



October 9, 2015

David Huebel
President
Austin Organic Gardeners

Dear Mr. Huebel,

Congratulations to you and all the members of the Austin Organic Gardeners on seventy years of service to your community and to the organic movement. We at Rodale Institute share your organization's philosophy:

Human and animal health depends on the health of the soil that produces their food. Healthy soil, which is rich in organic matter, abounds with organisms that convert minerals in the soil into forms plants can use. The well-nourished plants growing in these soils are better able to defend themselves against attacks from insects, diseases, and other pests.

Our philosophies are, indeed, very well aligned. In 1940, our founder, J.I. Rodale, wrote these words on a chalk board in his office in Emmaus, Pennsylvania:

Healthy soil = healthy food = healthy people.

We offer an open invitation to you and your members to visit us at Rodale Institute's 333 acre research farm in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, if and when the opportunity arises. We are always happy to meet fellow organic pioneers.

Thank you for your continued support of the organic movement and the improvement of the health of our soils, our most critical resource. We deeply appreciate your decades of work, and look forward to following your work well into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Moyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jeff Moyer
Executive Director, Rodale Institute