



Hello everyone!

The 2009 Basket season is approaching and we are excited about this year. We are rolling up our sleeves and getting ready to dive into an exciting season. Hoop houses are being planted already and you can see tender young plants already popping up through the soil in long squiggly lines.

We don't really have any idea on how much to plant for this year because we have no idea how many of you have been affected by the economic times. The farmers are also keeping a very tight budget. So if you plan to join us this year, you can be a tremendous help by letting us know as soon as possible by signing up and committing to the year. We have extended our early sign up to March 31. By paying early, you can receive the early discount. If you cannot pay up front, we are just asking for the \$40 fee which tells us you are committed for the season you have chosen. Letting us know now allows the farmers to make more efficient and responsible decisions when it comes to ordering irrigation supplies, seeds, transplants and even doing field work. You can get a copy of the registration form [here](#).

Our thoughts go out to everyone losing a job or having hours or pay reduced. We feel for you and are sensitive to your situation. Your farmers have family members who have lost jobs and we understand these trying times. Some of you, our dedicated partners, may not be able to afford the basket this year. Some may want to give us a try but can't quite swing it. Thank you for considering us, and check out the specials listed on our website. They are available to everyone who visits us there. Feel free to access our newsletters and recipes. Despite all that is going on around us, we can't wait for our new year to begin. We are ordering seeds and making plans. Stay in touch!

Weather permitting, you can look for a heftier basket this year with a variety of good things to eat. We are also excited to welcome some new growers into our family of farmers. This will

allow for more variety in our basket—especially the fall basket. Coming soon on our website, you can meet our new farmers. Stay tuned!

You will also have more opportunity to purchase excess product such as canning tomatoes and pickling cucumbers. Speaking of canning and pickling, we all know that education is the best tool for self reliance and sustainability so we have scheduled more "days on the farm" and we will offer classes to learn how to preserve food for the winter months.

We had incredible response to the end of the year survey. THANKS to all of you who took the time. We appreciate your comments. We will make as many of the changes as possible. Our plans will only go "according to as planned if the Lord is willing and the creek don't rise!" You know how farming goes in Nevada.

We thank you for your quick response and letting us know of your plans this year. You, our partners in this journey, are the key players in this venture. We appreciate you and sincerely thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Watch for new information and details on our website at [www.greatbasinbasket.com](http://www.greatbasinbasket.com). We look forward to serving you this 2009 Basket season. Spring is at the door. WE CAN'T WAIT!!

*Tina, Rick, and Pauline*