



The Place with Great Tastes



Market

Celebrating Winter

Winter 2011–2012

Volume 4 Issue 4

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2012 International Year of Co-op's

As it is with all things the Co-op needed a bigger and more appropriate home and with a mighty team effort our combined communities, memberships and services have pulled together and made it happen. It has taken many hands and minds, with much courage and faith but the journey has been rewarded many times over.

Just standing here behind the counter and watching the faces as they come through the door has brought so much pleasure to Terry and myself that sometimes tears start to form. Tears of gratitude and accomplishment. A dream come true.

They all say that it is beautiful,

well built, exciting, and fun. The last word ignites Terry and myself and the 'well built' ignites the Board as they see the stability of the future. As of now the two other tenants are operating 5 days a week along side of us and that brings the feel of community to our awareness.

I am grateful to folk I hadn't expected to welcome as members and the numbers are growing. This month alone 12 new families have joined the Co-op. That makes 96 memberships and 155 members. Way to go!

The annual member meeting went famously. We were

blessed with many interested folk from several communities who were in attendance. There were 60 people here in the Co-op, there was wonderful music, great pot luck food, entertainment, information and one member commented that is the most fun centered meeting she had ever been to. For us that means it worked.

Gratitude was the theme of the day. Thank you Jeff for your vision and faith in our dream.

HOME!

I am excited that we have settled our enterprise on the

International

Year of Co-operatives 2012!

Special points of interest:

- Thank you to the builder and his workers who have invested their skills to make a beautiful renovation.
- The Co-op board for your faith.
- Members for your cheerleading.
- Al Pelletier for stepping up where no man or woman has been before and becoming our Treasurer.

Bill Martin = Totem Pole



The totem pole which has adorned this building through out its history was looking old. Frank Smith was the original carver, but Bill Martin his grandson restored it and with the help of community it was

put back in place only one day before the opening. It is majestic

and will definitely stand the test of time. Bill did a great job. Del put it up on a pedestal and it has and still is attracting a crowd. Thanks Frank, Jeff, Dell and Bill and Jared.



The Board & Management



Remember where we started? It was cold wet summer.

The Board meets every month on the third Tuesday at the Co-op in Clallam Bay from 6 to 8pm. All who have made membership are welcome to attend all 155 of you won't fit so it is good to form a roster for attendance! This is a joke, but we do meet regularly.

Records are kept of all meetings and the Board are working to ensure your best interests are supported.

We are ready to take on Member Investment in the Co-op; this is something you may choose to look at, it is not a

requirement.

Our Treasurer and our attorney have all the details worked out .

Member Loans and investments are the usual way that Community Co-ops make their way into the business world. The idea is to keep bank involvement at a minimum, keep members engaged in the Co-op's growth and choices available within the Co-op, and to keep money working locally.

We are held a celebration to open the new building and the

Annual Member Meeting as well; it was fun to organize the two together. Everyone who came along enjoyed their day and not one sad face adorned the co-op .. this was a combined community celebration of renewal.

Thank you to everyone who has had a hand in the growth, those who have shopped, those who have talked to others and those who encouraged us along the way.

General Manager Jane

Your Board of Directors

Your Board is:

President: Matthew Whitacre

Vice President :

Treasurer : Al Pelletier

Secretary : Wendy Erickson

Board Members:

Diana Goplen

Trish English

General Manager Jane Hielman (appointed by the Board, not an elected position).

The Board's job is to oversee the transparent 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 Members and they will bring it to the Monthly Board meeting.

The Board undergoes training by the Northwest Co-op Development Center at semi-regular intervals according to questions that come up through our business dealings with members, their 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-ops 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 and living experience.



Your Co-op is here for you. Shop locally so you can shop

Members & Membership



Your membership card is waiting for you!

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

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 individual 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 equal share of the whole project, but not the

building.

Membership is easy...

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

You will be offered investment opportunity Have your say, become a member today.

Co-op Buyers' Club's

In the past we have had just one Buyers' Club option with an additional choice of bringing in local items with our regular order, but now there are three choices.

- ◇ We still have our monthly Azure Standard club which is very popular and needs to be ordered by the last week of every month according to the schedule that we supply to you.
- ◇ We have now added a Costco Club which will be filled by your orders on

the third week of each month.

- ◇ We are working toward a produce Buyers' Club as well through Nash's Farm.

I will be getting a supply list of seasonal availability from Nash and it will be available at the Co-op; this will be great for all you juicers out there. Our buyer's clubs run on the cost price plus 10% for transport.

**In regard to our stock; we have had to make some big

changes.

Franz no longer works with the Co-op and Bell Street Bakery has gone out of business, these were our two bakery stockers; our grocer went out of business last year and so we have a lot of rethinking to do as things change constantly around us. The system is working for us in the long term but there are interruptions as we move through the process. Thank you for your patience as we reinvent the wheel of fortune that we know as the Co-op.



Good food costs more but you eat less, spend less on health care and find yourself happier.

The Future Co-op Eatery

The Co-op Eatery will be unique to our area. It will feature local food and will feature fresh and vital food.

We will be aware of the quality and the price and will keep it in balance as we create something unique for you to enjoy. We will attempt to have live music to accompany your dining and the theme of home-

style décor and food dishes that should please the eye. Our aim is to create food that will please your pallet and simple service to make you smile.

Are you aware that smiles give way more health than frowns?

Laughter releases hormones that increase longevity and aid

digestion, increasing your enjoyment of life.

We will use food from the gardens of our cooks and the Co-op along with local seafood and later on we look forward to locally cut and wrapped meat as we develop a meat processing plant in Clallam County thus keeping the prices down and the service up.



Where friendship makes happiness.

What you can do..

- ◇ Use your Co-op. Shop there whenever you can to save yourself gas and time in travelling.
- ◇ Make membership to support the mechanism that it takes to set up a store and a business.
- ◇ Consider investing in the Co-op capital investment so we can keep the quali-

ty and service up to a high standard.

- ◇ Talk about the Co-op to friends and on the internet.
- ◇ Encourage people to travel here to visit the area and to test drive the Co-op.
- ◇ Realize that what we

have here is unique and very adventurous for our small group of communities that share this resource.

- ◇ Gain awareness of how to improve the quality of your life.
- ◇ Become informed on the value of food as medicine.



Where magic can happen!

The Place with Great Tastes

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Members walk in like they own the place!

We are on the web:

www.sunsetswestcoop.com

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



Thank you...

Our Treasurer is more than a treasurer, he is working to install our walk-in cool room with Terry's assistance. They are working easily together and there is not a day goes by without an AI visit or an AI improvement to the Co-op. Thank you.

Cheryl Moody is working to supply us with kitchen goodies. Welcome to Clallam Bay and Sam's RV.

Folk have helped me to dress for the occasion, my wardrobe has had to change as the new building is warmer than the old one. Thanks Hanna, Trish and Unique Junque Rummage.

Thanks to Larry Baysinger for the new kitchen equipment and the friendly service in his delivery of the work station for our cooks.

Thank you to Dayle Lee for his work with the baking program in Clallam Bay and the wonderful bread that has come to us to stock. We are very grateful.

Thank you to our musicians, Wayne Turner and Peter Larsen who excelled at the Annual Member Meeting.

Thank you for the people who shop for us at Trader Joes, it adds variety to our stock.

Thank you Sekiu Chimney Sweep for the comfort of the wood stove.

We are keen to get some dry fire wood. Any one who has some would be welcomed. Wet wood is wet wood!

Thank you Tim Van Riper for your muscle power and friendship.

Thank you all....Jane

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.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO SHOP

A message from:

Sunsets West Co-op Board of Directors

It is the Board's duty to raise capital for buying or leasing equipment, such as shelving, coolers, etc. We need approved equipment and adequate inventory, to qualify to accept Food Stamps, as well as to provide quality products and services to all members.

We are seeking loans from members at 4%APR, for a minimum of 3 years. Interested lenders are asked to contact Board Treasurer AI Pelletier. (360) 963 2864. Members who have store equipment to donate, lease or

sell, are asked to contact Jane. All members are asked to consider making advance deposits toward future purchases to help finance our opening inventory. Please contact Jane to make an advance deposit.

The annual \$20 member renewal fees are also due at or before the meeting. For members 1 through 44.

We have 12 new memberships in December last year. This is a record!

AI Pelletier Treasurer