



the Gorge Winds S c o - o p

www.gorgewindscoop.org

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GWCG will kick off our **Friday Film Series** on March 25 with *Food Matters* at Rock Creek Hegewald Center, Gymnasium Rm 100, 710 SW Rock Creek Drive in Stevenson. The film starts at 7:30 pm, followed by a group discussion; light refreshments provided. Future films: *Ingredients* on April 29 and *Future of Food* on May 13.

Second Annual GWCG Seed Swap: Saturday April 2, 2011 from 1- 3 pm in the Stevenson Library community room.

Free community potluck at the Stevenson United Methodist Church, 325 Jefferson St., on Sunday, March 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. Gorge Winds is a cooperative grocery in the process of being organized. Steering Committee members will be on hand to answer questions and provide information about the co-op. Feel free to bring food or beverages to share, although everyone is welcome to attend, regardless. We appreciate the generosity of the United Methodist Church in sharing their space!

We are often asked what products will be available at the co-op. Here are two local businesses who would like to see their products on the co-op's shelves:

Acadian Farms

Acadian Farms is a small family owned farm located in Carson, specializing in organically grown vegetables, fruits and herbs. We truly believe in the values and rewards of a small farm and love to produce fresh, healthy foods for you and your family.

We currently offer Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares from our farm and also participate in the Stevenson Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings. We love being a part of this community and look forward to growing with the community. Please visit our website for more information: www.acadianorganics.com

Blue Skies Bakery

Todd and Krissy Biernacki moved to BZ Corners 4 years ago with intent to live, work and raise a family while treading as lightly as possible. Todd started Blue Skies Bakery in an existing building on their land. Krissy tends a small organic farm on an acre of pasture, leaving 19 acres of woods for the wildlife. She sells her veggies locally and plans to add elderberry jam and syrup.

Todd's artisan breads include Sourdough, Rustic French, Focaccia, Challah & Ciabatta. He hopes to add organic granola, pancake mix and dog biscuits to his product line. More info: biernacki@gorge.net or 503-459-6348

Volunteer with Gorge Winds Community Grocery

We are happy to have help at any level. Without volunteers, this project would not be happening. We have volunteers helping with the bylaws, facebook, website, and events. One upcoming need is for people willing to (wo)man a table at the Farmers Market in Stevenson. Whatever you enjoy doing, we would love to have your help!

Contact: volunteer@gorgewindscoop.org

The formation of Gorge Winds Community Grocery is directed by a volunteer Steering Committee. They serve as the interim Board of Directors until the election of Directors by the Member/Owners. Please contact us if you are interested in joining our Steering Committee. Each current Steering Committee member was asked how they got involved and what keeps them working on the co-op project:

I got involved through Gorge Grown Food Network's Community Food Leaders Class last spring.

My passion is every aspect of food - as it relates to cooking, taste, gardening, sustainability, farming, food systems, agriculture, economy, health, nutrition, disease prevention and healing, soil and environmental health and our local and global community. I am also intrigued by travel, climates and culture.

-Laila Payne

I became interested in the possibility of a local grocery co-op after participating in the GGFN Food Leadership class last year. As a health care provider and mother of 2 young children, I am very concerned about our present food supply and consequences for our community's health. I am passionate about empowering and educating ourselves about food- where it comes from, how to grow it, and how what we eat affects us in so many ways.

I've lived in Klickitat County for 20 years and worked in Stevenson for the last 10 years. I am very excited to be part of an amazing process that could so greatly benefit our community.

-Deana Dahl

I grew up in Hood River, OR, but spent 18 years in other towns while pursuing two degrees in Comparative Literature. After returning to the area in 2007, I thought long and hard about what I'd been missing while in grad school and promptly began volunteering for Gorge Grown Food Network, working on grants, research, and events.

I always knew I'd find time one day to focus on growing and cooking food at home, but it was my work with GGFN that really connected me to the larger community of local food enthusiasts. After moving to Stevenson in 2009, I heard about a leadership training GGFN was piloting in Skamania and Wasco counties. This was an exciting new opportunity to connect with the whole gorge and become part of the new food movement spurred by GGFN's Mobile Farmers Market. And thus, GWCG was born.

My true passions are dance, experiential learning, and slow creative forays into growing and cooking delicious meals.

-Johanna Wyers

I learned about grocery co-ops by serving on the board of the Vancouver Food Co-op (2006-08). It seemed natural to use that knowledge to start a co-op here in western Skamania County where I've lived for 30 years. I believe in the cooperative structure and how it empowers individuals to work together to fill their own needs. Food is a pretty basic need and food decisions are far - reaching, affecting our economy, environment and health.

I'm also a homeschooling Mom, in training as a community mediator, and have studied tai chi for over 20 years.

-Lori Loranger

I first became interested in food issues over 14 years ago when I became a vegetarian. The more I learned about the food we were eating, the more it changed my family's eating habits, gardening habits and purchasing methods. I began to learn about the differences between organically grown foods and foods that were grown for traditional commercial consumption. I started to understand the ecological impact of transporting food products from one part of the world to another.

Years later, over countless cups of coffee and tea, Lori and I dreamt of a local place where we could shop for all of our food needs. This dream was set into motion in early 2010, when we attended the GGFN leadership training class.

In addition to serving on the steering committee for Gorge Winds Community Grocery, I enjoy working with children, the arts, and gardening. Since 2009, I've taught a seed to table educational program for students between 5 and 12 at the Stevenson community gardens.

-Margie Fickett

Do you have a recipe using fresh whole ingredients? In-season produce? Gluten free?

We want your recipe for our newsletter!

Send to info@gorgewindcoop.org with "recipe" in the subject