

"It's just food!"

Brighton Food Coöp Newsletter

April 2010

Key Upcoming Dates:

- Next Distribution: **Tuesday, April 20th** (Shift times will be announced by Michelle Kaloustian.)
- Initial Orders Due: **Wednesday, April 7th** (by 9:00PM)
 - **UNFI** – Login to the Online System at <https://www.unfi.com> (Warehouse=Greenwood, IN).
 - **Frontier**: Send order to Dana Janssen at dana.leahy.janssen@gmail.com.
 - **Creswick**: Send order to Kathy McKay at pkblmi@aol.com (Note: The coop gets a 10% volume discount on Creswick orders if we meet a total order minimum of \$500.)
 - **Outside Vendor (OV)**: Send order to Nancy Clark at rnspealding@comcast.net.
 - **Produce**: To order a Produce Share, include with your OV order sent to Nancy Clark.
(Note: To suggest items for the Produce Share, contact Nicole Brown at colerie@charter.net.)
- Sami's Orders Due to Gina Barnowsky at ginabarnowsky@yahoo.com: Saturday, April 10th 9PM
- Unfilled Case Orders Due: Sunday, April 11th (by 6:00PM)
- Creswick Pickup: Saturday, April 17th at Dolores Johnson's house (5816 Oak Creek Lane in Brighton)
- Note: Honey and Syrup can be ordered this month; Nuts and Candy next month.

Welcome, New Members!

- **Christa Rollison of Brighton**
- **Maria Wadenstorer of Brighton**

Coöp Financial Information:

	February 23 rd	March 23 rd
Number of orders placed:	19	18
All Products Total:	\$7,141.99	\$7,478.81
Extras Table Sold:	\$ 632.80	\$1,141.37
Extras Left:	\$ 122.90	\$ 298.35
Membership:	32	34

Good Job on a Distribution Well Done!

Our March 23rd distribution went especially well for a bunch of reasons, but maybe the key factor was Crosset's early arrival. Produce was delivered right after UNFI, so we had virtually no "idle time." Most members were done by noon, and we were able to close down completely by around 1:00. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who contributed to a successful event!

There's just one concern to bring up this time. As you know, before we can distribute UNFI, we need to open up most of the packages – not just the ones to be split among multiple members, but even the ones to be delivered as whole cases to individual members. The reason for this policy is to make sure the content of each box is exactly what is printed on the box and/or label. On many occasions we have discovered a box has been mislabeled, or that the wrong product has been put into the box. If boxes are not checked for content, members may get charged for products they did not order and do not want.

However, this policy does **NOT** mean that **absolutely every package** must be opened. When a whole case is going to one member, if you can confirm the content without opening or otherwise disturbing anything, **PLEASE LEAVE THE PACKAGING ALONE!** For example, if the content is visible through clear plastic or openings in the package, just deliver the whole package to the member as-is! That will save you time and eliminate the risk of damaging the content.

If you **do** have to **cut** open a package – either to confirm the content or to split it among multiple members -- **PLEASE BE CAREFUL!** Those box-cutters are extremely sharp and, if wielded carelessly, can often cut right through the packaging into the products within – not to mention send someone to the emergency room!

So putting this month's advice together with last month's, we have: **SLOW DOWN, AND BE CAREFUL!** Isn't that what we say to our teenage drivers, too?

Home, Home on the Range

The omnivores among us are often on the hunt for the best deals on quality free-range and/or organic meats – whether they be from UNFI or Creswick. But some of you – especially the newer members – may not have paid much attention to our third meat supplier: TMZ Farm. TMZ is our most local year-round supplier, with the farm located just south of Pinckney. Up until last year, TMZ supplied us with free-range Beef products, but then they discontinued Beef in order to concentrate on their real specialty: Buffalo. Also known as American Bison, Buffalo is similar to Beef in flavor, but much leaner and healthier. TMZ offers a range of Buffalo products – from the basic Ground Buffalo (which makes terrific burgers) to the delectable New York Strip Steak. If you haven't tried Buffalo yet, include it in your next coöper order. You don't have to order much – just enough to be delightfully surprised!

Spring is Sprung!

And with Spring, a coöper's fancy turns to thoughts of ... **gardening!** This year we continue our long-standing tradition of offering special discount pricing on bedding plants, including vegetables, annuals, and even some perennials. These discounts are provided by Superior Flower and Landscaping Supplies, which is located between Howell and Hartland. Janice Mechan handles the flower orders every year, and the orders are not restricted to coöp members. Anyone you know is welcome to participate in this annual offering. That includes family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, members of your church or civic group, even casual acquaintances! Watch for Janice's email and attachments on the subject. We'll also post the order form on the website. Orders are due to Janice by May 1st, but you can save postage by giving her your order at the next coöp distribution on April 20th.

Speaking of which... see you there!

Jim Brown
BFC Communications Coordinator

