

NEBRASKA



FOOD COOPERATIVE

Members Newsletter

March 2010

HELLO COOP MEMBERS,

Recently, a member emailed us to let us know of the excess canning jars and supplies they had to give away. The response was immediate and I believe those jars were spoken for instantly! It made me think about what other kinds of exchange and trading could we facilitate in the cooperative. Now that we are 500 strong and growing, this might serve as a good place to give away, or exchange your goods with fellow coop members.

How bout a page that's geared specifically for these items? A trade page within the website where goods for trade or give away can be listed, as long as they relate to food production and/or horticulture and agriculture? We don't want to be a full on trading site like Ebay or Craig's List, but wouldn't it be nice to give away those old gardening tools, or canning supplies to a fellow member whom you know will put it to good use?

Just a thought to run with.....

PRODUCER UPDATES

Tomato Tomato to resume sales in April!

Missing those tasty red and yellow tomatoes that were listed a couple months ago? My favorite thing to do with these is dice them up and mix with a little olive oil and salt then brush this mixture on some slices of baguette bread and toast in the toaster oven for a light brochetta appetizer! Just spoke with Jodi Fritz the other day and she believes, Tomato Tomato will resume tomato and cucumber sales in April!

WHAT'S THE NEBRASKA FOOD COOP FORUM?

A list serv discussion forum for urban and rural people interested in local agriculture and food procurement related topics!

A benefit for all coop members when they join the cooperative, is access to the Coop Forum List Serv. New members are automatically signed up to the coop's forum list serv with the option to unsubscribe at the bottom of any email posted in the forum. The coop forum address is: coopforum@nebraskafood.org and is available to members only! If you are a coop member and have not been signed up for the Coop's Forum please send a subscription request to us.

Have a question? Need help with something? Email info@nebraskafood.org

Would you like to let the board of directors know something? The board of directors can be contacted at board@nebraskafood.org. Please feel free to email us anytime!

BE AN AMBASSADOR!

If you belong to an organization or know of an upcoming event where you would like to share information about NFC, let us know. We have print materials, brochures and cards that you may use to help pass along the information. Contact us and we are happy to share this information with you and your organization. Be an ambassador and spread the good news about NFC membership!

DEL MARIE CREAMERY TO DEMO YOGURT AT JANE'S PICK-UP SITE IN OMAHA!

A new artisan dairy producer on the scene, named *Del Marie Creamery* will be providing samples of their locally made yogurt product on delivery day, March 11th at Jane's health food store pick up location in Omaha!

Del Marie Creamery makes dairy products from local grass-fed jersey cow's milk. Our first product is a delicious cream-top yogurt.

NFC members picking up their orders in the evening will be able to sample their products soon to be made available through the coop and other local markets! Check out *Del Marie Creamery* on facebook!

COOP'S SEED EXCHANGE

A member recently came up with a great idea for a seed exchange! It's that time of year when many of us start planting seeds for growing out our gardens. And no matter how much we endeavor to use all those wonderful seeds we collect, there is always inevitably an abundance of seeds leftover from the year before or collected from last year's harvest! So instead of letting seeds go unused and stored away in our drawers and/or freezers, however stored. Let's share them with each other!

On delivery day, we will collect any seeds you want to share at whichever pick up locations want to participate. These seeds will be set out for exchange at each pick up day, along with a "tip jar" for donations. Just make sure you bring something to take your seeds home in (like plastic baggies or envelopes).

OUR FIRST OF A SERIES OF EVENTS TO BE HELD THIS YEAR!

The Nebraska Food Cooperative in collaboration with Buy Fresh Buy Local and the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society are kicking off the growing season with the Localicious Dinner to be held in Lincoln at the Lincoln Country Club!

Tickets can be purchased via Pay Pal on-line via the NFC website. Or reservations can be requested at info@nebraskafood.org and checks mailed to PO BOX 94691. When making reservations be sure to provide contact information for us to confirm with you. This event is open to anyone and everyone! You do not have to be a coop member to attend!

Event: Local-licious Dinner
Location: The Country Club of Lincoln, Ballroom
3200 S. 24th Street, Lincoln, NE
Date: Friday, April 23
Time: 6 PM Cost: \$25

This event is a great way to learn how Lincolites can eat locally. Come enjoy a delicious dinner from locally grown and raised foods whipped into a fabulous meal by chef Don at the Country Club of Lincoln. You will have an opportunity to learn more about state wide efforts to develop a local food system and how you can be part of this great movement. Enjoy a relaxing evening that will spotlight great food and the organizations and producers that are helping local food happen in Lincoln and SE Nebraska.

This event is sponsored by the Nebraska Food Cooperative, Buy Fresh Buy Local and Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society.

CREIGHTON VOLUNTEERS JOIN US IN MARCH!

This coming delivery day, we will have student volunteers from Creighton helping us from 2:30 PM to 7:00 PM with evening pick-up, as part of a sustainability spring break service trip. Every year a group of students spend their spring break trip learning from and helping groups around the community dedicated to sustainability issues. Last year this group took the bus from their retreat site to Jane's Health Market in Benson, as part of their mission to be sustainable during that week. They are hard core about it and we love having them return to help!

We welcome any groups on delivery days that are looking for service projects.

THE MOST IMPORTANT DATE OF ALL! DELIVERY DAY - MARCH 11TH, 2010

Please select a shift that works for you and reply to Libby at volunteer@nebraskafood.org or call 402-980-3757. **Multiple or combined shifts are appreciated too!**

Also, please note delivery day schedules stay the same for upcoming delivery days!

VOLUNTEER SHIFTS

**Omaha Hub Site -Jane's Benson Health Market on 6103 Maple St, (402-980-3757).
Coordinator: Libby Broekemeier**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Producer Check-In	(Need 3-4 volunteers)
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Route Drivers Check-In & Loading	(Need 3-4 volunteers)
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Customer Pick-Up	(Creighton Students Here)

**Lincoln Hub Site -ShadowBrook Farm's Marketstore at 2201 W. Denton Road, (402-304-7883).
Coordinator: Cindy Elder**

7:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Producer Check-In	(Need 3 - 4 volunteers)
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Customer Pick-Up	(Need 2 - 3 volunteers)

**Gretna Pick-up - Resurrection Lutheran Church at 153 S. McKenna Ave, Gretna (402-658-1080).
Coordinator: Shelly Grimm**

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Customer Pick-Up	(Need 1-2 volunteers)
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(Volunteer shifts continued from the previous page)

**West Omaha Pick-Up - Tomato Tomato, 2634 S. 156th Circle, Omaha, (402-926-6732).
Coordinator: Stephanie Kennedy**

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Customer Pick-Up (Need 1-2 volunteers)

**Bellevue Pick-Up - Thanksgiving Lutheran Church, 3702 370th Plz, Bellevue (402-709-6936).
Coordinator: Brigid Christenson**

4:00 PM - 6:30 PM Customer Pick-Up (Need 1-2 volunteers)

SIGN UP FOR ANY VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY WITH NFC VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR,

Sincerely,

Libby Broekemeier

Volunteer Coordinator

volunteer@nebraskafood.org

402-980-3757

PS: If you would like to volunteer in another way, please don't hesitate to contact us.
We are open to all the help we can receive!

N E B R A S K A



F O O D C O O P E R A T I V E

