

2016 Ken King

LIFE AS ART AWARD



SANDOR & LASZLO SLOMOVITS

Sandor & Laszlo Slomovits, Hungarian-born twins known as the musical duo Gemini, have delighted generations of Ann Arbor fans since 1973.

San & Laz have recorded many award-winning albums of original & traditional music. Their influence extends far beyond Ann Arbor, winning songwriting grants from the

Michigan Council for the Arts, and recording twelve albums of international ethnic folk dance music used in teaching worldwide.

Their lives express many of the values of this award – honoring nature through poetry & music, exposing people to new music & traditions, & teaching & inspiring others to live happier & healthier lives.

Long time co-op members & supporters, San & Laz are treasured members of our community who contribute generously of themselves to make people's lives richer & more melodic. They have inspired a lifelong love of music & fun to countless fans who have grown up singing with Gemini. ■

PREVIOUS WINNERS

- 2009 KEN KING
- 2010 JEANNINE PALMS
- 2011 JIM CROWFOOT
- 2012 CLAIRE & PAUL TINKERHESS

- 2013 LA'RON WILLIAMS
- 2014 PAUL BANTLE & ANNE ELDER
- 2015 MARK HODESH

President's Report Continued

Some courageous members challenged the Board to consider asking the membership to boycott Eden Foods because of discriminatory health practices against its female workforce. When the Board failed to follow through with placing the issue on the annual election ballot, the members then led a petition drive to run a special election. The petition failed to collect enough signatures and so the issue never moved on to a member vote. The process was challenging but the petitioners reminded us about our Co-op's democratic principles. They also reminded us that people matter. We should not be complacent about the corporate practices that affect our community and food.

Additional actions the Board took this year include:

- Two Board vacancies were filled due to resignations.
- Major capital expenditures were approved for new flooring and new lighting throughout the store and café.
- A monthly electronic newsletter, Board Matters, was initiated in January 2016 to keep the membership informed of Board activities and Co-op related issues.

Serving on the Board, I have been reminded many times about how valuable PFC is to me personally and also to our community. We are all indebted to those courageous leaders from the 70's who founded our store and the members who continued to support and expand it. We are, as one of our 7 cooperative principles states:



Ken King was a pioneer organic farmer, owner of Frog Holler Organic Farm and a dear friend to the People's Food Co-op. He passed away in 2009. In honor of his legacy PFC established the Ken King Life as Art Award to be given each year to someone who has shown fearless and creative dedication and hard work living their ideals in the realms of social justice, politics, spirituality, art or just plain conscious living. Recipients of the award are chosen by a committee of PFC board members and member-owners.

"[A] self-empowering community of people that grow and promote a transformation of society toward cooperation, justice, and non-exploitation."

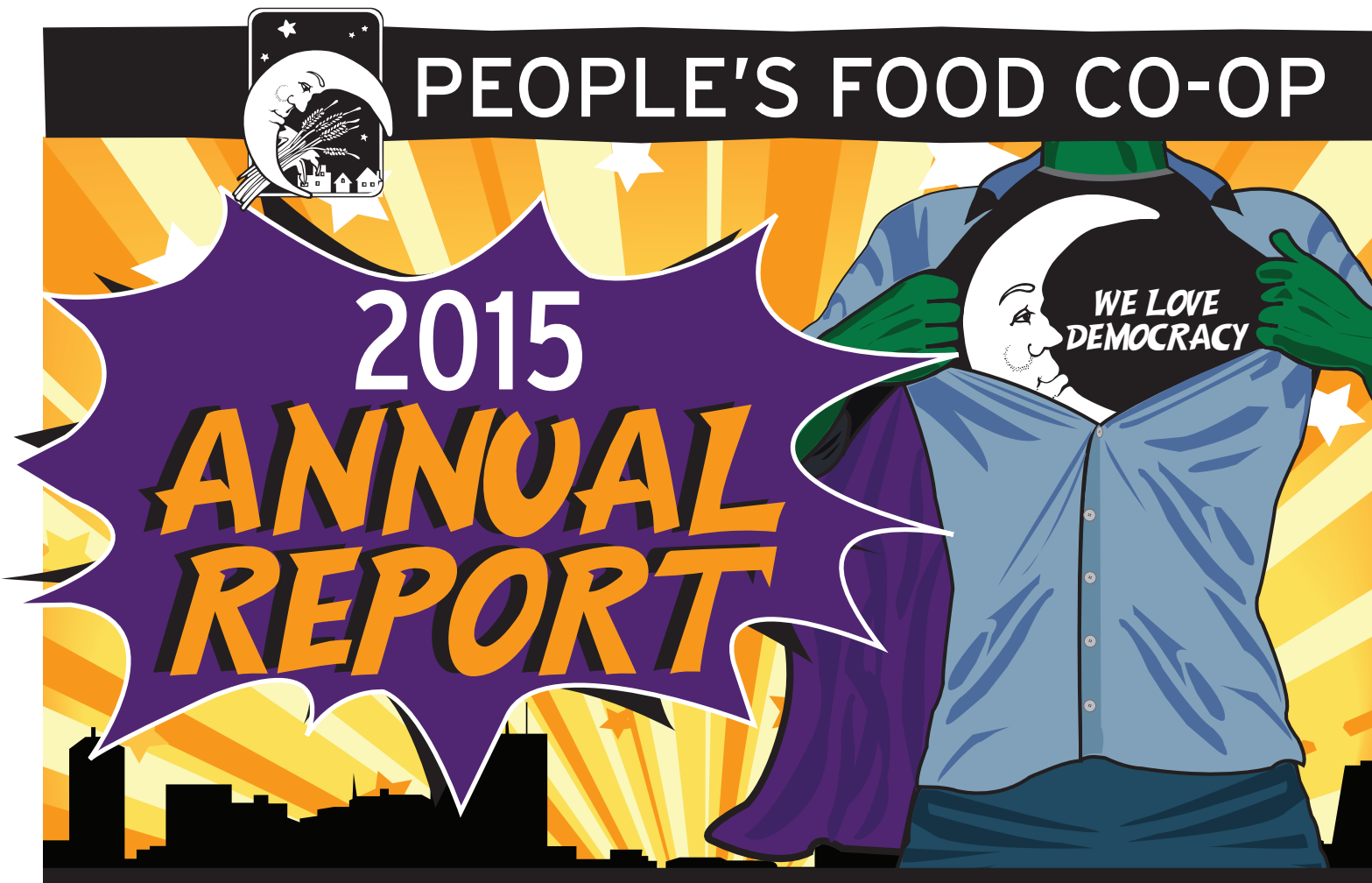
Be a courageous leader for PFC. Participate in our store by shopping, voting, taking classes and volunteering your time when the opportunity is there. Together we support our community and promote cooperative principles. ■

Ann Sprunger
President



216 N. FOURTH AVENUE
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
PHONE (734) 994-9174

PEOPLESFOOD.COOP



AGENDA

- 6.30 Guests Arrive
- 7.00 Dinner
- 7.30 Call meeting to order
Welcome & Introductions
- 7.35 President's Report
- 7.40 Treasurer's Report
- 7.45 Ken King Award Presentation & Musical Interlude
- 8.00 Book Launch - Patti Smith
History of the Peoples Food Co-op
- 8.10 Election Results
- 8.20 Drawing & General Manager's Report
- 8.25 Member's Agenda Q & A



PFC Board of Directors 2015-2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In October 2015, the National CDS Consulting Co-op hosted a Cooperative Café event in Ann Arbor for Midwestern co-op stores' employees, managers, and Boards of Directors. The day-long workshop was composed of revolving conversations around the theme, Embracing Change with Courageous Leadership. We learned about the competition in the corporate grocery sector and how co-ops are addressing their own community's competition. In 1971, when People's Food Co-op was established in Ann Arbor, the ideas of eating locally grown organic food, eating a vegetarian diet, and working together as owners of your own food store were radical. Early adopters were courageous in their convictions and commitment to bring these resources to our community. Fifty years later, our ideas have been embraced and now organics, local products, vegan and vegetarian and other healthy eating practices, have been integrated into corporate grocery markets. In some ways, we are victims

of our own success. We have won the initial round but we still have more work to do.

Courageous Leadership reflects our own experience at PFC this past year. We needed to be courageous when facing our first failed annual election. The Board spent time reviewing the process to determine what was missing and how we could improve the election process. We realized we needed to work more closely with our membership, engage members to participate in committees and to be more aggressive in identifying members to consider Board service.

Leadership was required to address our fiscal deficit at the end of 2015. The Board worked with our GM to create a financial plan to address strategies and actions required to improve our performance. Our next step will be to develop a five-year plan to further guide PFC to a prosperous future. We need to inform the members of the ways we all can invest in our future.

continued on back