

# News from Provident Organic Farm

www.providentfarm.org

Season 2, Week 17

"dedicated to a safe, just and sustainable food system" August 4th , 2003

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD 17#...

Friday, August 1, 2003

Dear Fellow CSA Members... Next week is a transition week on the farm.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no share pick-ups next week - the week of August 4th through 9th. Shares will begin again the following week on their regular pick-up schedules.

To successfully transition from the summer to fall harvest, we must pause in the harvesting process and concentrate on preparing the gardens and fields for the fall crops. Many of us in our own gardens are experiencing fewer flowers and a need to tidy up and even discard some of the plants that are wearing out, to make room for other fresh plants. So too the yield of many of the farm summer crops is slowing while the fall crops are blossoming and are need of urgent attention. They will not wait! We do not want to lose any plants. It must be taken care of immediately. This is a critical seasonal requirement that will increase the prospects of an abundant fall harvest.

Although many of the fall crops have of course been planted, and together the volunteers, Christina, Heather and Jay have transplanted many plants, there are still hundreds of plants to be transplanted, gardens to be weeded, and the fields and greenhouse to begin to change over. During the transition week, the farm volunteers will come on their regular schedules but will use that time to attend to the vast number of things that need attention. Sorry, harvesting volunteers...this is not a vacation week for us, but it will be interesting to do something different.

In addition to our regular volunteer crews, anyone who has working share hours to put in - or does not usually volunteer but loves to weed, etc.- and would like to help address this urgent need next week please contact Hilje as soon as possible. There may even be an evening available to work. This is an important time for the CSA members to pull together.

Thanks...

Pat Vorus



## First Fruits

“And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three;  
but the greatest of these is charity.” I Corinthians  
13:13



There it is - the green zucchini,  
lovely lump of planet flesh;  
the solidification of summer's breath.  
Yes, I believe this is worship.

Weeks ago - on my knees,  
the shy, tender ceremony of tucking in seeds.  
Hope prepared her secret passageways,  
And I did my part: haul water,  
pull weeds, concentrate, contemplate.

Finally the humble fruit is ready to be taken -  
but I don't need food!  
(These words can be spoken by few.)  
Excess fills my shelves;  
already the store's produce is spoiling,  
and every meal is by invitation:  
'R.S.V.P. - Please come!'



See, it isn't Need that causes my heart to leap  
at the pulling of the first fruits:  
the green zucchini; then two perfect yellow squash,  
blossoms still attached at the umbilicus; and peas -  
enough for a small meal. The basil  
is ready to be pinched for pesto,  
and how could I ever use this much parsley?  
Just one plant - but prolific!

I can't humanly hold anymore,  
but my arms keep filling,  
and I keep giving.  
So much, so much abundance,  
some don't understand  
why I planted - only to give away.  
Charity.

- Joan Maloof, June 1993



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## COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome your comments and contributions, including recipes! Please send to [ubuubok@dmv.com](mailto:ubuubok@dmv.com) or  
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