

Brighton Food Co-op Newsletter

Hello Fellow Co-op Members!

Here is the info from the last distribution--financial info, circle meeting and board meeting...

1. Financial info for March distribution (and February! Sorry I missed last month...I was vacationing in Florida, and I swear, I think I'm still unpacking and putting things away even now)--

MARCH 20th, 2007--

- Number of Orders Placed: 19 (Battjes, Brady, J.Brown, N.Brown, Cheney, Clark, Damon, DeMaria, Hauk, Hubbarth, Huxley, Janssen, D.Johnson, Kataja, Katlin, Mehan, Radelt, Rose, Verschoor)
- All Products Total: \$9982.54
- Extras Table Sold: \$1118.99
- Extras Table Left: \$268.25
- Current Membership: 29
- New Members: None this month

FEBRUARY 20th, 2007--

- Number of Orders Placed: 17
- All Products Total: \$7760.37
- Extras Table Sold: \$684.00
- Extras Table Left: \$148.51
- Current Membership: 29
- New Members: None this month

2. Circle Meeting--

- Sue Kataja's first month batching UNFI solo...Thanks Sue!
- Cindy received a message from UNFI on the Sunday before distribution, saying they would be there Monday at 8:30am! Luckily, she has been in contact with the truck driver, Tony, and he assured her he'd check into that and delivery would be Tuesday as expected...she later got a call from the fellow that originally left the message, apologizing for the mix-up, it was simply a miscommunication on his part. And that got us thinking (see board meeting notes below)...

3. Board Meeting--

- Kris Verschoor updated the Specialty Foods (meat, etc) vendor product list on the website, <http://www.brightonfoodcoop.org/> please go there and print up a copy for yourselves and put it in your blue membership folders...there's some new stuff to choose from!
- New procedure for distributing "Small Picks"--that's the stuff we get from UNFI that does not come in the usual 12/case variety. One to three items usually. Anyway, United changed the way they do it, and we don't get the list of who ordered what on these items anymore. Instead of delivering these items to everybody's pile o' stuff, we will leave them on one table all together, and retrieve the items as we are checking members' orders. So, from now on, when checking other members' orders, when you can't find a particular "small pick" item, skip it, finish checking the rest of the order, then go to the small picks table, find the missing items, and take them over to the members pile o'stuff...
- It's that time of year again! Coming soon to the website, vendor #5, Superior Flowers, with a product list, and info. It's a really cool deal if you're into gardening and want to pretty up your yards this Spring. I'm not up on gardening myself, but I understand we get a great price from them. Maybe I can talk my husband into planting some flower beds this year? ;) More info forthcoming from Janice...
- A POSSIBLE MONDAY DISTRIBUTION??!?!?? (see above Circle Meeting notes) ...and that got us thinking...Cindy did find out that while the phone call she received was a mistake, it was indeed possible that we could get a Monday morning delivery, as early as 8:30am. So, we need to know what everybody thinks about that. At circle meeting, a few expressed an interest in Mondays, and we discussed it further at the board meeting...we came up with some pros/cons for switching, and thought we'd throw it out there for the rest of you to give us your further input. Let's start with the pros...
 - PRO--a "guaranteed" early morning delivery...we'd be first on the route, less waiting around every month wondering what time the truck will be coming, like we do on Tuesdays...we are not currently first on the route, we are supposed to get delivery by 1:30pm, but depending on their earlier deliveries, it can come later...that makes it harder for us all to plan our day, etc.
 - PRO--Many members who work at a regular job might have an easier time taking a Monday (long weekend?) off than a Tuesday.
 - PRO--Might be nice to just get it over and done with early in the day!

- CON--Might not be able to get Zingerman's creamery stuff as fresh (I guess they make their stuff on Monday?), and unsure if Rosewood is open for pick-up on Mondays.
Clarification from Kris Verschoor: Only the cream cheese is an issue with a shorter shelf life. From the creamery: "Mondays is totally fine with us, the only issue would be with the cream cheese. Our cow's milk is delivered every Monday and the cream cheese is usually made on Tuesday. While we will have cream cheese in supply, the shelf life would be a bit shorter if picked up on Monday. "
- CON--Lot's of members re-arranged their lives already to switch from Friday to Tuesday, do we all want to do that again?
- CON--United has moved us around before, how will we know that it won't happen again in the coming months?
- PRO or CON?--Distribution may end up falling on those Monday holidays...Memorial Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, MLK day, or those times when Fourth of July is on a weekend and many companies give their employees the following Monday off instead? It might just work out better for some members, but would all of our vendors be delivering those days?
- We know for sure, of course, that we won't be changing anything for April distribution...but if enough of us are interested, and we find out it is indeed a choice for us, we could begin Monday distributions by May or June. **Here's what you need to do: REPLY BACK TO ME WITH YOUR INPUT, I will forward your thoughts to the rest of the board, and Cindy will further explore our options.**

4. General reminder--don't forget that if you ever have a change in email address, phone number, home address, etc. to please let me know, and I will pass that info on to the board and batchers, so you will continue to stay in the loop!

5. Happy ordering this month! Remember, orders are due to the batchers by 9pm on Wednesday, April 4th.

Thanks for reading!
 Dana Janssen
 Secretary
 Brighton Food Co-op