

# *"It's just food!"*

## Brighton Food Coöp Newsletter November 2011

Welcome, new member Jill Kern of Milford!

### Key Upcoming Dates:

- Next Distribution: **Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** (Shift times will be announced by Denise Hauk.)
- Initial Orders Due: **Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** (by 9:00PM)
  - **UNFI** – Login to the Online System at <https://www.unfi.com> (Warehouse = Greenwood, IN).
  - **Frontier**: Send order to Diane Brady at [dbramblewood@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbramblewood@sbcglobal.net).
  - **Outside Vendors (OV)**: Send order to Christie Winch at [tc\\_winch@gmail.com](mailto:tc_winch@gmail.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 Nicole Brown at [colerie@charter.net](mailto:colerie@charter.net).
  - **No Sami's Bakery orders this month because Sami's will not ship the week of Thanksgiving.**
- Unfilled Case Orders Due: **Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>** (by Noon)
- **Creswick** Orders Due **Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>** (by Noon) for Pickup on **Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**
  - Send order to Dolores Johnson at [samjon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:samjon@sbcglobal.net).
  - (Note: Pickup Date for Creswick Orders placed back in October is **Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**.)
- Honey, Nuts, and Candy can all be ordered for Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>; however, Honey can't be ordered again until January, and Nuts and Candy not until February, so **please plan accordingly!**

### Distribution Recap

November is a bit unusual this year. First, we have the numerical oddity of dates 11/1/11 and 11/11/11. Second, we have two distributions: 11/1/11 and 11/29/11. Third, we have a new UNFI driver -- which added challenge to the 11/1/11 distribution. The driver had started the job only two weeks before, but UNFI had not told him he would have to back his truck down the ramp behind the church to make the delivery, so he sat in the parking lot wondering what to do. If Sherry Smith had not raised an alarm, the driver might have sat there indefinitely! Once we did explain to him what he needed to do, he had a really tough time backing around the corner of the church. (The tree at the corner may never recover!) Then he apparently forgot to offload our UNFI bulk items... or had already delivered them elsewhere. Adding further to the challenge was the lingering mess from UNFI's system upgrade. Even though the upgrade occurred back in early August, the UNFI system folks still have not fixed all the bugs. The worst bug seems to be with the MORE field. If that field is used for building a member order, the Coöp's order gets screwed up in the consolidation process. Michelle Kaloustian spent quite a while trying to figure out how to redistribute delivered quantities of MOREd items, and some members had to settle for too many or too few of the items. **Please do not use the MORE field until further notice!**

## HGTV Goes to Church?

Yet another challenge to our distributions lately has been the massive remodeling project in the church basement. Talk about a mixed blessing! On the positive side, the rooms have been colorfully redecorated; many electrical outlets have been added; and the entire floor has been fitted with warm, cushiony, and quiet carpeting. On the other hand, the open space on which we've depended for so many years has been drastically altered and reduced by the creation of a large extra room near the entrance and a stage by the window; many of the new outlets don't work yet; and the new carpeting brings with it the problem of out-gassing that renders many of us headachy, grouchy, lethargic, or in some cases close to catatonic! These changes have forced us to move some functions (like Produce and Bulk/Cheese Weighing/Repackaging) into side rooms, and with the recent influx of new members (six since August), we've had to relocate member "piles" to unfamiliar spots, in some cases even into side rooms. **Please try to accommodate these changes!** For example, when laying out name tags for member piles, be sure to allow plenty of space between piles to prevent mix-ups. Don't try to force a pile into a familiar spot and then work around it – that just leads to chaos! Eventually the remodeling will be done, and things will settle down into a steady state. Till then, please just roll with the punches!

## Annual Membership Meeting

Here's another reminder: The Coöp holds its **Annual Membership Meeting** every January to renew memberships, elect officers, discuss Coöp operations, and vote on proposed changes to the Bylaws. **Please mark your calendar with the preliminary date of January 10<sup>th</sup>.** The Board is now weighing whether to revise the Bylaws to reduce the size of the Board from 7 to 5. (As previously mentioned, the Board was set up back in the 1980s to support a membership of 60 families, but for the past 15 years, the membership has hovered between 30 and 40 families. A smaller board would reduce Coöp expenses and put more workers on the floor at distribution, which should lower operational markups and shorten distributions.) The latest proposal is to eliminate the two Work Coordinator jobs and assign their functions to the Vice-President. While the President would be in charge of overall operations, the VP would be more specifically in charge of distributions. Such changes would have to be approved by majority vote at the Annual Membership Meeting, so the upcoming meeting will be especially important. More information about the meeting will be sent out in December.

## Extras Table Tip

At distribution, if you're given the task of checking in newly delivered UNFI extras, **please make sure the quantities consigned to the Extras Table/Coolers match the quantities on the Extras Inventory Report!** Over the past few months, we've had numerous items go into Extras that should have gone to individual members. The result has been great confusion during the checking process and unhappy members who didn't get the items they ordered even as those items were sold to other members as extras. Once items are sold as extras, they can no longer be easily recovered, and trying to redistribute/rebill them can prove to be a real nightmare that prolongs the distribution and scrambles the accounting.

## Great Recipes

This recipe comes from *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine via Coöp member Terra Bulloch.



## Butternut Squash Bisque

### Ingredients

- **1** 2 1/2 - 3 pound butternut squash or 3, 12-oz. pkgs. frozen cooked winter squash, thawed
  - **1/4** cup butter
  - **1** medium onion, chopped
  - **1** large carrot, coarsely chopped
  - **1** stalk celery, coarsely chopped
  - **2** cloves garlic, minced
  - **2** large Braeburn or Gala apples, peeled, cored and chopped
  - **1** 48 ounce box reduced-sodium chicken broth
  - **1** cup apple cider or apple juice
  - **2** canned chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, coarsely chopped
  - **1/2** cup sour cream
  - **3** ounces smoked Gouda or smoked cheddar cheese, finely shredded
- Optional: Crumbled cooked bacon, celery leaves, and/or shaved Gouda cheese

### Directions

- 1.** Peel, seed, and cube butternut squash. In 6-qt. Dutch oven melt butter over medium-high heat. Add fresh squash (if using frozen squash add with apples and broth), onion, carrot, celery, and garlic. Cook, stirring frequently, 10 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Add apples, broth, cider, and peppers. Bring to boiling; reduce heat. Cover; simmer 25 minutes or until vegetables and apples are tender. Remove from heat; cool slightly.
- 2.** When slightly cooled, puree in pot using an immersion blender. (Or puree in batches in a blender; return soup to saucepan.) Blend in sour cream. Heat through. Remove from heat; stir in shredded Gouda until melted. Top with bacon, celery leaves, and/or Gouda cheese. Makes 8 servings.

If you have a recipe you think members would enjoy – especially one that uses ingredients available through the Coöp – please send it to [bfc@brightonfoodcoop.com](mailto:bfc@brightonfoodcoop.com), and we will publish it in the next newsletter and/or put it on the website.

See you on the 29<sup>th</sup>!

*Jim Brown*

BFC Communications Coordinator



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