



## New Deal Cafe Cooperative General Manager's Report November 2011

### Overall Summary

November saw a successful art reception, Karim take a trip to Lebanon to visit his family, and the back room of the café become transformed by a little black paint. It also was a slower than usual month overall.

### Financial Summary

I've attached the October 2011 Financial Report, showing a total net income of \$216.72 for October. The gross sales were lower than usual for fall, with October falling into place as the second slowest month of the year so far, after August.

Avg Gross Income Per Night for October: \$306

Busiest Night: Friday, October 28 Cousin John Band \$893

Financial data for this year is now being input into QuickBooks. I will present a budget after this year's data has been input, which will coincide with the payoff of several large debts. These will hopefully leave the café in a fine financial position to move forward towards an even more business-like operation, along with comfortable reserves.

### Projects and Events

#### Liquor Board

We have not heard from the County Liquor Board about our exemption from the new entertainment permit yet.

#### Entertainment

As is their tradition, Greenbelt's Utopia Film Festival began with a special showing at the New Deal Café at the end of October. The film shown this year was "Project Happiness", featuring the Dali Lama.

Greg Meyer began a Saturday afternoon Jazz Jam, held on the last Saturday of the month from 1-5:30.

A 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party was held for Preciosa, Maria's sister and a KMK employee, one Sunday evening and it was a big success!

### **Bar Operations**

Amethyst made a special effort to de-clutter the bar so that it was easier to keep clean, particularly in some hard-to-reach places. I think the bartenders are all finding it easier and more enjoyable to clean up now. We put down an anti-fatigue mat on the floor on the weekends which is helping some of us with the pain of standing for hours. Craig Tooley installed an air circulation vent in the bar to improve air flow to the kegerator. He also modified the bar so that the new gel mat can be rolled up and stored underneath it, to enable better cleaning.

### **Restaurant Contract and Facilities**

I met with Karim and Maria periodically regarding café operations. Karim took a much-needed vacation and journeyed to Lebanon, which left Maria to close out every night and organize the shopping, cooking, etc... She did a fantastic job, with extra help from the staff and her sister Preciosa. I purchased a toner for the printer so that NDC and KMK can share in its use.

Bill Wilkerson and I sorted and relocated café records and property from Susan Jones' garage to Kristen Stenson's house, where she has agreed to store them.

Some painting was done in the back room to camouflage the electrical panels and touch-up the walls, and the refrigerator and freezer now vanish in the evening after a contractor built a plastic wall around them and spray-painted them black!

### **FONDCA**

The new screen purchased by FONDCA with donations from Reel & Meal was installed by Frank Gervasi and his daughter Ellen, and it worked beautifully for its first screening in November. The screen sets off and frames the window nicely as well.

Craig Tooley installed new LED lighting in the front display case. The LEDs use very little electricity, which should enable them to be turned on during all working hours, and the effect of the new lighting is beautiful.

The Art Installation and Reception were both held this month, with large crowds in the front and back room. Michael Smallwood's photography, Barbara Stevens' painting, and Missy Dodd's sparkling glass work will grace the café through January 2, 2012.

### Meetings

Board Meetings = 1

Committee Meetings = 9+

### Upcoming Projects & Activities

The Volunteer and Staff Party is our next special event, followed by New Year's Eve on December 31.

*Terri Rutledge*

**NDC Co-op General Manager**