



# DANE COUNTY FOOD COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2009

January 30, 2010



Judy Hageman, Ruth Simpson and Gerry Campbell, with the Food Council display at the Food for Thought Festival.



Michael Pollan and an entertaining farmer pose at the Food For Thought Festival.

Dane County Food Council  
City-County Building, Room 116  
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53703

[allan@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:allan@co.dane.wi.us)  
(608) 267-2536

This year the Food Council concentrated its efforts on outreach describing its work and the local food movement in general. Food Council members presented information to numerous groups in Dane County, and members also communicated on a national-level with organizations involved in food policy. Member Sarah Artz completed changes to the look and organization of the Council's website, developing a space where news, events, and resources about food issues in Dane County are easily accessible to the public. The Council's listserv now reaches more than 150 people!

## PRESENTING: YOUR LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM

Food Council members used their core Power Point presentation (created last year) for numerous speaking engagements as part of their Speaker's Bureau. In addition, a second Power Point presentation highlighting the numerous food organizations in Dane County was created by Council Chair Ruth Simpson. These educational efforts reached over 200 individuals. The Food Council presented for the following groups or meetings:

- Altrusa – Madison, WI
- City of Middleton Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee – Middleton, WI
- Community Food Security Coalition Annual Conference – Des Moines, Iowa
- PEO Chapter – Verona, WI
- Slow Food Nation (course at Edgewood College) – Madison, WI
- New Partners for Smart Growth Conference – Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Wisconsin Early Childhood Association – Madison, WI

## OTHER OUTREACH EFFORTS

Food Council members organized a trip for over 50 people to tour two urban agriculture programs, Growing Power and Walnut Way, in Milwaukee. The Food Council also reached out to over 50 people at this year's Food For Thought Festival. In addition, Ruth Simpson was interviewed for the news on Channel 27 after an Earth Day event, sharing the mission of the Food Council with countless more

people. Finally, the Food Council continued its tradition of encouraging collaboration between the community and food system leaders. Members Jane Voichick and Martin Bailkey attended numerous Sustainable Agriculture Committee meetings. And the Food Council invited the following presenters to their meetings: Kelly Carew, Redirecting Invaluable Resources Together; Bob Green, Dairy Buyer at UW Provisions Co.; Heather Hilleren, CEO of Local Dirt; and Stephanie Rearick, Director of the Dane County Timebank.

## PLANS FOR 2010

Next year, the Food Council plans to continue its outreach efforts through hosting a photography contest centered around the question, "What Makes Dane County's Food System Look Great?" The Food Council also plans to participate in the creation of a county park at Silverwood Farm in the town of Albion. The Food Council will help with the creation of a vision for the agricultural aspects of this site, along with leading community discussions. The Food Council looks forward to working with Laura Guyer, the Conservation Fund Manager for Dane County Land and Water Resources Department, on this project.

## APPRECIATION

The Food Council is grateful for support and funding from Dane County and UW-Extension. Funding provided a part-time staff person for the last quarter of 2009. While this position was discontinued at the end of the year, the Food Council sincerely hopes staff funding can be restored to allow the Food Council to carry out its efforts. The Food Council would also like to extend thanks to volunteers, including dedicated volunteer Judy Stadler, and partners throughout the community that have shared information, resources, and time with the Food Council.

## YOU'RE INVITED

Visit the Food Council website for meeting dates and times:

<http://www.countyofdane.com/foodcouncil/>

*Will Allen speaks at the tour of Growing Power which the Food Council organized. Also pictured are Food Council members Robert Pierce and Martin Bailkey.*



## MISSION

To explore issues and develop recommendations to create an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable local food system for the Dane County region.

## MEMBERS

Sarah Artz

Martin Bailkey  
*Vice Chair*

Gerry Campbell

Judy Hageman

Jerry Kaufman

Becky Olson

Amanda Petrie

Robert Pierce

Ken Ruegsegger

Ruth Simpson  
*Chair*

Jane Voichick

Lisa Wiese

## STAFF

Laura Witzling