

First Alternative NATURAL FOODS CO-OP

Fresh, local, organic groceries for everyone

North Store: 2855 NW Grant Ave • South Store: 1007 SE 3rd St

The 
SCOOP
September 2021



*From the
Board of
Directors*
**Dana
Monroe**
Board President

Hello Co-op Owners,

We hope you have found some time this summer to soak up the sun and spend time with people you love. For me, summertime means all kinds of fruit pies and slower days. Although this heat has been a bit tough, we have an incredible river to play in

and drift our summer worries away. I am excited to catch you up on the First Alternative Board activities, specifically our July meeting. This is always an exciting meeting because we get to welcome new Board members, elect officers, and reestablish our committees.

First, a huge thank you to our Board Recruitment and Elections Committee (BREC) for conducting a successful election. This year, a total of 1,038 electronic and paper ballots were cast.

Of the six candidates in the running, you've selected (*pictured below,*

from left to right) three incumbents, Demian Hommel, Tyra Jansson, and Rob May, and one brand new Board member, Emily Stimac, who attended her first Directors meeting in July. Emily brings business and marketing experience to the Board.

The Board would like to offer our gratitude to all who ran.

Lastly, the Corvallis Food Bank was selected as our annual donation recipient. Thank you for supporting our community and helping to meet the needs of all people.

Reestablishing our committees means that we get a chance to either switch our committee assignments or mix up the committee chair. This helps to strengthen our roles and services to the Co-op community.

Any Owner can serve on a committee, so I encourage you to reach out to a Board member and get involved. This is where you can

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September Board Committee Meetings

Committee meetings are currently taking place on Zoom. Owners interested in virtually attending should contact BREC@firstalt.coop for details.

Owner Relations Committee:

The conduit for communication between Owners and the Board.

Wednesday, September 8, 6pm

Board Recruitment & Elections Committee:

Working to recruit qualified Board candidates.

Tuesday, September 14, 6pm

Finance Committee:

Reviews, analyzes, and makes recommendations on financial matters.

Wednesday, September 15, 4:30pm

First Alternative Board

of Directors: Elected Owners putting cooperative principles into action. **Tuesday, September 27, 6pm**

SOUTH STORE
8 am - 8 pm daily

NORTH STORE
8 am - 9 pm daily

**Look for expanded store
hours coming in September**

...From the previous page

see the creative work of the Board of Directors.

Currently, our Board has the following committees: Board Recruitment and Elections Committee (BREC), Owner Relations Committee (ORC), Strategic Planning Committee (SPC), and the Finance Committee (FC).

The Strategic Planning Committee and the Owner Relations Committee are teaming up to help our Co-op Community start envisioning what is next for First Alternative.

Please put on your thinking caps, as we will begin to survey what you think the Co-op needs and what you would like to see at the South Store.

As a reminder, this is a governance board, not an operational board, so we get to do all the dreaming and our fearless store manager, Cindee, makes it all happen!

See last month's Scoop article by Board member, Jim Mitchell, for a more detailed explanation of our governance board duties. (You can always visit firstalt.coop/the-scoop-newsletter for back issues.)

The Board's annual financial update will be provided in our September meeting. Usually, this is when we gather together to celebrate the Co-op and our community.

In the past, we have rented out Otter Beach or a pavilion at Avery Park. Last year and this year, the presentation was held virtually via Zoom. I encourage all members to take advantage of this opportunity to hear about the financial status of the Co-op. You can email faboard@firstalt.coop for the link.

Lots of changes are happening at First Alternative that are worth noting. First, the annex at the South Store is starting to get rebuilt. The First

Alternative staff have been so flexible during this time and the Board is very appreciative of their efforts to work through a fire and a pandemic.

More exciting news coming out of the South Store is the transfer of the beloved Purple Moon Espresso hut to the Co-op. Eventually, the Co-op will be serving espresso, hot breakfast items, and some goodies from the parking lot kiosk. Although the coffee hut will be under a new owner, we'll never forget the Purple Moon legacy and the Bain Family for all that they have given to the south town community. You will always be a part of our community and our hearts!

If you would like to address the Board or any of the committees, please use email at FABoard@firstalt.coop or visit our website at firstalt.coop. And keep up with the Co-op by following us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter at [@firstaltcoop](https://www.instagram.com/firstaltcoop). 🍷



Look for a more detailed article on the legacy of Purple Moon in the October Scoop.

Everyone Can Shop, Anyone Can Join

Become an Owner and join a cooperative community 12,000 people strong and growing

SAVE: Get 10% off your purchases of items not already on sale, one day per month. (Some restrictions apply.)

EARN: Owners receive a patronage dividend in years the Co-op is profitable. The more you spend, the more you earn!

SUPPORT: Invest in a locally-owned business that supports local farmers and producers, fair trade practices, sustainability, and community.

VOTE: Each Owner has an equal voice. Vote for or serve on our Board of Directors and vote for annual donation recipients.

CONNECT: Enjoy access to Co-op Community events for Owners and build a sense of community.

Interested in becoming an Owner? Visit the Customer Service desk at either location or join online at firstalt.coop/ownership



Call for volunteers: Growing Ancestral Roots

The newest addition to the Food Action Team is looking for some help

Growing Ancestral Roots was created to provide a soulful sacred space for people of various multicultural backgrounds from around the world and Black, Indigenous, and people of color navigating their identity(ies). A safe space to commune with ancestors, practice or reclaim traditions, and learn to plant in hopes of passing on that seed to future generations.

The project provides resources, healing, community building, cultural connection (both people and nutritional needs for the body), sharing, resilience, and mentorship.

They are actively searching for volunteers for work parties, harvesting tasks, deliveries, and more. If you're interested, contact Sandie Cheung at the email below.



Volunteers needed for the following:

- **Work party volunteers (with consistent availability.)**
- **Leader for next year to lead their culture or heritage foods, celebrations, etc.**
- **Coordinator for next year**
- **Delivery person to Monroe, deemed as a food desert.**
- **End of year clean up and cover crop the land.**



Please contact Sandie Cheung at corvallisbackyardcsa@gmail.com for more info and to volunteer. 🌱



Dear Co-op Owners, We'd like to hear from you! Send letters and we'll publish what we can every month in The Scoop. Letters over 250 words will be edited for length. All letters subject to editing for spelling, grammar, and clarity. Letters should include author's name, Owner #, and contact information. Contact info won't be published. Opinions are not necessarily supported by Co-op, Board, staff, or Owners. Email letters to: scoop@firstalt.coop or mail them to 1007 SE 3rd St., Attn: The Scoop. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. 🌱

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter for news, giveaways, recipes, and special offers or scan the QR Code to join our email list and get special announcements and the twice-monthly Co-op Connection Newsletter sent to your inbox.



Scan this QR code to join our mailing list:

SALAD BAR IS BACK!



FRESH • LOCAL • ORGANIC

Available all day • Take-out only

Product shortages expected to continue through the year

Supply shortages have become a typical part of life during the pandemic. Though we don't expect to experience anything like the shortages we went through in the early days of the crisis, the long term effects of the pandemic are still slowing production and transportation of products around the globe, and we expect it will continue to cause shortages and unexpected out of stock situations through the year. We apologize for any inconveniences this may cause and thank you for your understanding!

Read more in this excellent article
from the White House: bit.ly/3jjBgmi

OWNERS CAN UPDATE INFO ONLINE

Owners, if you've recently moved or need to update your contact info, we have a convenient new option—do it online! You can also add or remove household members, join the Co-op email list, opt-into receiving emailed receipts, and more. To get started scan the QR code or visit:

firstalt.coop/owner-information-update



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