

PLANNERS NETWORK

#62—February 23, 1987

1901 QUE STREET, NW

WASHINGTON, DC 20009

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PN AND ADPSR: At the PN meeting held during the December conference in Washington, DC, we discussed the Network's continued affiliation with Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility. What our contribution was; what we were deriving from this association, etc.

In general, it did not seem that there was much connection between PN-ers at the local level and ADPSR chapters; and the principal form the association had taken was Chair Chester Hartman's membership on the ADPSR Executive Committee.

Because of schedule overload, Chester has decided to withdraw from the Executive Committee, and we are looking for and discussing with ADPSR whether and how to continue PN's membership.

Financial matters also played a role: Travel costs to the quarterly ADPSR Board meetings and dues amount to \$700 or so, about 10 percent of PN's annual budget.

What we need is:

1. Feedback from you on what value you see in maintaining PN's membership in ADPSR.

2. Suggestions (including volunteering) on replacing Chester on the ADPSR Board (with their approval, of course). We might designate two or three people to play this role on a rotating basis (to reduce time and travel costs). And we would look favorably

on applications that included an offer to pay part or all of travel costs to ADPSR meetings (usually in New York, Boston, or Washington, DC, with an occasional meeting elsewhere—Los Angeles, Chicago, and San Antonio, to date).

PN DUES: At the December PN meeting, we decided we should raise minimum "dues" from \$10 to \$15 for students and unemployed, and from \$20 to \$25 as the base amount for graduated payments for the employed.

FINANCIAL MINI-REPORT: Since the December newsletter, 68 Networkers contributed \$1,767. Our thanks to each of you. It's a level of giving and participation that marks a hopeful start to a new year. Now, we just need to hear also from the other 771 PNers who receive the newsletter each mailing. Remember to include a "Member Update" with your check, if you can.

Passing the Word

PLANNING STRATEGIES: *Strategic Perspectives on Planning Practice*, edited by Networker Barry Checkoway (School of Social Work, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109), is a

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 system.

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. 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.

We oppose the economic structure of our society, which values profit and property rights over human rights and needs. This system perpetuates the inequalities of class, race, sex and age which distort human relationships and limit the potential for a decent quality of life. We advocate a shift in current national budgetary priorities to favor human services, social production and environmental protection over military and other nonproductive expenditures.

We seek to be an effective political and social force, working with other progressive organizations to inform public opinion and public policy and to provide assistance to those seeking to understand, control, and change the forces which affect their lives.

The Planners Network Newsletter is published six times a year as the principal means of communication among Network members. Annual financial contributions are voluntary, but we need funds for operating expenses. The Steering Committee has recommended the following amounts as minimums for Network members: \$15 for

students and unemployed; graduated payments for the employed of \$25 plus \$1 for each \$1,000 earned above \$10,000.

Members of the Steering Committee: Chester Hartman, DC, Chair; Emily Achtenberg, Boston; Eve Bach, Berkeley; Bob Beauregard, New Brunswick, NJ; Donna Dyer, Durham, NC; William Goldsmith, Ithaca; Charles Hoch, Chicago; Joochul Kim, Tempe; Judy Kossy, Buffalo; Jacqueline Leavitt, LA; Peter Marcuse, NYC; Jackie Pope, NYC; Alan Rabinowitz, Seattle; Tony Schuman, NYC; Andree Tremoulet, Pittsfield.

Newsletter Editor: Prentice Bowsher.

Enclosed is my check payable to the Planners Network for \$ _____

Please check here if this is a new membership.

Please check here (current members only) if this is an address change, and write your former zip code _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Washington, D.C. 20009

278-page collection of essays (including some by PN members) on planners increasing their effectiveness in a changing political context. The publisher is Lexington Books, D.C. Heath and Company.

□ HOUSING COALITION: The National Low Income Housing Coalition (1012 14th St. N.W. #1006, Wash. DC 20005, 202/662-1530), in which lots of PN members are active, has issued a new membership brochure on the Coalition, its publications, and activities.

□ PN PROFILE: Networker John Wengler (415 Fullerton Pkwy #403, Chicago, IL 60614) wrote an interesting profile on PN, "Networking: What students have learned from the Planners Network," in the December *Student Planner* newsletter of the American Planning Association, which he edits.

□ MEMBER UPDATE: Larry Yates (1225 Windsor Ave., Richmond, Va 23227): I have left the Va. Dept. of Housing and Community Development to become Director of Richmond United Neighborhoods (RUN). Same pay, more work, less security, but I can breathe again. RUN is in the National Peoples' Action network, doing mostly church-connected neighborhood organizing; major issues are community reinvestment and local housing policy. Hopefully, almost four years within a bureaucracy helped me learn how to leverage it; and I had some impact while I was there. Naturally, I welcome any and all information on funding community organizing.

□ POVERTY REPORT: *Up from Dependency: A New National Public Assistance Strategy*, the Reagan Administration's report on poverty, is available from: The White House, Office of Public Liaison, 197 Old Executive Office Bldg., Wash. DC 20500, 202/456-7463. Single copies are free.

□ ECONOMIC PASTORAL: The final version of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter on the economy, *Economic Justice for All*, is available from: U.S. Catholic Conference, Office of Publishing and Promotion, 1312 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20005, 202/659-6785. The price is \$2.95, prepaid.

□ CSBG REPORT: Community services block grants in the Dept. of Health and Human Services are profiled in *Statistical Report on the Community Services Block Grant for 1985*. For a free copy: Center for Community Futures, Box 5309, Berkeley, CA 94705.

□ BUDGET ANALYSIS: The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (236 Massachusetts Ave. N.E. #305, Wash. DC 20002, 202/544-0591) has prepared an analysis of the President's fiscal 1988 budget: *One-Third of the President's Proposed Spending Cuts To Come from Programs for the Poor*. Single copies are free.

□ CHICAGO HOUSING: The Leadership Council for Metropolitan Open Communities (220 S. State St., Chicago, IL 60604, 312/341-1470) has completed a report, *Market Failure and Federal Policy: Low-Income Housing in Chicago 1970-1983*. Single copies are \$5.

□ HOUSING PROGRAMS: The Council of State Community Affairs Agencies (444 N. Capitol St. N.W. #451, Wash. DC

20001, 202/393-6435) has completed a report, *State Housing Initiatives*, on housing programs financed by state-generated revenues. Copies are \$16.50, prepaid.

□ CDC REPORT: Community development corporations can effectively link public and private resources in benefiting a neighborhood, according to a report, *Housing and Business Development through Community Development Corporations*, from: International City Management Association, 1120 G St. N.W., Wash. DC 20005, 202/626-4600. Copies are \$9.

□ MINORITY NEWSLETTER: *Minority Trendsetter* is a quarterly newsletter on black, Hispanic, Native American, and Asian communities, from: Center for Third World Organizing, 3861 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, CA 94609, 415/654-9601. Subscriptions are \$20.

□ LAND TRUST PROFILE: The South Atlanta Land Trust, one of the most successful in the country, is profiled in the Fall 1986 issue of *Community Economics*, from: Institute for Community Economics, 151 Montague City Rd., Greenfield, MA 01301, 413/774-7956.

□ MEMBER UPDATE: From John Friedmann (Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024): Two things keep me occupied these days: The first is a research project into barrio-based grassroots movements in Latin America. The project's emphasis is on production for livelihood, and processes of collective self-empowerment.

The second project is continuing research into the effects of transnational capital on urbanization processes in the Pacific Rim. A conference by that title is being sponsored by the Center for Pacific Rim Studies in March at UCLA.

□ TAX MANUAL: *New Frontiers in Housing Tax Manual* is a 300-page reference on changes in the tax law affecting low-income housing. To order: National Low Income Housing Coalition, 1012 14th St. N.W. #1006, Wash. DC 20005, 202/662-1530. Copies are \$35 for NLIHC members; \$65 for others.

□ CORNELL SUMMER: The Progressive Planning Summer Program at Cornell is offering five courses: June 6-27, Industrial Restructuring—Implications for State and Local Policy, and Conflict Resolution in the Public Sector; June 30-July 18, Introduction to Planning, and Green Politics—European Experience, American Prospects; June 29-August 11, Statistical Analysis for Planning. Details: Jim Cohen, Dept. of City and Regional Planning, Cornell Univ., 106 W. Sibley, Ithaca, NY 14853, 607/255-4331.

□ DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: In Columbia University's program on planning in developing countries, a new developing countries studio is focused this year on "Basic Needs, Democracy and Development in Post-Duvalier Haiti." Student travel and field research are involved. Contact: Charles Downs, Director, Program on Planning in Developing Countries, Columbia Univ., 410 Avery Hall, New York, NY 10027, 212/280-4393.

□ NETWORKER UPDATE: From Networker Nathan Weber (40 Harrison St. #33-E, New York, NY 10013): After several years of abstinence from planning, housing, and related activities,

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PN Special Feature

PN Conference Analysis: Lessons, Energy, Ideas, Promise

Our December issue contained a brief factual report on the December 12-14 conference, "Housing and Economic Development: State, Local, and Grassroots Initiatives."

We asked several PN-member attendees who met on Sunday morning, just before the final session, to put together their thoughts on the strong and weak points of the gathering, in order to give us (and all the conference participants, who will be receiving a version of this in a special mailing) some perspective on the event and some guidelines for followup action. Our "PN Special Feature" for this issue therefore consists of post-conference reflections by Ann Meyerson, Pierre Clavel, Bill Peterman, and Peter Marcuse.

We'd be happy to hear from you with comments on these comments. We are thinking of some followup work this year, through PN, in the form of state-level conferences on housing and/or economic development, with focus on Massachusetts, New York, California, Illinois, and New Jersey.

If you have any thoughts on state-level efforts, want to assist, or want to suggest other states, please get in touch with us right away.

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Political Lessons

by Ann Meyerson

Many of the Planners Network members who attended the conference felt it held some important political lessons both for organizing other conferences, and more important, for continuing our individual work in the areas of housing and economic development.

What was particularly striking to us about the conference, aside from its tremendous turn-out of 600 participants, was the high level of skills, knowledge, and most of all, militancy on the part of many of the participants.

This was revealed in some workshops: For example, one on homeownership, where most of the participants were clearly advocating a movement away from indi-

vidual private property to more social forms of ownership; and in a workshop on new political alliances, where some participants supported tactics of direct action and disruption.

It also was revealed in the Saturday morning plenary session, in which the participants seemed to respond quite positively to ACORN President Elena Hanggi's speech calling for building power for low- and moderate-income people through militant direct action tactics.

And, in the Saturday afternoon plenary session, the debate from the floor around the question of working-class/low-income participation in decision-making by "progressive" local elected officials demonstrated a high degree of sophistication and militancy on the part of local grassroots groups.

In addition, through the workshops and plenary sessions, the conference raised and caused to be discussed a range of programs and initiatives to further progressive housing and economic development goals: housing and housing finance programs, lobbying strategies, electoral and legislative strategies, direct action as a tactic on the local level, etc.

What occurred to some of us, however, was that there was a conflict between these two aspects of the conference—the militancy of many of the conference partici-

PN Special Feature

In its Special Feature, *Planners Network* presents thoughtful, provocative writing about substantive concerns and issues in the planning professions. Essays typically highlight a single issue, and illuminate it with examples and insights.

The Special Feature editor is Bob Beauregard (Dept. of Urban Planning, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08903, 201/932-4053; 932-3822).

We are grateful for Networkers' support of this feature, and encourage continued ideas, suggestions, commentary, and dialogue.

pants, and the range and breadth of programmatic initiatives presented.

It seemed the majority of participants would have been more open to exploring a wider range of programs and strategies and a broader ideological framework than the conference planners perhaps had anticipated.

It follows that the next step for us is to put on the agenda more progressive alternative programs and strategies and a broader perspective for evaluating the day-to-day activities of all of us who attended the conference.

For example, although it may make sense for us at times to sponsor progressive candidates and propose legislation, overwhelming emphasis on this strategy creates illusions about what can be accomplished through the electoral process, and does not help build a strong movement. Power does not flow *from* political office; rather, who's in power and the policies presented *reflect* general power relations in the society.

Unless we build a strong movement that applies pressure for change from below, sometimes utilizing extra-legal and disruptive tactics if necessary, even "good" progressive office holders and legislation will be limited in what they/it can achieve. Passing legislation will not by itself produce fundamental change.

Alternatives (an alternative political party, perhaps) to the Democratic Party should be put on the agenda.

In fact, the whole question of the need for an overall strategy needs to be raised, a strategy that can speak to where electoral and legislative action fits in.

We need to discuss what kinds of reforms make most sense to organize around—e.g., those that are steps in the direction of getting profit out of housing (like public takeover of tax delinquent buildings), not reinforcing the profit system.

We need to understand the difference between fighting for day-to-day victories as if they were ends in themselves as opposed to seeing them as part of a broader strategy—e.g., rent control as *one piece* of a plan to end real estate speculation and facilitate social ownership of housing.

Direct action, as developed by the ACORN people, is a very important tactic in that, like other organizing tactics, it helps develop skills, knowledge of the system and the need to change it, and the

conviction that ordinary people can win. But it too needs to be worked into a broader strategy and program.

"Social change" as mentioned by Elena Hanggi needs to be defined and developed.

The other related piece that needs to be developed is a broader understanding of the problems we're facing. For example, although many of us are working on the local level, we should not lose sight of the national and international picture.

We tend, especially with the pervasive Reagan-era "limited resources" propaganda, to limit our programmatic goals to what's "winnable." But, as Ruth Messinger pointed out, the resources are there—we don't need to take money from the middle class—the resources are simply being diverted to so-called "defense" spending (about a third of the federal budget).

The statistic Councillor Messinger mentioned, that the U.S. spends \$2 million per minute on weapons, should make us bolder in our demands and programs. This, in turn, could broaden our forces, in that people will more likely want to become involved if what's at stake is of some consequence, not merely crumbs.

(Ann Meyerson, 50 W. 96th St. #9-A, New York, NY 10025)

Achievements, Challenges

by Pierre Clavel

It's been years since I saw such a mix of different and complementary participants, felt so hopeful there could be a real and relatively left agenda developed, or had such a good time, as at this conference.

What it suggests, though, is not only the real achievements behind us, but the long series of actions and thoughts still ahead of us.

The achievements were striking: Hundreds of representatives of grassroots organizations doing housing, tenant organizing, and other allied things; plus maybe another hundred planners whose work is largely complementary and supportive.

If the conference was a microcosm of the scene generally in the US, then there is a movement out there which has not only enough energy to survive and even flourish in a decade of federal funds cutbacks and rightwing class war, but also has significant potential for mobilizing people politically. And for this latter thing PN, despite its informal structure, seems positioned to play a role.

There were also signposts that may indicate a road ahead.

PN remains overwhelmingly white, mostly middle-class, focused on housing and community development issues, a little to the left. The majority at the conference were relatively more black and Hispanic, relatively more grassroots and poor; and, more than PN, had gone through a transition toward a jobs-oriented economic development agenda.

Therefore this conference represented an opening which can't help but challenge us on all these fronts. That is, if the conference was more black than a PN grouping alone, then it opens up a chance for PN to be more black; if it was more into jobs and economics than PN, then it opens up a chance for PN to spread into that area.

I'd really like to see us broaden a bit, the way the contacts begun at this conference suggest we might. Doing this, though, will mean some transitions at least for some of us, as for example the following:

First, can we spread out from housing to economic development issues? It is clear we have a good thing going with housing: both broad-scale thinkers and grass-roots level contact. The recent IPS-sponsored housing document promises to exert influence in the next few years.

We are weaker in the economic development area. We have some academics thinking about it, but we haven't incorporated the grass-roots level in PN. They are out there: community corporations starting to do development to create jobs, community advocacy groups trying at least to criticize local policy or start small cooperatives, and community/labor coalitions trying to save factories and influence state and local economic policy. Some of these groups were at the conference, but they aren't usually in PN and if in PN, they tend not to relate too much to the housing people.

This is a serious problem. The separation of area-based politics, as exists around housing and community development, from such industry-based politics as exists around plant closings may be one of the main reasons we can't develop socialism in the U.S. And in PN, we ought not repeat this larger cultural schism.

At a conference like this one, it all becomes a little clearer how good it might be to make the link-ups. Maybe we'll now get a few more organizations that link the two issues. Meanwhile PN can discuss the ways this can happen.

Second, there is the grassroots-versus-

governance tension, which developed in the (largely temperate) debates between Peter Dreier and Mayor Raymond Flynn of Boston and some of the Boston organizers; but it also appeared in other places.

Someone told me later, "Sometimes we expect too much of organizers. They tend to be single-purpose organizations, and we can't go expecting them to think big for the whole city. The city has to design supportive policies and respond to them, not ask them to understand large-scale policy."

Certainly this is at least half right.

My own—I think mistaken—instinct is to side with the city in these debates, even while acknowledging the need to support the neighborhoods. But the city has to come up with more than rhetoric.

It was brought home to me when I made a few big generalizations to one of the progressive government people at the conference about how PN ought to support local economic policy. She replied: "We always have this disagreement. We don't need these general principles, the one thing we need now is to figure out how to use the new tax law to benefit the neighborhoods."

Very constructive, specific and integrative. Not rhetoric, not theory, but something a city can get into a dialogue about with organizers.

I came away from this thinking there is a lot of hope. If all these different viewpoints can come together in a conference, maybe we can build something more generally in the next few years.

(Pierre Clavel, Dept. of City and Regional Planning, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853)

Legacy of Distance

by William Peterman

There is a lot of land between Washington and Chicago. This observation comes as the consequence of traveling to conferences, as I do, by train.

Sitting in my office this Monday morning after rolling for 18 hours through the hills of Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania and the flat land of Ohio and Indiana, I feel far removed from the energy created Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the 4-H Center.

I believe geography works against us.

I am envious of our European col-

leagues.

I know, for example, that leaders of the housing trusts all over Great Britain go down to London about once a month to discuss issues and plan strategies. And then there is the housing consultant in Holland who works with tenant groups all over the country, but is always home by evening.

For us in the U.S., getting together is a major undertaking, so much so that we rarely do it; and when we do, we must overload ourselves with information, and are left with precious little time to strategize.

Working in Chicago, it is easy to forget about the rest of the country, and to downplay the need for a national agenda. There is more than enough to do locally.

We know, of course, that federal policy affects us dearly, but we can spend only a small amount of time thinking about it.

Conferences like the one just organized by the Network and the other groups are essential if we are to develop and work for a national progressive agenda. In addition to charging our batteries and giving us at least a little time to look at the broader picture, they bring together people from all across this vast country, and for a moment (even if all too brief) give us the opportunity to set some goals and plan some strategies.

But since we can meet so seldom, the energy of the moment can easily be lost.

Hopefully the conference "steering committee" will come up with something that the Planners Network and others can and should be doing as we point to the new Congressional session and eventually to the next national election.

We need some sense of where we stand on national issues and what we might be able to do about them. Even if only one or two things can be accomplished, it will be a start.

I would like to suggest another conference, next year, but I am reluctant to do so.

The 767 miles between Chicago and Washington work to keep us apart both physically and conceptually.

If I knew that there was something to meet about and if my traveling to Washington (or somewhere else) would help change the course of public policy, I would sign up now.

Perhaps if we take some action based on the present meeting, we will indeed have cause to meet again.

Let me suggest that we take a couple of items that seemed important to those at

the conference. Let the Steering Committee, by whatever process it chooses, develop a Planners Network position. Then let us in the hinterlands take our crack at it for a short time, and suggest ways in which to get the issues and positions before our officials and the electorate.

I don't know if this will work, but I would like to see us try.

One thing, among others, that stood out as a critical issue during the 4-H Center conference was the present and future threat to existing, subsidized low-income housing.

There are insufficient funds available to maintain our public housing stock, and much of our private stock is likely to disappear as mortgages are prepaid and units converted to market-rate housing. By the end of the century, we are likely to have lost much of both public and private subsidized housing.

I feel that progressive planners must start working now to see that this does not happen. We need to do a number of things. Among them are:

1. Work to see that if any housing is removed, by whatever means, from the public sector, it is replaced at least on a one-to-one basis.

2. Work to ensure that adequate federal funding is made available to rehabilitate the existing stock of public housing.

3. Explore the possibility that state housing finance agencies become involved in the preservation of the private subsidized housing stock.

4. Explore the possibility of creating "housing associations," similar to those in Europe, that could take over private developments as they become available and operate them for the social good.

I would like this issue to become one of concern by planners in the Network. Actions we might take range from developing a short position paper on the subject, to encouraging Networkers to take appropriate actions.

(William Peterman, Voorhees Center, Univ. of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60680)

Moving Forward

by Peter Marcuse

An unqualified success in bringing people together, providing for sharing information, permitting informal discussions, morale boosting, smooth organiza-

tion, solidarity.

Workshop speakers were by and large outstanding, format well designed, times allowed adequate and adhered to. Range of subjects had something for everyone, and individual sessions probably resulted in mini-networks that will last.

Much good individual thinking and group discussions around specifics and perspectives on specifics.

Possibly a success in moving towards a national agenda, although cause for doubt.

Weaknesses: Plenary speakers did not contribute substantively, except Ruth Mesinger. Alperovitz exhorted to thoughtful reflection on what participants were doing, but did not provide an example. Issues were not raised, or ducked when raised. So be it.

Perhaps "next time" it would be wiser to go less after names and more after thoughtful self-critical or openly controversial active participants or newer faces.

People tend at conferences to go where they already know something, and talk with those with whom they agree. That happened here.

In particular, economic development/housing common concerns or differences were never brought out. That's in part a conference organizing issue. It would have taken pushing to bridge the gap, pushing that didn't occur.

But I think it goes beyond format.

My own sense (I could only attend or sample six workshops) was that housers were more aware of the limitations, in practice and in theory also, of what they were doing than economic developers—or perhaps had been at it longer with more frustrations?—or were at a different point politically?

I don't know the economic development scene well, but neither did I get a better sense of it from the conference.

The internal tensions in the housing area emerged fairly often: between developing housing and organizing tenants, between getting some pieces of tax reform and going to a more sensible subsidy system, between subsidizing the private market and removing housing from the private market, between working at the local level and pushing at the national.

The IPS comprehensive housing program (or pieces of it) provided direction in a number of housing sessions, both by way of concrete proposals and of touchstones by which to assess immediate opportunities.

I'm not sure if there was a parallel

elsewhere; nor, in housing, if whether the IPS proposals were really critically examined or pushed further.

For the future: Network proposal for state conferences seems to me very sound. State actions are important, state agendas need to be developed.

Also smaller more intensive discussions are needed around national questions, with more interchange and debate pushed to resolutions than can happen at a major

national conference. And with more opportunities for exposure to unfamiliar ideas, unfamiliar subjects (i.e., economic development, for housers and vice versa).

The other sponsoring groups should be asked to participate, too, in the state conferences, as far as they wish; the interchange with them was fruitful, and certainly broadened the audience and the discussion.

The conference planning committee will

apparently both review the proposals for the national agenda, and decide on next common steps, if any.

The enthusiasm and initiatives started by this conference were great. It could be a solid beginning.

Good luck to the committee in building on it!

(Peter Marcuse, Division of Urban Planning, Columbia Univ., New York, NY 10027)

Passing the Word

(continued from page 2)

I have been serving as information coordinator for the Bank for Socially Responsible Lending. In addition to regular banking services, it will make loans to low- and moderate-income neighborhood housing developers, community-based businesses, credit unions, and so on. The founder and principal organizer is Lyndon Comstock, formerly active in Berkeley's 1970's rent strikes, food, and housing co-ops.

□ **ECOCITY BERKELEY**, by Richard Register (1939 Cedar St., Berkeley, CA 94709), is a visionary application of the principles of ecocity building to the reality of Berkeley. Published by North Atlantic Books, it will be in bookstores, or can be ordered directly from Richard Register. Single copies are \$10, prepaid.

□ **NETWORKER UPDATE**: From Robert Fisher (Institute for Amerikanistik, Universitat Innsbruck, Innrain 52, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria): I am on a Fulbright in Austria, and beginning a research project on the origins and history of urban forms of participatory democracy and community-based organizing in Western Europe, primarily but not limited to the post-WWII period. I am especially interested in the development and migration of this urban social movement form throughout Europe, and the changes that occurred (or did not) due to different national contexts. I would appreciate suggestions from PN members on what has already been done, what needs to be, and who to get in touch with while in Europe.

□ **DISABLING IMAGES**: *Images of the Disabled/Disabling Images*, edited by PNER Alan Gartner and Tom Joe, has been published by Praeger.

□ **UN—IYSH'87**: The United Nations has designated 1987 the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, and AHAS (Box 397, London E8 1BA) is coordinating the Habitat International Council Habitat Project. It has a free poster and news sheet highlighting the year's events.

□ **URBAN AFFAIRS Quarterly** is a scholarly journal publishing state-of-the-art research on urban themes. Subscriptions are \$25.20, from: Sage Publications, Box 5084, Newbury Park, CA 91359, 805/499-0721.

□ **NETWORKER UPDATE**: John Wengler (415 Fullerton Pkwy #403, Chicago, IL 60614, 312/348-5650): I recently moved

from Rhode Island back to Chicago, where I am finishing my Masters in planning. I have spent a good deal of time editing the American Planning Association's *Student Planner* newsletter. The APA's chief student representative, fellow-Networker Gary Goodwin of Iowa, and I also arranged a "burn-out" prevention seminar for this spring's APA national conference in New York. I would enjoy hearing from others, especially those with information about planning-related activities in Chicago's "bioregion."

□ **COMMERCIAL REHAB**: Neighborhood Housing Services is highlighting its neighborhood commercial revitalization program, which can include commercial district management, image enhancement, rehab, and business attraction/expansion. Contact: Peter Roche, Commercial Revitalization Manager, Neighborhood Reinvestment, 131 State St. #416, Boston, MA 02109.

□ **AFRICA NUTRITION SECURITY**: The Hunger Project (1388 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94109, 415/928-3141) has reprints of a World Food Council lecture by M.S. Swaminathan, Director General of the International Rice Research Institute, on "Sustainable Nutrition Security for Africa: Lessons from India." A key point: An African version of the Indian green revolution can be built economically and ecologically if African political and professional leaders use wisely knowledge gained in the past 20 years in India and other Asian countries.

□ **OXFAM CATALOGUE**: Oxfam America (115 Broadway, Boston, MA 02116, 617/574-8801) has an illustrated, 16-page catalogue of resources on hunger, women and development, Latin America, and other topics.

□ **SANTA CRUZ UPDATE**: Two court actions provided split results for area progressives. The city council's 4-3 progressive majority was threatened by a state Appellate Court ruling that overturned Mayor Jane Weed's 1983 election, and awarded the seat to a conservative opponent. At issue were voter residency requirements for pro-Weed UC-Santa Cruz student voters. Weed has continued as Mayor, pending a state Supreme Court appeal.

In a separate action, a Santa Cruz Superior Court judge upheld the county's growth control initiative against a suit by the Santa Cruz County Builders Exchange. A Builders Exchange appeal is possible. (*Previous Santa Cruz update, PN #60, p. 7.*)

□ **HOUSING TAX CREDIT**: *Tax Credits for Low-Income Housing*, by Joseph Guggenheim, is a 115-page analysis of the

low-income housing tax credit in the Tax Reform Act of 1986. Copies are \$21.45, from: Simon Publications, Box 70425, Wash. DC 20024.

ANTI-GENTRIFICATION BILL: From Chuck Valentine, Staff Organizer, Kensington Joint Action Council (1818 E. Huntington St., Philadelphia, PA 19125, 215/425-8030): We are fighting gentrification with a state Senate bill that would allow property tax relief and forgiveness for long-time owner-occupants. Now an amendment would have the tax relief reflect negatively on the state's allocation of public school funds. To gain support from city politicians, we need alternate revenue-producing ideas. We need vital information that works.

DEVELOPERS/PLANNERS: *The Rise of the Community Builders*, by P. Marc A. Weiss, is a 280-page book on the evolution of modern real estate developers and land development from the 1890s to the 1940s. Published in the Columbia History of Urban Life series, copies are \$24.

ORGANIZING GUIDE: *The Basics of Organizing*, by Shel Trapp, is available from: National Training and Information Center, 954 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607, 312-243-3035. No price listed.

HOUSING GAZETTE is a quarterly newsletter on low-income housing from the McAuley Institute, 1320 Fenwick Ln., Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301/588-8110.

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT: The summer/fall 1986 issue of *On the Home Front* features "10 Years after Passage of the Community Reinvestment Act—A Resurgence of Interest." For copies: Community Investment, Federal Home Loan Bank Board, 600 California St., San Francisco, CA 94120, 415/393-1300.

FORD AWARDS: The Ford Foundation (Office of Reports, 320 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017) has published *Innovations in State and Local Government 1986*, a report on awards recognizing new programs and policies at the state and local levels.

INDIAN AFFAIRS is a newsletter of the Association on American Indian Affairs, 95 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. A recent issue included features on child welfare and legislative developments, among other items. The newsletter is a membership service; memberships begin at \$25.

NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL: *Deadly Connections: Intervention and Nuclear War* explores the relationship between U.S. nuclear war policy and U.S. military intervention around the globe. It is available as slides, a book, or a film, from: American Friends Service Committee, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140, 617/661-6130.

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIPS: The MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning has announced 12 full scholarships plus \$5,000 stipends for minority graduate students, beginning with the 1987-88 academic year. Details: Thomas Stokes, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT, 9-521, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139, 617/253-0525.

MEMBER UPDATE: From Troy West (60 Union St., Newark, NJ 07105, 201/589-3973): In the New York area, we all

have been working on plans for a Center for the Study of Peace, a student design project for alternatives to the Navy's Staten Island nuclear homeport proposal. It is a very timely and exciting project, and we exhibited the entries in December in New York.

In addition, I've recently completed working drawings and specifications for a battered women's shelter. The project fell through at the last moment, but I would like to share my research in this and other areas of alternative social housing.

LIVABLE CITIES: *The Return of the Livable City*, by Robert H. McNulty, R. Leo Penne, Dorothy R. Jacobson, and Partners for Livable Places, is an illustrated survey of contemporary urban revitalization in more than a score of cities across the country. Copies are \$21.95, from Acropolis Books Lts., 2400 17th St. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/387-6805.

NEIGHBORHOOD WORKS: The 32-page January-February issue of *The Neighborhood Works* (Center for Neighborhood Technology, 570 W. Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60606) marks the beginning of the 10th year of publication for this award-winning resource for urban communities. Subscriptions are \$18.

DRINKING WATER: *A Community Action Guide* is a 32-page guide to public participation in issues of water management and protection. Copies are \$3, from: Concern Inc., 1974 Columbia Rd. N.W., Washington, DC 20009, 202/328-8160.

SCHOOL REFORM: *The Way Out: Student Exclusion Practices in Boston Middle Schools* is a 109-page report from the Massachusetts Advocacy Center (76 Summer St., Boston, MA 02110, 617/357-8431) on policies and practices that contribute to a 43-percent dropout rate in Boston. Copies are \$9.

NETWORKER UPDATE: From Gunther Stern (3702 Farragut Ave., Kensington, MD 20895): I have started working with the homeless in Montgomery County, Maryland. I have joined the local chapter of the Coalition for the Homeless, which is slowly becoming a vocal advocacy group. I would enjoy hearing and sharing with others working with and for the homeless.

PN MEMBER SERVICES: From Networker Roger Montgomery (2824 Cherry St., Berkeley, CA 94705): In response to the first item in PN #61, the discount books and stuff doesn't do much for me, though I certainly understand the interest of others; but the travel idea does interest.

Early last summer I was in the USSR with a small group of architects mainly. We spent most of our time in Central Asia, but we were in Moscow for a bit where the Architects Union was enthusiastically friendly toward us thanks to an immediately prior visit by an ADPSR group.

I should certainly like to return to the Soviet Union with a planner group that could move beyond the packaged Intourist itinerary. For starters, how about the incredible rebuilding and expansion of Tashkent from a wrecked, mud brick, Asian regional center in 1966 to a nationally important, modern, industrial city in 1986? In a quick pass I found it more interesting than Brazil or Chandigarh. That's just a start.

I'm sure PN could generate all sorts of attractive possibilities.

REFUGEE RESOURCE: From P. Charles M. Wilhelm (638 E. 82nd St., New York, NY 11236): A good publication on refugee issues is *BRC/QEH Working Papers on Refugees*, published by the British Refugee Council and the Refugee

Studies Program of Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford. Ask for: Refugee Issues Information Section, British Refugee Council, Bondway House, 3/9 Bondway, London SW8 1SJ. Cost is UK pounds 8, with payment accepted only in Sterling or International Money Order. A good issue is Vol. 2.2, with an article, "Torture and Asylum," by Peter Van Krieken. The price is UK pounds 2.50.

□ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** *The Tool Kit for Alternative Economic Development*, from Missouri Community Economic Development Projects, 628 Clark Hall, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211, 314/882-2937) is a subscription service that includes a video tape, the "Alternative Economic Development Idea Bulletin," and a card and computer-based "Catalog of Ideas." *Tool Kit* subscriptions are \$150.

□ **STEEL IN CHICAGO:** *Building on the Basics* is a 48-page report of the Mayor's Task Force on Steel and Southeast Chicago, which calls for public and private participation in facilitating adaptation by the steel industry to fundamental changes affecting the industry. For copies: Chicago Dept. of Economic Development, 20 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60602.

Social Responsibility

□ **DESIGN COMPETITION:** Northern California Architects, Designers, Planners for Social Responsibility (120 Howard St., #B-726, San Francisco, CA 94105) is sponsoring a design competition in line with a Federal Emergency Management Agency proposal to build 600 "radiation-proof emergency operating centers" for government officials. The intent of the ADPSR competition is to elicit thought-provoking images on the paradox of nuclear blast and survival.

Upcoming Conferences

□ **PESTICIDES:** The National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides (530 7th St. S.E., Wash. DC 20003, 202/543-5450) will hold the fifth National Pesticide Forum March 20-23 in Washington, D.C. The format includes workshops and plenaries. Registration is \$30.

□ **SOCIAL INVESTING:** The Social Investment Forum will sponsor a conference April 3 in New York on "From Divestment to Reinvestment: Ethical Investing in the '80s." Admission is \$25. Details: New York Open Center, 83 Spring St., New York, NY 10012, 212/219-2527.

□ **IMMIGRATION/REFUGEES:** The Center for Migration Studies (209 Flagg Pl., Staten Island, NY 10304, 718/351-8800) will sponsor the 10th annual National Legal Conference on Immigration and Refugee Policy March 26-27 in Washington, D.C. Registration is \$170.

□ **REVITALIZATION:** The American Institute of Certified Planners (1313 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637, 312/955-9100) is sponsoring a workshop March 19-20 in Chicago on "Preservation as a Tool for Revitalization." Registration is \$275 for AICP members, \$300 for APA members, and \$335 for others.

□ **MAIN STREET:** The National Main Street Center (National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20036) will sponsor a conference March 25-27 in Tempe, Ariz., and April 28-30 in Indianapolis on "Revitalizing Downtown: Creating Economic Opportunity on Main Street." Registration is \$270.

□ **WORKER/OWNERS:** Twin Streams Educational Center (243 Flemington St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514, 919/929-3316) will hold the sixth Worker-Ownership Conference in North Carolina June 6-7. Location will be announced. Details: Wes Hare.

□ **DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVES:** Democratic Alternatives (15 Dutch St. #500, New York, NY 10038, 212/962-0390) will hold a regional conference February 27-28 in Albany on a progressive national agenda for the Democrats. Registration is \$25. Details: Jo-Ann Mort.

□ **DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (1000 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138) is sponsoring a conference March 16-20 in Boston on "Dispute Resolution and Consensus-Building for Planners and Developers." Registration is \$600 for nonprofits, \$750 for others.

□ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** The National Congress for Community Economic Development (1612 K St. N.W. #510, Washington, DC 20006, 202/659-8411) will hold its 17th annual conference March 12-15 in Altamonte Springs, Fla., on "Building a Broader Perspective on Community-Based Development." Registration is \$195 for NCCED members, \$250 for others.

Calls for Papers

□ **SOCIAL WORK:** The National Association of Social Workers (7981 Eastern Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301/565-0333) has issued a call for presentations at its September 9-12 conference in New Orleans, on the theme: "Social Work '87: On the Leading Edge."

□ **COMPUTERS/HUMAN SERVICES:** Presentation proposals are being requested for the first International Conference on Human Service Information Technology Applications, to be held in September in England. The conference theme is "A Technology to Support Humanity." Contact: Walter LaMendola, Information Technology Center, GSSW-Univ. of Denver, Denver, CO 80208, 303/871-2886.

Jobs

□ **PN REMINDER:** Some of the jobs we list may have application deadlines earlier than when you receive the Newsletter. But deadlines can be adjusted sometimes. So we urge you to phone first, if a number is listed, and check on the deadline schedule.

□ **APA RESEARCH:** The American Planning Association (1313 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637) has an opening for a research position in its Chicago office. A Masters in planning, with emphasis on environmental planning, is required. Salary is negotiable. Resume and writing sample: Leo Lorenzen, Planning Advisory Service.

□ **GRADUATE DIRECTOR:** The University of British Columbia has an opening for a senior faculty/administrator as Director of the graduate School of Community and Regional Planning. The five-year appointment is effective July 1. Rank and salary are negotiable. Contact: Dr. S. Cherry, School of Community and Regional Planning, c/o Faculty of Graduate Studies, Univ. of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3.

□ **HOUSING LOBBYIST:** The National Low Income Housing Coalition (1012 14th St. N.W. #1006, Wash. DC 20005, 202/662-1530) is seeking an experienced housing/government affairs advocate as Legislative Representative for the group's advocacy work with Congress and Executive agencies. Salary is mid- to upper-\$20s.

□ **ICE STAFF:** The Institute of Community Economics (151 Montague City Rd., Greenfield, MA 01301) has openings for several staff positions: Technical Assistance providers, Administrative Director/Business Manager, Writer/Editor, Media/Marketing Coordinator, Revolving Loan Fund officer, and secretary. Salaries are modest, and based on need.

□ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** The Los Angeles Community Design Center (634 S. Spring St. #300, Los Angeles, CA 90014, 213/629-2702) has an opening for an experienced nonprofit administrator as Executive Director. Salary is negotiable.

□ **PLANNING FACULTY:** The University of Washington has an opening for an assistant professor, with a professional degree in urban planning/urban design, or a closely related discipline. Teaching will be in the broad area of urban design and land use planning, with specialization in planning and design implementation, infrastructure planning, urban form, planning law, or real estate finance and urban development. Contact: Phillip Jacobson, Chairman Search Committee, Dept. of Urban Design and Planning, JO-40, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, 206/543-4190.

□ **COORDINATOR:** The Coalition on Low-Income Community Development has an opening for a Coordinator to staff the group's steering committee. Contact: Deborah Tuck, Center for Community Change, 1000 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20007.

□ **DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR:** The American Civil Liberties Union Fund of Michigan (11553 Woodward Ave. #1701, Detroit, MI 48226, 313/961-4662) has an opening for an experienced Development Director to oversee a major gift

campaign. Salary is \$20-\$22,500. Contact: Howard L. Simon, Executive Director.

□ **STAFF ATTORNEY:** The National Housing Law Project (1950 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94704, 415/548-9400) is seeking an experienced lawyer, preferably with Legal Services experience, as a Staff Attorney. Salary is based on experience. Contact: David B. Bryson, Acting Director.

□ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** The Southwest Germantown Community Development Corp. (Box 29501, Philadelphia, PA 19144) is seeking an experienced, creative, and motivated nonprofit executive to direct and revitalize a nonprofit organization with programs in housing rehabilitation, youth employment, and economic development. Salary commensurate with experience.

Ex Conferences

□ **APPROPRIATE TRANSPORTATION:** The International Conference on Appropriate Transportation (49 E. Houston St., New York, NY 10012, 212/925-8505) held a conference February 6-8 in New York, with special attention to human-powered utility vehicles and the deliverers, messengers, commuters, and disabled who depend on them.

□ **CREATIVE FINANCING:** The National Development Council (1300 Convention Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63103, 314/241-7907) sponsored a Creative Financing Symposium January 26-30 in Washington, D.C. Topics included revolving loan funds, business incubators, and business retention.

□ **STATES/TAX REFORM:** Citizens for Tax Justice (1311 L St. N.W., Wash. DC 20005, 202/626-3780) sponsored a conference January 14 in Washington on "A Golden Opportunity: What Federal Tax Reform Means to the States."

□ **FULL EMPLOYMENT:** New Initiatives for Full Employment (33 W. 42nd St. #620, New York, NY 10036, 212/840-1259) sponsored a conference January 20 in New York on reaffirming the importance of full employment in building a strong and just economic order.

Etcetera

□ **APRIL PN DEADLINE:** The arrival deadline for copy for the April *Planners Network* is Monday, April 6. We look forward to hearing from as many Networkers as possible. Our thanks always to those who type their notes. It's a great help in production; and it reduces our chances of misreading what you write.

Arrival deadline for #63 copy: Monday, April 6.

□ **TALK UP PN:** Please don't be shy about sharing news of the Planners Network with others. Let them know about us. Probably the best outreach we have is when you educate and

recruit your friends, co-workers, acquaintances, and others. We have a good, one-page introductory sheet, "The Planners Network—What It Is," which we can send you in any quantity you wish. "What It Is" includes a statement of our principles, a brief organizational history, a list of Steering Committee members (who also double as regional contacts) and the method for calculating contributions. If you wish, you can also send us a list of prospective Networkers, and we will contact them for you.

PERSONAL UPDATES: There are a number of short communications in this issue from Network members, letting us know about new jobs, projects, what's happening in their lives, etc. We encourage this. Sharing this kind of "where-I'm-at" information helps create a sense of community, provide contact, generate support, and generally act like the network we strive to be.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Many Networkers seem to move around a lot. When you do, please let us have your old address and zip code as well as your new ones. Names (like luggage) sometimes are identical, and we want to be sure we change the right address card. Moreover, our cards are maintained in zip code order (because that's the way the Post Office wants the mail); so if we don't have your old zip code, we can't find your old card; and we wind up paying postage for phantom recipients. So please help out and send both old and new addresses.

"CALL" STATEMENT: We have a one-page, broadside version of the "Call for Social Responsibility in the Planning and Building Professions," which appeared in PN #49. Copies are available on request. It makes a good addition to "The Planners Network—What It Is" in recruiting members.