays (April 5 to Nov 22) 3:30 to 7:30 pm**

**Leave your bike, stroller, scooter,
or cart while you work or shop.
No locks, no worries, no theft!**

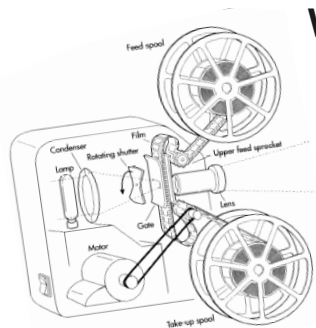
**Operates rain or shine.
Look for us by the yellow wall
under the green tent.**

Brought to you by the Shop & Cycle Committee



**PSFC
Shop & Cycle
Committee**

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.**

DO YOU LOVE BIKES? DO YOU LIKE WORKING OUTSIDE? INTERESTED IN A SATURDAY OR SUNDAY WORKSLOT?



Join a Bike Valet squad!
It's like coat-check for bikes
for working and shopping
members.

**We need to fill Bike Valet
shifts ASAP.**

**Contact the Membership
Office for details and to
sign-up.**

THE GAZETTE INDEXES

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

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

- An alphabetized list of the titles of all articles published in the Gazette from 1995 to the present, with issue dates.
- An alphabetized list of all subjects (including people's names) discussed in Gazette articles from 1995 to the present, with article titles, issue dates, and page numbers (titles and subjects for earlier years are being added).

Many of the Gazette issues referenced in these indexes are available as PDFs on the Coop's website. (Copies of these and additional issues are also available at Brooklyn's Central Library, located at Flatbush Ave. and Eastern Pkwy. on Grand Army Plaza.)

Coop Job Opening: Receiving/Stocking Coordinator

Description:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wages: \$26.24/hour.

Benefits:

- Paid Holidays: July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day
- Paid Health and Personal Time: 11 days per year
- Paid Vacation: three weeks per year increasing in the 4th, 8th & 11th years
- Health Insurance
- Dental and Vision Plan
- Pension Plan
- Life Insurance
- 401(k) Plan
- TransitChek Program
- Flexible Spending Account

Prerequisite:

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

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

How to Apply:

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

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

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!



General Meeting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

our selfish stupor?"

McQuale answered, "I might start by cleaning up the Gowanus Canal. Sustainability begins at home. I'm really into composting and all of that other good stuff."

"Changes at checkout: members will be limited to '4'ish' items at the cashier, while new express line limits will be 'one green basket's worth of product.'"

—Jess Robinson

There was an election for the Disciplinary Committee which resulted in Curtis March, Steve Schwerner and Cara Tuzzolino being reelected to the committee. All were voted in by an overwhelming show of hands by members present. "Most often, the issues that come up are issues that can be resolved with a conversation," said Curtis of the Disciplinary Committee. He



A full house at the General Meeting.

reminded the attendees that "Not everybody works Cooperatively with each other and it's our job to stand up and protect the Coop and you." Karen Kramer, who is currently on the Disciplinary Committee, said, "Part of my

job is to get people out of the Coop when they deserve to be out....when their behavior is so outrageous that it's things that even we think is outrageous... whether people steal goods or time."

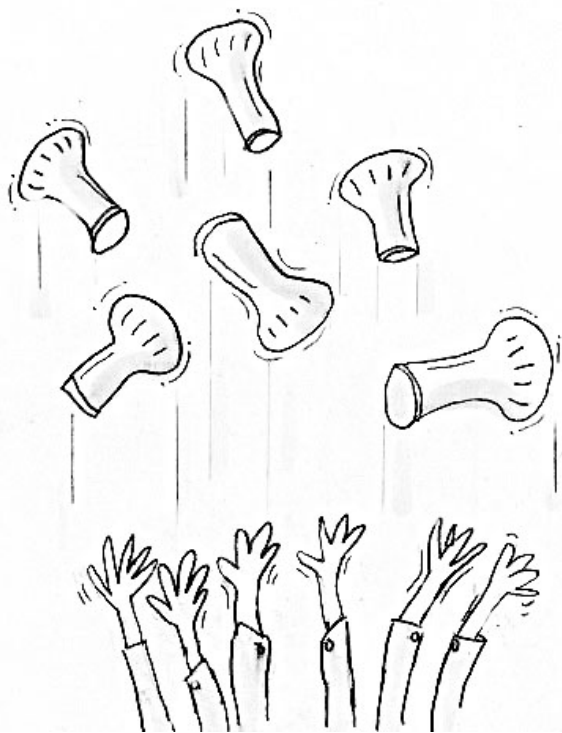
There was an amendment made to the Coop bylaws that passed with an overwhelming majority. The issue was that the bylaws were written using difference language than the certificate of incorporation. The goal

was to make sure they say the same thing. Back in the '70s, the PSFC was formed as a general Coop. However, the PSFC later approved bylaws that made us a membership Coop. It was later learned that remaining a membership Coop would mean the PSFC would need to bring in outside directors, making us subject to required procedures and policies we have not voted on. We must legally become a general non-stock Cooperative corporation, according to Coop staff.

"All we have to remove from our bylaws is the notion that we're a membership Coop and we go back to being a general Coop," said Joe Holtz. The vote was placed before the membership and passed by a large majority.

The final presenter gave a succinct, yet passionate case for the PSFC becoming part of the movement to oppose the Port Ambrose offshore, liquified natural gas project off the Long Island coast. A petition to join the movement was passed around and many members in the audience signed it. ■

PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN



ILLUSTRATIONS BY ROD MORRISON

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the Food Coop on

twitter & Instagram

& Pinterest @foodcoop

**PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SHOP
AT GREENE HILL FOOD CO-OP.**

GREENE HILL FOOD CO-OP IS OPENING ITS DOORS TO PSFC MEMBERS.

JUST SHOW YOUR PSFC MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THE DOOR.

park slope
FOOD COOP

& **GREENE
HILL** FOOD CO-OP

**18 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn (bet. Grand Ave. & Downing St.)
greenehillfood.coop**

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, May 15, 8:00 p.m.

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



SAMBA!! Groove to the music of women rockin' the house with the pulsing sounds of Carnaval! Members of Paprika and Batala join forces to celebrate the lilting melodies of Bossa Nova, the heart-thumping rhythms of Samba and the dare-you-to-stay-seated sway of Samba Reggae. The space will be set up for dancing and grooving, to have everyone moving to the national rhythms of Brazil. Beckoned back for the third year in a row, your power-bateria for the evening is: **Robin Burdulis, Terry Dame, Viva DeConcini, Dawn Drake, Simone Matthews, Deinya Phenix, Anne Pope, Vanessa Roe and Michelle Williams.**

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



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

REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

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

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

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

NEVER
RETURNABLE

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

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

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

RETURNABLE

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

This Issue Prepared By:

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WELCOME!

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

Ruchi Amin	Charles Debold	Ryan Hackett	Amanda Kemeny	Nica Mayer	Kristie Nelson	Irina Savinetskaya	Jose Torres
Gawanya Baity	Suzanne Debold	George Haeringer	Meredith Klein	Eneceo Mayers	Scott Ogden	Laura Schatz	Ryo Toyama
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Yury Bekerman	Julie Ebenstein	Micol Hernandez	Dimitry Kovalski	Karen McDuffy	Nora Painten	Megan Shank	Emilia Valencia
Darcy Bullock	Adam Feeney	Rodriguez	Eugene Kurochlein	Ashley McKay	Carrette Perkins	Alejandro Silva	John Volpe
Michelle Capor	Kris Feliz	Aimée Hirst	Alexandra Legrady	Claire Menelas	Grant Peters	Giuseppe Sorrentino	Juliette Wallack
Claudia Carrera	Anna Flinchbaugh	Gregory Hodgson	Laura Leone	Julie Metral	Mariko Pieterse	Anna-kay Spence	Sanura Weathers
Tori Cha	Kathleen Fontano	Tonian Irving	Siobhan Lettow	David Metz	Benjamin Popper	Elizabeth Stephens	Bakari Williams
Jasper Chan	Tomas Fontano	Marilyn Jackson	Katie Lewis	Marianne Mikhaylova	Tatsiana Prakurat	Berena Sullivan	Danielle Williams
Rita Chase	Kosuke Furukawa	Douglas James	Jerry Lieberman	Mariusz Mikulec	Mario Prohasky	Grace Sullivan	Elizabeth Williams
Patricia Cole	Yuko Furukawa	Mahiro Jean-Gilles	Molly Malloy	Catherine Miller	Richard Range	Peter Szollosi	Robyn Yaker
Chris D'Apice	Caitlin Gillies	Ronald Jean-Gilles	Elan Margulies	Erica Miller	Mariana Rittenhouse	Lisa Tannenbaum	Christina Yan
Terri-Jo Daley	Rachel Glick	Jason Jeunnette	Cathline Marshall	Patrick Miller	Casson Rosenblatt	Megan Taros	Michael Yarmark
Kevin Dann	Charles Glover	Elliott Kaufman	Akiko Matsumoto	Celine Mizrahi	Russ Ross	Kira Topik	
Joel Dasch	Nathan Green	Jeelu Kaufman	Jaclyn Mayer	Allia Mohamed	Carleddy Sanon	Grace Torres	

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

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

General Meeting Info

TUE, APRIL 28
GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, MAY 5
AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.
Submissions will be considered for the May 26 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:
Apr. 30 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, April 20
May 14 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, May 4

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:
Apr. 30 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, April 22
May 14 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, May 6

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 28, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

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

How to Place an Item on the Agenda

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

Meeting Format

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

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

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

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

• Advance Sign-up required:

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

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

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

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

• Squads eligible for credit:

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

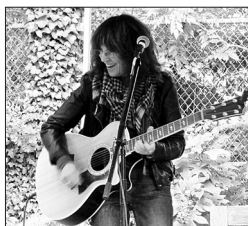
The Park Slope Food Coop is a member-owned and operated food store—an alternative to commercial profit-oriented business. As members, we contribute our labor: working together builds trust through cooperation and teamwork and enables us to keep prices as low as possible within the context of our values 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

apr 17
fri 8 pmAndrew Rose Gregory,
Bev Grant

Andrew Rose Gregory grew up in the mountains of Virginia, spending most of his time walking to the library and racing sticks down creeks. He



has since settled in Brooklyn. Although he has played hundreds of shows across America as a songwriter and solo artist, he is best known as one of the creators of the viral YouTube sensations "Auto-Tune the News" and "Songify This!" along with the rest of The Gregory Brothers. **Bev Grant** grew up in Portland, Oregon, singing with her sisters in a trio. She has since settled in Brooklyn where she founded the popular political rock band Bev Grant & the Human Condition, founded and directs the Brooklyn Women's Chorus, tours with her show about women's labor history called "We Were There!" and performs with the duo Wool & Grant. Bev will be joined by Brooklyn musicians Brien Brannigan, guitar; Carolann Solebello, electric bass; and Todd Isler, percussion.

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.

apr 19
sun 12 pm

It's Your Funeral

Planning for your own death now (as opposed to later) is a practice that can enable you to live in the moment, face your own mortality with courage—and create an end-of-life service that reflects your values. Join Coop member **Amy Cunningham**, former journalist and graduate of the American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service, in a conversation about fascinating advancements within the funeral business. The talk will cover how to plan a low-cost, back-to-basics funeral or memorial service, as well as offer information on green cemeteries near New York City, cremation pros and cons, biodegradable caskets and urns, blended-faith/alternative ceremonies, and more. You'll get a glimmer of what funerals of the future might look like—and leave with planning literature for yourself or for someone you love.

apr 23
thu 7 pm

NY GMO Labeling Workshop

Want to know what's in your food? Join Alex Beauchamp of Food & Water Watch and Stacie Orell of GMO Free NY for a discussion of the campaign to label genetically engineered (GMO) foods in New York. We're building a movement that's taking on Monsanto and other corporate giants to allow consumers the opportunity to make informed choices about what they eat. Working together, we can make GMO labeling the law. Find out what you can do to help. Presented by the Food Coop's **GMO Shelf Labeling Committee**. Since the year 2000, this committee has been working as mandated by the General Meeting to educate and inform our membership about GMOs.

apr 25
sat 11 am

Fertility Prep

Identify the right foods and supplements to conceive a healthy baby. Coop member **Rebecca Curtis**, M.A., M.F.A., HHC, AADP, certified holistic nutritionist and the founder of Green Gem Holistic Health, will

show you how to: resolve "mystery infertility"; eliminate toxins that impair fertility; cook meals that help you get pregnant; identify the foods and supplements that improve prenatal health; clear blocked tubes; normalize your cycle and improve egg quality; dissolve fibroids and cysts; prevent miscarriage; and boost men's sperm count and quality. Pre-registration suggested: to register call (646) 483-4571 or e-mail GreenGemHealth@gmail.com.

apr 25
sat 2–4 pmPublic Forum on the
Trans-Pacific Partnership

Investor-State Dispute Resolution (ISDR) in "free trade agreements" including NAFTA and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), allows a corporation to sue a government in a private tribunal which may impose a cash penalty if any regulation limits potential corporate profit making. Under NAFTA, according to a recently published study by Canadian Council for Policy Alternatives, "Sixty-three percent of claims against Canada involve challenges to environmental protection or resource management measures." Information, discussion and action plan offered at the next Public Forum organized by the International Trade Education Squad.

apr 26
sun 12 pm

College Admissions 101

Get your children into their first-choice college. Are you or your child stressed about applying to college? Want to know what goes into writing a winning college essay? If you've been wondering what you can do now to make things easier when application time comes, come to this free workshop. Time for Q&A afterward, and additional resources will be provided. **Steve Schwartz** is a professional college admission counselor in Park Slope with more than a decade of experience. He also writes the popular *Get Into College* blog and is a Coop member.

apr 28
tue 7 pm

PSFC APR General Meeting



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

between 7 and 7:15 p.m.

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

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

I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up

II. Open Forum

III. Coordinator and Committee Reports

IV. Meeting Agenda

Item 1: Presentation of a Candidate to Hire as a General Coordinator (25 minutes)

Proposal: The Personnel Committee will present to the General Meeting a candidate to be hired for the position of General Coordinator: Purchasing/Receiving Supervisor. This candidate will be taking on many of the responsibilities of two long-time General Coordinators who will be retired by the end of April.

—submitted by the Personnel Committee

Item 2: Boycott of SodaStream Products (45 minutes)

Discussion: We propose that the Coop boycott SodaStream products, which are manufactured in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

—submitted by Thomas Cox and Heather Tenzer

V. Board of Directors Meeting

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

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

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

All events take place at the Park Slope Food Coop unless otherwise noted. Nonmembers are welcome to attend workshops.

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.

apr 17–jun 5 2015

may 1
fri 7 pm

Film Night: Fighter



Filmmaker **Amir Bar-Lev** follows two Czech Holocaust survivors, Jan Weiner and Arnost Lustig, as they revisit Terezin, a labor camp where Arnost was interned for five years and Jan's mother was murdered. As the two men journey into the past, their dual memories become a thorny, unresolved dialogue between an angry man of action and a warmly cynical sage arguing about the very meaning of history. Peter Travers of *Rolling Stone* called *Fighter*: "One of the great documentaries of this year, or any other." David Denby of *The New Yorker* labeled the film "brilliant." Bar-Lev's directorial credits include *Fighter* (2001), *My Kid Could Paint That* (2007), and *The Tillman Story* (2010), for which he won an Emmy. He also directed the music documentaries *Re:Generation* (2011) and *12.12.12* (2013). He co-produced the documentary *Trouble The Water*, 2008 Sundance Grand Jury Prize Winner and 2009 Academy Award Nominee. He is currently directing a documentary on The Grateful Dead.

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

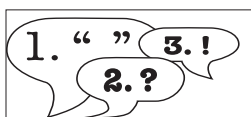
may 3
sun 12 pm

Is Cohousing For You?

Explore the newest options. Cohousing communities are designed to foster human interaction. People own their own homes but also share common spaces. Share your favorite activities with your neighbors, and a few meals per week (voluntary). Participate in the management of the community. Homes are designed with values of sustainability and energy-efficiency in mind. Child-friendly and desirable school district. Pedestrian-friendly. Many communities receive Affordable Housing grants. There are more than 100 built and occupied cohousing communities in the United States, including four in New York State, 12 in Massachusetts, and a new one slated to open near New Haven, Connecticut, next year. View slides and talk with **Erika Banks**, Coop member, who has lived in and helped create Cohousing in Michigan and is currently involved in establishing the first Cohousing community in Connecticut, and **Elvira Ferrario**, Coop member, and member of a community being built on a 32-acre site with a working farm, two hours from NY.

may 5
tue 8 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting

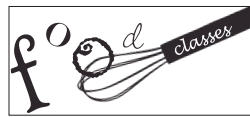


The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for future General Meetings. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com.

The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

may 7
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: Feeding Our Deeper Selves



True nutrition brings out the best in us, both physically and emotionally. Learn how you can balance and activate your chakras—your emotional body's energy centers—through cooking. Chef **Ann Nunziata** will guide you through how different foods affect our emotions while demonstrating how to prepare a balanced, delicious vegan meal. Ann is a graduate of the Chef's Training Program at the Natural Gourmet Institute. With a background in nutritional sciences, she has gone on to cook in award-winning, plant-based kitchens, including Millennium Restaurant, the Omega Institute and Ravens Restaurant, where she became known for her tempting vegan Tea Time desserts. Currently, Ann is working with Family Cook Productions, Wellness in the Schools, and the Natural Gourmet Institute, sharing natural foods culinary education with the community. Her favorite spice is nutmeg and she keeps her Instagram account well-fed at @AnnNunz. Menu includes: green goddess kale salad with green apple and pistachios; mushroom and quinoa pilaf with roasted red pepper puree; raw spiced cacao truffles.

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 April 23.

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

may 8
fri 7 pm

Wordsprouts



Readers to be announced.

Bookings: **John Donohue**, wordsproutspfc@gmail.com.

may 10
sun 12 pm

A Focus On Breath

For vitality, health, functional movements, fitness, survival and self defense. What is proper breathing and how does it affect our life? Picture those times when you sign a check, are about to move something heavy or feel threatened. How often do we forget to breathe? Breathing affects our entire physiology, emotions and senses. This class will teach the breathing technique of Systema, the training of Russian special forces, designed to accompany and improve daily life and be immediately available in times of stress. We will cover some exercises and key principles designed to teach the physiology of breathing, its relationship with the nervous system, blood pH and pressure, digestion and muscle tone. A member of the Food Coop since 2011, **Benjamin Liu** is a Russian martial artist, yoga instructor, fitness and movement coach. He currently teaches at a primary school with an emphasis on movement-based education.

may 12
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night



Film to be announced.

still to come

may 15 Passive House

may 15 Prospect Concerts: SAMBA

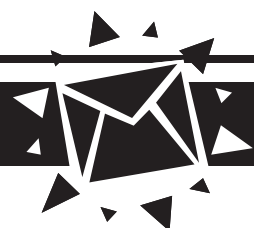
may 17 Women & Finance

may 26 PSFC MAY General Meeting

jun 4 Food Class: Food Pharmacy, Tsubo Massage

jun 5 Film Night

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



PSFC BICYCLE RACKS: LOVE THEM OR LOSE THEM!

DEAR MEMBERS,

On Saturday 3/28/2015, I was shocked to see a sign on the second broken bicycle rack which stated: "No Parking: 3/30/2015 NO BIKE PARKING THIS BIKE RACK IS SCHEDULED TO BE REMOVED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. No Parking 3/30/2015 Department of Transportation is not responsible for any Bikes left on this "CityRacks"."

I contacted City Council Member Brad Lander's office about this on the morning of Monday 3/30/2015, and when I went back to the PSFC later that night to shop, fortunately, the bicycle rack was still there and repaired!

If you Google "psfc shop and cycle" the top result is a Facebook page for the PSFC Shop & Cycle Committee, whose entry from 3/19/2013 shows a picture of the same bicycle rack completely flattened and destroyed laying on the pavement with a bicycle.

According to them, this is at least the third time this particular bicycle rack has been damaged in recent years, and they are recommending that DOT remove the bicycle rack, not to fix it!

Brad Lander's office is of the belief that the PSFC needs more bicycle racks not less.

My idea, which the DOT agrees with, but claims they do not have the funding for, is to either move the bicycle racks off the curb slightly, and put yellow bollards in front of them, like those four protecting the fire hydrant, and/or put more bicycle racks up against the bicycle mural.

You can contact Brad Lander's office at lander@council.nyc.gov and the DOT at cityrack@dot.nyc.gov to help petition for a better bicycle-parking situation than the one that currently exists as of this writing, Part 5, on 4/5/2015 at the PSFC.

Stephen Arthur

BOARD ELECTION & BDS I

DEAR MEMBERSHIP,

One of our candidates for the Board of Directors was asked a direct question at our last General Meeting. "You are very outspoken in print and in your campaign statement as a boycotter of Israel. Will you use your position and identify yourself as a board member to promote BDS and boycott Israel? A simple yes or no answer will do."

Her answer was quite direct: "No!"

I am confused, and that's not a good sign for any candidate already. When a candidate's statement reads: "I believe that we can use our power as consumers in organized boycotts when we decide together to use that

economic strength to influence policy," (*Linewaiters' Gazette* 3.19.2015) I believe her to mean exactly that. Her "No!" is a contradictory answer at best, a misleading and tactical one at worst.

Most importantly, the Board of Directors is just an affirmation of the wishes of membership, not a platform for divisive agendas that work against our cooperative enterprise's principles of broad political inclusion. Nor is it a platform for ideology that could divide the Board itself and throw sand on the gears of our highly successful organization.

I reject boycotting of Israel because it's bigoted and one-sided. And though this candidate's resounding "NO!" is a welcome breath of fresh air among her earlier calls for a boycott of Israel, I don't trust it one little bit.

Martin A. Ettlinger

BOARD ELECTION & BDS II

DEAR MEMBERSHIP,

Last week, a candidate for the Board of Directors was asked at our General Meeting, "You say in your statement that the Coop can use its consumer power to organize boycotts. Other than Israel, what else are thinking of boycotting, since you are a supporter of BDS?" Her answer was, "I can't say at this time."

This answer is both evasive and conclusive at the same time. Evasive because

she claims in her campaign statement that she is for consumer boycotts and could have mentioned some others right there and then. Conclusive because this is an admission that she would push for boycotts of Israel while on the Board.

The Board does nothing but approve membership decisions at the end of a general meeting. It is not a platform to air personal political agendas. Using it as such for any political agenda at all could hamstring the operation of our cooperative and hurt our bottom line. The evasiveness of this candidate's answer and her implicit intent to boycott Israel while representing the Coop tell me that she is the wrong candidate for our Board of Directors.

Henny Hanuna

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY

MEMBERS,

We humans face grave dangers:

Fossil fuel extraction contaminates water, soil & air and their burning causes global changes in climate.

Epidemics of violence—murders of innocents by sick individuals and automated bombing of villages demonically called "War on Terror."

Chaotic political economy—banks steal homes; young people condemned to wage slavery by student debt; billionaires buy candidates and their representatives undermine gov-

ernment; exploitation and repression of immigrants, people of color, women and working people to concentrate riches and power in still fewer hands.

Confronting frightening realities without sinking into denial, rage nor the illusion that if one scrambles & claws one can join the 1%, we search for another way to organize ourselves that is not savage corporate capitalism nor frozen state command economy.

Another world is possible.

The Coop is self-organized to meet the needs of members. We are a voluntary association—independent and autonomous. We work together with equitable distribution of tasks to keep expenses down and prices moderate. We govern ourselves according to our values and vision. Our decision-making process can be democratic.

In our case, democracy means nourishing structures that ensure each member feels and behaves like a proud and responsible owner as well as a consumer and a worker, participating in deciding how our collective resources are used and in planning ahead.

Democracy as a process.

From a handful of households through continued growth and two major expansions into a multi-million dollar enterprise with 16,200 working members and about seventy employ-

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.

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:

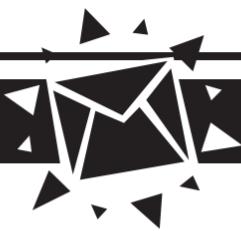
Letters and member submissions cannot contain gratuitous personalization—that is, needlessly identifying a Coop member and directing the substance of the letter/article to him or her, as in a polemical debate. Letters and articles should deal mainly with ideas and not persons. Letter/article writers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


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

ees, the Coop evolved. After 42 years the General Meeting (GM) continues at the center of our decision-making democracy. Our challenge is to adapt governance to the huge increase in membership, resources and staff without undermining stability.

The Board of Directors can play a role. Attending GMs regularly, Board members can hold the continuity, identify bottlenecks and help us through those tight spaces. A Board member can talk to others and consider structures that might open up additional channels.

An active Board member can intervene during a GM—make a suggestion during discussion of a new item to help the presenter formulate a proposal; remind the group of recent GM experiences that were similar; thoughtfully suggesting how members who get work-slot

credit can participate more fully.

A Board member is expected to accept the advice of members as shown by the vote at the GM. The vote at the GM is expected to be based on full information, a transparent process, ample debate and inclusive voting.

Being elected as a Board member means accepting a heightened responsibility—responding as external conditions change and internal needs change. The responsibility includes helping to protect the Coop's sustainability by defending the values that brought us together as well as the traditional structures. Maintaining a healthy institution in an ailing society needs everyone's talent and commitment. I will continue to contribute mine. I look forward to your advice, your support and your vote.

Susan Metz

SINGLES EVENT— OPEN TO LGBT COMMUNITY?

HI FOLKS,

My friends and I are very confused by the huge sign on the wall behind the registers advertising an upcoming singles event sponsored by the Coop. The sign asks people to register for the event, and to “tell us your gender” when registering.

We're not sure how knowing someone's gender without knowing their sexuality enables you to make a match. One friend posits that this is plain and simple homophobia, thoughtless straight people assuming everyone else is straight like them, and thus “needing to know” gender so they have an equal number of straight men and straight women at the event. I said that the Coop would never sponsor and broadcast that kind of discrimination. So,

of course, I was the one who had to write the letter.

Say it ain't so, PSFC!

*Signed,
One dyke and two queers
of various genders and gender
experiences*

DEAR MEMBERS,

Thank you for bringing this issue to our attention. We at the Fun Raising Committee would like to publicly apologize to everyone and anyone who were offended by the language used on the poster advertising this event. The Fun Committee's ultimate goal is to produce exciting, creative and inclu-

sive activities that serve to bring people together. When we asked people to RSVP and include their gender and what food they would be bringing we by no means meant to alienate any group or individual. We regret that the request for gender was posted. We assure you that we are gender inclusive.

Best,
Jim Kent
Fun Raising Committee

BDS/MIDDLE EAST

For this edition of the *Linewaiters' Gazette* we did not accept submissions on BDS-related topics and polemical submissions on Middle-east related politics in order to allow us time to research and formulate policies that can help ensure civil discourse on these issues. Please check the Coop website for further announcements and policy revisions.

*The Editors,
The Linewaiters' Gazette*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 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.

ADMIN INVOICE SCANNING Monday, 6 p.m.

This job entails scanning approximately 50 documents and naming 400 documents per week. This is a task- and detail-oriented job, ideal for someone who likes working independently. Must be comfortable using Macintosh computers. As training will be necessary, a six-month commitment is required.

OFFICE SET-UP Monday & Tuesday, 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 in the Membership Office for more information.

ENTRANCE DESK Thursday, 5:45 to 8:00 a.m.

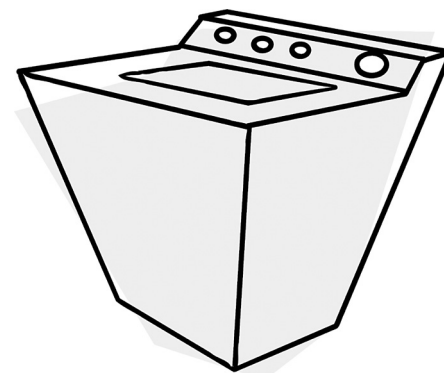
Supervised by Membership Coordinators, you will be staffing the entrance desk in hours of the weekday before the Coop is open to shoppers. Primarily you will be checking in working members, informing them of their member and household status, and handing out entrance-desk slips to members who need them. Entrance workers provide an essential member service and must be welcoming, polite, able to read and interpret information on the entrance-desk screen, able to

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



BATHROOM CLEANING Tuesday, 12 to 2 p.m.

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



STORE-EQUIPMENT CLEANING Monday, 6 to 8 a.m.

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

LAUNDRY AND TOY CLEANING Saturday & Sunday, 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.

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.

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.

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Is it Spring yet?



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

SAT, APR 18

8 p.m. Ray Korona Presente! produced by Ivce, with the Ray Korona Band and others. At the Community Church of NY Unitarian Universalist, 40 East 35th St. For info call 212-787-3903 or see www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation \$18, member \$10.

SUN, APR 19

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players present: Scott Ballantyne, cello; Hiroko Sasaki, piano at the

Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture Central Library. 10 Grand Army Plaza BKLYN. Admission Free.

FRI, APR 24

6:30 p.m. Women's Open Poetry and Performance Event. This event is for women and trans folk only. The Commons, 388 Atlantic Ave. Bklyn. Suggested donation \$10-\$20 with all proceeds going to Women with a Vision. Cafe Open. To reserve

childcare and for information call Resistance in Brooklyn 718-783-8141.

TUE, APR 28

12 p.m. Label GMOs Now! Rally and Lobby Day in Albany. Speak out in support of legislation to label genetically engineered (GMO) foods in New York. Buses will be available from Manhattan. For more information, contact Eric Weltman with Food & Water Watch: eweltman@fwwatch.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSES/GROUPS

ART CLASSES FOR ADULTS: One on one tutorial in oil and watercolor techniques by a Brooklyn artist, graduate of Harvard and Columbia. Member: Brooklyn Watercolor Society. In my Windsor Terrace home. \$60 for two hours. Materials not included. Sundays and Mondays preferred. Phone: 718-832-0161.

EMPLOYMENT

VISION THERAPY ASSISTANT (Park Slope). Exciting Opportunity: Asst. needed in holistic optometric office in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Interest in holistic health and exp working w/ children and adults

necessary. P/T after school hours Monday, Tuesday and possibly a third day. Please send personally composed cover letter with resume to: alteyedrl@aol.com

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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.

MADISON AVENUE HAIRCUTTER is right around the corner from the food Coop, so if you would like a really good haircut at a decent price, please call Maggie at 18-783-2154. I charge \$60.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS. Color high lights, low lights, hot oil treatments in the convenience of your home or mine. Adults \$30.00-\$40.00. Kids \$20.00-\$25.00. Call Leonora at 718-857-2215.

LISSETT FERREIRA, ESQ. Guardianships, wills, elder & family law. lissett.c.ferreira@gmail.com. Tel.: 212-926-9771 / Fax: 917-551-6503. 299 Broadway, Suite 1310, New York, NY, 10007. Fala-se Portugues.

Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle

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



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

Two three-year terms on the Board are open. To vote you may use a proxy or attend the Food Coop Annual Meeting on June 30, 2015.

Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May.

You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates at the June 30 Annual Meeting. Candidate statements follow:

Monique Bowen



With the support of the General Coordinators, I write to ask for your continued endorsement of my candidacy to the PSFC's Board of Directors. I have been pleased to serve the membership for the last three years, and I hope to continue to bring my extensive knowledge of the Coop, my expertise in close collaborations with individuals, families and groups, and my skills as a trained listen-

er and observer to good effect in this position. In addition to my current term on the Board, I have had many jobs at the Coop, including cashier, office worker, childcare worker, attendance recorder, and as a member of the Hearing Officers Committee.

My family have been Coop members since 2003, and our relationship to the Coop and its mission remains an important aspect of our lives in Brooklyn. In my life outside of the Coop, I have worked for more than twenty years at nonprofit and educational institutions in New York City and Connecticut. In more recent years, I earned post-graduate degrees in psychology, and have a great deal of experience working one on one and in groups to solve problems, to mediate conflicts, and to counsel others as they make important life and professional decisions. I take a calm, thoughtful, common-sense approach to most things, and I make an

effort to collaborate with others whenever possible.

I continue to believe that I am well-suited to serve on the Board of Directors as I endeavor to 1) Be a reasonable person who listens well, 2) Be able to acknowledge the will of the membership without first prefacing my own opinions and perspectives, and 3) Be clear about the role of a Director at the Coop as voting to approve what the membership has decided, as opposed to what my own wishes might be. Moreover, I also understand that Board members must be able to discern when the advice of the membership on a particular issue might endanger the fiscal health or legal situation of the cooperative.

Thank you for taking the time to read my and other candidate statement(s), and I look forward to your ongoing support and your continued interest in the mission and business of the Coop. ■

Eunju Lee



I have been a member of the Park Slope Food Coop for 20 years and a member of the Coop's Board of Directors for the past three. Initially joining as an FTOP worker, I worked shifts in a variety of settings: shopping, receiving, childcare and the office. In 2000, I joined the staff of the

Coop as a Membership Coordinator. I worked in this position for seven years and when I resigned to work full-time as a hospice social worker, I joined the attendance and compost squads.

Three years ago, I came before you, the membership, to request your support for my candidacy as a Board

member. I thank you for that support and having granted me the opportunity to serve on our Coop's Board of Directors. Coming to the end of my term, I come before you again to request your support for a second term.

When I asked for your support three years ago, I articulated my desire to function as a conduit of diverse membership voices, to thoughtfully weigh differences, seeking cooperation and respectful dissent. I viewed my role as aiding in the articulation of circumspect and reasoned positions that ensure the Coop's sustainability in a manner that is consistent with its founding values. My first term as a Board member has provided me with ample opportunity to do just this and I have learned a few valuable things along the way.

First, I have learned the importance of an engaged and vocal membership in ensuring the continued vitality of the Coop. It seems trite, but whenever I am sitting in a general meeting, I am reminded of the old Dr. Seuss saying, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." And the Coop is filled with people who care an awful lot about creating a

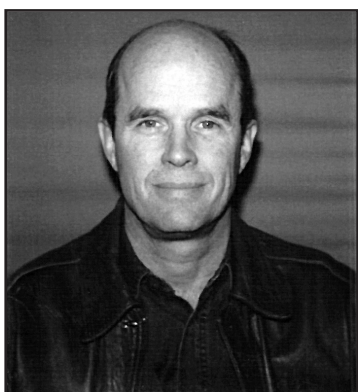
community that values social responsibility and justice.

Second, I have learned that the practice of democracy can be messy. The GMs are forums that accept, absorb, and contain diverse voices and opinions. Sometimes this means that we must muddle through a bedlam of rancor and conflict in parsing out the merits and faults of a particular position. Through this sometimes painful process, we affirm our common commitment to a decision-making process that trusts in the wisdom of a crowd.

Finally, I have learned that the Coop is indeed a unique place worth sustaining and nurturing. The Coop membership has ceaselessly embraced the challenges of change necessary to keep evolving and improving. In my 20-year membership history, I have witnessed many of these changes. In my three years as a Board member, I have been privileged to claim agency among them. I am grateful for this opportunity and request your support as I seek to continue to serve on the Board of Directors. I am also grateful to the General Coordinators who have endorsed my candidacy and hope I will have yours.

Thank you for your consideration. ■

Christopher McQuale



Shortly after my arrival here I spoke with a woman who told me that she had moved to Park Slope just to join the Coop, having fled from somewhere below the Mason-Dixon Line, which, I understand is the southern boundary for Coop membership, the Poconos

to the west, Montauk to the east, and to the north the rapidly receding glacier we can be thankful for leaving behind most of Brooklyn, Queens, and Long Island. And I was grateful to her because that has become the reason I now tell my friends why I moved here, even though I didn't know it at the time. But the day I walked in amongst you all to sign up for orientation, I felt like I had died and gone to heaven, or perhaps Valhalla would be more appropriate for the pagans and veteran heroes of times long forgotten.

So, what I bring to the Coop, whether I am elected to the Board or not, is fresh enthusiasm; and unfortunately not the longevity that most candidates have boasted in previous archival copies of this curious publication. Mine is a different but no less significant story of dedication, sacrifice, and renewal.

My interest in being considered for the Board of Directors is service oriented. Though new to PSFC,

I am not new to food coops, having been a member of the Huntington Food Coop in 1971, where I also helped establish an organic community garden, and the Queens Food Coop in 1973.

Truly, I have enjoyed and found board work for non-profits to be very rewarding. But that has been less from personal ambition and more because others I have worked with found the talents and skills I possess, coupled with the willingness to build consensus within a diverse community of independently minded individuals, and a sense of humor, all applicable to their common cause. It is up to you to decide whether the qualities presented below will be applicable and appreciated by the membership; one for all, and all for one.

I was the chairperson for the Board of Directors for the Charlottesville Waldorf School (CWS) for five years, while my sons were in attendance. It was at CWS that I learned the importance and challenges of consensus governance, a truly life-changing awareness. A chairperson under such circumstances is more of a facilitator than a decision maker: railroading simply slows things down. I also realized the importance of electing board members wisely, for their combined vision (non-pedagogical) and objectivity. Our responsibilities were for financial and legal matters, and during my tenure the school experienced their longest period of balanced budgets.

Since consulting firms and government tend to be hierarchical, management-wise, the benefits to the Coop from my 29 years as a professional environmental engineer (specializing in water resources), would tend to be more from budgetary planning, scheduling, and general technical expertise. In particular, this experi-

ence has included program and project management responsibilities that involve preparing technical scopes of work, cost estimates, schedules, and budgets for multimillion-dollar contracts providing a wide range of professional services to Federal and state governments and industries; negotiating contracts; developing work plans for multi-year projects and obtaining approvals from numerous regulatory agencies; coordinating with community organizations and other stakeholders; overseeing work, subcontractors, preparing status reports; and ensuring all work is completed on time. This type of work often resulted in my serving as an expert witness for the USDOJ, USDOT, and the DC Office of the Attorney General on technical/legal matters, and required a combination of technical and creative writing skills with public speaking thrown in for good measure.

On a more personal level, I have been an organic gardener and beekeeper since 1973. My mother and I ran a modest registered dairy goat operation and were founding members of the Long Island Dairy Goat Association, surreptitiously selling raw goat's milk to lactose-intolerant individuals, their children, and kindred health nuts. Before returning to college in the 80s to obtain a degree in environmental engineering and resource management from the University of Pennsylvania, I was a facility manager, composter, planter, salad chef, and janitor at a holistic nutritional facility, Hippocrates Health Institute, in Boston; an organic citrus farmer in south Florida; and helped raise my sons on a ten-acre homestead with dairy goats, chickens, an orchard, peafowl, in rural Virginia.

It would be an honor to serve our illustrious community. ■

CANDIDATES CONTINUE ON PAGE 16

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

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

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Susan Metz



An active Coop member since 1980, being involved in community is part of my identity. Raised in the Bronx, the only child of Jewish leftists, I worked with Bayard Rustin in the Youth Marches for Integrated Schools during the late 50s

and have continued participating in local initiatives for Peace, Racial Justice, Environmental Sustainability and in support of candidates for public office who present proposals for a more humane society. Without building a base, contesting state power can't bring the prosperity and liberty that we need and want. The Coop provides part of that base, outside of corporate hierarchical control. We are a community that is self-organized and independent, created to meet the needs of the members, where decisions can be made democratically. Defending that base and helping to build on it is why I am running for the Board.

I was a public high school English teacher for 27 years, prepared with an MA in Social Foundations of Education and (most of) an MFA in writing Poetry. Eight years before I retired in 1996 I founded the Human Services Academy at Prospect Heights High School. I was elected as UFT

(United Federation of Teachers) Chapter leader for eight years there. My main interest has always been in how we make decisions in groups and how we can engage each of our talents in that process.

My letters can be found in the archives of the *Linewriters' Gazette*. I am always calling for greater participation. I practice collective creation in Playback Theatre—an improvisational performance form based on enacting personal stories of members of the audience. Playback helped keep my imagination and my sense of humor fresh while institutionalized in the public school system, and also to keep me balanced during the struggles with powerful adversaries, as well as with allies convinced that answers are in ideology, rather than in the value of caring for each other and thinking about how we can improve our common condition.

I have been doing research on the community cultural centers in Cuba for 15 years while learning Spanish. As that project drew to a close, I took urban agriculture classes at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Growing my own salad is a joy. My worms are another pet.

My accomplishments at the Coop include, as part of a team of comrades, the creation of the Trade Education Squad which can make obvious the links between international trade and the causes we defend—food safety, sovereignty and security, animal rights and environmental sustainability, particularly the urgent need to slow and stop further climate change. (Please contact congress today and ask them to vote NO on Fast

Track). I initiated the campaign to remove bottled water. I helped write the Mission Statement. And it was the Tuesday, B4 shopping squad while I was squad leader (for 18 years) that first offered work-slot credit for one of us to go to a GM. We used to send a squad member with the expectation that s/he would report back to our monthly squad meeting so we could follow what was going on in other parts of the organization.

After retiring from teaching, I did food processing on FTOP. When I began travelling, I served as loaned labor at the East New York Food Coop.

I understand that discussion will include disagreement. Controversy can be the basis of greater understanding and personal growth. I am still refining my skills at presenting my positions with passion and with an agnostic's sense that what will be will be. I believe in the collective action of workers in union. I believe that we can use our power as consumers in organized boycotts when we decide together to use that economic strength to influence policy. Above all, a transparent process and an open, honest and respectful debate are essential.

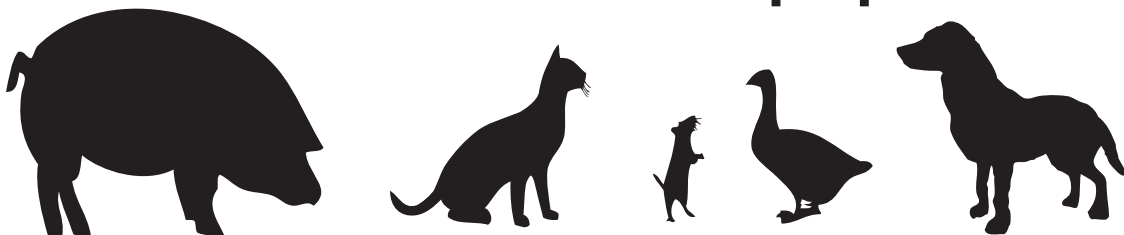
I will come to GMs, listen attentively and hold the continuity from one meeting to another. I am accessible, and look forward to conversation as we continue to share our work, build our culture and enrich our lives. I want to join the Board because my experience and my interest and my commitment to our Coop as part of the foundation for a just and productive society makes this the most meaningful thing I can do with this part of my life. ■



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

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](https://twitter.com/psfcanimals)



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



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