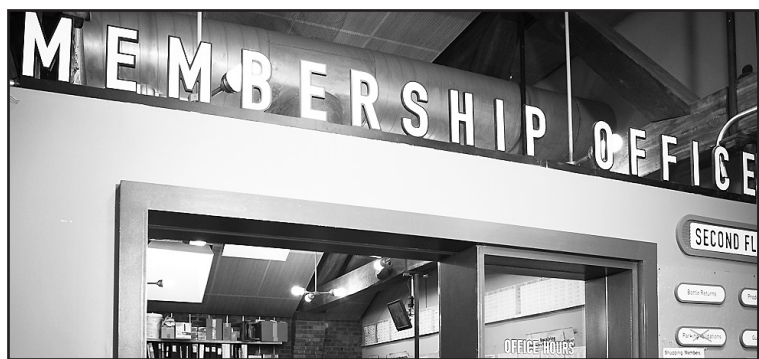


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## Welcome

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can counsel members on leave options for those unable to work for one reason or another. No matter what the appropriate option for the situation in question, the best way to move forward is to talk with the experts at the office. After all, the office workers want to get members back to shopping, too.

"I think people are reluctant to call—usually they know something's up and that's why they're calling," says Membership Coordinator Jack Stroman, who was working as one of the staffers in the office that Saturday. "Everyone's situation is different, so advice you get from other members [about how to get current on shifts] is well-meaning but may not be right. It's better to go to the source at the office before you get frustrated."

People who have never before fallen behind are sometimes particularly reluctant to come to the office, Robinson adds, since they're not used

to asking for help and don't know what to expect. For those members, she notes that it can sometimes be comforting to check the Coop's membership manual—available on paper at the office or on the Coop's website as a PDF—to do a little advance research about options for catching up, so that they can go into a conversation knowing what to expect. (And when the Coop's new website is up and running, it's expected to be even more helpful in that regard.)

Questions about the work-cycle calendar and the next time a shift will meet can also be answered at the front check-in desk, since that computer displays information about a member's upcoming shifts when he or she enters the shopping floor.

### Members Helping Members

Helping members who are behind on their work duties is far from the only thing office workers do. The office is where new members join, where shifts are selected and even where



Membership Coordinator Karen Mancuso helps a Coop member in the office, while Lewanika Forde-Senghor mans the greeter desk.

calls go out to remind member-workers with upcoming shifts about events like Daylight Savings Time. The office walls are plastered with helpful information: General Meeting dates, *Gazette* ad deadlines, staff mailboxes, fact sheets for all kinds of programs, FTOP shift-opening information and a calendar that shows which week of the work cycle we're in.

As a result, it might be easy to get overwhelmed, especially during busier times. So, Jess Robinson offers a few helpful hints to make your office visit efficient and productive:

*"Hello, Park Slope Food Coop."*

Though many people have a habit of stopping at the second-floor service desk, right outside the office door, she notes that members who come upstairs to the office can go right in if they have a membership-related question. The first person who will greet you at the front desk is a paid staffer, who'll then direct your question to someone who can help. The people sitting by the computers on your right will be member-workers and the people sitting behind the desk on the left are staff. (Those staffers, whose job title is Membership Coordinator, often split their time between the office and other duties like tech support or back-office administrative work.) Usually a member will be able to help you, but you may be directed to a staffer if your question is particularly complicated or requires a special area of expertise.

There are just a few things that the office can't help with. Members answering the phones can't leave their seats to check whether something is in stock



Membership Coordinators Jack Stroman and Valerie Ratron-Neal, hard at work in the office.

on the shopping floor. They can't intervene between a squad leader and a member on the question of how many make-ups are owed. They can't give out the personal information for any other members, other than squad leaders. And, for FTOP workers, though the office workers can schedule shifts and cancel them up to a half hour in advance, that system works only when the office is open; FTOP-ers who want to cancel when the office is closed are out of luck.

The Park Slope Food Coop office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The office is closed on Sundays.

In general, members who

approach the office without fear are likely to leave happy. "There may be a solution to your problem," says Robinson. "It's always worth asking."

And, in turn, just as the office is there to help members, there's one thing that members can do to help the office: keep in mind that the folks answering the phones are also members. "It's a cooperative effort," Robinson says, "like everything else."

"When people call, it's best to remember that we're members too," echoes Griffin, the member who was celebrating her office-shift anniversary. "We do our shift once a month and sometimes we're limited in what we can do, but we want to help you. Be patient." ■

## Special Ordering Temporarily Suspended



**We will NOT be taking special orders until Thu 09/24/2015**

Vitamins/Supplements special orders are suspended indefinitely and will NOT resume on Thu 09/24/2015

No special orders on Fresh Baked Goods

Orders for bulk or produce by the case must be placed directly with a bulk or produce buyer



## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## Stop New York City's Pesticide Spraying, Now!

By Mitchel Cohen

New York City's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOH) has renewed its annual pesticide-spraying assault on Queens, Staten Island and now Brooklyn. Meanwhile, the Parks Department admits that it has applied "small amounts" of the dangerous herbicide glyphosate (Monsanto's Roundup) to Prospect Park.

Pyrethroid and organophosphate pesticides are dangerous to human health (especially to children, the elderly and those with weakened immune systems), as well as to pets, fish and other animals. The spraying must be halted immediately.

Every year, the DOH grants itself waivers from New York City Local Law 37, passed in 2005 in response to growing concerns over the health and environmental consequences of mass-spraying of malathion and pyrethroids.

This year's spray of choice, Anvil 10+10, contains piperonyl butoxide and MGK-284—"synergists" classified as possible carcinogens by the EPA. It also contains Sumithrin—a synthetic toxin—and dangerous benzene-related chemicals (called "inert" ingredients).

Anvil 10 + 10 belongs to a class of adulticides known as pyrethroids, which are endocrine disruptors. They mimic hormones such as estrogen, and may cause breast cancer in women, drastically lower sperm counts in men, and may cause prostate cancer.

Local Law 37 prohibits the use of pesticides by New York City if they contain PBO and/or MGK-284. Only through receipt of waivers to that law is the Department of Health enabled to legally conduct the spraying.

In some bizarre bureaucratic maneuver reminiscent of the movie *Brazil*, the DOH applies for a waiver to itself, and then it grants itself the waiver pro forma, which allows it to spray deadly pesticides. No other agency reviews its application. The checks and balances envisioned by Local Law 37 are thus thwarted. (Elah Feder has written a powerful review of the waivers in *City Limits*.)

The No Spray Coalition has protested the spraying

to Mayor de Blasio and the City Council, and invites all Coop members to do likewise. We pointed out that the City's Department of Health has failed to seriously consider:

a) admissions the DOH made concerning the dangers of pesticides in its 2007 Settlement Agreement of a lawsuit brought by No Spray Coalition; and

b) its failure to fulfill the four pillars for waivers in Local Law 37.

"This reckless spraying of pesticides has contributed to skyrocketing increases in cancer and asthma, and now the collapse of bee colonies. I am outraged that the City government is renewing its poisoning of the people and environment," said Howard Brandstein, coordinator of the Sixth Street Community Center and a plaintiff in the federal lawsuit.

Brandstein points out that in agreeing to settle the lawsuit in 2007, the City stipulated for the first time that pesticides:

- may remain in the environment beyond their intended purpose
- cause adverse health effects
- kill mosquitoes' natural predators (such as dragonflies, bats, frogs and birds)
- increase mosquitoes' resistance to the sprays, and
- are not presently approved for direct application to waterways.

The Department of Health contravenes those admissions by now stating that there are "no significant risks" of adverse impact to human health associated with the proper use of this product. Of course there are! But Levi Fishman, deputy press secretary at the DOH, ignorantly stated what the City itself had disavowed eight years ago:

"When properly used, this product poses no significant risks to human health. It degrades rapidly in sunlight, provides little or no residual activity, and does not accumulate in the environment." (Wrong on every point.)

Reporter Elah Feder countered: "Nevertheless, the City advises residents to bring children's toys, outdoor equipment and clothing indoors before spraying

takes place, and to wash anything that has come in contact with Anvil." If there are no significant risks, why all that advice?

The fact is, the spraying puts many New York City residents and visitors at risk. "Clearly, the spraying jeopardizes a thousand times more people than the disease," Brandstein says.

Thousands of New Yorkers are severely sickened by the spraying every year, but they go unrecorded and unreported. Several members of the No Spray Coalition, including two of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, died from pesticide-related illnesses. Many suffer from Multiple Chemical Sensitivities (MCS) or asthma caused or exacerbated by the spraying.

Pesticides are extremely dangerous to human health as well as to pets, wildlife and the natural environment; they have long-term consequences. Please contact our government officials and tell them

## Double Out

If you remove the letters CK from word CHECKER, you are left with CHEER, another word. Each line below has two clues. The answer to the first clue should be entered into all the spaces given. The answer to the second clue will be all of the uncircled spaces. The earlier example would be filled in like this:

Verifier; Glee

C H E C K E R

When you are finished, the circled letters will spell out the common English name for the national tree of Chile.

### CLUES

Leading; Wooded area

Leg part; Brewed drink

Streetcar; Prankster

Promote; Divide

Impress; Valley

Young actress; Begin

### ANSWERS


Puzzle author: Lars Roe. For answers, see page 11.

to stop the pesticide spraying immediately and utilize alternative, safe means to control mosquitoes, which can be done without poisoning the population and the natural environment.

Stop spraying now. Stop poisoning people, animals and the environment. ■

Coop member Mitchel Cohen is the coordinator of the No Spray Coalition, <http://www.NoSpray.org>

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

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

# RECYCLE GALORE!

**WHAT'S BEING COLLECTED:**

- Toothpaste tubes, any brand and size (toothbrushes OK too)
- Baby food pouches and caps (any brand)
- Energy bar wrappers (any brand but only energy bars—no other wrappers please)
- Brita filters (other filter brands okay) plus other Brita filter—related items
- Plastic food storage zip lock bags (any size), plastic cling wrap, and small bulk bags (NO PLASTIC ROLL BAGS OR SHOPPING BAGS)
- Cereal bag and cracker bag liners or bulk cereal bags (any brand)

**WHEN:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 4pm - 6pm  
4th Saturday of the month, 2pm - 4pm

**WHERE:** Outside in front of the Coop or inside during inclement weather

**PSFC / TerraCycle Recycling Collections**

The vote is in and members at the May GM unanimously voted to create work shifts to collect a variety of hard-to-recycle packaging in partnership with TerraCycle.

**Save up your eligible waste for upcoming collection dates.**

**QUESTIONS:** [ecokvetch@yahoo.com](mailto:ecokvetch@yahoo.com)

**LEARN MORE:** [www.terracycle.com](http://www.terracycle.com)

**Note: Presort and separate items by category. No need to clean or remove labels. Do not bring items other than those listed here.**

## Coop Manners

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other retailer. Many Coopers have developed their own tips and tricks to getting the most out of the experience in order to not walk away tired, emotionally drained or even angry.

"Sometimes, if the store is real busy and I'm just not ready for it that day, I'll even walk in and walk right out," Stephenson said. "But usually, I just try to give myself ample time, go to the store at night when it's less busy and simply try to smile and be nice to people and be aware of myself."

After joining the Coop a few months ago after moving to Park Slope from Long Island, Lauren Kouffman said she had to learn to have a different approach to the shopping experience than she does at other stores.

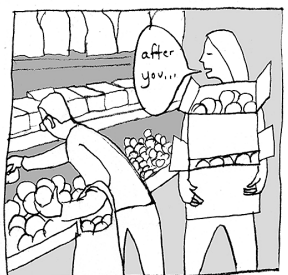
"At Trader Joe's, I'll just wander the aisles and pick up things that look good to me. You can't wander at the Coop," said Kouffman, who has worked in receiving and as a cashier. "I think my max I can be in the store is 30 minutes because being so close to so many people at the same time who have different agendas can be stressful."

To make the experience better, Kouffman tries to use only one handheld basket each time she shops



ILLUSTRATIONS BY CATY BARTHOLOMEW

BE KIND... BE HELPFULL



(she lives a few blocks away and goes to the Coop multiple times a week). Like Stephenson, she tries to have conversations while

shopping in order to make the time pass and to meet new people.

"One of the best things I like about the store is this loose sense of community. If you are in the mood, it can be nice to meet someone new. People working a shift seem more inclined to talk, like when you are checking out," said Kouffman. But there have also been moments that have turned her off. "Sometimes, I see people in receiving who are on their head phones. I guess it is fine to pass the time how you want to, but it seems a little against the community spirit."

As a former member of the receiving squad, Mae Singerman, who now works in food processing and shops at the store every two weeks, offered some tips on how to interact with people whose shifts take place on the shopping floor.

"When I was on receiving, people assumed I knew where everything in the store was, but I really don't know every product on the shelves. I would try to help when I could, but I wouldn't want anyone to be surprised to not find things if you ask receiving," said Singerman, who encourages shoppers

to use the intercom system. Speaking of communication, Singerman observed, "One of the most annoying things is when you are carrying something heavy and you say 'excuse me' and people don't move to allow you to store the new items."

"At the same time," said Singerman, "if I'm stocking apples and someone sees there's space to easily grab one, go ahead, you don't have to ask me—though I don't mind if you do."

*"You can't wander at the Coop."*

Michael Loew, who works on the tree-care squad and does receiving, said he believes good manners go far, but he also cautioned against making too many complaints or criticism about the store and its members. For him, the primary purpose of the Coop is to provide good food at fair prices. The rest, he said, is secondary.

"If you want a grocery store that makes you feel special, Whole Foods is now just a few blocks away. In my mind the Coop's mission is simply to provide you with what you need to live, while focusing any extra profit and energy on finding ways to improve our reliance on fair-trade, sustainable and/or local suppliers," Loew wrote in an e-mail.

### Ten Tips Toward Happier Coop Shopping, Work Shifts

Here's how to improve your Coop experience, whether you are working or shopping:

1. Try not to be in a rush when you shop. You can't move fast in a crowded space. If you are in a hurry, try avoiding the Coop's busiest times (when shifts start and end and in the early evening).

2. Go shopping with a plan. Not just a list, but an idea of where your items are. There are a lot of people. So try to be in and out as fast as you can—but within reason and with a game plan.

3. If you do put your shopping basket aside, make sure it's within eyeshot and you do so only very briefly. Unattended shopping baskets and carts create bottlenecks in the aisles and can also block access for restocking the shelves.

4. If someone stocking the shelves is in your way, say "hello" and, better yet, smile, and then say "excuse me." Whether we're working or shopping, we're all co-owners, and we need to treat each other accordingly.

5. If you are working receiving, you have a job to do, but bear in mind that it's a stock-while-your-member-colleagues-shop proposition.

6. If you need help, feel free to use the paging system on the intercom—an antidote to that lost-in-the-aisle sensation. Speak clearly, and repeat your request once. Usually, someone will gladly respond or even find you in person to help with your needs.

7. If you have kids shopping with you, keep them busy. Give them tasks to do to help you and help keep them out of the aisles, with all that busy shopping-cart traffic.

8. Say hello to your check-out person. Make eye contact with them. This goes for the receipt checker, too. Ask them about their day. Ask them how long they've been a member. You can meet all kinds of cool and wonderful people by just starting a conversation.

9. The same goes for walkers. Your workslot gives you a great chance to meet other Coop members—amazing people doing amazing things. By striking up a conversation with a Coop walker, you have an easy, fun way to meet new friends and a wonderful way to get to know your neighbors as well as folks who come a distance to shop.

10. Try doing something at the Coop other than shopping once in a while. There are interesting classes and workshops offered every week, which you can learn about from a bulletin board at the Coop full of announcements about community members doing their own events and offering services.

Think of the Coop as much more than a store—it's a community, too. ■

## The Agenda Committee is seeking one new member! Join the Committee and help set the monthly General Meeting agenda.

### Requirements:

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

If interested, contact Ann Herpel at 718-622-0560 or [ann\\_herpel@psfc.coop](mailto:ann_herpel@psfc.coop).

The Committee will interview applicants before submitting candidates to the GM for election. We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.



## SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series: *Seeds of Time*

By Adam Rabiner,  
Safe Food Committee

Loyal Plow-to-Plate viewers (a big shout-out to our regular attendees) already know how important seeds are to food production. Curator Sean Kaminsky's 2014 documentary, *Open Sesame*, about threats to seed diversity was screened this past February. And that was followed up in March by Gary Null's controversial anti-GMO film, *Seeds of Death: Unveiling the Lies of GMOs*. September's movie, Kino Lorber EDU's *Seeds of Time*, covers some of the same ground but is very different. It is the story of the remarkable career and life's journey of crop diversity pioneer Cary Fowler—the man behind the world's first global seed vault, the largest and most secure collection of seed diversity in the world, buried deep in a mountain, surrounded by permafrost, 1,300 kilometers beyond the Arctic Circle, in Svalbard, Norway.

The parallel tales of the man and his remarkable creation are woven together in a compelling narrative. We learn 30 years ago, as a young scholar, Fowler read a paper about seed diversity, thought he would research the topic for six months, and instead made it the focal point of his career, as well as his life passion. He is a two-time divorcee, in no small part due to his devotion to work. Through the film, the audience, too, comes to understand why every

human being who lives on the planet should be as concerned as Fowler is. We are grateful that he has done such a good job, in his gentle, soft-spoken way, of convincing many of the world's leaders to accept the need for and continue to fund and contribute to his singular project.

Fowler's argument is simple. Agriculture is not nature's way; it is an artificial and fragile system, often taken for granted, upon which the fate of mankind rests. We are its guardians but we have not always been watchful and prepared. Crop failures in the past have led to collapsed civilizations and mass extinction. And it can happen again. In fact, agriculture is now facing a "perfect storm" of threats, including population growth, rapid development, energy and water depletion, low stockpiles of food, and most important, global climate change. In short, the way we are currently feeding the world is not sustainable.

Of all Fowler's worries, global warming is foremost on his mind. Twelve of the hottest years on record have taken place in the past 15 years, with temperatures projected to get even hotter. This poses real difficulties for agriculture because many crops are not adapted to this warmer climate and will fail, leading to higher food prices and likely starvation for the global poor. The common dismissal that "agriculture will

have to adapt" is scientifically unsound and unrealistic. Agriculture does not adapt quickly; it takes years.

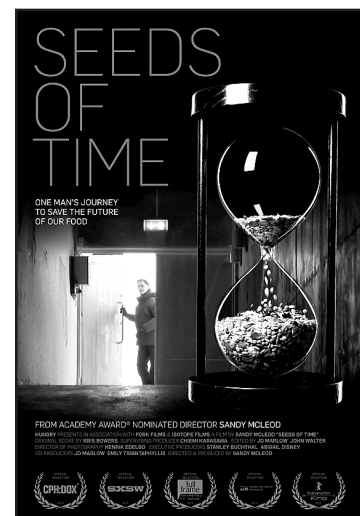
It may take a while, but adaption is possible because of natural seed diversity. While crop diversity has diminished dramatically over the past century, as the most productive monoculture seeds have come to dominate the market, many seed varieties still exist and some of these may be more resistant to warmer climate. Many countries have seed vaults in which they have attempted to preserve their local agricultural heritage and diversity. However these local seed or gene banks, as they are called, are vulnerable to man-made and natural disasters, including fires, floods and electrical outages, for example as happened in 2013 in the Philippines due to Typhoon Haiyan. These catastrophes don't just wipe out precious seeds; they also destroy their various unique traits, which may include characteristics such as drought resistance.

The seed vault in Svalbard is a safeguard against these occurrences. Basically it is a backup hard drive meant to preserve and protect the world's most important seeds—duplicates of those found in these smaller, less-protected banks around the globe. Think of it as the Fort Knox of gene banks, a fro-

zen Garden of Eden or Noah's Ark, though others liken it to a Doomsday Vault or the world's biggest Insurance Policy.

*Seeds of Time* is a visually exciting and geographically expansive film. From the northern frozen reaches of Platåfjellet (Mount Plateau) in Svalbard, Norway, to the high Andes Mountains of Peru, the beautifully photographed film covers a lot of ground. A good deal of time is spent with traditionally and colorfully clad indigenous peoples of Peru in their "Potato Park"—a communal endeavor of different ethnic groups from separate communities who joined together, partnering with the Lima-based International Potato Center, to practice "dynamic conservation." Through this living gene bank (an actual farm), disparate ethnicities overcame their differences and feuds to single-mindedly protect their common cultural heritage and way of life.

Equally compelling as the Svalbard Global Seed Vault is the man who created it. Bookish, academic, even-tempered, scientific, calm, reasoned, sensitive and a long-time civil rights activist, Cary Fowler is well suited as the Johnny Appleseed of seeds. A two-time cancer survivor on borrowed time, he counts himself blessed to continue his important fight. But he is in a hurry—impatient and uncertain if he will live a decade or if the planet can afford to wait ten years to take substantive



coordinated global action to combat climate change.

As Fowler says, we have it in our power to counter global warning and to control and shape agriculture to meet its challenges. Humans have been saving seeds and breeding plants (descended from a common ancestral "wild relative") for thousands of years. Farmers are and have always been the "Gods of crops." It remains whether or not we have the will, foresight and ability to exercise that power wisely. ■

See upcoming events, past reviews and a comprehensive list of films shown at [www.plowtoplatefilms.com](http://www.plowtoplatefilms.com), which now can also be reached via a link on the Park Slope Food Coop's home page at [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com).

*Seeds of Time* will be presented on Tuesday, September 8, 7 p.m. at the Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

## ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT

## Slaughterhouse Shortage

By Kama Einhorn,  
Animal Welfare Committee

You may have noticed a "certified humane" logo on some Coop meats—but only a few. Why are there plenty of small, local family farmers raising animals well, but so few humane-certified items available in the Coop—or in any store or restaurant? Here's the four-part problem:

All farmers must use USDA-approved slaughterhouses.

Farmers cannot legally sell meat unless it has been "harvested" at an approved "processing plant" (otherwise, they can only eat it themselves or give it away). Obviously, it's crucial for a government agency to ensure that disease is kept out of the public food supply, but the USDA is a bloated bureaucracy whose rules favor factory farms (with

fast "line speeds," which is poor for humane slaughter) and help them to thrive. And factory farms are responsible for E. coli, salmonella outbreaks and mad cow disease (the USDA lets factory farms feed dead, diseased cows to living cows).

Small farmers are limited to smaller slaughterhouses.

Big slaughterhouses don't accept small jobs due to economies of scale. This means that small farmers must transport their animals to the closest, legal processing plants that will accept their animals. Because USDA regulations focus on the health of consumers but have little to do with animal welfare, few of these plants will conform to the higher standards of "humane slaughter" that small farmers would like for their animals'

deaths. (USDA inspectors often overlook violations of the Humane Slaughter Act, which requires that animals be rendered insensate to pain—which is accomplished by various methods of stunning—before slaughter.)

Humane certification requires humane slaughter (that is, as fast and painless as possible), which only some slaughterhouses do.

From an animal welfare standpoint, and for the "certified humane" accreditation, how animals die is as important as how they live. This means that farmers cannot get the certification unless they are lucky enough to have access to a good, small slaughterhouse with transparent policies even if they did the "right thing" every day of the animals' lives.

Sadly, these small slaughterhouses are becoming fewer and farther between.

The USDA's regulatory framework favors the big players (such as those located on factory farms) and makes business quite difficult for a small operation. This means that many small plants are closing, due to the financial demands and complexities of operating in a system that is stacked against them.

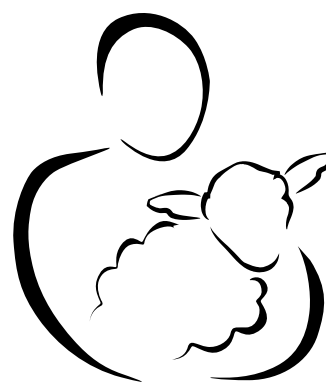
So...

There's plenty of supply (animals) and plenty of demand (consumers), but between the

two is a giant hurdle made from government-issued concrete. ■

Check out the Committee's blog at [psfanimals.blogspot.com](http://psfanimals.blogspot.com). There you'll find our guides to Coop products. Also see our Facebook page (Park Slope Food Coop Animal Welfare Committee) and Twitter (@psfanimals).

The Animal Welfare Committee provides members with information about the treatment of the animals raised for food and sold at the Coop.



**ANIMAL  
WELFARE  
COMMITTEE**

park slope  
**FOOD COOP**

# 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

The *Gazette* will not knowingly publish letters, articles or reports that are hateful, racist, sexist, otherwise discriminatory, inflammatory or needlessly provocative.

The *Gazette* welcomes Coop-related articles, letters and committee reports from members that follow the published guidelines and policies. The following is a summary—please see the detailed guidelines for each type of submission on the Coop website: [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com).

All submissions must include author's name, phone number and e-mail address, conform to the following guidelines and to the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies. Editors will reject letters, articles and reports that do not follow the guidelines or policies. Submission deadlines appear each edition in the Coop Calendar section.

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

**Letters:** Maximum 500 words. All letters will be printed if they follow the published guidelines and policies.

**Voluntary Articles:** Maximum 750 words. A Voluntary Article is held to a higher standard than a letter and must meet at least the following criteria: A Voluntary Article must analyze the topic it is discussing; it must present accurate, verifiable corroboration for factual assertions; it can criticize but not attack Coop practices and personnel; if critical it must present positive solutions; it cannot be solely or mainly opinion. It must strive to make a positive contribution to the understanding of the reader on a topic. If a submitted Voluntary Article is substantially opinion, it must be re-submitted, under 500 words, as a Letter to the Editor, possibly to a future issue. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses, those of family and friends of members, solely expressions of opinion or that do not follow the guidelines and policies.

**Committee Reports:** Maximum 1,000 words. Reports must follow the published guidelines and policies.

## LETTERS, ARTICLES AND REPORTS SUBMISSION POLICIES

Letters must be the opinion of the letter-writer and can contain no more than 25% non-original writing.

All submissions must be written by the writer. Letters or articles that are form letters, chain letters, template letters or letters prepared by someone other than the submitting member will be rejected.

Letters, articles and reports must adhere to the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies. They cannot be hateful, needlessly inflammatory, discriminatory libelous, personal attacks or make unsubstantiated claims or accusations or be contrary to the values of the Coop as expressed in our mission statement.

All submissions must be legible, intelligible, civil, well and concisely written with accurate, attributed, easily verifiable statements of facts separated from opinions.

Letter and article writers are limited to one letter or article per issue.

Letter and article writers cannot write gratuitous serial submissions. Editors may reject submissions to consecutive editions of the *Gazette* on the same topic by the same writer.

**Editor-Writer Guidelines:** All submissions will be reviewed and, if necessary, edited or rejected by the editor. Writers are responsible for the factual content of their stories. Editors must make a reasonable effort to contact and communicate with writers regarding any questions or proposed editorial changes. Writers must be available to editors to confer about their submissions. If a writer does not respond to requests for editorial changes, the editor may make the changes without conferring with the writer, or reject the submission. If agreement between the writer and the editor about changes does not occur after a first revision, the editor may reject the submission, and the writer may revise and resubmit for a future issue.

## FAIRNESS, ANONYMITY AND RESPECT POLICIES

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

### Fairness

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 unnecessary, not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions. The *Gazette* will not publish gratuitous personalization. That is, no unnecessary naming of Coop members in polemical letters and articles. Writers must address ideas not persons.
3. Submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals, necessary to make the point of the submission and within the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies 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.

### 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.

### Respect

Submissions to the *Gazette* must not be hateful, racist, sexist, otherwise discriminatory, inflammatory or needlessly provocative. They may not be personally derogatory or insulting, even when strongly criticizing an individual member's actions.

The *Gazette* is a collaboration among Coop members. When submitting, please consider the impact of your words on the writers, editors and production staff who use our limited workslot time to try to produce an informative and cooperative publication that reflects the values of our Coop community.

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

**SUMMERTIME IS ENDING.  
VACATIONS ARE ENDING.  
SCHOOL IS STARTING.  
SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS ARE STARTING.**



**LET'S GO BACK  
TO WORK.**

**Remember to come to your September  
work shift at the Park Slope Food Coop.**

## 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.

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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.

Yomi Abiola Vincent Aloï Rithvik Balakrishnan Edward Bally Therese Barbato Althea Barrett Rivka Baum Brian Bergman Jessica Blackman Ross Block Joanna Bock Gregory Brander Tina Branham John August Bridgeford Lara Brodsky Adam Brody Eva Brooks Marlee Bruning Michael Buishas	Chad Carpenter Kara Carpenter Allyson Cedrone Corey Chao Elana Coglianò Christina D'Esposito Andre Dennis Lisa DiBello Hannah Dischinger Joseph Duplantier Vilma Duplantier Vanessa Ehler Joanna Erdos Kristen Evretig Luciana Faulhaber Andrew Finegold Erin Fisk Sophia Forker Isaac Z. Foster	Naomi Frangos Emily Gagner Albert Garcia Saudi Garcia Andrew Garon Darryl Glenn Robyn Glenn Joe Golden Eagle Lights Raquel Goller Violeta Gomez- Uribe John Gonzalez Robin Graven-Milne Nelle Gretzinger Kate Grimes Samantha Hacker Natalie Haddad Lauren Hauser Chris Hills Sebastian Hodge	Kasey Holt Daniel Horowitz Emma Howard John Hsih Hua Hsu Daniel Inguarson Adasa Irmiyayeva Carolina Jimenez Karen Johnson Monica Johnson Sylvia Johnson Stephanie Jones Emma Kaplan-Lewis Don Kinsella James Kizer Veasna Kong Denise Lamdan Shai Lamdan Remy Le Boeuf	Christine J. Leahy Dan Leamen Haley Leibowitz Danielle Levoit Lynn Levy Simon Lewis Rachel Libertò Pete Limon Michelle Lin Alberto Lorenzi Charles Louis Jennifer Luby Chyna Lynch Ella Marder Elena Matt Luke McMullan Molly McNab Nadia Mehenni Akane Merlo	Stefano Merlo Rebecca Newman Lindsey Nye Jenny O'Connell Dena Olyaie Rosalie Osborn Chad Pawlikowski Matt Perpick Derek Phillips Kandy Pierre Grace Procopio Geoffrey Richman Brian Rogers Kaia Ross-Duggan Justin Roult Alice Ruxton Tanya Saraiya Bisma Sarfaraz Faige Sashitzy	Yvonne Scharron del Rio Zafir Schop Fatih Seyhanoglu Camille Sieunarine Linton Sieunarine Genevieve Smith Erin Sparling Emily Spine Elliot Stoller Andrew Stone Michael Stone Mari Stoner Naomi Sudai Ofir Sudai Evan Sumortin Olivia Sweet Adena Teitelbaum Yedidiah Teitelbaum Omari Thompson	Scharon Thunderlights Elia Timpanaro Alida Torres Liz Tran Andrew Turner Teresa Uribe Maria Angels Vila Tracy Walsh Carol Wang Madeline Weisburg Andrew Whitham Andrea Whitten Fredrik Wikholm Maya Williams Briana Zeck Hannah Zilka
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COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

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

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

The Coop on the Internet

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

The Coop on Cable TV

**Inside the Park Slope Food Coop**  
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](http://www.bricartsmedia.org/community-media/bcat-tv-network).

General Meeting Info

**TUE, SEPTEMBER 29**  
GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

**TUE, OCTOBER 6**  
AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.  
Submissions will be considered for the October 27 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

**LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**  
September 17 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, September 7  
October 1 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, September 21

**CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:**  
September 17 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, September 9  
October 1 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, September 23

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 29, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President Street, between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

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 processed and healthful foods.** We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others. We support non-toxic, sustainable agriculture.

**We respect the environment.** We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations. We prefer to buy from local, earth-friendly producers. We recycle. We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment.

**We are committed to diversity and equality.** We oppose discrimination in any form. We strive to make the Coop welcoming and accessible to all and to respect the opinions, needs and concerns of every member. We seek to maximize participation at every level, from policy making to running the store.

**We welcome all who respect these values.**

park slope  
FOOD COOP

## calendar of events

sep 3  
thu 7:30 pmFood Class: Intro to Nut-Based  
“Cheese” Making

Witness the process of transforming health-supportive ingredients like almonds, agar, cashews, miso, brown rice vinegar, probiotic powder, garbanzo bean flour, arrowroot and macadamia into artisanal “cheese” flavor profiles.

Chef **Olivia Roszkowski** will discuss the fermentation process, how to achieve the perfect texture, as well as choosing flavor profiles. This class will use vegan and gluten free ingredients, available at the Food Coop. Chef Oliva graduated from Columbia University with a degree in Neuroscience and Behavior. After completing the Chef Training Program at the Natural Gourmet Institute, she worked as a line cook at Jean Georges’ (The) Mercer Kitchen, David Chang’s Momofuku Ssam Bar, as well as Danny Meyer’s Union Square Events. She currently works as a Chef Instructor at the Natural Gourmet Institute and as a private chef. *Menu includes: heirloom tomato salad with macadamia “feta” and shaved red onions; crispy cauliflower “wings” with pine nut “smoked gouda” dip; black bean, avocado, lime nachos with almond “pepper jack”; blueberry marbled cashew “cheesecake.”* **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 August 20.**

**Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Olivia Roszkowski.**

sep 8  
tue 7 pmSafe Food Committee Film Night:  
Seeds of Time

A perfect storm is brewing as agriculture pioneer Cary Fowler races against time to protect the future of our food. Seed banks around the world are crumbling, crop failures are producing starvation and rioting, and the accelerating effects of climate change are affecting farmers globally.

Communities of indigenous Peruvian farmers are already suffering those effects, as they try desperately to save over 1,500 varieties of native potato in their fields. But with little time to waste, both Fowler and the farmers embark on passionate and personal journeys that may save the one resource we cannot live without: our seeds.

**See upcoming events, past reviews and a comprehensive list of films shown at [www.plowtoplatefilms.com](http://www.plowtoplatefilms.com) which can now also be reached via a link on the Park Slope Food Coop’s home page at [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com).**

sep 11  
fri 7 pm

## Wordsprouts: A Night of Memoir



**Moe Kornbluth** is from Brooklyn. He began writing *Fran* in 2011 as a way of remembering the life and love he and his wife had together before her tragic diagnosis of Parkinson’s. It details the romance, the excitement, the intelligence, and the ambition that made life with

Francine Justa, his wife of more than four decades, so enthralling. One of the most respected and charismatic leaders of New York City’s affordable housing movement, Fran’s diagnosis of Parkinson’s put an end to her meteoric career and changed their relationship and lives forever. Filled with humor, sadness, hope and regret, *Fran* reminds us all that it is wise not only to expect the unexpected in life, but to plan for it. His goal for the book is to help others who might be dealing with similar situations find comfort and solutions that will improve their lives. **Helen Zuman** knows the Park Slope Food Coop is not a cult because she joined an actual cult in 1999, shortly after graduating from Harvard. In five years at Zendik Farm, she traded self-trust for membership in what she believed was a revolutionary movement to save humanity from suicide by bringing absolute honesty, and communal scrutiny, to intimate relationships. Her memoir, *Mating in Captivity*, traces her quest for Love with a capital “L” through delusion and heartbreak to wonder at the power of stories. **Meghan Casey** has been a member of the Park Slope Food Coop since 2000. She teaches eighth grade Humanities at a public school in Fort Greene. Her work there exploring social justice with children keeps her heart open and her mind sharp.

**Bookings: John Donohue, [wordsproutspfc@gmail.com](mailto:wordsproutspfc@gmail.com).**

sep 12  
sat 9 amNew Paradigm Multi-  
dimensional Transformation

We will discuss the energy of Shamballa, build vortexes, do clearing meditation, and receive activations calling on the Ascended Masters and Archangels for their healing love and light. Join **Esme Carubi** for two hours to introduce New Paradigm Multidimensional Transformation. Esme is a New Paradigm MDT practitioner, an Angel Therapist and a Coop member.

sep 12  
sat 12 pm

## Test Prep Sanity

How to help your child excel on standardized tests without driving each other crazy. Test-prep tutor and best-selling author **Elie Venezky** walks you through every step of the testing process, including which tests to take, how to talk about the test with your child, and how to handle complaining. Learn how to create a calm, sane environment at home and avoid the biggest mistakes that dissuade children from studying. Coop member Elie Venezky has been preparing students for standardized tests for more than 15 years. He is the Educational Director of Prestige Prep and the author of three books on education: *Test Prep Sanity*, *Test Prep Sanity for Students*, and *Hack Your Brain*.

sep 12  
sat 3 pm

## Building Co-operative Power

Stories and strategies from worker co-operatives in the Connecticut River Valley. *Building Co-operative Power* is a guide and inspiration for co-operative development in any region. It introduces the history and concept of worker co-operation and relays past and present stories. It addresses obstacles and opportunities for building a regional co-operative economy of worker co-ops, food co-ops and credit unions. **Michael Johnson** co-founded the Ganas Intentional Community in Staten Island, NY, in 1980 and the SolidarityNYC organization in 2011. He is an editorial member of the *Grassroots Economic Organizing* (GEO) journal, where he also blogs.

sep 13  
sun 12 pm

## Alternatives to Boycotting

How many narratives are there in the Israel-Palestine conflict? One above all? Two competing ones? How about five narratives? How about one hundred? If you’ve always felt that “pro” or “anti” positions only put us at odds, and that angry resolutions help no one, you should come and bring your alternative solutions for peace in the Middle East and for our beautiful Coop. This will NOT be a debate on the pros and cons of boycotting. It will be a place for New Narratives. The conversation is changing. Finally! **Jesse Rosenfeld** is a Coop member since 2004, secretary for the General Meeting, and is helping to bring a new brand of Palestinian olive oil to our shelves. He believes in empowerment, not boycotts.

sep 19  
sat 12 pmHelp Your Kids Grow  
From Challenges

In this short workshop, we’ll delve into the psychology of attention and resilience, as well as learning a few simple tools for helping kids—and adults—overcome and grow from challenges. Supported by scientific research, these methods have been shown to improve focus, emotional regulation, and pattern recognition skills. You’ll also leave with some practical tips for implementing

**For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop’s website: [foodcoop.com](http://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.



# sep 3–oct 13 2015

these simple and effective techniques in daily life. Presented by Coop member **David Wolovsky**. David is a teacher, educational innovator, and certified Positive Psychology Practitioner.

**sep 19**  
sat 3 pm

## Be-Friending Your Inner Critic

Nonviolent/compassionate communication for greater self-empathy, understanding, and connection. Are you your own best friend—or your worst enemy? Come learn some simple and powerful tools to transform negative self-talk and demands into greater awareness, self-compassion, action and choice. Transform those nasty inner critics into advocates! **Dian Killian**, PhD, has been a Coop member for 15 years and is a Certified Trainer with the international Center for Nonviolent Communication, director of Work Collaboratively, LLC, and co-author of the popular book, *Connecting across Differences as well as Urban Empathy*, that features a story set in the Coop!

**sep 25**  
fri 6:30 pm

## ITES Public Forum: Analyzing the Text of the TPP

Guest experts will concentrate on the sections about campaigns in which the Coop participates: country of origin and GMO labeling; buy local and buy America; and no to fracking. As well as aspects which affect us all: extension of pharmaceutical patents and Internet access and U.S. jobs; and especially the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) which invites investors to sue a government that regulates corporate behavior to protect human rights or labor rights, the environment. Our blog, CoopITES.wordpress.com has articles to prepare for the discussion. Non-members are most welcome. And please join us at a community forum with CD 9 Representative Yvette Clarke and others scheduled for Wednesday evening, August 19, at the Park Slope United Methodist Church. Check the blog to confirm the day and time.

**sep 26**  
sat 12 pm

## Anger Management 101

Are you or someone you know suddenly angry with loved ones or someone at work? Never knowing when the anger will explode? Have other people told you or someone you know they are ready to leave because of your anger? Anger is a common emotion that when used correctly can clear the air of misunderstanding, change wrongs to rights and improve relationships both home and work. This hour will be devoted to: 1. Understanding the nature of anger. 2. Learning about the latest neuroscience about anger. 3. Knowing the triggers that set off anger. 4. How manage those triggers. Coop member **Raymond Reichenberg** is a Certified Anger Management Association Specialist and New York State–Licensed Psychoanalyst. He has been doing therapy for 30 years and the last 10 years doing anger management presentation in the NYC area.

**sep 26**  
sat 7:30 pm

## Money Madness

Are you blocked when it comes to dealing with money? Either clueless or unable to take the actions you know you need to take? If so you are not at all alone. In this session we will talk about the different ways people think about money, how that affects their behavior and better ways of coping. You will leave with clarity about your next steps and how to get help taking them. **Arthur Goodman** is a financial planner and longtime member of the Food Coop. He is very interested in behavioral finance and how our culture and experience affect how we think and act about our money.

**sep 29**  
tue 6:45 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.

**sep 29**  
tue 7 pm

## PSFC SEPT 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: St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.**

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

**II. Open Forum**

**III. Coordinator and Committee Reports**

**IV. Meeting Agenda**

**Item 1:** Annual Hearing Administration Committee Election (15 minutes)

**Election:** Three current committee members will stand for re-election. Hearing Administrators work on an FTOP basis when needed and serve three-year terms.

—submitted by the Hearing Administration Committee

**Item 2:** Coop's Standards for Purchasing Seafood (45 minutes)

**Discussion:** Discussion of the Coop's standards and practices for purchasing seafood (smoked, frozen, canned, sushi, pet food) and specifically discuss the canned Bumble Bee brand tuna that we buy.

—submitted by Yello Goller

**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.

## still to come

**oct 1**

**Food Class: A Day In the Plant-Based Life**

**oct 6**

**Agenda Committee Meeting**

**oct 2**

**Film Night: The Ultimate Wish**

**oct 9**

**Wordsprouts**

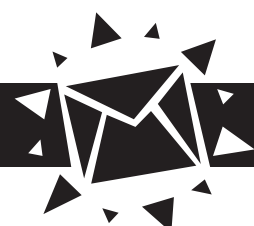
**oct 3**

**Female Health**

**oct 13**

**Safe Food Committee Film Night**

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

THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR TEAMWORK!DEAR MEMBERS AND  
STAFF:

I was delighted to read the 8/6/15 article about the tireless team of members and staff that found themselves working through the night to save our precious refrigerated and frozen goods when a brown-out hit the neighborhood. It was obviously a massive effort, and to hear that members volunteered to stay and execute this arduous work is heartening. At a time when it can be hard to find community, I am reminded of why the Coop is such a special place. Thanks to all who chipped in.

*Jake Abraham*

MAJORITIES AND  
SUPERMAJORITIES

## DEAR MEMBERS:

Winston McIntosh's 8/20/2015 letter ("Super Majority For Boycotts Proposal As Outlined At July GM") proposed that Coop Secretary Jesse Rosenfeld's GM proposal calling for a supermajority for boycotts would require the Coop's bylaws be amended because, as stated by Article VI, sec.4 of the bylaws:

"Except as otherwise provided, all matters shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and voting."

However, General Coordinator Joe Holtz responded by saying that "those present and voting" refers to the Board of Directors, not the general membership, and that the membership's vote is advisory only.

## Some Backstory

The Coop's incorporation in the 1970s legally required a Board as the Coop's governing body. However, the members were determined to preserve the General Meeting as the Coop's traditional and true—if not official—governing body. This could possibly explain why the drafters didn't just name the Board as "those present and voting."

The Coop has essentially succeeded in preserving that tradition. Joe mentioned the one time the Board voted against GM "advice." That was in 1996, and a

crisis and recriminations ensued; those directors who voted not to ratify were roundly defeated when they again stood for election, and the measure eventually passed.

It's unlikely someone could even be elected to the Board had they not assured us they would respect membership decisions. Obvious and necessary exceptions would be illegality and the vague accompanying word "irresponsibility." But Board members would need to think twice before rejecting based on a subjective opinion of "irresponsibility," as those historical Board members learned the hard way.

So legally, the Directors are not obligated to vote in accord with GM votes. But they are strongly encouraged to do so by Coop tradition and experience.

## Jesse Rosenfeld's Proposal

Winston also cited Article X, which states that the bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board or the membership. Note also that according to Article VI, sec. 2, General Meetings (upper-case "M") are "not in any way intended to be one of the 'meetings of the membership' [lower-case "m"] that is referred to elsewhere in these bylaws."

In other words, a membership vote to change the bylaws without Board ratification would require a two-thirds vote at a special membership meeting called specifically for that purpose.

So it seems the membership could indeed vote to pass Jesse's proposal by simple majority at a GM, but it would necessitate a two-thirds vote by the Board to ratify it. There are six members on the board; a simple majority is a 4-2 decision, which also happens to be a two-thirds vote of board members. The issue appears to be moot.

But Winston made another point. Jesse's proposal calls for a 75 percent vote to enact a boycott, a supermajority even greater than required to amend the bylaws themselves. A two-thirds supermajority would seem more in line with the Coop's bylaws and most other supermajorities.

*David Barouh*

**Editor's Note:** Full text of the PSFC's bylaws is available on the

Coop website, under the Member Information tab—General Meeting.

DEMOCRACY AT THE  
COOP

## DEAR MEMBERS:

The opposing interpretations of our Coop bylaws by Mr. McIntosh and Mr. Holtz published in the August 20 *Gazette* should concern all of us. Mr. McIntosh thinks that we cannot agree to the need for a "supermajority" to institute a product boycott unless we change our bylaws. Mr. Holtz implies that the General Meeting has no authority or power to decide such an issue but can only give advice to the Board of Directors (except at the Annual Meeting). He seems to be saying that a quorum of the six-member Board (of which he, as a General Coordinator, is a voting ex-officio member) is one-third of the Board members. That seems to mean that decisions can be made by the Board with only two of its members present. In that case, two people, one of whom could be Mr. Holtz (who is our employee, not an elected Board Member), could decide major issues for the Coop, such as whether a supermajority is needed for a boycott decision, or whether we boycott a particular product.

If Mr. Holtz has the correct interpretation of the bylaws, then I think we need a major revision of the bylaws, so that a more democratic voting system can replace them. No two members, even if both are elected Board members, should have the authority and power to decide important issues for the 16,000 other members of the Coop even if the majority of the members disagree with those two Board members. This structure is reminiscent of the power of the five U.S. Supreme Court judges who,

in 2000, by halting the recount of the presidential vote in the state of Florida, made George W. Bush president of the USA.

*Naomi Brussel*

*Park Slope Food Coop Members  
for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions*

THE BOYCOTT  
SUPERMAJORITY

## TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to elaborate upon the "Members Weigh Supermajority for Boycotts..." article by Ed Levy in the August 20 *Gazette*. I think it was a fine article but some salient points should have been included.

ONE: I included Eden Foods in my presentation because an Eden Foods boycott would afflict a cancer survivor among our membership with higher food bills. I said that even if only one Coop member suffers an injustice then the whole Coop suffers an injustice. I said if we are to go down that road, then we need a supermajority to address such an imbalance and show the greatest possible solidarity. No protest was made from the audience, silence being interpreted as agreement.

TWO: It was only when the subject of an Israel boycott came up that several point-of-order calls were raised along with screaming, incessant clapping and heckling. Such selective jamming of democratic procedure leads me to conclude it was boycotters of Israel in the audience who became so unruly that the Chair was forced to warn them: "I can't kick anyone out of the meeting if you're interrupting, but what I can do is take your name and file a claim against you with the Disciplinary Committee." (I call upon anyone who witnessed such interruptions to not wait for the Chair Committee, but to go the DC themselves immediately.)

THREE: I mentioned how the Coop empowers a great many politically underrepresented groups. We buy products from Peruvian coffee growers, Nigerian chocolate makers, and small upstate New York farmers to name a few, without any calls for boycotts. Again there was silent agreement. Only when I brought up how I myself, a staunch anti-boycotter of Israel, helped bring Al Ard Palestinian olive oil to the shelves were there more disruptive and hypocritical calls for "point of order."

FOUR: All commenters after my presentation spoke in favor of my agenda item. Though the first commenter said that some hurdles in the bylaws must first be overcome, General Coordinator Joe Holtz politely rebutted that this was an incorrect reading of the bylaws. The second commenter said he supports BDS but didn't feel he needed the Coop to represent him to exercise this right, and if a boycott would jeopardize the Coop with a lawsuit then he didn't agree with it. The third commenter said it all: "51 percent is not solidarity. That's just a hot-button political topic that you fight about with your friends and family. Seventy-five percent isn't really solidarity either, let's be honest. If you look at the last 25 years of boycotts [most] have all been 90 percent. That's real solidarity," which was followed by wild applause. The last commenter also agreed but suggested instead a two-thirds majority, which I myself would consider. Disagreements were limited to "Wrap Up" comments attacking the messenger (me) rather than the message (raising the boycott minimum).

FIVE: The conversation is changing. Now it's changing at our General Meetings. Get used to it.

*Jesse Rosenfeld*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The printing of Letters and Articles relating to BDS and anti-BDS subjects will be suspended to allow the *Gazette* staff to devise and propose a fair and comprehensive editorial policy regarding the management of controversial issues. The suspension will be lifted if a topic appearing on the GM Agenda warrants it to allow discussion before and after the GM presentation. This suspension is regarded as temporary until such time as a new editorial policy is in place. ■

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.

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**ecokvetch**

the environmental  
committee blog

## Tip of the MONTH!

**Use as Little Plastic  
as Possible**  
**Plastic is a toxic food  
packaging. In addition,  
producing plastic of any  
form uses vast quantities  
of fossil fuels and water.**  
**Using less plastic is  
better for your health  
and less plastic produc-  
tion reduces the carbon  
emissions causing  
climate change.**

Learn more at:  
[ecokvetch.blogspot.com](http://ecokvetch.blogspot.com)

## ★ 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.

### STORE EQUIPMENT CLEANING

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday,  
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.

### OFFICE SET-UP

**Monday–Thursday,  
6 to 8:30 a.m.**

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

### ENTRANCE DESK

**Wednesday, Friday,  
5:45 to 8 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.

### LAUNDRY AND TOY CLEANING

**Saturday, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.**

This workslot has two responsibilities.

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

### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE – TERRACYCLE

**Wednesday, 3:45 to 6:30 p.m.,  
Saturday, 1:45 to 4:30 p.m.**

Enthusiastic, dedicated workers needed to join our Terracycle Collection Squad. At least six months of Coop Membership required prior to signing up. Must be reliable and willing to work outside in front of the Coop during all seasons. Workers will be trained to sort through acceptable used product packaging for purposes of Up-cycling into new products via TerraCycle. Please contact Membership Coordinator Cynthia Pennycooke via phone, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., or via e-mail at [cynthia\\_pennycooke@psfc.coop](mailto:cynthia_pennycooke@psfc.coop), prior to being assigned to this shift.

### BATHROOM CLEANING

**Tuesday, Wednesday,  
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.

### RECEIVING MAINTENANCE

**Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m.**

The Coop is looking for members to do various light maintenance tasks throughout the Coop. You will work under the supervision of a staff person. Must be willing to clean, sort returned bottles, work in the backyard organizing, lifting up to 25 lbs.

### 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](mailto:adriana_becerra@psfc.coop).

## THANK YOU!

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

Alexander Abdo  
Anna Alaszewski  
Naomi Azar  
Shelly B.  
Alyssa Banner  
Megan Berdugo  
Jane Berentson  
Maria Bezlepina  
Chelsea Bruck  
Aliza Bruza  
Creslyn Burnette  
Anita Bushell  
Bohdan Bushell  
Emily Christensen  
Lina Chuyko  
Clayton

Ed Cohen  
Colleen  
Andrea DeMarco  
Michael Delfin  
Emily Drum  
Andrew Elmore  
Elizabeth Esser-  
Stuart  
Rose F.  
Alan Faiola  
Valerie Fendt  
Rose Freilich  
Ashley Garcia  
Ellen Garvey  
Solomon Gezari  
Rebecca Gildiner

Nanda Golden  
Emma Goldsmith-  
Rooney  
Tal Goldstein  
Theodore Gusek  
Devin Harner  
Rene Hart  
Lisa Hickey  
Ben Horner  
Ava Jarden  
Jill Jefferson  
Karen Jefferson  
Elizabeth Jordan  
Elizabeth Joyce  
Daniela Kafshi  
Karina

Masha Katz  
Justine Kelly-  
Fierro  
Amanda Kemeny  
Robina Khalid  
Karina Khalifa  
Jacquelyn Kim  
Issisa Komada-  
John  
Silvia Korchumova  
Lauren Kranson  
Ian Kuhnert  
Tanya L.  
Jason Lange  
Joan Larkin  
David Larson

John Leo  
Chris Leung  
Puichun Li  
Flora Lichtman  
Deirdre Lizio  
Matt Longabucco  
Ellie Lotan  
Hester Lyons  
Scott Lyons  
Josh MacPhee  
Carl Makower  
Alexander Mills  
Peter Mudd  
Malkah Nadoff  
Sophie  
Nimmannit

Laura Pedraza  
Jamie Penkethman  
Laura Phipps  
Tatiana Prakurat  
Niv Rabino  
Jake Rakochy  
Nelson Ramos  
Alexandra  
Rathmann-  
Noonan  
Robin Rathmann-  
Noonan  
Roona Ray  
Jonathan Rebold  
Emily Reilly  
Alicia Ritson

Anna Rollner  
Hannah Ronson  
Sarah-Rose  
Rossetti  
Elana Rothenberg  
Liz Rusch  
Sonia Ruschak  
Nicole S.  
Amy Saidens  
Jim Santangeli  
Sara Schwartz  
Tim Seggerman  
Edith Silver  
Fortunio Fayola  
Slocombe  
Sonia

Erik Sorensen  
Bennett Stein  
Vita T.  
Pedro Tavarez  
Remy Teicher  
Zeynep Turan-  
Hoffman  
Alison Yager  
Katie Yeskel  
Miwa Yokoyama  
Abigail W.  
Fran Weiner  
Constance L.  
Williams  
Aaron Wolfe