

## *"It's just food!"*

Brighton Food Coöp Newsletter

April 2013



### Key Upcoming Dates:

- **Distribution: Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>** (Terra Bulloch will announce shift times.)
- Initial Orders Due: **Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>** (by 9:00PM)
  - **UNFI** – Login to the Online System at <https://www.unfi.com> . (Choose **UNFI East Region**.)
  - **Frontier**: Send order to Megan Putnam.
  - **Outside Vendors (OV)**: Send order to Christie Winch at [tcwinch@yahoo.com](mailto:tcwinch@yahoo.com).
- **Produce**: Include your Produce Share order with your OV order to Christie Winch. To suggest items for inclusion in the Produce Share or to inquire about availability of items for whole case orders, contact Karen Klann at [KarenSKlann@yahoo.com](mailto:KarenSKlann@yahoo.com).
- Unfilled Case Orders Due: **Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** (by Noon)
- **Creswick Meats**: Send order to Gina Barnowsky ([ginabarnowsky@gmail.com](mailto:ginabarnowsky@gmail.com)) by **Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**. Orders can be picked up at the church on **Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM** (but please notify Gina).
- **Vendor 7**: Honey can be ordered this time, Nuts and Candy next time. Because of the lingering cold weather, Maple Syrup is not yet back in stock. (What a difference one year makes!)

### Upcoming Board Meeting: **Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10:30AM at The French Laundry in Fenton**

Any BFC member is welcome to attend, but if you plan to attend, please notify Michelle Kaloustian ([lilchel@comcast.net](mailto:lilchel@comcast.net)) so she can contact you in case of any change in time or location.

## Distribution Recap

We may have “sprung forward” already, but you certainly couldn’t tell that from the weather at our March 19<sup>th</sup> distribution. Besides the blustery snow, we had to contend with ice freezing the locks on the UNFI truck. In order to free the contents of the truck, the driver had to fetch a bowl of warm water from the kitchen and soak the locks for several minutes. After that, the UNFI goods were distributed quickly, but then distribution ground to a halt as Outside Vendor pickups and deliveries were delayed by weather-related traffic mishaps. Without those delays, distribution could have been over by noon, but instead, most members took their orders home by around 2:00. “Done by noon” is definitely in sight, though, and maybe April will do the trick!

## Communications Changes in Progress

As you may know, I’ve been Communications Director (or its predecessor, Webmeister) for over 10 years – longer than anyone else has held a job in the Coöp! So it was about time to hand over the job to someone else. Turnover is generally good for cultivating new ideas – as long as it doesn’t occur so fast or frequently as to cause turmoil and confusion. In this case, the change will not be abrupt, but it’s already under way. The first step was to return the job to its original status as a non-board home-worker position (as part of a more comprehensive effort to lower expenses by shrinking the board) and to rename the job **Communications/Marketing Director**. The second was to identify a viable candidate to take over the job. That turns out to be Megan Putnam, whose availability has recently improved with Frontier Coöp’s implementation of their new online ordering system. Over the next several months, Megan will gradually take over maintenance of the website, production of the newsletter, public relations, and other communications and marketing functions. Meanwhile, her Frontier Coordinator job will probably be absorbed into another Coöp job, to be determined by the board. Stay tuned for further developments in that regard, and look for changes to the website and to the way we promote the Coöp to increase membership. You, too, can help promote and market the Coöp by distributing our flyer: [http://www.brightonfoodcoop.com/documents/BFC\\_Flyer.pdf](http://www.brightonfoodcoop.com/documents/BFC_Flyer.pdf). Just download and print it, then post it on bulletin boards in well-traveled locations or hand it out to friends and acquaintances.

### Suggestion Box

After each distribution, Secretary Marilyn Mitchell asks for feedback from all ordering members to get a sense of how the distribution went and what could have been done to make it better. Whether or not you’ve ordered recently, we’re always looking for suggestions to improve not only the distributions, but also the overall operation of the Coöp. If you have some ideas about that, please share them with us. Just dash off an email to Marilyn ([mmitchell1945@aol.com](mailto:mmitchell1945@aol.com)) or Michelle ([lilchel@comcast.net](mailto:lilchel@comcast.net)). If you don’t mind sharing your ideas, we’ll publish them in this suggestion box of the newsletter. Thanks!

## Finding Friendly Revisited

The Environmental Working Group (EWG) has just released an update to the **Guide to Healthy Cleaning**, which rates common household cleaning products (kitchen, bath, laundry, etc.) for their impact on human health and the environment. For detailed information, you can go to <http://www.ewg.org/guides/cleaners>. In a different vein, and somewhat on the downside, here's some more discouraging news for those of us who advocate friendly consumption: <http://newsfeed.time.com/2012/05/21/does-organic-food-turn-you-into-a-jerk>. Of course, nobody in our coöp is a snob about being earth-friendly – right?!

## BFC on the Web

Just a reminder -- the Coöp has two locations on Facebook:

Our Public **Page** at

<https://www.facebook.com/BrightonFoodCoop>

displays basic info about the Coöp, including location of the church. To "Like" us, you have to be logged in to your Facebook account.

Our Private **Group** at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/53959852030>

is a discussion forum for members of the Coöp. Click on the "Join Group" button to participate. An administrator will approve you if you are a current, former, or prospective Coöp member.

Recently, on our public page, Megan Putnam has been posting useful and thought-provoking links to health and wellness topics. Visitors to the page can "like" us and will then automatically receive email notification of Megan's posts on an ongoing basis. Megan will also post upcoming distribution dates so people who have liked our page may become more interested in the Coöp. The idea is to "soft sell" the Coöp to give us greater publicity and bring us new members.

## Solicitation Advisory on the Web

From time to time, the Newsletter presents a list of Coöp members who have part-time jobs or small businesses on the side that provide useful products or services. You can find that list on the website at <http://www.brightonfoodcoop.com/solicitors.pdf>. If you're interested in these products/services, you're welcome to contact the associated members about what they sell/do.

## Great Recipes

No new recipes were submitted this time. If you have any recipes or news items you think would interest members of the Coöp, please send them to [jaqbrun@gmail.com](mailto:jaqbrun@gmail.com), and we will put them in the next (May) issue.

See you on the 16<sup>th</sup>!

*Jim Brown*

BFC Newsletter Editor



***Live long and prosper;  
keep life in perspective;  
and don't ever forget--  
it's just food!***

