

# PLANNERS NETWORK

September/October 1998

<http://www.plannersnetwork.org>

No. 131

## COLLECTIVE ACTION

By Patricia Nolan

*"While we think and plan, we shouldn't let thinking and planning get in the way of or substitute for doing."*

When I decided to be a planner, a colleague and mentor of mine shared this thought with me after I expressed dismay at the way planners allow a lack of political will to halt plans and projects specifically aimed at "eliminating the great inequalities of wealth and power," as the PN mission statement says. Planners usually forget that planning doesn't stop with a plan, a map or a memo. Planners can develop a process and support organizations that act as countervailing forces against entrenched political and bureaucratic interests to insure that those historically denied a voice are heard and taken seriously.

Planners Network is a group of planners that has come together to discuss, publish and meet about issues of equity and change in our political and economic systems. The fact that our membership is committed to this goal is heartening. However, sharing the same ideas and beliefs and just talking about them is not enough. In our mission statement, we say, "We advocate public responsibility for meeting these needs...." Exactly see **NOLAN** page 7 ▶

## FROM WHENCE AND WHITHER PN?

by Tom Angotti

In the last couple of issues, we asked PN members to give us their views on what Planners Network and progressive planners should be doing. We got a variety of answers, which are printed in this issue of PN. Patricia Nolan urges us to take on a PN action project. Dick Platkin wants PN to support activists and engage critical discussions about capitalism. Gwen Urey says we should keep on networking. Cathy Klump wants PN to do more to support progressive student planners and make planning education more action oriented. Peggy Dye proposes a discussion group and organizing in the New York area. John McCrory points out PN's limits, and suggests they can be transcended by reinvesting membership in PN with more authority and responsibility. We invite more ideas for future issues. Following is some background on PN's history, and my own ideas about where we should be going.

### In the Beginning...

Those were heady times for us, in 1975 when PN was founded. The Vietnam War was over and the U.S. defeated. The last major anti-colonial struggles were being won in Africa. With détente between the U.S. and the Soviet Union there was optimism about

an end to the Cold War and the prospects for socialism and planned economies. In Europe, the left was stronger than ever, and in Italy, where I lived at the time, the Italian Communist Party was on the verge of winning a majority.

On the domestic scene, Jim Crow was dead and affirmative action alive.

Community, women's and other grass roots movements were at their apex. Community activists and planners celebrated the end

of federal urban renewal, the main instrument for the wholesale displacement of low-income communities, particularly African-American communities.

In 1975, Chester Hartman typed a letter to about 300 planners and activists — people he knew and who had expressed interest, and members of the recently defunct Planners for Equal Opportunity (see *PEO Reunion*, p. 14). This was the first PN newsletter. (Chester, do you still use the same typewriter?)

Chester posed these questions to us: Should we create a new association of planners (and who are planners?), what kind of association should it be, and what should we call it? Possibilities ranged from a loose association of individuals to a structured

see **7TH GENERATION** page 9 ▶

### THE SEVENTH GENERATION

**3** Working for a Decent Living: *Planners Network* 99

**6** Support Activists, Question Capitalism by *Dick Platkin*

**8** You Gotta Represent: *Dispersing Authority* by *John McCrory*

Planners Networker

# UPDATES

John Friedmann writes:

I'd like to bring some publications to the attention of Networkers. Two books by Leonie Sandercock: *Towards Cosmopolis: Planning for Multicultural Cities* (Wiley, 1997) and *Making the Invisible Visible: A Multicultural Planning History* (U. of California Press 1998). Both come highly praised. Also from our outpost in Melbourne, Mike Douglass and John Friedmann, eds., *Cities for Citizens: Planning and the Rise of Civil Society in a Global Age* (Wiley 1998). The contributors to this volume: Peter Marris, Roger Keil, Rebecca Abers, Francisco Sabatini, Leonie Sandercock, Bent Flyvbjerg, John Forester, Janet Abu-Lughod, Michael Storper, as well as the editors.

Leonie Sandercock is also editing a special issue of a new Italian journal to be called *PLURIMONDI: An International Journal of Human Settlements*. The issue, which will be out early next year, is the result of a workshop held in Perugia, Italy in June of this year on "insurgent planning practices." There will be case studies from Brazil, Canada, Australia, Israel, India, England, Italy, The Gambia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Thailand and Korea. Theoretical contributions come from David Harvey and John Friedmann. For more information, email Leonie at <106244.116@compuserve.com>. Leonie has resigned from her position as Chair of the Department of Landscape, Environment, and Planning at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and is now freelancing. We are thinking of returning to the U.S.

Some of my own recent writings include: "Claiming Rights: Citizenship and Democracy;" "The Common Good: Assessing the Performance of Cities;" and "The City of Small Spaces and the Problem of Representation." All of them should be of some interest to Networkers. You can obtain copies by writing to me at the same email as for Leonie above.

All the best, John Friedman

PN Steering Committee member Peg Seip and PNER Tony Schuman announce the birth of twins, Samuel Anthony and Zachary David on September 1. We expect this will secure the future of PN well into the next century.

A request from a friend of Chris Tilly: Bob Wald is looking for research or expertise on the added costs that would undercut a tax gain from an office park expansion. The place of the proposed expansion is Tewksbury, Massachusetts. For more information visit <<http://people.ne.edione.net/seven/ames/index.html>> or contact Bob Wald at <[robert.wald@state.ma.us](mailto:robert.wald@state.ma.us)>

Oupa Nkoane sent this message via PN-Net: I am currently employed as a Project Coordinator of Local Economic Development and Integrated Development Planning with Planact, an urban development NGO based in South Africa. Eighty percent of my work centers around research, development facilitation and strategic planning with the remainder spent on community building. I would like to interact with planners all over the world on emerging research initiatives and approaches in the urban context. Furthermore, I wish to discuss what issues to consider in capacity building for local government around local economic development and integrated planning. Also, I am interested in learning about planning related listservs, especially those dealing with community economic development and housing. Thank you. Oupa Nkoane, <[oupa@planact.org.za](mailto:oupa@planact.org.za)> or Phone: +27 (11) 403-6291.

A memo to: PNER Peter Meyer, Please send PN your current email address. After we ran your update in the May newsletter several members attempted to contact you to no avail. The printed address had a typo and after checking our database we discovered the address we have listed for you is also incorrect. Please send it to my attention at <[dhall@pratt.edu](mailto:dhall@pratt.edu)>. Many thanks, and apologies for the misprint. I will print the correct address in our following newsletter.

—Dalila Hall <[dhall@pratt.edu](mailto:dhall@pratt.edu)>

Send your PN Update to us today! You can email Membership Editor Dalila Hall <[dhall@pratt.edu](mailto:dhall@pratt.edu)>, send a fax to her at (718) 636-3709, or write a postcard or letter and send it to our national office:

**PLANNERS NETWORK**  
379 DeKalb Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

## Welcome...

new **PLANNERS NETWORK** members!

Deni Adaniya, Greg Baer, Shane P. Holten, Edward Jepson, Kate Lucey, Martha Matsuoka, Sharon Murray, Polly Nichol, Noah Pond, Yulia Ziflinger.

## Thank You

renewing members!

Deborah E. Bell, Roger Borgenicht, Roger D. Colton, Margaret Dewar, Judy Flynn, John Friedmann, Doug Greenfeld, Jill Hamberg, William John Hanna, Jay Jurie, Vivian Kahn, Robert Kolodny, Peter Marcuse, Diane Meyerhoff, Gene Milgram, Alejandro Rofman, David Rubel, Leonie Sandercock, Harry Schwartz, Shirley A. Siegel, David P. Smole, Carol Smolenski, Hisashi B. Sugaya, University of Illinois at Chicago-College of Urban Planning & Public Affairs.

## PN AT ACSP

There will be a PN reception at the annual conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning in Pasadena, California, **Friday, November 6, 1998**. Check the conference program for details and watch the PN-NET listserv for continuing updates. See you there!

# WORKING FOR A DECENT LIVING

## BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN LABOR AND COMMUNITY

It is a critical time for work and workers in the United States. Most workers are putting in longer hours, at lower wages, in less stable jobs. Inequality by race and education are widening, and gender inequality persists as well. New, harsh work requirements and time limits push welfare recipients into dead-end jobs. Anti-immigrant policies intensify the second-class status of undocumented workers, and of all immigrants. At the same time, the U.S. labor movement is newly revitalized, and community-based campaigns such as those for living wage ordinances have scored many successes.

At this critical juncture, the **June 1999 Planners Network Conference** will explore the connections and intersections between community and work. There are many such connections. Community and labor initiatives/organizing can both be more effective if they collaborate, but too often these different approaches are disconnected or even working at cross-purposes. Successful community economic development depends on expanding and improving employment. This can encompass anything from commercial area development, to skill training, to living



wage ordinances. Residential location, school quality, and transportation and communication options also affect what jobs are available to a given community. Environmental planning often confronts widely perceived tradeoffs between jobs and environmental protection. Immigrant communities, communities of color, rural areas, and single mothers all face particularly daunting labor market challenges. And the unpaid work needed to keep families and communities functioning is too often devalued or ignored.

The conference will take place at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Lowell, cradle of the U.S. industrial revolution, has a long history of immigration, labor struggles, and creative economic development initiatives. Lowell's National Park showcases the textile industry of a century ago, with a focus on work life. Recent Latin American and Southeast Asian migrations have changed the face of Lowell and neighboring communities, and a vital and diverse set of community organizations have sometimes

collaborated with government officials and at other times struggled against them.

The University's Lowell campus is home to innovative programs focusing on economic and social development and environmental stability. Other area educational institutions, including the College of Public and Community Service at the University of Massachusetts-Boston, known for its work in participatory planning, will be contributing to the conference, as will a variety of community organizations and agencies in the Lowell and Boston areas.

The Massachusetts labor movement, which has actively pursued labor-community collaborations, will also take part. Lowell is within commuting distance of Boston by car or commuter rail.

### Contact:

Chris Tilly  
Department of Regional Economic and Social Development  
University of Massachusetts at Lowell  
Lowell, MA 01854 USA  
Phone (978) 934-2796; Fax (978) 934-4028  
EMAIL: <Chris\_Tilly@uml.edu>

## FALL 98 NEW YORK NETWORK FORUM

### October 16, 1998 Women and Community Development

What innovative approaches do women bring to the community development process? What constraints do they face? What should be the role for planners and professionals in this process? Panelists will discuss these issues and more based on the specific initiatives they're involved in.

### November 13, 1998 The Privatization of Urban Policy: Conservative Think Tanks and Progressive Responses

In the last decade, right-wing research institutes have exercised a disproportionate influence on national and local policies by adroit fundraising and marketing of their ideas and ideology. Speakers will address the role of such think tanks in shaping and selling policy and will also discuss the formation of progressive alternatives.

### December 4, 1998 The Privatization of Municipal Services

Privatization is notable for its consistent tendency to facilitate reduced wages for workers, to eliminate essential services, and to limit public participation in government decision making. A panel will look at the differing policy goals of privatization as they impact specific public services, including sanitation, municipal hospital care, and professional services.

All Forums will be held at 6pm in the Puck Building, corner of Broadway and Lafayette. Speakers and other details TBA. WEB: <[www.plannersnetwork.org/ny.htm](http://www.plannersnetwork.org/ny.htm)>.

# ADVOCATE FOR PROGRESSIVE PLANNING EDUCATION

By Cathy Klump

Most planners stumble into planning en route to their perceived destiny as lawyers, doctors, English professors, and business people. For a number of reasons, the career aspiration of a more mainstream job gets excused, and in its place comes a profession or lifestyle that is intertwined in every aspect of daily life. A portion of these professional planners call themselves "progressives" — a title that we typically associate with pushing the envelope past traditional planning and working to elevate the quality of life. Those of us who call ourselves progressives are haunted by the words of Saul Alinsky, Paulo Friere, and Paul Davidoff who seem to call us home to act rather than sit, and to voice rather than plan silently.

As an aspiring accountant in my freshman year of college, my eyes were on the prize of big business, the reality of large tax incentives, and the desire for a nine to five power-suit day. I was to be the math whiz of the family who mademoney doing the work of powerful corporate men. But life was about to change. For many students like me, college is a time when progressive planners are born. Unfortunately many planning students who focus on equity, empowerment, advocacy, and sustainability find that they are quite alone in the sea of land use and traditional planning curriculum.

As Planners Network reevaluates its role in the planning profession, we should look to the needs of future progressive planners and work to enhance their educational experience. After five years of planning education at a top school in the field, I saw what is lacking in planning education and what PN could provide.

## Changing Planning Education

I believe three changes need to be made in planning education. First, theory must be linked to practice. Secondly, students with practical experience must be taken seriously. Third, diverse communi-

ties must be part of the planning curriculum.

Theoretical study must be linked to real-world practice. Many times I and other students lament how we cram a hundred pages of theory into a week and ignore the practical implications of that

theory. For example, we read about the effects of segregation on urban areas and yet ignore the results in our local communities.

Secondly, real-world practice by students must be taken seriously by the academic administration. How better to learn than by doing? Planning is a fortunate discipline. We have all the tools of planning knowledge right outside our doors. Some colleagues and I have gone outside of the academic setting to take second jobs

working for local non-profit groups, municipalities, and volunteer organizations. Often the work is more enlightening, more fulfilling, and has a greater impact than sitting in a classroom learning about other people's research in their field. We read about progressives in the early 20th century, but ignore opportunities for positive action in our own communities. Too many planning students graduate without ever facilitating a community meeting, conducting negotiations with a private entity or feeling the tug at their heartstrings when what is just and progressive fails.

Finally, planning educators must include diverse communities in their planning curricula. Educators must make local and diverse community residents and issues the main focus of planning education.

If the traditional goal of planning education is to equip students with the theoretical knowledge, technical tools and the ability to function in real world planning dilemmas, then I feel it is partially failing. As Planners Network looks into the future and questions its mission, activities, and usefulness, students in progressive planning have a challenge for PN.

## Students Challenge PN

Students aspiring to be progressive advocates for the underrepresented, the ailing environment, and the tarnished urban landscape need a more powerful voice. PN should advocate for progressive students and push for a comprehensive planning education that addresses the existing failures. These are some of the

**We read about  
progressives in the  
early 20th century, but  
ignore opportunities  
for positive action in  
our own communities.**

things that PN can do:

- Recruit a faculty member from all planning schools in the country to be a spokesperson for PN in their college and community. This faculty member would spread the word about PN, its mission, and how it can benefit progressive planners. Many students may be unaware of the wonderful outlet planners have for positive planning through the network of PN members.
- Lobby the Planning Accreditation Board to establish a required set of courses in progressive social planning. Possible required course topics include race and planning, sustainable development, empowerment planning, and planning in a culturally diverse society. These topics ultimately affect all planners and should be part of the required curriculum.
- Develop a mentorship program between PN members and planning students. A mentor might in some cases be the student's sole link to progressive planning job openings, research opportunities, and national conferences and training. Mentors and students could be matched by area of interest and geographic location.
- Create a larger voice within APA and ACSP on behalf of students who go beyond traditional land use planning. PN members could arrange for students to have more opportunities to learn about progressive planning issues and to display their work at both conferences and through monthly publications.

Advocating on behalf of progressive planning students is right for the future of PN. Current planning students are the future policy makers, activists, municipal officials, government representatives, and lawyers. They need to be given the opportunity to grow as progressive planners and lead the world in a left direction.

*Cathy Klump is a graduate planning student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and works with the East St. Louis Action Research Project.*

## DISCUSS AND ORGANIZE

by Peggy Dye

Since the 1980s, I have used my background in city planning to write as a journalist and to do community and labor organizing and even to do war correspondence. With privatization, New York City feels like a social war zone. I ask how can planners contribute to change the setup? I mean, how to end wealth at one end of the city that gains from misery at the other end? Stop the Disney Mouse in Times Square making out like a rat off the drudgery of underpaid Haitian workers, for example.

I'd like to revisit the history of planning and of cities through Planners' Network to find answers. I would also like to explore with others our visions for the future city of the 21st century — both what we feel is possible and what we'd like as an ideal.

Several of us are starting a book discussion group as a first step. Look for the time and place in forthcoming announcements.

Pick your subversive texts. I'm pushing for *The Sex of Architecture* (ed. by Diana Agrest). I also have one element of my ideal vision for 21st century New York City: a city with a 21-hour work-week and guaranteed minimum income covering necessities. Impossible? You never know until you try to tell people in your community what planning is about.

That brings me to the last step. To change the city my experience tells me you have to organize with others. Most people know zipo about planning. So educating the public on what selling air rights means, to daily life — is as important as planners networking with each other.

*Peggy Dye is a writer in New York City.*

## KEEP NETWORKING

By Gwen Urey

Planners Network was in the vanguard by conceiving of itself as a "network" in 1975. We have evolved technologically, holding ourselves together through old newsletter technology and the new pn-net and Web page. As these vehicles and our conferences reflect, a network has been not only a way for members to communicate and relate to each other, but also a way to create links between progressive planning and other progressive movements and organizations.

Whither PN? Forward, of course, and always in a progressive direction. As a network, PN links planners whose eyes are forward even though they may be focused on diverse goals. Our more difficult question, I think, has always been "how?" How can momentum in a forward and progressive direction be created and sensed by a whole network of people, some of whom will, at any given moment, feel that their own specific goals are more remote than ever? How can momentum be sustained and accelerated?

I have missed opportunities to sustain and accelerate the momentum, and these relate primarily to "how" I use PN. I think my biggest oversight has been that I use PN as a way to connect progressive students with progressive planners, but I should also use it to connect students who do not necessarily think of themselves as progressive with progressive planners. The "how" for me will also include a new effort to interact as an educator with PN members in Southern California.

*Gwen Urey <gurey@csupomona.edu> is a PN Steering Committee member.*

# SUPPORT ACTIVISTS, QUESTION CAPITALISM

By Dick Platkin

First, PN should be a source of analysis and technical resources for community struggles, especially those involving public budgets. For the past generation public investment in most urban programs has shrunk. This trend was already obvious in the 1970s and has since gotten steadily worse. This is clearly bad news for most communities. But there is also some good news. These cutbacks have spawned pockets of organized resistance, in local communities and at work places. Sometimes this resistance is minimized by purely individual actions or symbolic protests, but enough slips through to inspire us and frazzle those with something to lose.

These struggles need assistance, and we should be there with our expertise. Whether these movements need information, analysis, or help in organizing, PNers should offer help, especially when communities make

demands on local officials.

We need to let local activists know who has authority among the dozens of agencies and departments in charge of municipal programs such as capital projects, litter and graffiti abatement, garbage pick-up, building code enforcement, pollution control, project permits, and pot holes. We need to let local residents know which officials are responsible for their communities becoming so dilapidated, and we need to explain to them the crackpot rationality of urban decay. For example, if the money which should have been spent on affordable housing programs has been shunted away to buy new police cars or build jails, then

**We need to let local residents know which officials are responsible for their communities becoming so dilapidated...**

we ought to say it and explain the "rationale" for this dismal choice. If public resources have been deflected from long overdue maintenance on a city's basic infrastructure to provide fee waivers and subsidies for new private sector projects — as is now happening in Los Angeles — we need to spill the beans. Furthermore, when culpability rests with fair-weather friends, such as liberal politicians who shake down unions for handouts while they decimate local communities, we especially need to say it.

Secondly, PN should be a home for those voices that say, however hesitatingly, that capitalism so subverts city planning, that we must ultimately choose: we can have unlivable cities with capitalism

or livable cities without capitalism. Even if our voices never rise above a whisper, this is one message which should emanate from PN. Although this is a minority position within PN, if the organization can offer its members and

friends an open and sustained debate on this topic, it would be an extraordinary service to city planning and allied fields. Furthermore, if this outlook can be communicated to planning students and young planners, it would hopefully transform both their understanding of the world and the roles they could play. Coming of age in a period of dismal job and political prospects, few newcomers to the field get past personal solutions for themselves or

incremental improvements through the non-profits who still offer McJobs to planners. We could offer this generation of planners a modest amount of hope, some lucid explanations on why things seem so bleak, and concrete suggestions about what they can do in the short- and long-term.

For those who are curious, my comments originate in a combination of personal and professional experiences. I have taught planning and worked in the private and non-profit planning sectors, and I am now a career employee of a large public planning agency. In this position I have

**...we can have unlivable cities with capitalism or livable cities without capitalism.**

learned that the actions of the public sector are — ironically — necessary for but inimical to good planning. This is where most planning actually takes place, because local gov-

ernment has massive political and budgetary authority over the services and infrastructure at the heart of most planning discussions. Also, my formative years were the 1960s and early 1970s, when the power and optimism of class analysis reached its post-Depression high point. There is no doubt that cynicism has multiplied in the intervening years, but I have never thought that the Left's intellectual underpinning in Marxism should be discarded, nor should its difficult struggles be abandoned. If the correctness of ideas were strictly determined by popularity, then we should analyze the current economic crisis with astrology, not political economy. Finally, I have lived and worked in an incredible planning laboratory for the past two decades — Southern California. This region is powerful testimony to the pernicious effects of capitalism on the built environment and the dubious prospects of small, incremental reforms to produce substantial improvements in the quality of life.

*Dick Platkin <rplatkin@aol.com> is a member of the PN Steering Committee.*

## NOLAN

◀ *continued from first page*

how have we been advocates, and how should we be advocates in the future? And for whom?

If Planners Network is going to be a sustaining organization working for social change, we are going to have to start collectively "doing." Individually, we may affect change and public responsibility in our respective communities. In what sort of ways can we bring those talents and energies together to affect a larger change in the United States and, possibly, globally?

I propose several ways we can encourage more "doing" as an organization. First of all, I think someone from each region needs to commit to organizing local PN chapters. I volunteer to organize the Chicago-region members. Ken Reardon has led a Champaign-Urbana chapter for the past several years. Tom Angotti and others have supported the New York chapter. If we are serious about taking action on issues that extend beyond our own cities and towns, then we will have to organize local chapters which can be mobilized for action. Local chapters can recruit members to PN, host workshops and public forums, lobby for legislation, offer *pro bono* services to non-profit and community organi-

zations, write articles for the newsletter, mentor new planners, raise funds, and promote citizen participation and community education in local planning efforts.

At least once a year, PN should mobilize the local chapters to take action on an issue of national or international importance. We have done some work at national planning conferences like the APA and ACSP by organizing panels and receptions, and these events have attracted new members, reunited old members and friends and introduced new ways of thinking about planning. Yet, we have not done enough to rouse our members to act col-

**...we have not  
done enough to  
rouse our  
members to act  
collectively on  
issues that reach  
beyond our  
backyards.**

lectively on issues that reach beyond our backyards. Has PN ever participated in a protest or demonstration? Have we ever issued a formal policy statement to the public (beyond our newsletter) on timely issues of national importance as they relate to planning? [Editors note: On several occasions in PN's history, the organization has advocated beyond the newsletter, but these occasions have been rare.] Can PN directly serve the public in any way, especially communities with limited resources?

If PN wants to increase its level of public involvement and community organizing, we will need strong leadership from the steering committee. Without a paid staff for the organization, the steering

committee is responsible not only for developing PN's agenda and vision but also for carrying them out. If we stick with this model, then it may be wise to elect only steering committee members who are also local chapter organizers if we are serious about moving towards action and a broader membership.

In the short term, PN should establish an award or recognition for those efforts that promote equity planning. In some way we should celebrate the efforts of our members since they are often dismissed by the mainstream. In this way, those people and organizations committed to equity planning can be recognized for their outstanding work in much the same way that the traditional planning organizations honor traditional planning practices. Although the PN newsletter is a great resource for groups and individuals to get the word out on the work they do, I think PN needs to draw more attention to exemplary progressive planning ideas and practices through an annual recognition celebration or award.

Look again at the words of my mentor. After reading this issue of PN will we let something get in the way of our collective "doing"? Or will we take all of the ideas and turn them into something that in a year from now we can say made a difference and not only "promoted," but also produced "fundamental change in our political and economic systems"?

*Patricia Nolan <panolan@primary.net> is a co-chair of the PN Steering Committee.*

## PLANNERS NETWORK

• n l i n e

**Point your web browser to:**

<http://www.plannersnetwork.org>

*The Planners Network Web Site has been redesigned, revised and updated! The newsletter is now available online, from the September/October 1997 issue (#125) to the present. You'll also find working papers, case studies, and information about PN's history and chapter events. If you'd like to put information, documents, or links on the PN web site, contact webmaster Winton Pitcoff <win@change.org>.*

# YOU GOTTA REPRESENT

## *Dispersing Authority to Dispersed Members*

By John McCrory

When we pause to consider what purpose Planners Network can usefully serve in the coming years, I think we must begin by recognizing the limits of a national organization such as ours. We must understand what PN can and cannot do.

Planners Network is a national, even international, association of volunteer members. Monetary and material contributions from members manage to fund a newsletter, web site, listserv, and one part-time staffperson. PN has no paid full-time staff or officers. If the membership were to grow, say, to around 4,000, it might permit PN to employ two full-time staff people, but most of their time would be occupied by the administrative work required to sustain this growth. Without a major patron, the structural situation of PN is unlikely to change in any fundamental way.

In this issue and throughout PN's history, members have shown no shortage of ideas about what PN should do. But, recognizing our limits, what is a network of volunteer members capable of doing effectively?

The obvious answers are in our present and recent past. The annual conferences and the newsletter have proven vital forums for sharing information and ideas. Our web site and listserv are valuable complements to these activities, even if we haven't utilized their maximum potential. Despite PN's relatively small size,

our efforts to articulate our unique visions and goals outshine similar efforts by much larger organizations (like the American Planning Association) that lack any strong vision.

As for what PN can't do, we must recognize PN cannot organize. With no full-time staff, PN lacks the ability to consistently support organizing. I find it doubtful we could mount a vigorous letter-writing campaign or petition drive. It would also be difficult to coordinate the writing of reports, position papers, or op-ed pieces, much less to collect the writing PNers are already doing with the purpose of amplifying our message to a larger audience.

Such efforts in the past have been only sporadic and occurred when one or several members stepped up to the plate. Ultimately, however, major initiatives like these prove beyond our ability to sustain; their is only so much volunteers can do. I am certain many PNers have had to decide between contributing time to volunteer efforts with PN or working on more immediate local issues.

Nevertheless, the work our members do in their local communities is perhaps the more powerful, but quieter, contribution PN has made. I believe this work is the key to PN's future.

If PN is to prosper and grow as an organization, it is essential that the structure of our organization match our vision. We seek to promote the equitable distribution of resources, power, and opportunity. As Dick Platkin implies elsewhere in this issue, doing so requires diffusing and deconcentrating authority and control. PN must do the same. We must empower our members with the authority to actively serve as representatives of PN in their local communities. In fact, this authority is there for the taking; it only needs to be encouraged.

When we work on specific issues facing our communities as local citizens or as representatives of a local organization, when appropriate, we can perform this work under the PN banner as well. Each of us is a potential messenger, able to articulate the shared values and commitment PN stands for. My first step is that I am stating my affiliation with Planners Network when I publish articles and attend public meetings.

By becoming more vigorous representatives of PN, we can also connect to the other members in our area so that more local chapters emerge and existing local chapters are re-energized. On the local level, PNers can organize.

To support members' authority, PN needs to continue to strengthen its publications, online and in-print. This can only happen if we alter our conception of what

**With no full-time staff, PN lacks the ability to consistently support organizing.**

**We must empower our members with the authority to actively serve as representatives of PN in their local communities.**



membership means. We must see that the authority conferred by membership also gives each of us the responsibility of reporting back to other members about the work we do in our local communities. As Chester Hartman and subsequent newsletter editors have continually appealed, more members need to be "member-contributors," not just "member-readers."

PNers around the world are fighting the good fight on the broadest range of issues imaginable. Among PNers there is surely a great diversity of opinions and perspectives concerning the best strategies for achieving fundamental change. Yet I suspect we all share the same touchstone in our vision of a fairer, more equitable world. This is no small thing. It sets us against the accumulating and concentrating purpose of pure capitalism, yet it also connects us to the dream most people share.

If individual members assume authority for representing PN in the work they do locally, and if they share the news of this work with other members by contributing to the newsletter, web site and listserv, our organization can overcome the obstacles inherent in being a widely dispersed network of volunteer members. It will also make it possible for PN to effectively pursue the strategies suggested by the other contributors to this issue.

We must change our conceptions of the structure of authority in our organization and the meaning of membership. When our ideas and visions interact with a broader audience of planners, activists, and citizens, they will be enriched with nuance and texture that can only make them more relevant, and more powerful.

*John McCrory is a student at Pratt Institute's Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment. In addition to handling the production of the Planners Network newsletter, he maintains a web site, Pause, that features articles on planning, politics, policy, and poetry. Surf to: <<http://pratt.edu/~jmccrory/pause/>>.*

## THE 7TH GENERATION

◀ *continued from first page*

organization, with the possibility of a journal. We discussed whether to call ourselves "left," "radical," or "socialist;" whether we should be "planners" or "urbanists" or something else; whether we should be small and homogenous or large and broad. In the following years, what evolved was a network of loosely-defined planners, with a minimal organizational structure — a steering committee and some informal local groups. Interest in developing a journal never got very far, though a major publication came out of one of PN's national conferences.

### PN Today

As PN approaches the 25-year mark, the differences in the political climate since the time of its founding are stark. Global capitalism has gained new strength and invaded everywhere. Neo-colonialism, economic dependence and inequality are universal and officially uncontested. The Cold War is over but many former planned economies have been transformed into a new and brutal form of capitalist accumulation. Planning is a dirty word, and privatization feeds social austerity and capital growth even in many of Europe's historically strong social welfare states.

In the U.S., the Reagan Counterrevolution halted progress on racial equality and weakened unions. The social movements of the 60s and 70s have waned and fragmented. The Democratic Party has been Republicanized by Clinton's Democratic Leadership Council. At the community level, welfare, social services and public housing were imploded by cutbacks and privatization. Economic inequality has expanded dramatically even in today's boom economy. Planning and environmental regulations are under constant attack, leaving low-income communities and communities of color especially

vulnerable to corporate predators.

Pretty dismal, no? Maybe we should give up PN and start a business? We could make a fortune marketing gated communities for the socially responsible.

Yet, if we stand back a bit from the moment and look at ourselves in historical perspective, it's not so bad. We are now living in but the latest cycle of globalization — a process that began at least 500 years ago. As with previous cycles of globalization, the outcome is neither predestined nor inevitable. Throughout the history of capital, organized political action by labor has fundamentally shaped the world we live in for the better. In the last century alone, working class and anti-colonial revolutions, grassroots movements, and radical politics have made history through reform and revolution. I don't believe the fairy tale that says today's conservative ruling circles and the economic system they champion are eternal. History tells us there is no such thing as an end to history, and the idea that nothing will change is simply the latest version of the oldest conceit of the wealthy and powerful.

There are many viable progressive movements around. Progressives are clustered in unions, community, environmental, human rights and other organizations, including PN. They are more diverse and, in some ways, more mature, even if they are more scattered and have lost some of their militancy. If PN and progressive planners are going to be effective as advocates of social justice, we need to strengthen our ties with these movements — as we did with the civil rights and anti-war movements in the past.

PN's membership and leadership is more diverse today in terms of race, gender and geography. Members work in local, state and federal government, and the non-profit and private sectors. They are engaged politically on issues of race, gender, and class in a wide array of com-

see **7TH GENERATION** page 10 ►

# THE 7TH GENERATION

◀ continued from page 9

munity, environmental and rights organizations. A significant section of professionals in the mainstream American Planning Association are by all measures progressive planners. Many of them read PN and attend our events. Students at campuses across the country seek out PN as an alternative, especially where PN is brought into classrooms by professors.

PN's membership has fluctuated between 700 and 1,000 over the last decade. We now have members in 37 states and 16 countries. Last year PN was incorporated as a non-profit organization and instituted by-laws. The Steering Committee is now elected for two-year terms. In recent years, with the exception of this year, PN has held successful annual conferences. Since 1975, the most consistent and continuous part of PN life has been the newsletter, which evolved from a 6-page letter to a 16- to 20-page publication including articles on current issues, PN member updates, and information on publications, conferences and jobs.

## Whither PN and Progressive Planning?

I agree with Gwen Urey that networking, through our publication and conferences, is the greatest strength of PN, and if we do nothing else we should maintain it. But PN's networking would be even stronger if there were more active local PN chapters. And more joint action.

Networking isn't enough. It doesn't maximize our ability to address major

issues facing progressive planning. In principle, I agree with Patrician Nolan and Dick Platkin that PN needs to be more action-oriented. But I remember hearing this cry in PN many times. Why hasn't it been heeded?

It has been hard for PN to focus on joint action because of the localistic nature of the planning issues we're involved in, our geographic spread, the diversity of issues, and a reluctance to build PN as an alternative institution. Our leadership is also short on representatives with experience in national advocacy.

I think there are two clear areas in which PN can play a more active role —

of part-time work, temp work, and work at home, old distinctions between workplace and residence are breaking down. Some unions are realizing they have to organize workers not only where they work but where they live. PN can help link community and labor issues and community and labor movements. Planners have a special role to play when it comes to dispelling the old nostrum that jobs are necessarily at odds with the environment. The PN99 Conference in Lowell is an excellent way to build ties with progressives in labor, and make connections between community and workplace.

The environmental justice movement

has focused both the environmental and community movements on questions of racial and economic equality. The environmental justice movement is concerned with more than just pollution and its impacts. It deals with all aspects of the quality of life in cities, especially the unequal distribution of environmental hazards. It goes to the heart of urban planning. PN can

CHESTER HARTMAN  
360 ELIZABETH STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114  
415-282-1249

August 4, 1975.

Dear Friends:

This is the first mailing of a new communications/action network of leftist planners in the US and Canada. At the first level, the idea simply is to put the few hundred North American "radical planners" in regular touch with one another, to share ideas and experiences, discuss their work and lives, develop some sense of community and mutual support. What it might develop into at a later phase is entirely open, although some possibilities will be discussed below. It is an idea I and others have talked about from time to time, and because I presently have the time, funds and initiative to begin the process I am undertaking the project, although I hope and expect that others will join me in directing this effort before long. Earlier this year I sent out a

labor and environmental justice. Both are the focus of recent upswings in organizing. Both arenas focus the central issues of racial, economic and gender justice. Both are critical to progressive urban planning.

Organized labor is beginning to wake up to the issues of urban environment and inequality, though progressives in labor have been awake all along. With the deconcentration of the workplace, growth

help link progressive environmental and community movements with planners committed to social and economic justice.

If PN can focus on labor and environmental justice, and begin to take a more active role in each area, our network will grow, and we will better fulfill our objective of promoting "fundamental change in our political and economic systems."

*Tom Angotti is Editor of Planners Network.*

# RESOURCES

## EVENTS

**October 15-17, 1998:** Revitalization of Cities International Conference in Louisville, KY. The conference is sponsored by HUD, EPA, and DOE and will feature four tracks of interest to those in the Smart Growth Network: 1) environmental justice, 2) affordable housing that focuses on conservation of energy and crime reduction, 3) sustainable development that creates business opportunities in low income neighborhoods, and 4) innovative architecture and planning. The conference will feature Louisville as a case study and include six hands-on bus tours. For detailed info visit <[www.louisville.edu/org/sun/conference](http://www.louisville.edu/org/sun/conference)>.

**October 22-24, 1998:** Global Meetings on Community Development in Quebec, Canada. This international conference will present a wide range of local development and community economic development initiatives from around the world, which will address diverse needs, interests, and communities. For more info and an online registration form go to <[www.ifdec.qc.ca](http://www.ifdec.qc.ca)> or call (514)281-2081; EMAIL: <[comiter@ifdec.qc.ca](mailto:comiter@ifdec.qc.ca)>.

**November 6-8, 1998:** The McAuley Institute will hold the 6th National Women and Housing Conference in Houston, TX. The conference will highlight successful strategies and informative training sessions. For more info contact the McAuley Institute, 8300 Colesville Road, Suite 310, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**November 12, 1998:** Grassroots International's 15th Anniversary Celebration. Since its founding, GI has supported democratic change in the Third World through partnerships with community-based groups dedicated to justice. For more info contact GI at 179 Boylston Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02130. (617) 524-1400, FAX: (617) 524-5525 <[grassroots@igc.apc.org](mailto:grassroots@igc.apc.org)>.

**November 20, 1998:** Sources of Funding for Special Needs Housing. Training program to help build the skills of community development practitioners by the Coalition for Nonprofit Housing Development. Contact (202)745-0902.

**November 20-21, 1998:** Just Food's Fifth Annual Conference in New York City. This year's conference focuses on people actively working on agriculture and food-systems issues, and education and mobilization of the public around food-system issues. For more info contact Kathy Lawrence at Just Food (212)674-8124, ext. 100.

PNER John I. Gilderbloom announces four conferences on educational programs in Cuba and Costa Rica: 1) **November 23-29, 1998:** Ecomaterials and Sustainable Development International Conference in Havana, Cuba. Cost is \$999. 2) **November 30 to December 6, 1998:** Sustainable Development and the Environment in Costa Rica. 3) **December 7-13, 1998:** Conference on 500 Years of Cuban Architecture in Cuba. Cost is \$999. 4) **December 26 to January 7:** Research Program that examines 6 Historic Cities including Havana, Santiago, Trinidad, Cienfuegos, Matanzas and Camaguey. Cost is \$1,600. More info for all conferences: <[www.iglou.com/conferences](http://www.iglou.com/conferences)>.

**December 9-12, 1998:** National Rural Housing Conference in Washington, DC. A national gathering of housing developers, advocates, public agencies, housing authorities, tribes, financial institutions, and others concerned with building rural communities and other issues that affect poor rural Americans. (202) 842-8600; EMAIL: <[nrhc98@ruralhome.org](mailto:nrh98@ruralhome.org)>; WEB: <[www.ruralhome.org](http://www.ruralhome.org)>.

**February 10-11, 1998:** International Council for Caring Communities, Inc. has announced the rescheduled dates for the International Conference in support of the 1999 International Year of Older Persons entitled "Caring Communities for the 21st Century: Villages and Cities for All Generations." The conference will be held at United Nations Headquarters. Contact Nancy Lewis, (212) 688-4321; FAX: (212) 759-5893; EMAIL: <[iccc@undp.org](mailto:iccc@undp.org)>; WEB: <[www.un.org/events/agingcf/htm](http://www.un.org/events/agingcf/htm)>.

**February 26-28, 1999:** Jobs with Justice Annual Meeting in Louisville, KY. (202) 434-1106; WEB: <[www.jwj.org](http://www.jwj.org)>.

**March 25-28, 1999:** The Second Cultural Environment Movement Convention will be held at Ohio University in Athens, OH. CEM is a nonprofit international grassroots coalition of over 250 organizations and 6,300 individuals working for gender equity and general diversity in mass media ownership, employment and representation. It helps produce and distribute the Media Violence Index and the Television Diversity Index. (215) 204-6434; EMAIL: <[cem@libertynet.org](mailto:cem@libertynet.org)>; WEB: <[www.cemnet.org](http://www.cemnet.org)>.

**May 2-5, 1999:** The President's Council for Sustainable Development has announced a National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America to be held in Detroit, MI and at points across the country. If you or your organization would like to link up and become part of this event contact (202)408-5296; WEB: <[www.sustainableamerica.org](http://www.sustainableamerica.org)>.

**June 23-26, 1999:** Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's Second International Trails and Greenways Conference in Pittsburgh, PA. Approximately 1,000 trail and greenway experts and advocates will come together to share ideas, reach new constituencies and build new partnerships. You are also invited to submit a proposal for presentation. Contact Susan Doherty (202) 974-5151; EMAIL: <[rtconf@transact.org](mailto:rtconf@transact.org)>.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Community Information Exchange** has launched its new electronic information service, "Community Development Online," to provide info about affordable housing, economic development, and community revitalization programs on the Internet. Get a free demo at the <[www.comminfoexch.org](http://www.comminfoexch.org)>.

**The Green Guerillas** is promoting a Self-Guided Walking Tour of the Gardens of the Lower East Side in New York City that will take you to approximately 20 gardens. Contact Green Guerillas at (212)674-8124 or <[www.greenguerillas.org](http://www.greenguerillas.org)>.

## PUBLICATIONS

*Grassroots Economic Organizing (GEO) Newsletter* co-produced a special issue of *Dollars and Sense* (Sept/Oct 1998) on **Worker Ownership and Workplace Democracy**. The cost is \$3.95. Contact *Dollars and Sense* at (617)628-8411 or <[www.igcapc.org/dollars](http://www.igcapc.org/dollars)>. Contact GEO at 1-800-240-9721.

*Mobilizing the Region* is a weekly newsletter of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign. It includes news related to anti-sprawl, pro-transit, bike and pedestrian issues in the NY/NJ/CT metropolitan area. People interested in receiving the publication can contact (212)268-7474, <[jo@tstc.org](mailto:jo@tstc.org)>, or <[www.tstc.org](http://www.tstc.org)>.

*Building Community: Exploring the Role of Social Capital and Local Government*, published by The Program for Community Problem Solving. This working paper draws on case studies, scholarly articles, and community experiences to explain theoretical aspects of social capital and their practical applications by local governments. Cost is \$8. (202)783-2961 or <[dcpcps@aol.com](mailto:dcpcps@aol.com)>.

*The Impact of Public Capital Markets on Urban Real Estate*, a discussion paper by Clement Dinsmore, explores the role that public capital markets are playing in financing the ownership and development of commercial real estate. Available through The Brookings Institution at (202)797-6139 or <[bkatz@brook.edu](mailto:bkatz@brook.edu)>.

*Hunger for Justice: Grassroots International at 15 Years*. A retrospective report on GI and their international partnerships with community-based groups dedicated to justice and democracy. Contact GI at 179

Boylston Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02130.  
(617) 524-1400; FAX: (617) 524-5525; EMAIL:  
<grassroots@igc.apc.org>.

**Coalition for the Homeless Reference Manual: 1998 Edition** contains over 2,000 listings of services for homeless and low-income New Yorkers. The cost is \$20. Contact Coalition for the Homeless by phone: (212) 964-5900, ext.100.

**Going Local: Creating Self-Reliant Communities in a Global Age**, by Michael Shuman is "a blueprint for how communities can regain a modicum of control over their economic future, spelling out hundreds of local alternatives under way." \$24 from Progressive Resources Publications, PO Box 11335, Washington, DC 20008. (202) 238-0010.

**Colloqui: Cornell Journal of Planning and Urban Issues** is seeking papers for its 1999 edition for a special section on the topic Governance. Government at all levels is constantly evolving and *Colloqui* seeks to explore some of its contemporary forms. Case studies and analytical or policy oriented papers on any topic of interest to those within the planning field are also welcome. Abstracts will be accepted until 10/9/98. For more info contact: *Colloqui*, Cornell University, 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853. (607) 255-1815; EMAIL: <colloqui-mailbox@cornell.edu>; WEB: <inet.crp.cornell.edu/organizations/colloqui>.

## QUERIES

### FROM PN-NET, PLANNERS NETWORK'S DISCUSSION LIST (pn-net@pratt.edu)

From **Roger Colton** <RColton101@aol.com>: Does anyone know the standard definition for "homeless shelter?" If one were to write a regulatory standard for a "homeless shelter," how does one decide whether it applies to (a) emergency shelters; (b) transitional housing; (c) domestic violence shelters; (d) runaway shelters; (e) day shelters/warming centers; or (f) all of the above. My concern is that the stereotype of a homeless shelter is the emergency overnight shelter, which, I believe, does not capture the complete range of shelters providing assistance to homeless persons.

From **Jennifer Franks** <jjeastv@unix.infoserve.net>: I am a grad student in urban planning in Vancouver, BC I am currently working on a project with our city planning department examining strategies and initiatives for street level revitalization in our inner city. A key objective is to ensure that existing low income residents are not displaced, and that public space is accessible to people from a range of backgrounds and income groups. Part of this project is to seek out examples in other cities of areas (preferably inner city) that have been developed or redeveloped in such a way that public spaces are accessible to both very

low and middle income people. Any help would be appreciated.

From **Claire Smith** at Community Development Network, 2627 NE MLK Jr. Blvd., #202, Portland, OR 97212. (503) 335-9884; FAX: (503) 335-9862: The Center for Community Research in Portland, Oregon is currently researching displacement issues in Portland. We'd like to compile a list of organizations that have dealt with displacement issues. We have identified two: the Seattle Displacement Coalition and the Chicago Displacement Coalition. We'd appreciate any more info or suggestions.

From **Patricia Nolan** <panolan@primary.net> or (618) 271-9605: We are crafting as part of our training initiative, a series of videos/documentaries about community development and community organizing to show on a monthly basis. Any suggestions for titles of "must sees" would be appreciated. I know that there was a film done about the Dudley Street group in Boston. Anyone aware of others?

### New Instructions for the PN-NET Listserv!

PN maintains an online mailing list for members to post and respond to queries, list job postings, conference announcements, etc. To **join**, send an email to <majordomo@list.pratt.edu> with line "subscribe pn-net" (without the quotes, of course) in the **body** of the message (*not* the subject line). You'll be sent instructions on how to use the list.

To **unsubscribe**, do the same thing, substituting the word "unsubscribe" for "subscribe"

Once you are subscribed, you can **post a message** to the list by sending email to: <pn-net@list.pratt.edu>.

From **Sara Kate McKay** <mckay@clark.edu>: I work for the Community Development Network, an association of non-profit housing developers in Portland, Oregon. We are currently researching fair share housing policies across the country in order to propose possible methods to our regional government, which is considering implementation of a fair share policy in the Portland area. We are especially interested in the methodology involved in determining a region or jurisdiction's "fair share" of affordable housing. We are looking at the process of arriving at these calculations, as well as actual impacts/results of the policies themselves. Any resources, contacts, information or thoughts on this issue would be very helpful and greatly appreciated.

From **Johanna Looye** <looyejw@yahoo.com>: I have been in Chiang Mai, Thailand, this summer on a study project. I conducted a series of interviews on handicrafts and their relation to tourism, cultural

preservation, income generation, etc. One issue that frequently emerged was the "Night Bazaar." In addition to two privately-owned buildings with room-sized stalls that rented to vendors (monthly or annually), countless vendors begin to set up table-sized stalls on the public sidewalks from about 3 PM to midnight. In the past, there was corruption around the sale and use of the sidewalk sites, so the city began to charge a nominal fee for cleaning. Several of the large businesses in the area are interested in further management of the space. The sidewalks are getting very crowded which may eventually turn the tourists away. Yet, the large business owners recognize that the existence of the sidewalk vendors is a key attraction to the "Night Bazaar". I agreed to post this request and forward it to one of the business owners. I plan to forward the same information to the municipal government office in charge of the space.

Does anyone have information on municipal rules and regulations on sidewalk vending? I think anything from the USA or developing countries would be helpful. Maybe someone has "war stories" to share about trying to transform a privately regulated use of public space (it appears the store owners "work something out" with the people who set up outside their shops) into a public system, where, perhaps, the city grants licenses to producers/vendors who are allotted a certain space? Maybe a suggestion on published articles or working papers on these issues? Thanks.

RESPONSE #1 to Johanna Looye From **Gwen Urey**, <gurey@csu.pomona.edu> Cal State Polytechnic, Pomona: One or two weeks prior to the bombing of the US embassy in Nairobi, another tragedy occurred there. A huge market in an area that is on the fringe of the city center held a "haggle market" of vendors. The market serves as something like what Ricardo Toledo Silva described: "an alternative to private appropriation of sidewalks. One of them is the construction of covered areas that work like makeshift shopping malls." The market offered tourist wares, but sold more to other vendors than to the tourist market directly. It had a variety of non-tourist, tourist, and finer art wares. The land on which it stood was owned by an adjacent Islamic temple and an unresolved dispute among the vendors, the city council of Nairobi, and the temple concerned the market's location. The temple wanted to expand. The market wanted to survive. The city failed to act. Arsonists torched the market without warning, consuming the wealth of many vendors. Prior to the bombing, news of various vendors trying to reestablish stalls made headlines. Since the bombing (and because I'm now in Uganda instead of Kenya), I haven't heard anything.

RESPONSE #2 From **Irene Tinker**, University of California at Berkeley: Street foods continue to get rediscovered. My book "Street Foods: Urban Food and Employment In Developing Countries" is based on seven intensive case studies, including one in Thailand (Oxford University Press, 1997) and is filled with references. Giselle Yasmeeen wrote on the Bangkok foodscape for UBC even more recently. I am leaving for Hanoi where the National Economic University has just completed a survey of vendors in that town.

# JOBS

Looking to fill an open position with someone you can count on? PN is your link to the right person. Send your job announcement to the national office or email it to <pn@pratt.edu>. Please limit listings to 50 words!

## COLORADO

**Environmental Planner.** BRW, Inc., a national interdisciplinary engineering firm, seeks individual with up to five years experience in data analysis for transportation and land use development projects. Desired skills include report writing, public contact, and task scheduling; spreadsheet analysis, word processing, and transportation modeling software experience; BA/BS in planning, landscape architecture, engineering, environmental design, or another closely related field. Send résumé and salary requirements to: Human Resources BRW, Inc., 1225 17th St., Suite 200, Denver, CO 80202. FAX: (303) 293-8585. EMAIL: <msimm@brwgroup.com>.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**Regional Planner I/II (HP9819).** The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is seeking two (2) regional planners to provide technical and analytical support to COG's regional planning and economic/demographic analysis programs. The position requires a general knowledge of the principles and practices of urban and regional planning, strong oral and written communication skills, and quantitative analysis skills. Demonstrated knowledge of regional economics, experience with U.S. Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Economic Analysis and other economic and demographic data sources, and familiarity with the Washington metropolitan area are preferred. SALARY: Planner I: \$28,297-\$32,542; Planner II: \$34,399-\$39,559. Submit résumé, and a cover letter indicating the specific position for which you are applying with the corresponding job code number to: Office of Personnel Services, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 777 North Capitol St., N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4239. Our email address is <luellen@mwco.org>.

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Program Officer.** The Neighborhood Development Support Collaborative, which provides grants and assistance to Boston area CDCs. Duties include implementing a new program that supports staff skill development and promotes CDCs as diverse and welcoming workplaces. Résumés to: NDSC, 120 Boylston Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02116.

## MISSOURI

**Principal Planner.** The Bi-State Development Agency in St. Louis has announced a position for a planner. Duties include; lead and conduct transit service planning studies, make recommendations on transit improvement plans, develop solutions to transit issues, and improve transit efficiencies. For more info call (314)982-1460. Résumés to: Bi-State Development Agency, Attn: Human Resources-PP, 707 N. First St., St. Louis, MO 63102. FAX: (314) 982-1522.

## NEW JERSEY

**Director of Community Development.** Tri-City Peoples Corporation, Newark, NJ, seeks candidates with at least 5 years of experience in the field of housing and community revitalization. Skills include fund-raising, hands-on housing/lending, finance, staff management and planning. Salary range is \$40,000-\$50,000 commensurate with experience, plus fringe benefits. Cover letter, salary req's and résumé to: Search Committee, Tri-City Peoples Corporation, 675-681 S. 19th St., Newark NJ, 07103.

**Internship.** Jersey City's Division of City Planning is seeking an intern to update address lists, map new streets, and organize a committee of community leaders in order to facilitate an accurate count of its population in the year 2000 Census. This paid internship also provides an opportunity for exposure to all aspects of city planning in a major urban center. Contact Jeanine Zampella at (201)547-5010 or City of Jersey City Division of City Planning, 30 Montgomery Street, Room 416, Jersey City, NJ 07302.

**Community Development Officer.** The St. James Community Development Corporation is searching for an experienced practitioner of community-driven neighborhood revitalization to serve as a community organizer. The successful candidate will have demonstrable experience organizing people around issues affecting the quality of life and economic opportunities in older urban areas. Submit résumés to Ms. Olivette Simmons Simpson, Executive Director, St. James CDC, PO Box 9716, Newark, NJ 07104.

**Project Manager.** The St. James CDC (see above) is seeking a Project Manager. Responsibilities include project coordination, feasibility analysis, site selection and acquisition, contract negotiation, financing, and marketing. Prefer 3 years experience in housing development. Send résumé to: Project Manager - CDC, PO Box 9716, Newark, NJ 07104.

## NEW YORK

**Assistant Director, Business Development,** Saint Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corp. Will provide one-on-one business counseling, classroom entrepreneurial training, financing, business plan development and referrals to other service providers, and administer loan fund. Requires college degree and two years of experience in related field. Experience in running own business and fluency in Spanish a plus. Résumés to N. Lasher, St. Nicks, 11-29 Catherine St., Brooklyn, NY 11211. FAX: (718) 963-1905.

**Housing Specialist** to relocate families to permanent housing including: assessing family needs, identifying and assessing housing opportunities, assuring completion of housing applicants, following-up on applications with city agencies and private landlords. Requires BA in a social service field, 2 years' experience in a social services setting and knowledge of housing issues. Experience with building codes and tenants/landlord laws preferred. Housing advocacy and/or work with homeless population a plus. Salary: \$24,000. American Red Cross in Greater New York, Employee Resources Dept. CL825, 150 Amsterdam Ave., NY, NY 10023. FAX: (212) 875-2357.

**Coordinator,** Chelsea Housing Group, tenant advocacy program. Will provide direct advocacy and paralegal services to Chelsea tenants, negotiate with landlord attorneys, accompany tenants to court as necessary, supervise tenant organizer position. Strong tenant advocacy background, extensive knowledge of rent stabilization laws and housing court processes essential. Familiarity with NYCHA and HPD preferred. Salary starting at \$33K with excellent benefits. Mail résumé to: Human Resources/CHG, Hudson Guild, 441 W. 26th St., New York, NY 10001. FAX: (212) 268-9983. EMAIL: <vtorres@unhny.org>, subject: CHG.

## NORTH CAROLINA

**Project Director.** Southern Rural Development Initiative, Raleigh, NC, a community-based regional collaborative. Skills needed: collaboration, community-based development, project management, training. Based in Raleigh, NC. Competitive salary, benefits. Contact <dwarren@srdisi.org> or call (919)829-5900.

## SOUTH CAROLINA, ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA

**Community Development Corporations.** The Southern Rural Development Initiative is helping to grow CDCs in three southern states with a 2-year grant from the Ford Foundation. Responsibilities include managing consultants, monitor subgrants, promote networking, develop high quality training programs, build a mentoring program, and develop an evaluation plan for the project. To apply and for more info: CDC Search, SRDI, PO Box 1972, Raleigh, NC 27602. Fax (919)829-0504, <dwarren@srdisi.org>.

## TEXAS

**Assistant Professor, Transportation Systems,** Texas A&M University. The Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning announces a faculty position available for Spring 1999. This is a full-time (9-month) tenure-track position. Undergraduate or graduate degrees in urban planning preferred. Review of applications will begin on September 15, 1998, but will be accepted until the position is filled. Application packets to: Dr. David L. Pugh, Dept. of Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning, College of Architecture, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-3137. (409) 845-7881.

## PLANNERS NETWORK

379 DEKALB AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11205  
<http://www.plannersnetwork.org>

*Editor* **Tom Angotti**  
(718) 636-3486 <tangotti@pratt.edu>

*Membership Editor* **Dalila Hall**  
(718) 636-3461 <dhall@pratt.edu>

*Assistant Editor* **Nigel Hall**  
<nhall1@pratt.edu>

*Resources Editor* **Steven Johnson**

*Planners Network* is published six times a year by Planners Network, Inc.

© Copyright 1998. Reprinting and distributing portions of this magazine for non-commercial purposes are encouraged. Reprints for commercial purposes require written permission from the publisher.

Design and layout by John McCrory of Verve Communications.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

**Tom Angotti** • Brooklyn, NY  
(718) 636-3486 • <tangotti@pratt.edu>

**Teresa Córdova** • Albuquerque, NM  
(505) 277-7535 • <tcordova@unm.edu>

**Dana R. Driskell** • Brooklyn, NY  
(718) 638-3829

**Chester Hartman** • Washington, DC  
(202)387-9887 • <prrac@aol.com>

**Marie Kennedy, Co-Chair** • Boston, MA  
(617) 287-7262 • <kennedy@umb.edu>

**Patricia Nolan, Co-Chair** • East St. Louis, IL  
(618) 271-9605 • <panolan@primary.net>

**Winton Pitcoff** • Brooklyn, NY  
(718) 369-6787 • <win@change.org>

**Richard Platkin** • Los Angeles, CA  
(213) 473-3932 • <rplatkin@aol.com>

**Barbara Rahder** • Toronto, Ontario  
(416) 736-5252 • <rahder@yorku.ca>

**Ken Reardon** • Urbana, IL  
(217) 244-5384 • <kmjr@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

**Arturo Sanchez** • Jackson Heights, NY  
(718) 426-7081 • <ais11@columbia.edu>

**Peg Seip** • Montclair, NJ  
(973) 655-9198 • <schuman@tradewind.net>

**Gwen Urey** • Pomona, CA  
(909) 869-2725 • <gurey@csupomona.edu>

**Ruth Yabes** • Tempe, AZ  
<ruth.yabes@asu.edu>

# PEO ANNIVERSARY EVENTS AND REUNION

1999 will be the 35th anniversary of the birth of Planners for Equal Opportunity (PEO), spawned in the days of racial turmoil in the 60s. PEO was created to give planning advocates a voice and support for their efforts to give minorities a fair shake in housing, urban renewal, and services. In pursuit of these goals, PEO confronted the two main professional planning organizations at that time, ASPO and AIP, at their conferences, tackled segregated housing projects in New York and elsewhere, and even fielded a slate for election to the AIP Board of Governors in 1969. The organization was disbanded in 1974, and was succeeded by Planners Network under the guidance of Chester Hartman.

There is a movement afoot to have a PEO Reunion during 1999. The PEO Reunion Committee is discussing a program that might include a panel on

PEO at the APA Conference in Seattle, a similar appearance at the Planners Network conference in Lowell, Mass., and a reunion program in New York City in the fall to be topped off with a fun cocktail hour and dinner. More word as plans are firmed up.

Reunion Committee members are: Mike Abeloff, Tom Angotti, Bob Bogen, Robb Burlage, Marshall England, Jill Hamberg, Chester Hartman, Robert Heifetz, Leo E. Lillard, Jr., Lewis Lubka, T'ing Pei, Frances Piven, Yale Rabin, Alan Rabinowitz, Harry Schwartz, Ronald Shiffman, David Stoloff and Walter Thabit.

Anyone interested in working on these events should contact Walter Thabit at 305 E. 11 St., #5C, New York, NY 10003-7461. (212)477-3694 Fax:212-460-5980. Email: <WalterKT@aol.com>.

## Your Participation Wanted!

*Future issues will cover energy politics, planning and race, immigration, labor, and other topics.*

*Deadline for the next issue is November 2, 1998.*

Please submit articles, notes, updates, and resources typed and double-spaced. Feature articles of 500 to 1,500 words are always welcome. Submissions on disk or by email are greatly appreciated. All electronic submissions should be sent as ASCII text. Send your submissions, resources or job listings to the editors at <pn@pratt.edu> or the address given at left. All member updates and address changes should be directed to Dalila Hall, <dhall@pratt.edu>.

## YOUR LAST ISSUE?

The date on your mailing label indicates when your current membership expires — make sure to renew if this date is coming up soon! If it is already expired, we need to hear from you before May 1st or you won't receive PN anymore. See the opposite page for contribution suggestions. Thanks for your continued support!

FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, Planners Network has been a voice for progressive professionals and activists concerned with urban planning and social justice. PN's 1,000 members receive this bimonthly magazine, network online with PN-NET, and take part in the annual conference. PN also gives progressive ideas a voice in the mainstream planning profession by organizing sessions at annual conferences of the American Planning Association and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.

Held annually each spring since 1994 PN conferences combine speakers and workshops with exchanges involving local communities. Attendees engage in discussions that help inform political strategies at the local, national, and international levels. Recent conferences have been held in Washington, D.C., East St. Louis, IL, Brooklyn, NY, and Pomona, CA, and the 1999 conference is scheduled for June in Lowell, MA.

Whether face-to-face, in print, or over the internet, PNers are part of a network that shares progressive ideas and experiences. Join Planners Network and make a difference while sharing your ideas and enthusiasm with others!

Annual financial contributions are voluntary, but we need funds for operating expenses. The Steering Committee recommends the following amounts as minimums for Network members:

- \$15** for those with incomes under \$25,000, students and unemployed
- \$25** for those earning between \$25,000 and \$50,000
- \$45** for those earning over \$50,000
- \$30** for organizations and libraries

# THE PLANNERS NETWORK

The Planners Network is an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in physical, social, economic, and environmental planning in urban and rural areas, who promote fundamental change in our political and economic systems.

We believe that planning should be a tool for allocating resources and developing the environment to eliminate the great inequalities of wealth and power in our society, rather than to maintain and justify the status quo. This includes opposition to racial, economic and environmental injustice, and discrimination by gender and sexual orientation. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, jobs, safe working conditions, and a healthful environment. We advocate public responsibility for meeting these needs, because the private market has proven incapable of doing so.

**Yes!** I want to join progressive planners to work for fundamental change.

I'm a renewing member — Keep the faith!

Enclosed is my check payable to **PLANNERS NETWORK** for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail This Form To:**

**PLANNERS NETWORK**  
379 DeKalb Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

NOTES: Your contribution is tax-deductible!

International members, please send a check in U.S. funds as we are unable to accept payment by credit cards or in other currency at this time.

Thanks!

# CONTENTS

## WHITHER PLANNERS NETWORK?



**PLANNERS NETWORK**  
379 Dekalb Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11205  
Address Correction Requested

- 1 THE SEVENTH GENERATION**  
From Whence and Whither PN?  
*by Tom Angotti*
- 1 COLLECTIVE ACTION**  
Doing More for Those With Less  
*by Patricia Nolan*
- 3 WORKING FOR A DECENT LIVING**  
Bridging the Gap Between Labor and Community  
*Planners Network Conference 1999, Lowell, Mass.*
- 4 ADVOCATE FOR PROGRESSIVE PLANNING EDUCATION**  
*by Cathy Klump*
- 5 DISCUSS AND ORGANIZE**  
*by Peggy Dye*
- 5 KEEP NETWORKING**  
*by Gwen Urey*
- 6 SUPPORT ACTIVISTS, QUESTION CAPITALISM**  
*by Dick Platkin*
- 8 YOU GOTTA REPRESENT**  
Dispersing Authority to Dispersed Members  
*By John McCrory*

*First Class — Do Not Delay*



## MOVING?

Please make sure to let PN know if your address changes. It saves us money and helps ensure you don't miss an issue!

PRE-SORTED  
FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Bellmawr, NJ  
Permit No. 240