



WWW.GREATBASINFOOD.COOP 275 WONDER ST. RENO, NV

ISSUE 1 - FEBRUARY 2007

# NEWSLETTER



## WE'RE HERE - and we need your help!

The Great Basin Food Coop is the only marketplace in the Truckee Meadows where you can find truly regional and local products. And not only that, we operate on 100% Member and Volunteer power! This not only fuses the community together, it also saves you money and provides you and your family with the freshest produce possible.

Currently, we have more than 200 members. For more information about membership, visit our website at [www.greatbasinfood.coop](http://www.greatbasinfood.coop). Out of our membership, about 15% volunteer at the Coop. In preparation for busy spring season, we need this number to rise to 50%.

If you are not volunteering, you should be! To get involved, email Heatherlee and Carol at [volunteer@greatbasinfood.coop](mailto:volunteer@greatbasinfood.coop).

### Statement on the Co-operative Identity

**Definition:** A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

**Values:** Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

**Principles:** The co-operative principles are guidelines by which co-operatives put their values into practice.

**1st Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership** Co-operatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

**2nd Principle: Democratic Member Control** Co-operatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary co-operatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and co-operatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

**3rd Principle: Member Economic Participation** Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their co-operative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the co-operative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their co-operative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

**4th Principle: Autonomy and Independence** Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter to agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their co-operative autonomy.

**5th Principle: Education, Training and Information** Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

**6th Principle: Co-operation among Co-operatives** Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

**7th Principle: Concern for Community** Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

From the International Co-operative Alliance:  
Uniting, Representing, and Serving Co-Operatives Worldwide!  
<http://www.ica.coop/coop/principles.html>



#### Welcome To David's Tea

We're glad you're here. If you are new to David's you may not know that we've been selling specialty teas, gifts and accessories for over 30 years. We've also seen many changes during this time, both in our own product line and in the tea market place.

But some things remain constant—our passion for excellence and for constant improvement. These challenges and our gratitude to our customers for their great loyalty have always fueled our enthusiasm for what we do.

Our humble beginnings as a family business arose many years ago from a committed belief that greatness in what we eat and drink begins with the best ingredients, assembled with a practiced hand and a refined palate. Teas and herbs are certainly no different, so over the years we've tirelessly searched the world for only the best tasting available. Then here at our facility, in Sparks, Nevada, high in the Sierra Mountains, we handle and blend these fine ingredients for the most appealing flavor, aroma and appearance.

But over the years our definition of quality has changed a bit also. Knowing that people drink tea both for enjoyment and the multitude of health benefits they've heard about, we began, over a period of years, to convert our entire product line to USDA Certified Organic. Now each single loose leaf tea and each tea bag we produce—over 400, in all—bear the important USDA Organic Icon, symbolizing the purity we feel our customers deserve. (Please read more about organic tea by clicking the "Organic" button on the top bar of our home page.)

Our mission is to keep you, our customer, happy with your selection from beginning to end. Additionally, we're happy to talk to you about any aspect of the tea you're contemplating. We promise that you'll always reach someone who will welcome your questions or comments. We hope you'll discover the great rewards of drinking David's Tea's true and exciting flavors, pure and uncompromised ingredients, as well as unparalleled service.

This promise is our full guarantee.