



New Deal Cafe Cooperative General Manager's Report October 2012

Overall Summary

After the busyness of September, the lull in special events during October was welcome. Most time was spent on financial updates and budget preparation, with a few meetings thrown in here and there.

Financial Update

Sales over the last two months have been very good, led by a strong Labor Day weekend and an outstanding Blues Festival. The strong 3rd quarter has erased the deficit caused by the weak 2nd quarter, leaving sales on track to equal or surpass 2011.

Projects and Special Events

Celebrating Co-ops

In honor of 2012 being named the International Year of Cooperatives and also of Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary, the Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance stocked the display case at the library with memorabilia from all of Greenbelt's cooperatives. We are all being highlighted in the News Review as well.

Entertainment

The broken mixer returned, and then went right back to the shop as another channel seemed to have gone bad.

Big Band tradition returned to another full house (17 musicians packed onto and in front of the stage!), again in celebration of Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary.

As is their tradition, Reel & Meal hosted the Utopia Film Festival for one of its first showings, "Koch Brothers Exposed", and filled the back room with regulars and newcomers. The cafe was a sponsor of the Utopia Film Festival this year, and

was prominently featured in their advertising. We seem to have gotten a definite boost last weekend from Utopia movie-goers.

Bar Operations

The newest volunteers (Mike, Eileen and Stacy) have been trained and are working on their own, helping to make scheduling easier when staff (or other volunteers) needs some time off.

Restaurant Contract and Facilities

Karim returned from 3 weeks in Lebanon with a tan and pictures of his daughter's wedding. Maria was calm and experienced this time around, and she and the staff managed smoothly, but customers were still clamoring for Karim's Sunday mountain bread when he returned.

FONDCA

An Art Reception was held on Sunday, October 7. Paul Downs' stick art and Nicole Black's paintings were being featured during this show, along with an anonymous group of stuffed creature makers. Paul's art continues to expand and change as he sells pieces and they get carried away. The show runs through November 5.

Meetings

Board Meetings = 1

Committee Meetings = 6+

Co-op Alliance Meeting = 1

Bar Manager Meeting = 1

Upcoming Activities

The next special event will be the Volunteer Appreciation Party, followed by New Year's Eve.

Terri Rutledge

NDC Co-op General Manager