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LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

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Volume KK, Number 1

January 7, 2016

December GM Approves Pension Amendment and Votes Against Gazette Editorial Policy Review Changes

By Frank Haberle

The December General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop featured two proposals, voted on by the membership. A proposal by the General Coordinators to amend the pension plan was unanimously approved. A proposal by five members seeking to ensure that editorial policies by the *Gazette* must be discussed and submitted for approval by the General Meeting was turned down by a large majority. General Coordinator and Committee reports rounded out the meeting.



General Coordinator Reports

Mike Eakin began the Coordinator reports with an update on the Coop's finances. Forty-four weeks into the Coop's fiscal year, the Coop is in a healthy financial position. Net sales of \$43,463,549 during this year's first 44 weeks compared favorably to last year's total of \$41,660,720 during the same period. Expenses are slightly above the same period last year and are lower as a percent of sales (17.35% this year, versus 17.94% of last year). The Coop's gross margin—the amount of cents the Coop keeps for every dollar that comes in—is 16.92 cents this year, with a year-end goal of 17 cents. By comparison, Mike noted, the average non-member-run Coop keeps 35 cents or more for every dollar.

Sales are up 4.3% this year versus the same time period last year; membership increased 2.93% (16,698 participating members as of December 6, versus 16,223 at the same time last year); and sales per member were \$59.99 per week, an increase of 2.6% over the

\$58.47 rate per week of a year ago. Eakin credited the overall improved financial situation, in part, to the improved use of the new checkout areas. "You saw it if you were here over the holiday," Eakin noted, referring to the Thanksgiving rush. "The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

The Coop will be closing early for shopping at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 31, so that we can conduct our annual Coop-wide inventory.

Some shifts will be affected, others will not.

Please help inform our membership about this early closing by telling your Coop housemates and friends.

Members whose shifts are affected by the closing will be contacted by the Membership Office.

Member Expelled for Theft of Services

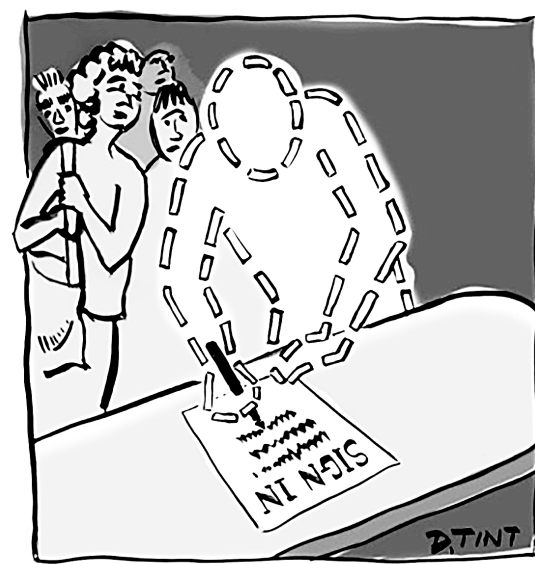


ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

By Ed Levy

On December 12, 2015, the Coop held an arbitration involving a member accused of time theft. The arbitration followed a lengthy investigation by the Disciplinary Committee, which found that there was enough evidence to proceed with a disciplinary action. In this case, the Disciplinary Committee had asked for expulsion of the member.

The Disciplinary Committee stressed the difference between missing shifts, which you can make up, and the deception of signing in for shifts that one has not done.

The member did not dispute any of the charges but wanted an opportunity to present what, in the member's view, were extenuating circumstances. Rather than a full hearing in front of a group of randomly selected Coop members, the member chose to have an arbitration. The forum for the arbitration consisted of three members of the Hearing Officer Committee, who would decide what disciplinary action should be taken in response to the acknowledged infractions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Next General Meeting on January 26

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The January General Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 26, at 7:00 p.m. at **St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.**

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.

IN THIS ISSUE

Puzzle	3
A Close Look at Two Key Coop Committees	4
Safe Food Committee Report	5
Classifieds	5
Welcome	7
Coop Calendar, Governance Information, Mission Statement	7
Calendar of Events	8
Letters to the Editor	10
Exciting Workslot Opportunities	12
Community Calendar	12

Coop Event Highlights

Fri, Jan 8 • Wordsprouts:
Young-Adult Fiction 7:00 p.m.

Sat, Jan 9 • Auditions For Our Coop Kids' Variety Show
2:00–4:00 p.m.

Tue, Jan 12 • Safe Food Committee Film Night:
Sushi: The Global Catch 7:00 p.m.

Fri, Jan 15 • Film Night:
Without Shepherds 7:00 p.m.

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

December GM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lines moved a lot faster. There was never a sense of chaos."

General Coordinator Joe Szladek provided the Thanksgiving produce report. The week that ended November 22 was the highest volume ever, with over \$1.1 million in sales, reported Szladek. "We had a very large volume of food move through a very small space," Szladek reported. Highlights included 2,365 pints of cream; 900 pies; 1,090 turkeys (in weight it was more than 16,000 pounds of turkey, or almost one pound per member); 4,573 pounds of butter; and 9,519 dozen eggs (seven eggs per member). Receiving and Produce Coordinator Ana Gallo added that during the holidays

the Coop sold 2,800 pounds of cranberries and 4,000 pounds of Brussels sprouts. The coordinators spoke of the high prices of broccoli due to the drought in California; and of upcoming shipments of collard greens and citrus coming up from Florida, the high quality of local carrots, turnips and chestnuts; and new organic apples they are trying that are coming from Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Committee Reports

Member Greg Todd provided an update on the GMO Labeling Committee. Greg reported that, in January 2014, the committee entered a proposal to the General Meeting asking to ban all new GMO products from the Coop's shelves. The feedback they received from

the meeting was that the committee needed a formal plan. As a result, on November 22 the committee emailed a list of 12 suggestions to the staff. "Our intention is to bring it for a vote in January if we can get feedback from the staff before then," Greg reported.

Member Rachel Porter from the Coop Loan Committee gave a quick update on the Greene Hill Coop, a current loan recipient. (The loan committee makes loans to start-up Coops that use member labor.) Greene Hill is currently struggling to build its membership in the Fort Greene neighborhood, and Rachel wanted to make sure that Coop members know that we can shop there with our Coop cards. "If you are over there in that neighborhood, please shop there; if you have friends in that neighborhood, please encourage them to join," she said.

Agenda Item 1: Pension Plan Revision

General Coordinators Ann Herpel and Joe Holtz presented a proposal that would make an amendment to the Coop's pension plan. A copy of the amendment was printed for member review at the meeting. The goal of the proposal was to align the Coop's benefit calculations with the original intent of the 1993 pension plan approval, which was to calculate the pension based on income directly related to an employee's work. As Herpel explained it, compensation is currently defined

as wages earned including the value of group term life insurance and health benefits for registered domestic partners.

General Coordinators Ann Herpel and Joe Holtz presented a proposal that would make an amendment to the Coop's pension plan.

The amendment would restore the original intention of the pension to be calculated only on wages earned, including paid time off. Herpel and Holtz added that they had discussed the amendment in detail with the staff who had no objections.

Questions were brief. One member asked if the amendment and its changes had been vetted with a lawyer. (Holtz responded that the changes would be made through a pension company, which takes care of the legal issues.) Another asked if the changes were retroactive or just for moving forward. (Joe responded that the changes would be made moving forward and that retroactive changes are not legal.) A vote was taken, and the amendment passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 2: Linewaiters' Gazette Policies

Five Coop members brought a new proposal that would require that any changes in editorial policies made by the Gazette's editorial staff had

to be discussed and submitted for approval at the General Meeting. As presented by the five members, the Gazette, the official newsletter of the Coop, is a key communication tool and essential to the Coop community. The presenters argued that the editors are making decisions on Gazette guidelines and that the wider membership, not the editors, should get to choose what the guidelines are. "If our freedom of expression is restricted, our rights are restricted," one presenter said. "This doesn't feel like our Gazette anymore."

The presenters argued that the editors are making decisions on Gazette guidelines and that the wider membership, not the editors, should get to choose what the guidelines are.

A very long question-and-answer period focused on how the wording of the proposal had been changed since it was presented at a prior meeting, giving the members no opportunity to prepare or respond. The presenters sought to add a new sentence to their proposal, asking that Gazette policies revert to the last set of member approved policies and changes from a 2014 meeting. Several members asked, if these materials were not available at the meeting, how could we vote on them? Another member asked, "Is this proposal covering the entire Gazette, or just letters and member submissions?" The presenters said that this pertained only to letters and member submissions.

In the following discussion, Editor Erik Lewis spoke of the professional experience and collaborative efforts of the editorial staff of the Gazette, who must work on a short production deadline. Erik added that editors make every effort to meet with and speak with submitters who are unhappy with changes that must be made to align with Gazette policies. The discussion period continued for the next hour. While several speakers spoke in defense of the proposal, the great majority repeatedly commented on their confusion on what was being proposed, and the lack of preparation by the presenters. In the end vote, the proposal failed by a large majority.

Following the second vote, the Board of Directors voted to approve the recommendations of the General Meeting, and the meeting was officially adjourned at 9:30 p.m. ■

Board of Directors Election

The General Meeting & The Board of Directors

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the monthly General Meeting has been the decision-making body of the Coop. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors.

The Bylaws of the Park Slope Food Coop state: "The portion of the Board of Directors meeting that is devoted to receiving the advice of the members shall be known as the General Meeting.... The members who gather to give advice to the directors may choose to vote in order to express their support or opposition for any of the issues that have come before the meeting."

Duties of the Directors

The Board of Directors is comprised of five elected Coop members and the senior General Coordinator present. Members serve three-year terms. Members of the Board are expected to attend GMs monthly. They receive Coop work credit for their attendance.

The Board of Directors conducts votes at the end of every GM whether to accept the advice of the members that night. Members of the Board are required to act legally and responsibly.

Openings

There are three openings on the Board. Two positions are for a term of three years. One position is for a term of two years.

Candidate Deadline

If you wish to place your name into nomination, you must declare your candidacy by submitting a statement of up to 750 words to: gazettesubmissions@psfc.coop. Please include a small photo for publication in the Linewaiters' Gazette and the member proxy

mailing. **Deadline for candidacy submission is Tuesday, March 1, 2016.**

Deciding and Voting

Candidates will have the opportunity to present their platform at the March 29, 2016, General Meeting.

Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. Members may vote by returning their ballot by mail or by bringing it to the Coop. Members may also vote at the Annual Meeting on June 28, 2016.

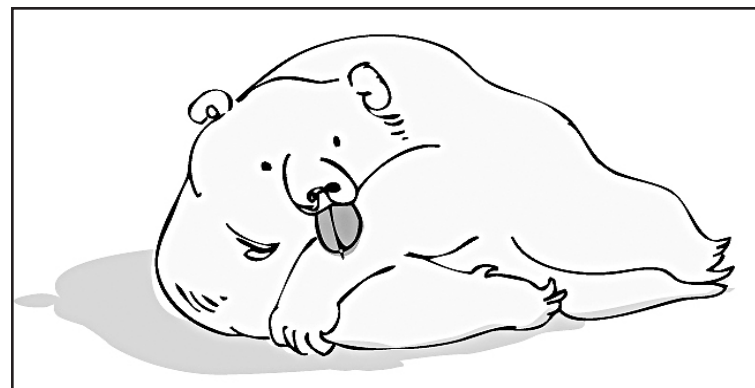
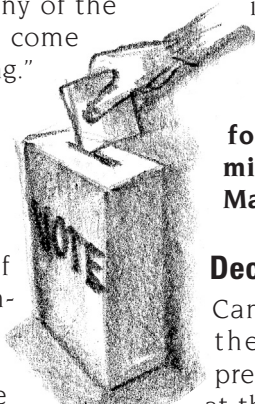


ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT

Hearing Administration Committee is seeking new members

The HAC performs administrative functions necessary to arrange and facilitate disciplinary hearings, coordinating with the Coop's Disciplinary Committee and the Hearing Officers Committee.

Applicants should be detail-oriented, comfortable working by e-mail and telephone; they should be Coop members for at least one year and have excellent attendance records.

Members of the HAC work on an as-needed basis, only when hearings are required, and earn FTOP credit. Therefore these members must maintain regular Coop shifts or be FTOP members in good standing.

The nature of this work requires that all members maintain strict confidentiality with respect to all matters on which they work.

We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop membership at large.

Those interested should e-mail the HAC at psfhac@gmail.com.

Theft of Services

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Arbitration

Two members of the Disciplinary Committee stated the charges against the member, which consisted of repeatedly signing in for shifts and not doing them, repeatedly signing in for makeups and not doing them, missed shifts and partial shifts.

The member, who has been in the Coop for twenty years, conceded and apologized for all of the infractions but asked that the committee see them in the context of a series of personal accidents, serious

illnesses and ensuing financial problems. Due to memory loss from a brain injury, the member claimed not to have remembered the time thefts and missed shifts. The member had previously been on disability for injuries and illnesses but felt it was inappropriate and excessive to ask for more disability time.

The member expressed a lack of confidence in the ability of the arbitration to take the difficult situation the member had been experiencing into account, and pointed as evidence of that to an email between members of the Disciplinary Committee, on which the member was acci-

dently cc'd. The email referred to the "BS" of the member's extenuating circumstances.

In defense, the member said the time theft would not recur, as the illness was resolved and the member's physical strength had returned...

One of the hearing officers strenuously countered the claim that the Coop does not care about people's personal situations, saying that "Whether your explanations are BS or not is not the Disciplinary Committee's to decide. The Hearing Committee makes that determination." Another hearing officer added that concern for members' individual situations must be balanced by concern for the Coop as a whole. Faking work shifts, for whatever reason, she said, is equivalent to stealing.

The Disability Policy

The hearing officers learned from a witness who attended the arbitration that the Coop's disability policy is fairly lenient: a member's doctor or other licensed professional is given a questionnaire to fill out, sign and return. Disability leave permits members to continue shopping for the period of their disability, which can be extended.

The member had previously been suspended for missed shifts and has cycled in and out of doing and then missing work

shifts. The member had also received amnesty for missed shifts.

In defense, the member said the time theft would not recur, as the illness was resolved and the member's physical strength had returned, adding that the disciplinary action for the time theft has been a personal wakeup call.

The Disciplinary Committee stressed the difference between missing shifts, which you can make up, and the deception of signing in for shifts that one has not done.

The Hearing Committee's Decision

After a short break, during which the Hearing Committee retired to an adjacent conference room, they returned with their decision. A committee spokesperson reiterated that it took members' life circumstances very seriously and also restated that it must consider the well being of the Coop. The officers said they felt that, despite the adverse circumstances, this was an intentional deception, one that had taken place many times. Even for a lesser offense these were reasonable grounds for expulsion. They explained that the member could have asked for additional leave. "With no pleasure," the chief hearing officer said, they would go along with the recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee that the member be expelled. ■



ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

Some Background on the Disciplinary Process

Any disciplinary action against a Coop member begins with the Disciplinary Committee, a squad made up of Coop members who investigate complaints about serious breaches of the Coop's rules. The Disciplinary Committee then recommends actions to be taken against the member that they think are warranted, if any. These could include a warning, a written warning after a second violation, suspension pending a hearing, mediation (voluntary participation in a dispute resolution process), workslot adjustment, resignation, suspension, arbitration or restitution by the member for any loss, damage or injury to the Coop.

With selection by the member involved of a mediation, hearing or arbitration, another committee—the Hearing Administration Committee—now begins to arrange the logistics. If the procedure is a hearing, the Disciplinary Committee presents its evidence to a panel of 15 Coop members selected at random by computer. Prior to deliberation, nine of these 15 members are chosen by lot to become the Deciding Group. The Deciding Group rules by a two-thirds majority on each of the specific issues raised in the hearing. The Hearing Officer Committee then decides, by majority vote, on the disciplinary action to be taken.

Members of the Disciplinary, Hearing Administration and Hearing Officer committees are elected by the General Meeting for renewable three-year terms.

Special Ordering Temporarily Suspended

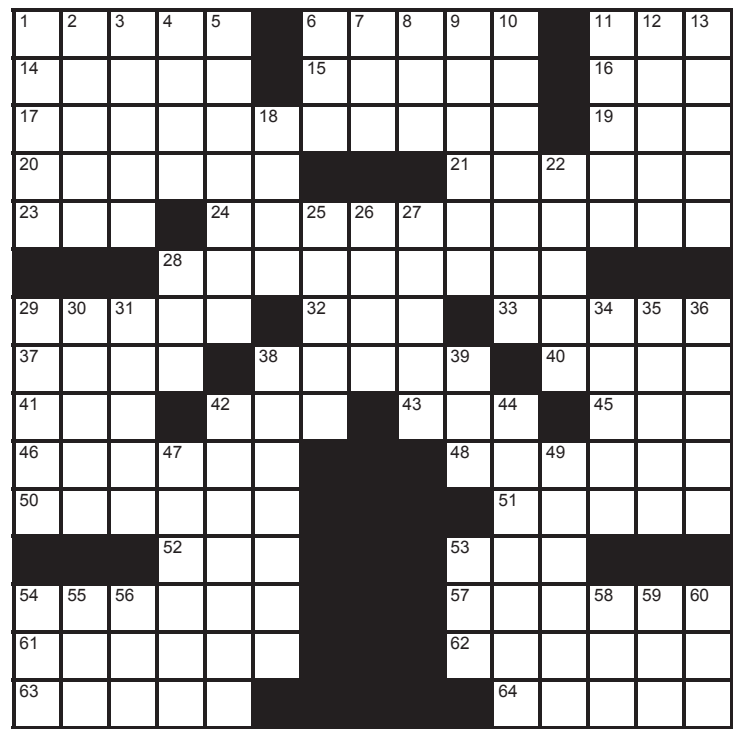
We will not be taking
special orders until
Tue 02/02/2016

Vitamins/Supplements special orders are suspended indefinitely and will not resume on Tue 02/02/2016

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

Crossword Puzzle



- Across**

 - 1. When Juliet drinks the potion
 - 6. "Hello! I'm ..." badge
 - 11. Norm: Abbr.
 - 14. Cranberry
 - 15. Moniker after a lifestyle change
 - 16. Water tester
 - 17. Sidewalk sighting evoked by the image at the bottom center of this grid
 - 19. Fido's response
 - 20. Ab ____ (from the start)
 - 21. "Just watch me!"
 - 23. Top point value of a Scrabble tile
 - 24. Sign meant to prevent what's seen by the ends of 61- and 63-Across and starts of 62- and 64-Across
 - 28. Cut, as a cake
 - 29. First words in Genesis
 - 32. Afgh. neighbor
 - 33. They usually involve a lot of extras
 - 37. Dept. of Labor division
 - 38. Adrift, say
 - 40. Suffix with switch
 - 41. Bill ____, the Science Guy
 - 42. Quiz response: Abbr.
 - 43. Mil. rank
 - 45. Okla. campus with a Prayer Tower
 - 46. Dis
 - 48. Banjo sounds
 - 50. Gets no answers wrong on a test
 - 51. Actor Davis who eulogized Malcolm X
 - 52. 2013 Spike Jonze love story
 - 53. Suffix meaning "approximately"
 - 54. Ferris' girlfriend in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off"
 - 57. Name on many a hospital
 - 61. "Goody, goody gumdrops!"
 - 62. Like most canned tomatoes
 - 63. Indian bread?
 - 64. Jury members
- Down**

 - 1. Comparable to a fiddle
 - 2. "The Cider House Rules" Oscar winner
 - 3. 2006 Winter Olympics host
 - 4. "O.G. Original Gangster" rapper
 - 5. Plane, train or an automobile
 - 6. Neither Rep. nor Dem.
 - 7. German "the"
 - 8. Onetime carrier with a hub at JFK
 - 9. Embryonic sac
 - 10. Be a wiseacre
 - 11. Tolerate
 - 12. Many a broken statue
 - 13. Clear up, as a windshield
 - 18. Fats Domino's "It's ____ Love"
 - 22. Soap-on-____
 - 25. Sales slips: Abbr.
 - 26. "I'll ____ brief as possible"
 - 27. "Omigosh!"
 - 28. Doo-wop syllable
 - 29. Area conquered by Alexander the Great
 - 30. Band with the 2000 #1 hit "It's Gonna Be Me"
 - 31. The ones here
 - 34. Pressing needs?
 - 35. Welsh breed
 - 36. Boozehound
 - 38. Its hollow stems are often home to venomous insects
 - 39. Insurance co. employee
 - 42. Property recipient, at law
 - 44. Basic ballroom dance
 - 47. What a horseshoe has
 - 49. Simpson with the 2004 hit "Pieces of Me"
 - 53. AOL or EarthLink: Abbr.
 - 54. Isr. neighbor
 - 55. Actress Lucy
 - 56. Enemy: Abbr.
 - 58. Diminutive suffix
 - 59. Lead-in to plop or plunk
 - 60. Actors Harris and Helms

Puzzle author: David Levinson Wilk. For answers, see page 12.

A Close Look at Two Key Coop Committees

By Alison Rose Levy

There are many committees at the Park Slope Food Coop and all are vital. Two in particular are key to the governance of the Coop. Let's take a closer look at the Agenda Committee and the Chair Committee, two groups of dedicated members who are at the heart of what makes the Coop tick.

The seven-member Chair Committee runs the Annual Meeting and the General Meetings. According to Chair Committee member David Moss, they use a GM-approved governance document for running the meeting that loosely combines the Coop bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order. But they mainly rely on precedence and a few basic goals including covering the agenda items in order to end the GM by 9:30 p.m. and keeping

the meeting fair.

If the proposals are not well crafted, the Chair Committee will sometimes make suggestions at the meeting to clarify them. "People hate it when their motions get tabled because the discussion got bogged down and we wind up low on time," Moss notes. In the past, on the few occasions when the GM has voted on whether or not to extend the end time of the meeting, participants have always voted no. Yet agenda item presenters will "sometimes take twenty minutes in their initial presentation when the entire allotted time for the item is 25 minutes."

The Agenda Committee was created as an elected committee in the early 1990s to set the agenda for the GM. "Before that, people might spend a

lengthy portion of the meeting discussing what should be on the agenda," Moss says. The Agenda Committee selects the items and the order in which they will be presented. But the Chair Committee can change the order and length of time for each item if needed.

The seven-member Chair Committee runs the Annual Meeting and the General Meetings.

The seven members of the Agenda Committee are elected for two-year terms. Openings for the committee are advertised in the *Gazette*. Candidates are interviewed by the committee members to assure that the prospective candidate understands the work and is able to do it. The candidate is then brought before the General Meeting for a vote.

The Chair Committee members are not elected and there are no terms. The committee members interview likely candidates and then try people out in a probationary period. Moss says it takes both time and observation to master the process. During that time, new members are not required to chair a GM for several months. "The first time you chair a meeting, it's a terrifying experience," Moss reports he is finally feeling comfortable after seven and a half years on the committee.

Bylaws

In its earliest years, the Coop did not have bylaws. Back then, ten early members, including Joe Holtz and Mike Eakin, attended a Coop meeting in Norwich, VT. It was there that members heard a lot of good advice about becoming incorporated. Because of this, the Coop learned it needed to formalize a legal structure aligned with the laws of New York State. For anyone interested, the Coop bylaws are available on the PSFC website.

The Agenda Committee was created as an elected committee in the early 1990s to set the agenda for the GM.

If you've attended a GM, it's easy to perceive it as an event ruled by Coop members who vote on various agenda items and proposals to which at the end of the meeting the board members give their assent.

But General Coordinator Ann Herpel points out that legally the set-up is quite the reverse. "It is a board meeting to which mem-

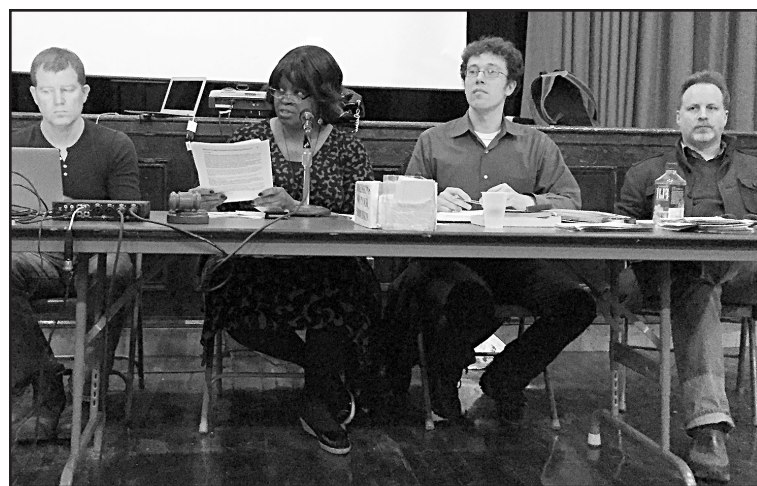


PHOTO BY ROD MORRISON

David Moss, far right, is one of the seven-member Chair Committee that runs Annual Meetings and GMs.

bers are invited." In addition to one of the General Coordinators, there are five members of the board (all elected at the Annual Meeting in June). Board members serve three-year terms.

According to the bylaws, at the meeting the membership has the opportunity through its vote to advise on certain Coop policies and other matters of governance—but legally the advice is non-binding. The Board of Directors is not required to vote in agreement with the advice, although in practice it nearly always does. The membership votes cannot be binding because the membership lacks legal recognition and accountability in the bylaws accepted by the state of New York.

The election of the board itself, which occurs at the annual meeting, is binding. Having a board election is a legal requirement. What if there was a situation where the board fails to carry forward what the membership wants? The Annual Meeting offers the chance to vote board members in or out.

Herpel cites one of the rare occasions when the Board of Directors did not vote in agreement with the membership back in October 1996. At that time the Coop had the opportunity to purchase the space that currently houses the main shopping area. At that GM, members voted to form a committee to study buying the building. But three board members, who did not favor expansion, voted against the advice of the meeting. Eventually those three board members were voted off the board. "Fortunately, the adjacent building was still available," says Herpel.

Typically, the Board of Directors has not chosen to use its authority against the membership but traditionally welcomed and acted on the advice from the membership. "Symbolically, the GM participants hold a lot of weight but legally they don't," says Herpel.

Separately, the Personnel Committee, elected by the

General Meeting and approved by the board, present General Coordinator candidates to the GM and Board for a vote. "Legally, it's the board vote that hires," says Herpel. The GCs are responsible therefore to report back to the board about legal, operational and sustainability matters. "It's a reciprocal relationship."

The Coop culture is shifted towards participation, and openness about controversies," says Herpel. "Decisions are not made behind closed doors in private meetings."

Moss echoed that ethos. "It's our job to keep the meetings on track, but we are sensitive to being overbearing given the recent controversies at the Coop."

Because the Coop governance process works, "if there was a real crisis, the structure is firmly rooted to address it. It's a robust system. For example, if someone wanted to do away with workslot credit, a hallmark of this system, the process could address it," Herpel says. "People would write letters, they would turn out for a vote. By and large, members trust the process."

"Currently, everyone on the Board of Directors says they would not vote their personal interest or views, they would vote the way the meeting went unless it violated their fiduciary or legal responsibility," says Moss. "You could have board members who interpreted their role as director in a different way, say to vote what they personally thought was right. But all the current members have spoken up to say they would vote to ratify the GM decisions." Since Moss has been on the committee (over seven years) "there has not been a vote that was not unanimously ratified by the board."

He admits that the governance structure is potentially subject to abuse. But most of those serving in governance realize that "there is something to be upheld and there is something we are trying to facilitate and promote." ■



PHOTO BY ROD MORRISON

Attendees perceive that the GM is ruled by the votes of Coop members, but legally, the set-up is quite the reverse. The GM is a board meeting to which members are invited.

EXPERIENCED REPORTERS Please Apply



Workslot Description

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

For More Information

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

To Apply

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

Seeking Diversity on the *Gazette* Staff

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

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series: *Sushi: The Global Catch*

By Adam Rabiner,
Safe Food Committee

Sushi: The Global Catch, like slow food, is best consumed unhurriedly. The film rolls out patiently, in broad brush strokes. Fourth generation master chefs display their craftsmanship and skill, in beautifully photographed scenes, cutting fish, making sushi and sharpening fine Japanese cutlery. The film then detours from restaurants to a four-hundred-year-old shop where the proprietor quenches and tempers swords and displays other traditional and time-consuming knife-making techniques. The movie eventually settles on Tsukiji Market in Tokyo, the largest fish market in the world, with many businesses extending back at least two centuries.

In this world an apprentice starts out in the kitchen washing dishes, spends two years learning to prepare rice properly, is not allowed to handle a knife for the first year and a half—and then only to chop vegetables for two years—until graduating to fish. It is not until one's fifth year that an apprentice is allowed to assist a master chef, and it is a seven-year wait until this helper is permitted to deliver sushi rolls and platters to customers and make small talk with them. No wonder, then, that it is not until half an hour into the film that one gains an inkling about what *Sushi: The Global Catch* is primarily about, namely the unsustainability of the global fishing industry and the threatened state of wild tuna.

Tuna is the star of this

documentary. Mature Bluefin, Pacific and Atlantic tuna take many years to reach full maturity. At the top of the food chain and evolutionary tree, it has been described as the Porsche of the oceans: massive (as big as 1,500 pounds), hydrodynamic sprinters built for speed yet also possessing the endurance of marathoners, and expensive—on January 4, 2011 a single Bluefin tuna sold for a record breaking \$400,000 in auction. Despite international agreements to protect this valuable resource, global governance is weak, penalties are unenforced and illegal overfishing is routine.

Sushi started in Tokyo, then spread to the rest of Japan and then to the world. Among different types of sushi, tuna is the king of raw fish. The tuna connoisseur, like a butcher who knows his beef parts, will distinguish between the fish's cuts: chutoro, otoro and akami. A taste for uncooked fish, combined with the growth of a global middle class and modern shipping and refrigeration technologies, has spurred growing markets in China, Russia, India and Brazil. Today you will find sushi restaurants in practically every country in the world, and supply is not keeping up with demand.

This sad state of affairs threatens not just the tuna species, but the entire ocean ecosystem. Imagine aquatic life depicted as a pyramid of four balanced levels with tuna at the top. Below are three descending magnitudes of fish until you reach the bottom of the

food chain. If the tuna at the top of the pyramid is killed off, then without a natural predator the layer directly below them would explode in population. This second tier of fish would prey upon the third tier under them, depleting their own food supply and causing their own starvation. At that point all you would be left with is the fourth tier of jelly fish and sea urchins. This is the scary but possible future of the seas.

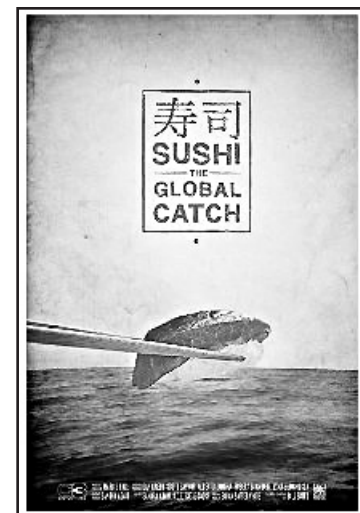
So what to do? One answer is to boycott tuna. This is the "blanket approach" adopted by Casson Trenor, a Green Peace activist and the owner of San Francisco's Tataki restaurant, whose mission is to "showcase the beauty and delicacy of Japanese cuisine while respecting the sanctity and fragility of our environment." You won't find tuna on Tataki's menu.

Or you could look to more sustainably harvested tuna. That is the solution being pursued by Hagen Stehr, a German-born fisherman who jumped ship in Australia as a young man and became one of Australia's richest and most successful businessmen. Stehr is a pioneer in aquaculture whose research is focused on breeding and raising the Southern Bluefin tuna in land-based tanks.

Something fascinating and unusual occurs towards the end of the documentary. Trenor and Alistair Douglas, an Australian with a Ph.D. in marine biology working for a company, EcoHub Holdings, engage in a real debate about the future of tuna and

the nature of sustainability. The scientist, who is trying to get Trenor to buy his product, attempts to convince the restaurant owner and advocate that the blanket approach of banning will fail to save the tuna. He argues that the future of the fish rests with a company like his, which captures wild, mature tuna then cages and feeds them before market, a practice called "ranching," as distinct from "farming." Everything takes place in a well-controlled and regulated environment. The fish are even traceable by DNA testing, to ensure authenticity. Trenor remains unconvinced.

Documentaries often veer towards the didactic, telling viewers what to think. Food-related documentaries, in particular (think of the many anti-GMO films), are skeptical that science can provide the answers. That *Sushi: The Global Catch* raises these questions but does not settle them is testament to this film's deliber-



ate, but by no means boring, style and a tribute to the filmmaker's own well-honed skills and craft. ■

See upcoming events, past reviews and a comprehensive list of films shown at 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.

Sushi: The Global Catch will be presented on Tuesday, January 12, 7 p.m. at the Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

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.

CLASSIFIEDS

BED & BREAKFAST

The House on Third St. just below Sixth Ave. is offering deep discounts beginning Jan 6-March 31. The apartment occupies the parlor floor. Guests enjoy plenty of room, total privacy and a modern living space. Call Jane White, 718-788-7171 to negotiate a nightly rate. The longer the stay the lower the rate. houseon3st.com.

HOUSING AVAILABLE

FOR SALE Fully restored 2BR

home in historic Ft. Pierce, FL. New plumbing, electric. Hardwood floors, fireplace, orig. tile bath, porch, garage. Walk to water, 10-min. drive to beach. Central to Orlando, W. Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale. Water sports, eco preserves, Sunrise Theatre. Artist retreat. \$165,000. Michael, 347-820-1957.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

EXPRESS MOVES. One flat price for the entire move! No deceptive hourly estimates! Careful, expe-

rienced 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.

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—37 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 25-year Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

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480 7TH STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11215

347-232-0799

LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* is published biweekly by the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc., 782 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215, 718-622-0560. 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.

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 or on disk.

Letters: Maximum 500 words.

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.

Friday, January 15, 8:00 p.m.

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



PROSPECT CONCERTS



Stephanie Jenkins grew up in a musical family in Manhattan's Upper West Side. She started playing old-time banjo at 16 and has been playing American traditional music ever since. Her love for old-time music grew in Ithaca, where she studied ethnomusicology at Cornell University, and steeped herself in the local music scene, playing with local banjo legend Richie Stearns, and with her old-time duo The Pearly Snaps. Now a Brooklynite, Steph works as an associate producer for Florentine Films, plays banjo with The Calamity Janes, and writes the occasional melody. She will be joined by friends.

Ned Rothenberg and the Mivos String Quartet play Brahms! Woodwind master Ned Rothenberg has concertized all over the world for 35 years. The AMG calls him "America's most intimate composer and improviser." Mivos "has earned a reputation as one of America's most daring and ferocious new-music ensembles" says the *Chicago Reader*. For this performance they will take a break from the avant-garde and perform the magnificent Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op. 115 by Johannes Brahms. Olivia de Prato and Joshua Modney, violins; Victor Lowrie, viola; Mariel Roberts, cello; Ned Rothenberg, clarinet.



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.

Erika Alpern	Bien Dinh	Kratschmer	Moriah Oxnard	Galina Richards	Igor Shteynberg
Gabriela Azevedo	Nathalia Dolan	Liz Libra	Felicia Park-Rogers	Helene Ringot	Katarzyna Strzelczyk
Lindi Bobb	William Dolan	John Libre	Christopher	Emilie Roberts	Jeremy Thal
Isaac Burg	Heather Donahue	Willem Marx	Perusse	Heather Ryan	Rachel Timoner
Guillaume Chatel	Flora Gallina-Jones	Sarah Mendelsohn	Emma Pierson	Hannah Schiff	Clarissa Wertman
Marianna	Lauren Greenberg	Don Miller	Marisa Prefer	Thomas Schmidt-	Callen Zimmerman
D'annunzio	Christopher Hill	Katie Mitchell	Kenneth Reddan	Arenales	
Leila Darabi	Christina	Amy Mozlin	Gloria Rice	Sam Shmith	



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, JANUARY 26

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, FEBRUARY 2

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the February 23 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

January 21 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, January 11
February 4 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, January 25

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

January 21 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, January 13
February 4 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, January 27

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 26, 7:00 p.m.

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 on foodcoop.com and at General Meetings. Instructions and helpful information on how to submit an item appear on the submission form. The Agenda Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the agenda for the GM held on the last Tuesday of the month. If you have a question, please call Ann Herpel at the Coop.

Meeting Format

Warm Up (7:00 p.m.) • Submit Open Forum items

• Explore meeting literature

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

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

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

Agenda (8:00 p.m.) The agenda is posted on foodcoop.com and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45) • 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 or sign-up at foodcoop.com. 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

jan 7
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: Food For Fuel: Winter Fare



Need a mid-Winter pick me up? The holidays are over and it's time to settle in and give yourself a break. In this class chef **Sarah Schultz** will teach you how to prepare four irresistibly delicious recipes from a creamy lentil soup to decadent truffles to help you refuel and reset. Not only are these dishes simple and easy to follow, but they contain heartwarming spices and vital nutrients to aid your immune system in keeping you healthy and happy throughout the cold months ahead. Chef Schultz, a graduate of The Natural Gourmet Institute and Bikram Yoga teacher, has a passion for healthy and happy living. After graduating from culinary school she went back to work at The Natural Gourmet as a kitchen assistant and worked as a line cook in several different restaurants including Dimes and, currently, The Pickle Shack. As a vegetarian of nine years she only wishes to share her knowledge of food and yoga in hopes of helping to create a more balanced world. *Menu includes: creamy lentil soup with shallot & garlic-infused oil; roasted cauliflower & brussels sprout salad with a pomegranate-tahini dressing; Middle Eastern-inspired vegetable pilaf in a spiced tomato sauce; truffle duo: lavender-infused lemon truffles & pistachio-dusted cocoa 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 December 24.

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

jan 8
fri 7 pm

Wordsprouts: A Night of Young-Adult Fiction



Heather Swain is the author of five young-adult novels, two craft books for kids, and two forthcoming picture books. Her most recent YA novel, *Hungry*, supposes a future in which one mega-corporation controls the synthetic nutrition market after the world's food supply is depleted. *The School Library Journal* says, "[A] fresh idea, tense plotting and reliable characters...Fans of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* and Lois Lowry's *The Giver* will flock to this story." Heather lives in a crooked house in Windsor Terrace, Brooklyn, with two children, two cats, a dog, and a drummer, but you can often find her loitering near the cheese case at the PSFC—her favorite place to go when she's hungry. With a passion for the power of print, **Kama Einhorn** has authored more than 40 books for kids and their teachers, published by Scholastic, Random House, HarperCollins, and Simon & Schuster. She is currently a writer at Sesame Street, where she gets to play with Grover every day. Einhorn is a ghostwriter for the Creepover series of middle-grade horror novels—and tries hard to make them just scary enough! She will be reading from *What a Doll*, published by Simon & Schuster in 2014 and set right in Park Slope.

Bookings: John Donohue, wordsproutspfc@gmail.com.

jan 9
sat 11 am

Reclaim Your Health

Join in on an engaging talk on simple ways to utilize natural healing methods to: gain more energy and lose weight; stress less and have more joy in your life; decrease the amount of medications you take. And much more! Dr. **Christina Tarantola** is a licensed pharmacist, certified health coach, Reiki I master and published author of her new book, *Revealing Your Inner Radiance: Healing Through the Heart*. She incorporates nutrition/lifestyle modification, energy healing and stress reduction techniques into her personalized approach. Her services include health/life coaching, reiki healing and relaxing essential oil therapy treatment.

jan 9
sat 2-4 pm

Auditions For Our Coop Kids' Variety Show



Auditions for Coop members ages 4-18, in the second-floor meeting room. You must audition to be in the show.

Polished act not required for audition; we can help you polish it. Singers and other musicians, poets, jugglers, stand-up comics, rappers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, etc. (no lip-syncing please). To reserve an audition spot, contact Martha Siegel, 718-965-3916, msiegel105@earthlink.net.

Another audition will be held on Saturday, January 23, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Performance date is Saturday, March 5, 5:00 p.m., at the Old First Church.

jan 10
sun 12 pm

Everyday Posture

Posture both contributes to our health and expresses something fundamental about us to the world. But for many of us, after years of huddling around a computer, carrying kids, and managing pain, we often find that our body doesn't feel or look as we hoped it would at this point. And worse, most conventional wisdom about posture urges leaves us stiff, stressed, and ultimately slumping with exhaustion. In this workshop, taught by a certified Alexander Technique teacher, you'll learn simple strategies for improving your posture and raising your overall well-being. The Alexander Technique is particularly useful for individuals dealing with RSI, back or joint pain, and performing artists. This gentle mind-body method helps you both find your true stature and feel at ease in your body. Coop member **Dan Cayer** is a teacher and writer committed to helping others change habitual patterns, find freedom from pain, and create a sane relationship with their own body. After a serious injury and years of chronic pain, Dan studied and trained as an Alexander Technique teacher and mindfulness meditation instructor. His return to health, as well as his experience with the physical, mental, and emotional aspects of pain, have inspired him to help others.

jan 12
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: Sushi: The Global Catch



How did sushi become a global cuisine? What began as a simple but elegant food sold by Tokyo street vendors has become a worldwide phenomenon in the past 30 years. This feature-length documentary, shot in five nations, explores the tradition, growth and future of this

popular cuisine. Beautiful raw pieces of fish and rice now appear from Warsaw and New York to football games in Texas towns. Can this growth continue without consequence?

See upcoming events, past reviews and a comprehensive list of films shown at 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.

jan 15
fri 7 pm

Film Night: Without Shepherds



Six bold people navigate the dangerous waters of Pakistan's current crisis to discover a new tomorrow: a cricket star starts a progressive political party, a female journalist goes behind Taliban lines, an ex-mujahid seeks redemption, a trucker crosses dangerous territory to feed his family, a supermodel pushes feminism through fashion, and a subversive Sufi rocker uses music to heal. Filmed by a team of Americans and Pakistanis over two years, *Without Shepherds* cuts through alarmist media depictions of the country to celebrate the bravery of its people. Directed by **Cary McClelland**.

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

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.

jan 7–feb 6 2016

jan 15
fri 8 pm

Stephanie Jenkins; Ned Rothenberg & Mivos Strings



Stephanie Jenkins grew up in a musical family in Manhattan's Upper West Side. She started playing old-time banjo at 16 and has been playing American traditional music ever since. Her love for old-time music grew in Ithaca, where she studied ethnomusicology at Cornell University, and steeped herself in the local music scene, playing with local banjo legend Richie Stearns, and with her old-time duo The Pearly Snaps. Now a Brooklynite, Steph works as an associate producer for Florentine Films, plays banjo with The Calamity Janes, and writes the occasional melody. She will be joined by friends. **Ned Rothenberg and the Mivos String Quartet** play Brahms! Woodwind master Ned Rothenberg has concertized all over the world for 35 years. The AMG calls him



"America's most intimate composer and improviser." Mivos "has earned a reputation as one of America's most daring and ferocious new-music ensembles" says the *Chicago Reader*. For this performance they will take a break from the avant-garde and perform the magnificent Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op. 115 by Johannes Brahms. Olivia de Prato and Joshua Modney, violins; Victor Lowrie, viola; Mariel Roberts, cello; Ned Rothenberg, clarinet.

Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$10, doors open at 7:45. Prospect Concerts is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.

jan 17
sun 12 pm

How to Have a Flat Tummy!

You've dieted, tried vegetarianism, cut out gluten, dairy... still there's a little (or big!) bulge in your belly. Nutrition Response Testing is a non-invasive system of analyzing the body to determine the underlying causes of ill or non-optimum health. Digestive disturbances are often one of the body's first "warning signs" that nutrition has been compromised and bloating and indigestion are some of the most common symptoms we see in our practice. By identifying the underlying causes of imbalance, we are able to identify the exact right nutrition and slowly bring the body back to balance. From bloating and gas to Irritable Bowel Syndrome, constipation, colitis, your body knows how to correct itself. And once we identify what's getting in the way, it will do just that! **Diane Paxton, MS, LAc**, is the owner and principal of Inner Fire Integrative Health Services, with offices in Manhattan and Park Slope. She is also a long-time Coop member.

jan 23
sat 11 am–2 pm

Auditions For Our Coop Kids' Variety Show



Auditions for Coop members ages 4-18, in the second-floor meeting room. You must audition to be in the show. Polished act not required for audition; we can help you polish it. Singers and other musicians, poets, jugglers, stand-up comics, rappers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, etc. (no lip-syncing please). To reserve an audition spot, contact Martha Siegel, 718-965-3916, msiegel105@earthlink.net.

Performance date is Saturday, March 5, 5:00 p.m., at the Old First Church.

jan 23
sat 4 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. Cunningham is a NY-licensed funeral director and editor of TheInspiredFuneral.com.

jan 26
tue 7 pm

PSFC JAN 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. Meeting takes place two weeks earlier than usual in December, due to the holidays.

- I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up
- II. Open Forum
- III. Coordinator and Committee Reports
- IV. Meeting Agenda

Item 1: Create a Special End Cap or Other Designated Area Where Both Israeli and Palestinian Products Will Be Placed Side by Side (30 minutes)

Discussion: This proposal creates a paradigm that symbolizes our collective desire to end the replication of the conflict in our Coop. In the PSFC we will take this symbolic action as a means to end the damaging effect that this issue has had on the Coop and many individual members and cap it with a gesture of civility.

—submitted by Rodger Parsons

Item 2: A Smarter, More Cooperative Boycott Policy (45 minutes)

Proposal: Officially establish PSFC's boycott policy. The guidelines are too vague, suggesting a 51-49% majority to pass a boycott. The official majority should be at least 75%.

—submitted by Jesse Rosenfeld

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.

jan 27
wed 7 pm

Learn About Cheese At the Coop

This month's cheese class will feature a curated selection of cheeses sold at the Coop. Members will get the chance to taste and compare cheeses, focusing on different milk types, rind styles and textures. Coop member and American Cheese Society Certified Cheese Professional **Elena Santogade** will lead the tasting and offer guidelines for pairings and for designing cheese tastings of your own.

still to come

jan 30

Teenage Troubles, Part Two

feb 4

Food Class

jan 31

Shop to Stop Injustice

feb 5

Film Night

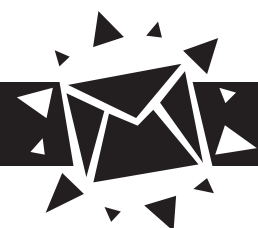
feb 2

Agenda Committee Meeting

feb 6

Valentine Card Making

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



UNFAIR DISCIPLINARY RULES

TO THE EDITORS:

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* of December 10 led with a story about a member who was accused of four counts of theft of services. The member was given a hearing and punished with a five-year suspension. Many members who are suspended have not committed a serious infraction, don't get a trial and are not permitted to return to the coop. Ever.

Under Coop policies, all adult members of a household are expected to be Coop members, and to work. If any one person at the address is expelled from the Coop, all adult residents are expelled.

All people who share an address, whether they share food or not, are considered a household. This assumption may have made sense in the housing market of the 1970s, but is not reality now. Few young people—especially those paying off college loans—can live alone. People share living space with people to whom they have no real connection—emotionally, financially or nutritionally.

Housemates have no control over each other's actions. They cannot insist that a new housemate must join the Coop, and work 13 shifts per year. The consequence of one housemate failing to work is expulsion for all members, working or not. All the housemates are effectively expelled for life because the Disciplinary Committee has no procedure to reinstate them. This defies logic and common sense.

When the innocent members of this household move, Coop members in good standing become guilty of sharing a household with a nonmember and are subject to expulsion. Punishment for one irresponsible housemate ripples out and affects people who never met the original, irresponsible housemate.

This punishment of the non-offending housemates is unjust, and violates the Disciplinary Committee's own rules. The original housemate—the person whom the Coop accuses of an infraction—is given a hearing and ability to mount a defense. If found guilty they can be given a warning or a temporary suspension instead of expulsion. The innocent housemates, who did their shifts, are expelled without a hearing or the opportunity to mount a defense. The original housemate may come back to the Coop, while the

housemates who are innocent are suspended for life.

Long term, Coop rules should be changed to define a household as people who eat together. People who benefit from the Coop's products should work, while recognizing that people who live together do not share food.

The easy, short-term solution is to reinstate any innocent household member once they are no longer in the household of the offending member. This solution is neither complicated nor time-consuming. The change of procedure should not burden the Disciplinary Committee since it is relatively simple to confirm a change of address.

Coop members should not be presumed guilty by association, and deserve to be treated with trust and respect.

Deborah Kapell and
Dan Tinkelman

THE COORDINATORS AND DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE RESPOND:

To address the overall premise of the letter regarding households—from our membership manual—"All adults over the age of 18 who live together in a household are required to join the Coop. The Coop defines a household as two or more people who share all or some domestic responsibility, so if you and your roommate(s) share any household items, we consider you to be a household. This rule upholds the Coop's guiding principle: to regularly benefit from our low price one must contribute labor." Someone who is simply renting a room and shares nothing bought at the Coop, is not part of a household, by Coop definition.

It is unfair to all who do their share of work at the Coop for a non-member individual to benefit from having Coop products bought by a member housemate: therefore if a member of a Coop household is expelled, all members of that household must leave as well. If that didn't happen, you would have someone who seriously harmed the Coop benefit by their housemate providing Coop food, without the expelled member having to work. There is no way around this. If a Coop member steals or otherwise harms the Coop, they are putting their entire household's membership at risk.

As for DC procedure, members are not given a hearing, but they choose one from sev-

eral options when they've done serious harm such as theft or not contributing labor. The purpose is to refute the evidence already shared with them. The household member invariably chooses to attend a hearing/arbitration, too. If expelled through a hearing/arbitration, the member may never rejoin. In the past, when circumstances have changed for the former household member, the Coop staff has determined the validity of the proof and has sometimes reinstated the former member. However, rejoining of members is not currently part of the DC's mandate. Trusting on word, as Kapell suggests, that former household members no longer live with the expelled member has proven unworkable so far. Over the past few years, the DC has been sent 'proof' of a change of address. In each case, the new addresses have turned out to be non-residential or retail, and thus not acceptable. Because this comes up, the committee is discussing whether or not to get involved in this area, and if so, under what conditions and with what proof reinstatement might occur. Any change to DC procedures would be brought to the GM for approval.

THE COOP HAS NOT YET VOTED ON A BOYCOTT OF ANY ISRAELI PRODUCT

TO THE MEMBERS:

A persistent argument in these pages against the Coop membership voting about boycotting SodaStream (a water carbonation system formerly manufactured in the Israeli-occupied Palestine West Bank and now produced in the northern part of the Naqab/Negev desert region of Israel, using displaced Palestinian Bedouin workers) is that we have already voted against boycotting Israeli products. This assertion distorts the facts.

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

On March 27, 2012, a General Meeting vote took place to decide whether to hold a Coop-wide referendum about the Coop joining the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel's occupation of Palestinian land and its oppression of the Palestinian people. A referendum is a vote put to the entire eligible electorate about a particular issue. The Park Slope Food Coop

Members For Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (PSFC/BDS) proposed a Coop-wide referendum because we wanted all members, whether they could attend a General Meeting or not, to have the opportunity to vote on this important question. We are aware that only a small percentage of Coop members attend the General Meetings. On March 27, 2012, 1005 members voted against holding a referendum. 653 voted for having a referendum. The question was decided by about 10% of our 16,000 members. One thousand and five Coop members voted to prevent a more democratic process from taking place. Thus about 6 percent of the members decided not to allow the other 90 percent of the members to vote on the issue at all.

At the April 2015 General Meeting PSFC/BDS continued our campaign with a discussion item focused on a Coop boycott of SodaStream. That meeting was disrupted for 45 minutes by members who have yet to be disciplined for their uncooperative behavior. And although we requested in May 2015 to have the SodaStream boycott issue brought to a vote, the Coop apparatus continues to delay that vote, claiming that there is no affordable space available to hold it.

The reasons for boycott of Israeli products persist. Israeli government persecution of Palestinians persists. Its 48-year military occupation of Palestine has not ended. The Israeli military's killing of more than 2,000 Gazan Palestinians in the summer of 2014; the continued establishment of Israeli settlements on Palestinian land; impunity for extra judicial killings of Palestinians by Israeli military and settler vigilantes; none of these Israeli Government policies has ended. Our responsibility as world citizens is to use non-violent means to end them.

If a General Meeting for a vote about boycotting SodaStream is not feasible, then we need a Coop-wide referendum to decide.

Naomi Brussel

Park Slope Food Coop Members
for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions
psfc/bds.wordpress.com

THE COORDINATORS RESPOND:

The delay in scheduling the proposal to boycott SodaStream is not solely due to the question of affordable space. The Coop Coordinators have surveyed and contacted available spaces in Brooklyn to hold a meeting

of more than 2,000 attendees. There are only five spaces in Brooklyn that meet that criteria, which is based on the number of attendees at the March 2012 GM. Three of those spaces flatly told us that they would not rent to us if this controversial topic is on the agenda. The other spaces cost more than \$30,000 to rent for an evening. Coop administrators do not have authority to spend that amount of money without GM approval.

REACTION TO THE LETTER POLICY

TO THE EDITORS:

It was with great sadness that I witnessed the editors of the *Gazette* reveal their new letter policy. I must believe that I was not the only one who greatly enjoyed our several month hiatus when no more annoying, repetitive and irrelevant letters about the Middle East were published, mostly penned by the same handful of people. What a breath of fresh air to read letters that actually were related to the Coop!

I personally did not feel ANY loss by not reading the endless Middle East/BDS letters, but do you know what? Had I inexplicably been overcome with a desire to know what was the latest news from that part of the world, I have at home, a thing called a computer, which is attached to this other thing called the Internet, and I could have, on my own initiative, read countless articles from a plethora of perspectives. Somehow I didn't need the Park Slope Food Coop newspaper to inform me of this, or any other international issue.

The editors have made a grave mistake, which unless reversed we shall all suffer for. It must be abundantly clear to everyone that these letters will NEVER stop. Even under the new guidelines the editors of the *Gazette* will be regularly publishing these letters FOREVER. It is a waste of space, divisive to our cooperative spirit and just plain silly. The editors should immediately reverse this misguided policy and resign for their inability to exercise the most basic function of an editor—editing the content published so that it matches the reason for a publication to exist. To whatever extent the *Gazette* serves as a member's forum to discuss and enlighten each other on topical issues, such a role has been so thoroughly abused, the editors should have long since acted to squelch this interminable discourse. The *Linewaiters' Gazette* was never intended to

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

host an endless series of letters on an intractable conflict. Reverse the policy and resign.

Eric Eisenstadt

ROUND AND ROUND WE GO... AND WHY?

TO THE EDITORS AND MEMBERS:

Recently (10/12/15), the *Gazette's* Editorial and Leadership Committees wrote that their new policy of using discretion to choose among letters "is designed to apply to any topic ... proven over time to usurp and dominate ... the *Gazette* with serial, redundant or repetitive submissions and ... applies to the discourse on BDS/Anti-BDS, and related matters."

Yet in the 12/24/15 edition, a letter ("Part and Parcel ...") with allegations of Israeli "water exploitation" was published despite the fact that identical claims were repeatedly and exhaustively made between 2009 and 2013 and were credibly refuted in the 6/14/12 and 5/16/13 editions. Yet now, more than three years later, like paper, glass, metal and plastic, the claim is being recycled. Round and round we go and where it stops nobody knows.

Furthermore, while this particular letter was chosen for publication, another (not written by me), which made a strong case for the illegality of boycotts against Israel (with Supreme Court cases cited), was rejected in the interests of providing "variety."

So I'm asking the editors: (1) why, given your complaints about the burden, (2) why, given the already-disproportionate coverage vis-à-vis the limited relevance to the Coop, (3) why, given the deep offense and annoyance expressed by many members, and (4) why, given the unambiguous failure of the one-and-only BDS proposal at a meeting almost four years ago with unprecedented attendance and at unprecedented cost, why, then, do you believe that a movement to delegitimize Israel is an enduring and compelling interest of this cooperative grocery store. Or is it the case that a majority of the editors endorse the BDS movement?

A posted response will be much appreciated.

Sylvia Lowenthal

GAZETTE EDITORIAL POLICY

TO THE EDITORS:

I'm having a sense of déjà vu

when I read the *Linewaiters' Gazette*, now that the moratorium on publishing BDS-related letters has ended. I was really enjoying reading the *Gazette* again during the moratorium and read the first issue post-moratorium with a sense of sadness and disappointment. It's even harder to read the letters now that I have experienced the breath of fresh air that was the BDS-free *Gazette* during the moratorium.

I feel as if every BDS-related letter has been published before, many (many!) times. I don't understand what allowing the same letters, by the same authors (pro and con) accomplishes. I also don't understand what the letter writers are trying to accomplish: whether they are trying to sway new people to their viewpoints or just want to see their names and (rehashed) viewpoints on display. And the footnotes and citations in some of the letters have me stumped: if these are not true letters but are instead position pieces, they would not seem to properly belong in a food coop publication "letters" section in the first place. Position papers with footnotes and citations could be outright rejected as non-letters, and more properly submitted to periodicals meant for such types of submissions.

Longer term the debate should go offsite, to a political forum meant for people who intentionally get involved in the debate—instead of what is supposed to be a "cooperative" (and non-divisive) environment for meeting our food-buying needs. But in the meantime, if a tiny group of Coop members want to continue this debate, it would be helpful if the Coop (through the newspaper or otherwise) doesn't help enable them to take up so much bandwidth and visibility when (as I suspect) the vast majority of the Coop's members would rather it didn't.

It may be advisable to change the policy to avoid an author publishing a letter on the same general topic, more than once or twice per year. Freedom of the press includes the freedom not to publish repetitive letters. And exercising freedom of speech doesn't mean unlimited bites at the apple. Once in a while is enough. "Once in a while" is not what we readers of the *Gazette* have been subjected to for months and years. Freedom of speech needs to be balanced by the right to quiet enjoyment. I miss "quiet enjoyment" of the Food Coop's newspaper. Enough is really enough.

Jeanne Solomon

WE SHOULD VOTE

TO THE EDITORS:

Lila Rieman writes in the December 24 *Gazette* that "We did have a vote on joining BDS and the BDS group was defeated." We did not have a vote on joining! Ever since this topic came up, Coop management has been afraid of having an actual vote. First they claimed the mailing cost would be \$25,000 for a membership-wide vote. Conveniently ignoring that the next election for the board of directors was only a few months away. Then they set up a meeting in an inconvenient location where people would have to spend many hours of their time to vote whether to have a vote. The anti-BDS supporters, afraid of having an actual vote, came out in force.

Like others, I am tired of seeing the endless letters here in the *Gazette*. I can't believe that many people actually read them all. The only way to definitely end this is to have a membership-wide vote on whether the Coop should join BDS. The ballots should be secret, to forestall attempts to influence the vote by intimidation. It can be included with the next vote for the board of directors for a minimal additional cost.

Anyone that is opposed to having such a vote is afraid of losing. And their fear is so great they are willing to toss democracy out the window. Ideally all will agree that such a vote will be definitive, and all letters here should then end.

Don Wiss

THE COORDINATORS RESPOND:

The cost for a mailing to approximately 30,000 member-owners would be around \$15,000, not the \$25,000 Wiss incorrectly states. Also, a membership-wide vote, or referendum, must be approved by the General Meeting. Also, the March 2012 GM was located at Brooklyn Technical High School in Fort Greene, near many bus and subway routes. Almost 1,700 members were able to attend. There are no spaces of the size this meeting demanded in Park Slope.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?

TO THE EDITORS:

In 2012 and prior years going back to at least 2005, the Coop had shopping hours on Christmas day, but since 2013 the Coop has been closed on Christmas day. Am I correct in thinking that

this is the only day of the year when the Coop isn't open? As far as I can tell, this change occurred in 2013 without explanation in the *Gazette*. Can someone explain why this change was made?

Thanks!

Len Neufeld

THE COORDINATORS RESPOND:

The General Coordinators made the decision to close on Christmas Day, beginning in 2013, for two reasons. First, members were increasingly uninterested in working on Christmas Day. Given that for many days between December 24 and January 1 the Coop needs member labor to fill in for the high number of absences during the winter holidays, we found that we could not adequately staff with member labor the shifts on December 25. We decided to put our efforts into getting members to sign up for the hundreds of additional shifts made available during that period. Second, December 25 is one of the four paid holidays the Coop staff receives each year. Staff members became more unwilling to work on December 25 and the GCs increasingly felt uncomfortable pressuring some staff to work on one of their paid holidays. As the Coop cannot be open without some paid staff on site, it became unfeasible to have shopping hours on Christmas Day.

WHENCE THE WORD "HATEFUL"? THE GAZETTE'S NEW PROSCRIBED LIST

TO THE EDITORS:

The *Linewaiters' Gazette's* proscribed list, i.e., writing to be banned, once read "racist, sexist, or otherwise discriminatory." It was instituted without GM approval in 1982 (it's not clear if they were in reaction to some circumstance, or simply gratuitous, but they've remained ever since, and are now probably traditional). But recent additions include "inflammatory," "needlessly provocative," and topping the list, "hateful." What prompted these inclusions, especially the exalted position of "hateful"?

"Hate" legally describes animus toward particular ethnicities or religions, and "hate crimes" signify violence and other harm targeting them. The Coop's anti-BDS activists have accused their pro-BDS foils of "hate speech," specifically anti-semitism. But we haven't seen any explicitly "hateful" statements, as opposed to criticism of Israeli government policies. Rather, the Coop's anti-

BDS activists have stigmatized such criticism, inferring "hate."

The *Gazette's* editors have nonetheless adopted the word for their guidelines, and have claimed in their April 2 and December 16 "Editorial Comments" that "hate" has appeared in the *Gazette*. But they too have not cited definitive examples (and lacking this, we cannot accept this claim). The editors are thus taking an unfair, unjustifiable, and arguably libelous editorial position against the Coop's pro-BDS activists.

The *Gazette* has also engendered the near-permanent enmity of many who've run afoul of its irrationally forbidding and actually unreadable submissions guidelines, which the editors instituted in obvious reaction to the anti-BDS activists' accusations. The guidelines' multiple repetitions and reiterations of its many restrictions badly need editing to make them at least readable (a detail apparently overlooked by the *Gazette's* professional editors). But the insulting content and tone themselves need rethinking, especially because they reach far beyond the BDS issue. The guidelines stigmatize and punish the entire membership for the actions of seven members identified as the *Gazette's* "serial abusers."

None of this was needed. What the editors sought to accomplish with these crazy*and hateful guidelines were already summed up within their Respect Policy, which bans personal attacks. But instead of acting within their context as a member committee, and presenting their concerns to the GM, the editors made yet another display of dictating to the entire membership decisions that rightfully belong to the Coop's governance.

The *Gazette* once served as outlet for confrontations over clashing viewpoints and strategies—the forum for an active, involved, and articulate membership. It now exudes unauthorized control—with authorial latitude ever narrowing. Unconventional and challenging thought are on notice—they won't be tolerated.

Editors, take note: controversy isn't ipso facto bad—it opens eyes. Your powers aren't unlimited, nor is the prestige of your all-professional status. Members may yet awaken to the vise that has tightened around their free-expression by professional editors who don't edit, but rather censor. And they may yet awaken to this historically rogue publication's increasingly vanishing viability as a member forum.

David Barouh

★ 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.

PARM SQUAD
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, various times

This shift requires extensive training with a member of the paid staff, and therefore requires a six-month commitment. You must have good attendance to join this squad and must be a member for at least six months. As a member of the PARM Squad, you'll prepare designated cheeses for sale. You should be fit enough to cooperate with other members to lift 90 lbs. (a wheel of parmesan). Involves also cutting hard cheese, moving in and out of the cooler. All members of the squad must follow the hygiene and safety guidelines as stipulated in the Food Processing manual. Please provide your e-mail address to be added to the shift-swapping contact list. Interested members must speak to Britt before joining this squad: britt_henriksson@psfc.coop.

VITAMIN SHELF LABELER
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday, flexible hours

Looking for exceptionally detail-oriented people to help put shelf labels up in the supplement side of aisle 4 and maintain them year round. This will include some database work. Hours are flexible: this would be as an FTOP vitamin worker. Do you love to organize small confusing things? This job is for you! Contact Jessa Fisher at jessa_fisher@psfc.coop.

OFFICE SET-UP
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 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.

VISITOR LOG DATA ENTRY
Thursday, 7:30 to 10:15 p.m.

Do you enjoy doing data entry? Are you a stickler for details and accuracy? Do you enjoy deciphering difficult-to-read handwriting? Comfortable working on a Mac and toggling between two different databases? Then this job may be for you! The visitor log information needs to be entered into a File-maker Pro database. Accuracy is important, so you must take your time and pay attention to what you're typing. We are looking for detail-oriented people to do this job. Please contact Camille Scuria before your first shift: camille_scuria@psfc.coop.

CHECK STORE SUPPLIES
Saturday, 9 to 11:45 a.m.

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

STORE EQUIPMENT CLEANING
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6 to 8 a.m.

This job involves meticulous deep cleaning of the store's checkout equipment and furniture. Workers are required to read and follow detailed instructions for cleaning the scales, printers and monitors as well as cleaning the furniture and organizing checkout workers' tools and supplies. Must arrive on time at 6 a.m. Please report to Cynthia Pennycooke on your first work shift.

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.

Crossword Answers

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

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.

FRI, JAN 8

8 p.m. Swingadelic Plays Jump-Blues. They have been playing their brand of swingin' Jazz & Blues since 1998. 1-hr dance lesson with Arturo Perez starts at 7 p.m. Doors open 6:45 p.m., kids welcome and free under 12 years old, admission is \$20 and \$17 for Coop members, students, seniors. at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture located at 53 PPW, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

SUN, JAN 24



4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players presents: The Daedalus Quartet Min-Young Kim, violin; Matilda Kaul, violin; Jessica Thompson, viola; Thomas Kraines, cello and Peter Weitzner, double bass at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture Central Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn. Admission free.

SAT, JAN 16

8 p.m. Marie Mularczyk O'Connell & The Mountain Maidens; Norris Bennet. At the Peoples' Voice Cafe. Community Church of NY Unitarian Universalist, 40 E. 35th St. N.Y. Info Call: 212-787-3903 or peoplesvoicecafe.org. \$18 general/\$10 for subscribers.



ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT



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, 2pm - 4pm
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

LEARN MORE: 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.

Interested in Engaging Coop Work?
Disciplinary Committee Seeks NEW Members

SKILLS NEEDED

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

OUR WORK INCLUDES

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

REQUIREMENTS

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

• Be a member for at least a year
• Have a good attendance record
• Possess the ability to work on a team
• Have good writing skills
• Have computer proficiency (excel, word, email)—this is essential
• Attend evening meetings every six weeks

We work on average six hours per month, more than the required work shift hours. You will be credited and your hours will be banked for future use.
We recognize the importance of various points of view when considering cases brought to us. We are seeking a candidate pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

CONTACT

Karen: 718.208.7897 or foodcoopdc@gmail.com
Join us to make the Coop the best place it can be for everyone.

Read the *Gazette* while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com