

The Place with Great Tastes



Market

Summer 2011

Volume 4 Issue 2

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Special points of interest:

- Success in Community Building.
- Board News
- The Board
- Members and Membership
- Summer Garden
- Angel Investor
- Thank you Neil Adams
- Thank you visitors to the area, we value you

The Latest Successes

I remember when the idea of the Co-op was just a brain wave and no more, but that is now a vague memory, many meetings and lots of trainings ago.

Now it is real and ongoing. We have 105 members in 70 memberships and each month more are added. Our oldest member is 92 years young and lives in Sequim. Our youngest member is 4 months old and lives in Wenatchee.

Our most distant member lives in the Ukraine, we have two in Texas and another two in Arizona. Folk are realizing that it is their Co-op and that we are here to stay, in co-operation with one another and our goals.

With Summer here, we are excited to promote early garden vegetables straight from the Co-op Garden and green house. Community members committed to the growing of veggies are excitedly working with the fresh green crops.

The Spring was kind with the sun and rain co-operating for great growth in the early summer produce. Come on in for your turnip greens, lettuce, spinach and kale which are already, all ready.

We have the 'best' ice cream in town according to the locals, and Jose's Famous Salsa is very popular.

Our list of local suppliers is growing. We have our own coffee blend from Princess

Valiant herself called Sunsets West Blend; it is available whole bean or ground. We have Bear Creek Naturals soap and body creams, lotions and potions, with new fragrances always coming along, Clark Farms Beef, Mary Kay bags, Cydney Hanson's Pottery, Rita Calamar's soy candles, Clallam Bay Salt and the Clallam Chronicle are but a few of **our** success stories. Note there is a new Clallam Chronicle available at the Co-op right now, it is still hot and now in color!

The more we work together the more we work together!

Jane

Success Story USDA

Last Month, the State Director of the USDA Rural Development, Paul Johnson offered us up to the Under Secretary of the USDA from Washington DC on their personal tour of Washington State, as a success story. Washington USDA Rural Development, highlight-

ed our success as 'Community Building'.

The Banker, Mark Bowman who was interested in backing us to purchase our own building, also highlighted his opinion, that we were taking on a lot, that it was much more than a grocery store; in fact it

was a huge undertaking of community building.

We are being noticed far and wide for our project and commitment to the development of our communities against the economic odds. This is a group effort. Thank you everyone!

The Board & Management



Display by Rita Calamar of Forks, her Soy candles are safe, clean, attractive and fragrant.

As a result of the encouragement that we have been receiving, the Board and Management of the Co-op have soared in their faith.

We have added new products, we have increased our memberships, we have produced a color brochure, and we are ready to begin with a float, albeit very simple in the Fun Days Parade this year.

Our Board is being trained at regular intervals by North West Co-op Development

Center, as we are working to gain practical understanding of our By-laws and governance, we are good at being regular and reliable in exercising our duties as the governing body of the Co-op.

We are excited about the change of premises that are coming up for us.

We are waiting patiently for the renovations that will happen to the Clallam Bay Business Center where Thu's Salon and the Unique Junque

Rummage Sale are presently situated. We are represented on the Planning Commission for the County which gives our area a say on all matters that come before the Commission from the County.

We are represented on the Clallam Food Policy Council which is newly developed. Working toward getting more affordable meat from our local growers.

We, the management and the Board, represent you the members.

Your Board of Directors



Your Co-op is here for you.

- Your Board is:
- Vacant: President
 - Vacant: Vice President
 - Al Pelletier Treasurer
 - Wendy Erickson Secretary
 - Diana Goplen
 - Nathan Croston
 - Vacancy

The Board's job is to oversee the operations of the Co-op, whilst representing the interests of the members.

If you have any enquiries they are to be put to the Board.

The Board undergoes training by the Northwest Co-op Development Center at regular intervals according to what questions come up through our business dealings with member questions or situations that occur. The training is to assist us to interpret the By-laws and the Articles of Incorporation which you will

find in your membership folders.

Co-op's have particular rules and governing regulations which are in place to serve the members and the business of the Co-op.

We are working to enhance your shopping experience.

Shop locally so you can shop locally!

Members & Membership

You are kept informed through the web site of meetings and events that are of interest to your membership of the Co-op.

You are welcome to ask for items to be represented in stock.

You have the Buyer's Club at your service for great value on great food items, bulk or indi-

vidual units.

You are welcome at meetings. You have access to the Board of Directors to answer your questions.

Remember that as a member/owner you walk in like you own the store, because you do own your share of the whole project.

Membership is easy...

Just \$40 makes an individual membership, one card one vote. \$60 makes a family membership, individual cards one vote. \$20 per year after that retains your member number and rights.

Have your say, become a member today.



Your membership card is waiting for you.

Co-op Summer Garden

This is the spring for growth. The Co-op Garden is in full swing and doing very well. Keen gardeners should contact John Burdick by phone and make a connection to help with the maintenance and upkeep of the garden; some of the plunder will be yours in exchange for fair work load in the development of this garden enterprise.

Fresh food is the life line of good health, better thinking, stronger bodies and weight control. Every one feels a great outcome personalized to

their own system.

You have nothing to lose.

We need volunteers to help share the load.

Have you seen our green house?

It is obvious on Funk-Ballard Alley, built by Robert Stephens and moved by road from near Neah Bay by Robert.

John Burdick spent several weeks last year building it into position and setting it up for maximum benefit ready for the

growing season.

Thank you to Karolyn Burdick for her green thumbs, and Ava and Jason Williams who have done a lot of work over several years now.

Thank you Hans and Deanna. They have worked the garden in return for goodies for several years now. This year they are enjoying their new little boy born on Christmas. They now live in Chimum, and Val Mohr is a proud grandmother. Congratulations Val!



For every thing there is a season.

Emerging Co-ops

Our Co-op is sharing its information with the group who are interested in a Food Co-op in Port Angeles. We are developing a store at The Landing in Railway Street and leading set up meetings there.

A co-op for Forks is also in the wind; we will supply technical know-how to initiate set up of their paperwork and any local

support we can give.

We were visited this week, July 8th, by a young couple who are touring the US with a plan to document great practices in sustainability. They are Travis Stanton and 'Swix' Denny; they videoed our operation and it will be available on the web at www.EcoJaunt.org

Travis had been to the Co-op

four years ago and deliberately came back to record the changes. I wish them success in their venture. They have sponsorship to do their journey and to form a video log of the innovations and changes they meet along the way; they will spend one year on this project.



Angel Investor

As a result of his interest and faith in our efforts, we have attracted an Angel Investor who has faith in the parameters of our dealings.

He has bought the building known as Clallam Bay Business Center, saving us the stress of having an expensive loan and large renovations to

handle. He is doing an extreme makeover of the building and the grounds. As a result of his efforts, we will have a Mall for your enjoyment and convenience, with the Salon, market and rummage all together in one stop. We will have more stock and variety. Remember we focus on good health outcomes and

seasonal favorites. We will have a wood stove for you to snuggle up to on those cold days in winter and a comfortable place for you to visit with friends.

Thank you Jeff for your efforts and faith. The renovations will be obvious when they begin, so keep your eyes on the Mall.



As the demolition really took hold. August 2011

The Place with Great Tastes

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We are on the web:

www.sunsetswestcoop.com

**Shop local so you can shop
local
Become a Co-operator!**

Mission Statement

Our Co-op aims to inspire and encourage creative energy within the community.

We aim to engage people in living their dreams.

Sunsets West Co-op is organized to produce, purchase and distribute goods and services for the mutual benefit of its members and patrons, offering a variety of healthy goods for patrons' choice.

FUNDS RAISED ARE RE-INVESTED IN THE CO-OP FOR GROWTH

We aim to encourage community members to co-operate with one another and nourish their community and its improvement; we aim to involve members in community garden and cottage industries.

A Co-op is a member (worker and customer owned) retail business that provides high quality grocery and retail items at the lowest prices to their customers.

Co-operatives strive to enrich their communities through consumer education, member/owner rebate

programs, member ownership, and the creation of livable wage jobs.

Co-operatives integrate their communities by selling locally grown and produced goods from small family farms and businesses as much as possible.

THE CO-OPERATIVE IDENTITY

Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self responsibility, democracy, equality, and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members are best to believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for and about others.

So—Happy people for a happy venture ... Working together for the greater good of their own COMBINED COMMUNITIES.

Thank you Neil Adams..

Neil Adams has been a backbone for the Co-op over the past four years.

He was present and faithful to get its day to day stability going.

Neil came in to meet the Co-op in November 2007. He walked in the door in his 'fancy' church clothes, looking quite dapper and asked if he could do some re-keining. He told me he was no good with his hands. Well he took a

lesson and for three weeks he slowly plodded his way through the task as difficult as it was.

Then one evening a roar went up, he got through one without any help or hassle; the whole group was overjoyed along with himself!

Neil never looked back after that. He took a place on the team and outlived them all. During this time he joined the Board, took on Vice Chair and calmly guided the team with his firm hand and voice toward its formal paperwork. He gifted the Co-op with tables and an adding machine with the ploy that it was helping to clear out the back room, then the shed,

etc.

The Co-op needed a garden space to form a community garden and supply the Co-op with goodies.

Neil offered his rubble driveway, and watched as folk transformed it into the garden it is today.

With no Chair willing to stand, Neil took us forward at the first annual Member Meeting with his gavel and big voice.

He settled many issues on ethics and gave a strong helping hand to Terry and myself as we moved through the tasks at hand

to develop the Co-op.

He signed 3,000 checks, answered many emails, and phone calls. And re-keined over 1,000 skeins of yarn internet ready for sale for the owner.

He is now happy living in his new home in Sequim.

THANK YOU NEIL!

