

Garden Square Co-op Community Newsletter



Did you know we have a Facebook group? If you're interested in joining please login to Facebook, search for Garden Square Housing Co-op, and request to join.

Visit the 'members only' section of our Co-op Website for access to all rules and policies:

www.gardensquare.org



Cana's Coordinator
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April/May 2021

Upcoming GM Meetings

The GM is on our usual Wednesday April 28th at 7:00 pm.

The Draft Budget Meeting/GM is on Thursday May 27th at 7:00 pm.

The Budget vote/GM is Tuesday June 22nd at 7:00 pm.

Jokes/Riddles

What does the ocean do when it sees its friends?

It waves!

- Submitted by Parisa



Did you know that you can find all co-op policies, member phone list, occupancy agreement, GSHC rules, and more in the member-only section of our website? www.gardensquare.org

If you need the username & password contact Donna.

Maintenance



Updates

- Window Cleaning: We have contracted Vancouver Home Maintenance to come and clean our gutters and inaccessible windows near the beginning of May. Date to be announced.
- We are excited to have contracted Two Girls on a Roll to paint the parking lot walls on Burke St. and Smith Ave. This will commence mid-April and will require members to not use the parking lot.
- Fence staining will begin as soon as weather permits. Please see separate notice explaining what will be required of members.
- Reminder! Masks are required when entering the laundry room and workshop as this is a public space.
- If you want a "No Soliciting" sign for your door please email maintenance.
- NEW EMAIL ADDRESS - Tool room (Borrowing tools/ workshop) - gsctoolroom@gmail.com

How to Submit a Work Request

Send all work orders to maintenance@gardensquare.org

Include the following:

- Full name
- Full address: including unit number and street name
- Phone number where we can reach you
- Nature of the problem: including photos if you can more the better
- Do we have permission to enter if no one is home? Yes? No?
- Keep requests short. Please don't make a big list – instead, please submit multiple requests if needed.

We need ALL this information as we often forward the work requests to various trades people that may or may not be familiar.

Task

- If you can't do your task for the following reasons (sick, injured, self-isolating, away, etc.) and you have another member do your task for you please let your monitor and task chair know ASAP.
- If you have a task and need tools please email: task@gardensquare.org
- Our next task sign up is May 8 via paper copy only. More info will be sent out soon.
- Please flatten all boxes before putting them in the paper bin. We do have 2 extra paper bins located on Burke St. & Hertford Lane (beside the yard waste bins).
- Please do not overfill our recycling bins. If full wait until the following week.

Pool

The pool is running and ready for every member to enjoy and relax in this hard time.

Some problems with cracked pipe pressed us to close it for a couple of days, but we solved that problem very quickly.

The water pump is still running, but some noise appeared, which means the pump needs serious attention. According to that we bought a new pump. It is already arrived and waiting to be installed, to serve our pool for the coming summer season.

The pool team does their tasks properly to keep our pool clean and functional all year around.

If co-op members will follow the rules and regulations – our pool will work for us for a long time without problem.

Parents/Children Safety & Reminders

Please remind your child(ren) when taking food and drinks outside that they either bring their garbage home or use the garbage can in front of the common room.

A reminder to kids playing in the laneway between the north alcove on Hertford Lane and the chain to please clean up all the rocks & sticks, etc.

Key Holders (Lawnmowers, Weed Eaters)

- Hector Caron #3898 Hertford Lane.
- Gerald Knutsen #5140 Smith Ave.
- Donna Wik #3871 Burke St.

Committee Chair Emails

Maintenance – maintenance@gardensquare.org

Task – task@gardensquare.org

Pool – pool@gardensquare.org

Board – board@gardensquare.org

Membership – membership@gardensquare.org

Emergency Preparedness – emergencyprep@gardensquare.org (inactive)

Recreation – recreation@gardensquare.org (inactive due to Covid)

General Membership Meetings

All meetings are mandatory and start @ 7pm on the last Wednesday of the month.

January

February

March

April

May (Budget Meeting)

June

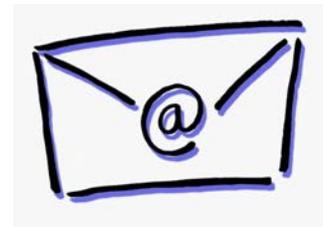
August

September

October

November (Annual General Meeting)

*No meetings in July & December



Farewell to the Nelsons

I recall back around 2005 (or, was it 2006?) - I was then routinely spending time in our Co-op Office, preparing updates for our Task Committee and our Garden Square Task Arrangement. One day when I walked into the Common Room, I was shocked to discover a beautiful black leather sofa and an inviting leather easy chair, together with a large screen television, neither of which, at least that I had noticed, had been in there previously. Where had these come from? I asked Blanche, whom I was joining on that occasion, if she knew the story behind this upgrade to our Common Room? She surprised me by stating that: "Yes, they had been donated to our (Garden Square) Common Room, courtesy of our (then) new Members at 3845 Burke, Brian & Monique Nelson!" I immediately thought what a truly kind and beneficent way this was to introduce yourselves as New Members to our Co-op community. Over the years, this initial act of generosity by the Nelsons has been followed again and again by their neighbourly selflessness in giving of themselves. To many of us, it is that quality that we shall long remember them for.

Continuing to reminisce, I will always recall, during that miserable, snowy Winter of 2008-09, on Christmas Day ('08) we had a turkey in our oven and food was being prepared on the stove when, after just over two hours into such, the power on our stove and oven died. What to do and who to contact upon such a dire occasion? People were either (understandably) too busy for me to ask for their help or they may have been away from home - after all, it was Christmas and, wouldn't you know it - a long four-day weekend that year. I believe Ted let me know that the only person in the Co-op who was equipped to help us, especially on a Holiday, was Brian (Nelson). Brian could access our Alcove's electrical crib and install one of those large replacement fuses. Unfortunately, as it turned out Brian and Monique weren't going to be available and home - until the next day, Boxing Day. Sure enough, Brian came over as soon as he could that morning, with a new fuse - to get our oven and stove back on line and functioning. Xmas Day itself, may have been a disaster because of the now dead fuse, nevertheless, as soon as he was able, Brian showed up to rescue us from a very distressing situation on, what was, that long Holiday weekend, meaning it was virtually impossible to gain help elsewhere. We shall always be grateful for and will never forget, the cheerful attention he kindly paid us on that occasion.

Over the years, due to her ability to be involved in the evolution and day-to-day life of the Co-op, I came to know Monique somewhat better than Brian. I would see Monique at General Membership Meetings and hear her well-thought out and empathetic comments while there. She served as a Director for a time or so, constantly exhibiting a self-giving and helpful attitude. She was always approachable, warm and compassionate no matter how tired or exhausted she may have been from her day at Work.

In later years when we (within the Co-op) endeavoured to organise an "Emergency Preparedness Team/Committee (EPT)," it was Monique who I observed as being stirred by a sense of zeal and responsibility - to try to think of everything possible, every avenue available - to help and spur an interest, if not a passion within her fellow GSH Co-op Members to see and accept an obligation to help keep their neighbours, their fellow man and, indeed, their own households as safe! She has indefatigably tried to encourage and press us all to show an active interest in caring for the security of our physical homes and their contents, as well as those of our neighbours in the Community-at-large, by inviting us to certain meetings to determine how we can make our Co-op, our "village" within that community, more safe and secure.

Monique, in heading the EPT, has arranged and invited us to Meetings on Fire Safety, on General Health & Safety, on Protection from Crime, on doing her utmost to revive "Block Watch" and encourage a re-establishment of our relationship with the RCMP, through Community Policing; as well, Monique was highly instrumental in obtaining, installing (and even teaching us how to use) the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) which is a machine that is used to treat cardiac arrest, where the heart suddenly stops beating properly. By sending an electric shock to the heart of a person in cardiac arrest, the AED restores a normal heart rhythm. AEDs are designed for use by laypersons with little training. Monique did, though, arrange for qualified people to come and help initiate at least some training.

More recently, Monique has been trying to organise the purchase of helpful emergency guidance items and protective equipment for the safety of our GSHC/EPT Wardens & Volunteers, should an emergency strike the Home Front. It has taken a lot of time and energy to plan and organise such events, including the one that was arranged for our greater Community & Neighbourhood over at George McLean Park a couple of Summers ago, or the Community Safety Signage that she had printed and posted, and the subsequent Handouts that Monique managed to oversee being provided to the invited Public who attended our Annual GSH Co-op's Hallowe'en Fireworks arrangement.

There are a number of other endeavours that I've seen Monique involve herself with, often with little, if any shared encouragement, or any significant and evident return of thanks and appreciation from the people it was meant to serve and help protect. Nevertheless, like a dynamo, she unfailingly pressed on.

All of these workings performed on our behalf while she did her secular job during the week, all the while providing and raising her son and daughter together with Brian. This gave testament to her dedication and her vision for improving Co-op life for all of us. As well, she bore her weighty concerns for her aging Mum, living in a Seniors home in far-off London, ON to whom, Monique, as often as feasible, faithfully paid regular visits. Yet, despite her responsibilities, she could be depended on to invariably do her utmost as she prepared to benefit her Garden Square Neighbourhood!

Brian and Monique Nelson served us well at Garden Square. They were exemplary, outgoing, helpful and truly good and decent Members of Our Community. Now that they are leaving us, we hope that they, likewise, benefitted and enjoyed their time here and that they take with them the respect, loving-appreciation and happy memories of a community grateful for their having chosen to reside at and make 3845 Burke their home during these past 15, or so, years.

Brian, Monique and Family:

Be assured we will surely miss you and we send with you our warm, lasting memories and our heartfelt good wishes in Your New Home!!

THANKYOU!

GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

Birthday Club!

On behalf of Garden Square Co-op we would like to wish the following kids and members a Happy Birthday:

- Jeramie (3834) Lordy Lordy look who's turning 40 on April 4
- Zach (3834) who is turning 11 on April 14
- Hossien (3842) on April 15
- Alice (5138) who is turning 10 on April 18
- Blanche (3806) who is turning 75 on April 21
- Daphne (3841) who is turning 11 on May 12



BAKER'S Easter Chocolate Chip Cookies

 PREP : 20 MIN COOK: 12 MIN

This is our classic chocolate chip cookie recipe with a seasonal twist! Bake up a batch of our BAKER'S Easter Chocolate Chip Cookies to celebrate the holiday.

What do I need ?

1 cup butter, softened
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup granulated sugar
2 eggs
2 tsp. vanilla
2-1/4 cups flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 pkg. (300 g) *Baker's* Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips
2 pkg. (188 g each) *Cadbury Mini Eggs*

42 SERVINGS

How do I make it ?

Step 1

Heat oven to 375°F.

Step 2

Beat first 5 ingredients in large bowl with mixer until light and fluffy. Add flour and baking soda; mix well. Stir in chocolate chips.

Step 3

Drop tablespoonfuls of dough, 2 inches apart, onto baking sheets. Press 3 *Cadbury Eggs* into dough for each cookie.

Step 4

Bake 10 to 12 min. or until lightly browned. Cool on baking sheet 3 min. Remove to wire racks; cool completely.

Your Co-op Newsletter

The Garden Square newsletter is published six times a year by Donna. Our goal is to keep co-op members informed of co-op news and issues in a positive manner, while providing education, information and entertainment.

Are you celebrating an important anniversary or birthday? The newsletter is a great way to share important life passages. Our local heroes column is a good place to acknowledge your neighbour's volunteer efforts. We also love receiving tips about great local businesses and services for our local gems column. Do you have a favorite recipe to share? Do you or your kids have a joke/ riddle to share? Do you have any pets we would love to get to know all about them?

I'm always looking for thoughts or ideas for our newsletter.

If you'd like to receive the newsletter by email (instead of having a paper copy delivered to your door) please forward your name, unit # to 3871 Burke st.

How would you like to receive your newsletter?

Please choose one of the options below:

Unit #: _____

E-mail: _____

Or

Paper Copy: _____

Unit: _____

Your thoughts or ideas: _____
