

NORTHWIND NEWS

Since 1977 Northwind Natural Foods Cooperative November 1993

"Good Things For You . . . Naturally"

Treasurer's Report July, August September '93 Fiscal Year 4th Quarter

Northwind's 4th quarter showed its highest sales of the year, at \$21,100.00, bringing our sales for the year to \$77,715.00. In spite of the strong sales, we did show a net loss for the 4th quarter of \$411.00, bringing our year-to-date loss to \$1254.00, and our retained earnings at year's end to (\$2116.00).

The breakdown of sales and net profit (loss) for fiscal year '93 looks like this:

	Sales	Profit (Loss)
1st Quarter	\$18,332.80	(\$515.00)
2nd Quarter	19,109.19	(1102.00)
3rd Quarter	19,191.15	774.00
4rd Quarter	21,081.32	(411.00)
Loss from '92		(862.00)
Totals	\$77,714.46	(\$2116.00)

Overall it was a difficult year for the co-op, and it shows in the sales (down \$5000.00 from last year) and in the bottom line. But our 3rd and 4th quarters do show an improvement from the first half of the year and our plans are to continue in this direction.

-Jody DeCarlo, Treasurer

Northwind News is published by Northwind Natural Foods Cooperative for its membership. Letters to the Editor and other contributions are encouraged. Typed copy is much appreciated. Consider submitting articles on general areas of natural foods and healthy living or specific foods, nutrients, book reviews, recipes and the like. Please include your name and telephone number. Deliver or mail submittals to the store. Please notify us if you change your mailing address. This issue's editor: Larry I. Sands

Annual GMM Held

Northwind's Annual General Membership Meeting was held on September 30th. While there weren't as many members in attendance as we would have liked, nevertheless there were enough present to get the job done and a good meeting was had by all.

President Doug's, Treasurer Jody's and Manager

Roger's reports at the meeting all gave special emphasis to Co-op finances and the Board's strategy of eliminating our financial losses through greatly expanded product selection financed by several types of loans from the membership. [A committee has been formed to finalize the policy and procedures regarding these loans.]

The membership discussed various aspects of the proposed new By-laws and voted the new version into effect. A complete copy of our By-Laws is on the store bulletin board for your review.

Tim Feldt's term on the Board expired and he decided to sit out the next term. Karl Overholt was enthusiastically voted to serve on the Board.

After the meeting was officially over we were treated to an extensive selection of new sample products provided free by our major supplier, North Farm Cooperative, and secured through Roger's good efforts. Roger distributed much of the spoils to members to take home and report back on their impressions of the items.

A very special thanks to all the members who showed their support for the co-op by their attendance!

The complete Minutes of the GMM are posted on the store bulletin board.

Do It Now

If you haven't already renewed your membership please do so ASAP. Annual membership fees of \$5.00 per membership are due October 1st of each year. Members who have not renewed are not eligible for store discounts and their names will be dropped from the mailing list.

"Just in Time For the Holidays"

With the holiday season coming sooner than you think, be sure and shop the co-op for everything possible!

We have Ironwood's biggest and freshest selection of whole grains and flours, natural sweeteners, herbs and spices and flavorings for those special holiday feasts and treats!

Roger's also gathering a unique assortment of very tasteful gift ideas. And when you shop please consider putting an item in the donations cart at the front of the store so we can help provide meals to those in need through local charities.

Pay Now . . . Eat Later

In a further effort to increase sales through an expanded product line, the Board is soon to finalize an up-dated version of a fund raising technique previously used by the Co-op. It's a simple plan called a Positive Charge Account wherein any Co-op member can pay for their store purchases in advance thereby allowing the co-op to benefit from the use of the funds for a period of time.

This is a real good way for members to help the co-op grow stronger financially without making an outright donation because you get your money back (in future store purchases)! Many of us contribute to public radio or TV or other worthy causes and our co-op is surely a worthy cause as a service to the community.

But by participating in this Positive Charge Account program members can help underwrite the co-op's success without contributing one cent. And you earn 5% value if you wait a year before using your Account's funds to pay for your purchases.

The complete policy will be finalized and posted in the store within a couple weeks.

Please consider helping your co-op during this time of need.

STORE HOURS

Monday thru Friday :
9:00 to 5:30
Saturday: 10:00 to 4:00
Sunday: closed

If you know of any hunters who process their own game, for goodness sake tell them to buy their processing herbs and spices from Northwind. We have the freshest, largest selection of natural herbs, spices and flavorings at the lowest prices for miles around!

Board of Directors

Doug Clark	932-0866
Irene Hewitt	932-5242
Jody DeCarlo	561-3831
Karl Overholt	561-3120
Larry I. Sands	561-2880

The next Board meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm, November 17 but there are strong indications that the date may have to be moved to the following Wednesday. Check the store bulletin board, newspaper or radio to be sure.



Happy Thanksgiving

Northwind Natural Foods Cooperative
134 W. Aurora Street
Ironwood, Michigan 49938
(906) 932-3547

"Good Things For You . . . Naturally"