

"It's just food!"

Brighton Food Coöp Newsletter

February 2011

Key Upcoming Dates:

- Next Distribution: **Tuesday, February 22nd** (Shift times will be announced by Michelle Kaloustian.)
- Initial Orders Due: **Wednesday, February 9th** (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.
 - **Sami's Bakery**: Send order to Gina Barnowsky at ginabarnowsky@yahoo.com.
 - **Outside Vendors (OV)**: Send order to Nancy Clark at rnspsalding@comcast.net.
 - **Produce**: At present (but we hope only temporarily) Crosset is unable to deliver to us on our distribution day. Until that situation is resolved, we recommend that members order online from Door to Door Organics (<http://michigan.doortodoororganics.com>).
- Unfilled Case Orders Due: **Sunday, February 13th** (by Noon)
- **No Creswick Orders in February**
- Honey can be ordered this month; Nuts and Candy next month; Maple Syrup is not expected to be available until April.

Annual Membership Meeting

The meal started at 8:30, and the meeting started at 9:55 am.

President Cindy Damon started off the meeting by pointing out that the Coöp is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year! She thanked all Home Workers and everyone on the Board for putting in their time and effort to make the Coöp work, and she expressed appreciation for the work everyone does for/at each distribution. She pointed out that new members are always welcome, and in fact, they are needed to help lower prices and expedite distributions. Potential members are encouraged to check out our website and visit us at a distribution, and membership is pretty much "risk-free." If they decide to try out the Coöp, they can fill out a Membership Application, pay their Dues and Membership Fee, and start ordering. After that, if they decide within 90 days that the Coöp is not working out for them, they can drop out and receive a full refund of the Membership Fee and a prorated refund of the Dues.

Treasurer Dolores Johnson reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the year and answered questions. The report can be obtained from Dolores or any Board Member by just asking. Annual membership dues of \$20 are due by January 31st. For many members, the dues were added to their bills at the January 25th distribution, but members who did not order in January need to contact Dolores to arrange for dues payment if they plan to continue membership.

Vice President Janice Mechan reviewed the small number of changes made to the Bylaws, including changes to guest ordering procedures. The changes were then “voice-vote” approved by the members present. The revised Bylaws are available for review on our website.

Ballots were handed out for voting to fill positions on the Board for 2011. Members were encouraged to add their names if they were interested in any of the open positions. After tabulation of results, the Board consist of the following members: Cindy Damon, President; Janice Mechan, Vice President; Dolores Johnson, Treasurer; Gina Barnowsky, Secretary; Michelle Kaloustian, AM Coordinator, Denise Hauk, PM Coordinator; Jim Brown, Communications Coordinator.

Distribution Recap

Our January 25th distribution was a bit of a challenge. Although the order was a substantial size, we had a shortage of floor workers. Still, we managed to finish by around 2:30. Once again, thanks to everyone for helping us get through the distribution – and especially to Michelle and Denise (on her first stint as our new 2nd Shift Work Coordinator) for smoothing out the process and keeping everything moving!

One important concern: As you know, we have to check UNFI cases once they’re in the door to make sure the contents are as labeled. **There is no need to hurry this process!** Often items may look correct on cursory inspection, but you actually have to look closely at the items to make sure. For example, this time we had a case of pasta sauce that turned out to be mislabeled. Yes, it was really pasta sauce, so the jars looked about right, but they turned out to be the wrong variety of pasta sauce. Fortunately, the problem was caught, but not until one member’s order was being checked, and then we had to go looking for all the jars that had been distributed – a time-consuming effort that could have been spared if someone had simply looked at the label of one jar when opening the case. Again, **there is no need to hurry!** We often finish distributing the UNFI order well before Zingerman, Rosewood, and Almar deliveries, then have to wait around. Instead of this hurry-up-and-wait, why not just take your time on the UNFI order? Fewer mistakes upfront make for less effort (and often shorter distribution) in the long run!

See you on the 22nd!

Jim Brown
BFC Communications Coordinator



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