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Good Food Farms September 2013

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We are growing a farm together !



What's in the bag

September

zucchini, tomatoes & cherry tomatoes
cucumbers, red & green bell peppers, okra, leeks, chard, a few peaches, and still there are strawberries.

October

Mostly the same with the addition of pears, but no more peppers or eggplant.



Our First Woofer !

Claude Vey, from Lyon, France, has been a Woofer in England, Spain, and Greece. When he's not working on farms, his profession is taking care of disabled people. We asked him how he chose our farm. He

said, "I didn't choose. God chose for me." He's staying with Victor, Rachel & Leandro and is a big help to Shahar.

Change is Upon Us: We are Becoming a Co-Operative, And We Need Your Help.

Since inception a year ago a few of us have been holding sociocratic* circle meetings to shape and create what Good Food Farms is becoming. As mentioned in the last newsletter, for the past few months we've been exploring how to create our legal entity, who & what exactly we are and want to be, and how we can get more of our friends & neighbors excited and involved in creating food independence in the foothills. Luis Sierra from the [California Center for Co-operative Development](http://www.calccdc.org/)



Members, please be sure your payment is received no later than the **5th** of each month. This greatly simplifies our work and allows us to be able to spend our time well, rather than making lots of reminder calls. Make your check out to: *Good Food Farms*. Mail it to: *Paul McGovern, PO Box 309, Oregon House, CA 95962*. And if you're not a member and would like to be, please call Aya 692-9275.



We celebrate raising **\$474!** from the recent lamb harvest. This helps cover some of Shahar's expenses as agreed by the participants in the last steering meeting.

Many thanks to everyone who responded so quickly, and a special thanks to Gianni, our lamb project leader.

has been very encouraging and helpful. And [The International Co-operative Association](#) has been a great resource. Please view these websites to learn more.



So, we're not just trying to collect lots and lots of paying members, though of course we need more members to be sustainable. We have to operate this group. And we're not really just asking for physical labor contributions, though they too would be most welcome. What is paramount for us right now is more member involvement at this critical stage in setting up our Co-Op. Understandably, not everyone can attend meetings and discussions, and may not even be interested in doing so. Of the 40 or so members, there are about 10 active core people who are guiding decisions to keep improving Good Food Farms. This has been working very well so far; however, for this particular event we need to ask for more hands on deck. Please join us for an **"All Members Meeting"** on **Tuesday the 24th** at 5:00pm at the Database Republic Office (Msvl Rd across from the Post Office). Some of the questions we would like you to contribute to include: Will votes be equal (1 member 1 vote)? Will initial buy-in (contributions) be equal? What is our model of governance? Who will be a director, an officer? Do we charge a membership fee apart from the monthly subscription, and if so how much? How will decisions be made?

* Sociocracy is a method of governance, not an ideology. The sociocratic circle method uses consent decision-making for policy decisions and distributes policy decisions to all levels of an organization. The method is efficient and

Apologies for not being able to serve all those who sent in orders -- Be assured that you will have priority in the next round, which is planned for the first week of October. Stay tuned, and if anyone hasn't placed an order and would still like to, please call Aya at 692-9275.



A Note on Recycling

Please return the packaging (strawberry and other food baskets, ziplocks, etc) that come with your deliveries. These things are rather costly and reusing them saves quite a bit.

And don't forget! Shahar, with each delivery, picks up all glass, plastic, metal, and cardboard. This is a free service provided to members. If you use it diligently, you could significantly reduce your use of Yuba Sutter Disposal's costly services. He will pull out what we can sell from it. The last batch sold bought us all our winter seeds.

elegant. It is used in all kinds of organizations, large and small, public and private, all over the world. See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sociocracy> and please explore <http://www.sociocracy.info>

Good Food Farms Production Plan

Gianni and Shahar have been working very hard for the past several weeks on developing a farm production plan. What they have come up with is very precise for the use of each garden we are farming, and what the expected output per member would be. Some things are already under way, such as plant starts for the winter. A few plants are already in the ground, including carrots, onions, and beets. Soon to be planted are broccoli, cabbage, arugula, parsley, dill, baby greens, celery, and our all time favs – the winter greens, collards, kale, and chard. To learn more about what's happening, you're invited to come to the Database Republic office on Wednesday this week, the 18th from 4:30 - 6:00pm. Gianni will give a presentation of the plan and there will follow a discussion of implementation. We look forward to seeing some curious faces. We're into precision these days! We start on time and we end on time (unless we have consensus to go over).



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