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Manager's Corner

by Glenn Bergman

She comes in the dark of night...

She comes in the dark of night, before many of us have even thought of getting out of bed to face the new day. Even before she gets out of her car to enter the building, with the sun nowhere in sight, she has already put in an hour or two at home working on her computer keeping track of you. No, she is not a member of the NSA or Homeland Security. She is our own super woman, Madelyn Morris, and after more than 30 years, Madelyn is retiring from her full-time position as Weavers Way Membership Coordinator. Working side by side with her sister, Barbara Green, the two have managed our records, answered your questions, oriented new members, handled complaints, and have been an important part of the glue that keeps this place together through good times and bad.

In order to stay out of everyone's way and to get her job completed, Madelyn and Barbara have been coming to the Co-op at five or six in the morning to pull your card, enter data into the system, update your records, place stars and slips of yellow paper onto the cards to remind you to pay your dues and update your information, and to count membership dues for deposit. She has been doing this since the late seventies. The two people who have been on the Co-op payroll the longest actually work off-site (our produce buyer, Paul Labess, has been with us a few months longer than Madelyn).

Madelyn has known when you have been "bad" and have not completed your work schedule or paid your annual dues. She knows when you need to be changed

Editor’s Note

by Jonathan McGoran

Norman and Margie just returned from their epic journey to Chiapas. Norman was pretty disappointed at first when he found out that wasn’t where Chia Pets come from, but he was soon quite taken by these people and their plight. There was even speculation that he might leave the Co-op to join the Zapatistas, but when asked about it, he replied, “What, and leave show business?”

Weavers Way is introducing a new program called *Eco-buy* that gives products an environmental rating, so shoppers can be green without doing all that research. It replaces an earlier program, where shoppers could select the most conscientious-looking shopper in the store and just buy whatever they bought. That program was called *Echo-Buy*.

Candidates for the Weavers Way Board of Directors were asked to answer the following questions: **1)** Why is WW Co-op important to you? **2)** What volunteer experiences have you had with other cooperatives or organizations? **3)** What experiences and skills or unique perspectives do you bring to the Co-op board? **4)** What do you think are some important challenges for the Co-op in the short and long term? **5)** Any other personal information you would like to share i.e. family, hobbies, work experience, special talents, etc.?

Chris Hill

1) Weavers Way is the heart of the community, and on the front line in the region in making a local, sustainable food system a reality.

2) Actively involved in co-ops in Minneapolis in the 70s. Served on the board of the Duval Street Improvement Association. Served recently on the Organic Committee of the National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture. Currently on the board of Amigos de Chocola, a new non-profit devoted to improving the lives of residents of Chocola, Guatemala.

3) For the past four years, I’ve worked closely with farmers and farming organizations to promote and support sustainable farming through www.newfarm.org, a national web site serving farmers and food activists. I bring to the board a deep knowledge of farming and rural economies, and a passionate concern

Stuart Katz

1) WW is important to me because it helps to create and sustain community.

2) For two years I have been a member at-large of the Weavers Way Board. Prior to that, I worked on the Accountability Committee.

3) I served in many capacities at the Jewish Children’s Folkshul, as well as on the board of directors of several organizations. I work as the Health Services Administrator at a City of Philadelphia Health Center.

Wissahickon Day Parade, Sunday April 30



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHESTNUT HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE WISSAHICKON DAY PARADE (PICTURED HERE IN 1949) WAS STARTED IN 1912 AS PART OF A “SAVE THE WISSAHICKON” CAMPAIGN PROTESTING A PROPOSAL TO OPEN THE MAIN PARK PATHS TO THE NEW “AUTOMOBILES” OF THE DAY. OVER 600 RIDERS AND 10,000 SPECTATORS RALLIED TO KEEP THE PARK FREE FROM AUTOMOBILES. THE PROPOSAL’S DEFEAT GAVE RISE OT THE NAME “FORBIDDEN DRIVE.”

Nancy Weinman
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Member Who Designed Co-op Logo
Now Launches Line of T-shirts

by Barbara Lee Sherf

When Weavers Way member Caren Goldstein was approached to help design the Co-op's new logo, she figured she would take the project on in part to fill her work requirements. Little did she know that after several brainstorming sessions and numerous conceptual drawings, she would actually meet her work requirements for the next three years.

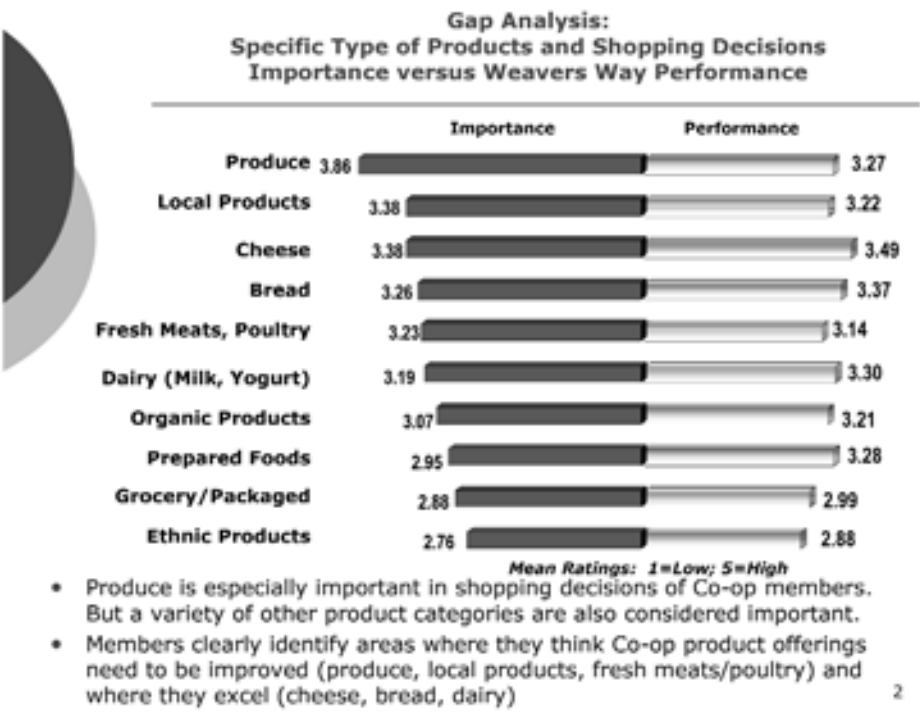
"It's always a process," Goldstein explained while sitting in High Point coffee shop, sharing some of her graphics work on her Macintosh G4 laptop. "I'm happy I could use my skills to help the Co-op. I'm hopeful they'll use it for as long as it works for them."

Weavers Way Financial Report

by Lou Dobkin

As of this writing, an evaluation of the second quarter, ending December 31, has not been completed and reviewed by the Finance Committee. Quarterly results are four times a year (thus the name) and the *Shuttle* comes out six times a year. So, twice a year we get to just chat. For those of us who look forward to reading long columns of numbers – I feel your pain. I can say, without giving away too many surprises, that sales are more than 6% greater than last year and less than 1% under budget.

We had a dividend rebate based on purchases by members during the fiscal year ending June 30,



Exotics Invading, Natural Environment Losing

by Francis Lawn,
Director of Land Restoration at The Schuylkill Center
for Environmental Education in Philadelphia

Invasive plants are increasingly contributing to the degradation and decline in the health and economic value of our local environment. If we do not manage the current populations and monitor new plants for potential invasiveness, our ecosystem will become a monoculture of few plants, and we run the risk of permanently destroying the diversity of our forests, meadows, and wetlands.

For many centuries, plants from other countries have been brought to the United States. Such plants have been used for ornamental, medicinal, or culinary reasons. Most of these exotic plants are fairly harmless and stay put where they are planted; it is the ones who don't, who outgrow their natural boundaries that pose the greatest risk.

Over the last few decades, plants

This April, “Art Quilts at the Sedgwick” ...on Rittenhouse Square?

by Betty Ann Fellner

Heard around Mt. Airy Town: “So what’s happening with the Quilt Show?” “No quilts this year?” “What’s the date of this year’s Quilt Show. I don’t want to miss it ”

I could go on and on. Not to worry. Art Quilts at the Sedgwick [AQatS] will return to the Philadelphia scene April 8-May 21, 2006. But because the Sedgwick Cultural Center is undergoing re-organization, AQatS will be held this year at the Philadelphia Art Alliance on Rittenhouse Square.

When it began in 1999 as a 10-day invitational show at the Sedgwick, AQatS recognized that it had the heady task of explaining the very words

