FINANCIAL MINI-REPORT: Since the August newsletter, we have received $598 in contributions from 22 Networkers—the lowest participation and support in some time. So, our special thanks to those who did contribute; we're grateful for your support. Our year-to-date total of contributors now stands at 274; that contrasts sharply with the 900-some copies we mail of each issue. Let's see how much we can close the gap by year's end.

Passing the Word

LEFT ECONOMICS: The Imperiled Economy, edited by Robert Cherry and others, is a two-volume collection of essays by members of the Union for Radical Political Economics (122 W. 27th St., New York, NY 10001, 212/691-5722). Book I, Macroeconomics from a Left Perspective (329 pp., $9.50 paper), presents analyses of current issues, such as the falling rate of profit, financial instability, and Third World debt. Book II, Through the Safety Net (258 pp., $8.50 paper), explores the impact of capitalism's instability and Reagan Administration policies on minorities, women, union members, farmers, and the homeless.

MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS: The Support Center of Washington (1410 Que St. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/462-2000) has announced its Fall series of management workshops for nonprofit organizations. Check with it or a Support Center in your area for similar workshops in a Support Center location convenient to you.

BANNERMAN FELLOWSHIPS: The Charles Bannerman Memorial Fellowship Program (c/o The Youth Project, 2335 18th St. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/483-0030) is accepting applications from seasoned community activists of color for the second annual Bannerman Fellowships, which include a $10,000 stipend toward expenses of a sabbatical of three months or more. Five Fellowships were awarded in the program's first year.

HOUSING STRATEGIES: Raising the Roof is a 122-page guide to affordable housing strategies in 33 communities across the country. Strategies cover acquisition of property, labor, and equipment; financing mechanisms; and linking with people. The guide was published jointly by the Community Information Exchange and the United Way of America (701 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314, 703/836-7100). Copies are $12.50.

RENEWABLE ENERGY: The Jordan Energy Institute (155 Seven Mile Rd., Comstock Park, MI 49321, 616/784-7595) is part of the six-campus Jordan College, and offers a four-year Bachelor of Science in renewable energy.

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 Beaugard, New Brunswick, NJ; Donna Dyer, Durham, NC; William Goldsmith, Ithaca; Charles Hoch, Chicago; Joocul Kim, Tempe; Judy Kossy, Buffalo; Jacqueline Leavitt, LA; Peter Marcuse, NYC; Jackie Pope, NYC; Alan Rabinowitz, Seattle; Tony Schuman, NYC; Andre 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:

Planners Network • 1601 Connecticut Ave. N.W. 5th Flr. Washington, D.C. 20009
ECONOMIC CONVERSION: An Introduction to Economic Conversion. By Jonathan Feldman, is a 38-page briefing paper from the National Commission for Economic Conversion and Disarmament. It is available from the Commission for $5. Copies are $5. Economic conversion is the political, economic and technical process for assuring an orderly transformation of labor, machinery and economic resources from military-oriented purposes to alternative civilian uses.

ACTIVIST'S TV: Deep Dish TV Network (339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012; 212/420-9045) has completed its second year of programming, and is seeking program ideas and volunteer computers. Contributions of $2 are possible. Contributions include environmental issues, political prisoners, student activism, disabled issues, public access updates, and anti-Klan/anti-racist organizing and programming.

FUNDRAISING RESOURCE: The Community Information Exchange (1120 7th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20026; 202/628-2981) has available a 50-page Grassroots Fundraising Packer on raising money from local corporations, banks, churches, philanthropists, and residents. Copies are $17.50.

DEVELOPMENT BOOKS: The Land Urban Institute (1090 Vermont Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005; 202/289-3380) has a four-page tabloid-size publication list of its development publications. Titles include: Understanding Urban Renewal; An Evaluation, by Anthony Downs; Nonfederal Housing Programs: How States and Localities Are Responding to Federal Cutbacks in Low-Income Housing Programs, by Lillian M. Stegman and J. David Holden; and Downlinks Communities.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: From Linty V. White (208 W. Scarratt St., Springfield, IL 62704): I am interested in organizing a nonprofit organization to assist people in locating affordable housing, concentrating on the low-income user. One originally qualified financially. I need first to establish that there is a need for this community for its service, and second, to find financial assistance. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

PRESERVING HOUSING: The National Anti-Displacement Project of the Low-Income Housing Information Service (1012 14th St. N.W., #006, Washington, D.C. 20005; 202/662-1530) is organizing a national effort to preserve affordable housing jeopardized by the lure of higher-income user. One meeting has already been held, in September in Washington. Contact: PnR Larry Yates.

SHARE-UNIT HOUSING: The Seattle Human Services Strategic Planning Office has completed a report, Shared Unit Housing: A Guide for Community Development Programs. The report models and issues of shared-rooms housing for homeless special populations. PN Chair Chester Hartman participated in the research. Contact: Roni Sandeker, Director, Human Services Strategic Planning Office, 206/684-8858.

CBDG AGENDA: The Coalition on Low-Income Community Development (1000 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007; 202/452-0594) is seeking ideas for a 1989 legislative agenda. The coalition sponsors a peer-to-peer grant program in serving the needs of lower-income people. It has a survey form with lots of room for suggestions. Contact: PnR Ed Gramlich

THESIS QUERY: From Michael Svante Jorgensen (Dept. of Environment, Technology, and Social Studies, Univ. of Roskilde, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark): I am well under way in my PhD studies, and I was wondering about a concept for sustainable urban regions. I am planning a tour of the U.S. at the end of this year or early in 1989 to research related trends in urban planning, and would like to meet with Americans active in the field.

THIRD-WORLD HOUSING: From Stephen Beale (Box 540, Mohale's Hoek, Lesotho, Southern Africa): I am interested in obtaining information on low-cost housing, settlement upgrading, and community development projects. Recently, I am working with a nongovernmental organization in Lesotho, teaching carpentry and house construction in a government settlement. In the near future, I hope to continue working in the field of low-cost housing and urban upgrading. Any information would be greatly appreciated.

EQUITY PLANNING: From Networker Howell Baum Institute for Urban Studies, Univ. of Maryland, 1131 11th Ave., Seattle, WA, 98101; 206/685-0712) is offering a course on equity planning, and would appreciate syllabi, references, case materials, and copies of publications on ethics, race and ethnicity, class, gender, physical and mental ability and handicap, and related issues in planning. I would be willing to send a copy of the finished product in return.

MEMBER UPDATE: From Networker Ann Markussen Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research, 2040 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL, 60201: Occasional newsletter on the Center's current activities, projects, all of which combine research with policy and/or politics.

I'm still plugging away for steel and basic manufacturing in the Midwest, helping groups in Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Chicago organize around an alternative strategy to save industrial jobs. It seems I've become a kind of required Greek chorus at many midwestern economic development gatherings, nay-saying grandiose visions of high tech, services, and downtown development, hoping for a better future. With Berkeley colleagues Peter Hall, Scott Campbell and Sabina Dietrich, I have finished a book, The Rise of the Sunbelt, which will be published this fall. The period militant period of militancy spending has created, at great public expense, a band of new communities with geographically conservative residents around the South, with a spate of new ghost towns, paper companies and technology. I am also in the process of writing a book on the Cold War economy which deals more generally with the consequences of some $1.5 trillion of American resources, much of which is still very valuable.

In the Northeast and Northwest areas, and in other sections of the United States, the problem of black and white and first- and second-class communities is growing. The issue of redlining has led to the establishment of the United Housing Association of Delaware Valley, a nonprofit, low-income housing group. The database is now complete. In 1984, for example, in more than 150 census tracts comprising North and West Philadelphia, no more than 15% were conventional loans (i.e., loans without governmental backing) were allocated in each. In contrast, 15% or more of the loans were allocated in most of the census tracts of the Northeast and Center City. Loan patterns between 1985 and 1986 also demonstrate a similar inequality. Most census tracts comprising the Society Hill and Old City sections of City Center received three times (165 or more) the conventional loans allocated in the majority of census tracts comprising North and West Philadelphia. Private mortgage insurance companies, of which there are 12 nationwide, have exacerbated the disinvestment problem by refusing to provide mortgage insurance in minority communities. Without insurance, it is very difficult to obtain a mortgage. In Philadelphia, the insurance criteria are such that many poor and minority residents do not qualify. The companies do not insure any mortgage on property that sells for less than $30,000. Furthermore, they require a $1,500 minimum downpayment, two months of mortgage payments in escrow at settlement, and documentation of "stability" in past and present employment. The minimum sale price in 1986 for a house in a predominately black neighborhood in Philadelphia was $10,000, far below insurance company minimums.

Between 1982 and 1984, no more than 85 mortgages were approved in the majority of census tracts in North and West Philadelphia. Society Hill and Old City sections of the Northeast received over 230 in the majority of their respective census tracts. The reality of disinvestment is seen also in recent sales activity and price changes throughout the city. A study by Philadelphia's Office of Housing and Community Development found for the period between 1981 and 1986, the number of sales in 70-percent white census tracts increased 60 percent (Residential Study, 1986, of 632, 1976, p. 24). In 70-percent black census tracts, sales dropped 5 percent. Median sale prices increased 63 percent in white tracts, 67 percent in "integrated" tracts (not defined), and only 11 percent in black tracts.

Furthermore, the Joint Center for Political Studies in Washington, D.C., found that the difference between the value of black-owned homes and white-owned homes was greater in the Kansas City and Philadelphia metropolitan areas. On average, black-owned homes were valued one-third to one-half less than white-owned homes in 1979 (Joint Center for Political Studies, 1988, Joint Center for Political Studies). Disinvestment is especially pronounced in the South where the population is overwhelmingly African American. The Joint Center for Political Studies found that in black neighborhoods, the values of black-owned homes were one-third to one-half less than similar white-owned homes. This is particularly true in the South where the population is overwhelmingly African American.

Disinvestment is a complex problem, and there are many effective ways to address it. One approach is to encourage the revitalization of existing neighborhoods by providing financial incentives to homebuyers. Another approach is to provide affordable housing opportunities to people in low-income areas. This can be done through the development of affordable housing partnerships, which involve collaboration between government, non-profit organizations, and community residents. These partnerships can help to ensure that affordable housing is available to people in need.

PN Special Feature

Housing Segregation, Discrimination in Philadelphia

by Caroline Sayre

In its Special Feature, Planners Network presents thoughtful, professional writing about important issues and in the planning profession. Essays typically highlight single issues and illuminate it with examples and insights.

The Special Feature editor is Bob Beaudard (Dept. of Urban Planning, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08903, 201/283-0453; 932/334-3822). We are grateful for Networkers' support of this feature, and encourage continued ideas, suggestions, commentary, and dialogue.

(continued on page 4)

October 19, 1988: Planners Network 87/3
**Special Feature: Housing Segregation, Discrimination in Philadelphia**

by Caroline Sayre

Twenty years after the 1968 Fair Housing Act was passed, the choice in housing, discrimination and residential segregation persist in many of the city's public schools. In the next few years, I hope to continue working in the field of low-cost housing and urban upgrading. Any information would be greatly appreciated.

**EQUITY PLANNING:** From Networker Howell Baum Institute for Urban Studies, University of Maryland, 1134 Lefrak Hall, College Park, Maryland 20740. Professor William A. Stegman and J. David Holton; and Downing Linksages.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** From Linley V. White (208 W. Scarratt St., Springfield, IL 62704); I am interested in organizing a nonprofit organization to assist people in locating affordable housing, concentrating on people of color. One area I am especially concerned with is the need for increased affordable housing in midwestern economic development gatherings, thus emphasizing the need for increased affordable housing in the Midwest. Benefits include: increased affordable housing in the Midwest, helping to build and develop neighborhoods in the Midwest, CEP (Center for Urban and Policy Research, 204 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL 60202-3120) and BHI (Baltimore Housing Initiative, 15025, Wash. DC 20003, 202-544-5059).

**SHARED-UNIT HOUSING:** The Seattle Human Services Strategic Planning Office has completed a report, *Shared Unit Housing: A Multi-Home Development Model*.


**WOMEN/ENVIRONMENTS:** Women & Environments (c/o Centre for Urban and Community Studies, 455 Spadina Ave., Toronto, Ont. M5S 2G8, Canada) is celebrating its 11th year as a women's community organization. It is a women's community organization. It is a women's community organization. It is a women's community organization. It is a women's community organization.
record of investing in the eastern section of North Philadelphia.

A challenge was successful, and currently Fidelity Bank (which now includes
includes IVB) is working with the Coalition to ensure the availability of
housing, day care facilities and economic development in the area. (Seventy such agreements have been reached, with the Community Reinvestment Act was passed in 1974.)

As a private mortgage insurance, the Housing Association of Delaware Valley is leading an effort to change insurance regulations.

Last year, in conjunction with efforts of community advocates, the Housing Asso-
ciation won the support of the Philadelphia
City Council. The support came in a City
Council resolution calling for insurance companies to change their guidelines, and for
banks to find alternate avenues of providing mortgages and to participate in the housing change initiative.

Since then, however, substantial changes have occurred.

Recently a broad-based coalition, which includes the Housing Association, community groups, bankers, and representatives from the Federal Reserve and the Philadelphia City Council and U.S. Rep. Thomogoli's office, is formu-
ating proposals to mortgage insurance
industry officials.

The initial intent is to meet with officials from at least one of the
12 insurance companies, gain their sup-
port, and then escalate the effort.

People affected by private-sector disin-
vestment can successfully organize around
these issues.

With time and effort, it is possible that a financial commitment, a city ordinance of
greater flexibility in guidelines will emerge to benefit those most in need.

Caroline Sayre works for the Housing Association of Delaware Valley in Phil-
delphia, and is a recent graduate of the Planning Program at Columbia Univer-
sity.

Passing the Word

(from continued page 2)

SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES is a new bimonthly magazine resulting from the combination of Southern Neighbors and Community Economic Reporter. It will continue reporting on the activities of groups in the South. Subscriptions are $15, from: Southern Neighbors Network, Box 121331, Nashville, TN 37212.

PBS TV SERIES: Point of View is a 12-series film on PBS of documentaries that explore current and past issues and events, from the American Civil War to the AIDS crisis. Ten episodes are $109.50 (paper). In addition, a 24-page report, Homeless, Health, and Human Needs, which concludes that at least 100,000 children are homeless on any given night, is $10 (of the $15 fee). Both are available from the National Southern Neighbors Network, 1815 N. 2nd St., Arlington, VA 22209.

HOUSING LAND/TAXES: Affordable Housing: A Missing Link is an 18-page report on land price aspects and tax impacts of the housing equation, and on practical ways of dealing with them. Copies: Center for Public Dialogue, 1615 Brunswick Ave, Kensington, MD 20895, 301-933-5355.

HOMELESS REPORT: Housing and Homelessness: A Report of the National Alliance to End Homelessness is a 62-page report on the needs of the homeless, including reducing the homeless and preventing homelessness. Copies are $5.00 from: National Alliance To End Homelessness, 1518 K St. N.W., Wash. DC 20006, 202-638-1526.

APSCINA/BOSTON: The Boston members of Architects and Planners in Support of Nicaragua will hold an event on October 21st at 7:30 pm at the Charles Hotel, 400 Boylston Street, Boston. Call 617-262-6612 for details.

PUBLICATION REPORT: The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (7 Marshall St., Boston, MA 02108, 617/342-3720) has issued a report, Public Housing Tomorrow. Copies are $3.

BLACKS/PARTNERSHIPS: Blacks and Public/Private Partnerships: Strategies for Implementation is the 8-page proceedings from a 1987 symposium presented by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development and Howard University's Graduate School. No price listed.

WORKPLACE DEMOCRACY: Changing Work magazine (Box 3065, New Haven, CT 06513) is pleased to announce two special issues this winter on veteran organizations in the movement for democracy at work, to reflect on and assess their accomplishments. Contact the editor for details.

MEMBER UPDATE: From Wes Hare (Twin Streams Educational Center Inc., 245 Flemington Rd., Flemington, NJ 08822) I've been acting as volunteer Director of Twin Streams, while we re-evaluate our work and economic commitments. Our work remains needed but unfunded. Jane Hare is reworking the Twin Streams Church on new actions, considering locations in Colorado and San Antonio. New possibilities abound. We'd like to hear from you.

October 19, 1988/Planners Network #72/5
Upcoming Conferences

AIR QUALITY: The National Air Quality Center (Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306) presents November 15-18 in Boulder the first Interdisciplinary Conference on Urban Air Quality. Registration is $140. Details: Patricia Archibald, Conference Coordinator, 303/441-3201.


SCHUMACHER LECTURES: The E.F. Schumacher Society (195 Main St., Great Barrington, MA 01230, 413/528-1737) will present the eighth annual E.F. Schumacher Lectures October 29 in Great Barrington, with Alana Prebost, August Schumacher, and Robert Swahn. Registration is $15.

WORKERS-OWNERS: The Center for Community Self-Help (Box 3619, Durham, NC 27702, 919/683-3016) is sponsoring the North Carolina Worker Ownership Conference October 21-23 in Betsy City, N.C. Registration is $38.

Calls for Papers

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTS; Children's Environments Quarterly (c/o Children's Environments Research Group, Environmental Psychology Program, CUNY Graduate School and University Center, 33 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036) is issuing a call for manuscripts for its 1989 issues. The themes: "Day Care Environments: Policy Research and Design," summer; "Design for Children with Physical and Sensory Disabilities," fall; "Research on Environmental Learning and Education," winter.

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 the first, if a number is listed, and check on the deadline schedule.

RESEARCH DIRECTOR: Neighborhood Reinvention Corp. (1325 C St. N.W., Washington, DC 20005, 202/376-2400) is seeking a senior staff person with experience in neighborhood revitalization as Director of Research and Evaluation. Salary is $32,000. Contact: Hillary Heilman, Employment Specialist, or George Knight, Deputy Executive Director.

SENIOR RESEARCHER: The American Planning Association (1313 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637, 312/955-9100) is seeking a Senior Research Associate, with experience in developing research proposals and managing research projects. Salary is negotiable. Contact: Tom Smith.

CITIZEN ACTION: Citizen Action is seeking to fill two staff openings: Membership Research Director (mid-$20s) and Systems Manager (mid-$20s). Contact: Mark Anderson, Fullerton Management Co., 4709 Golf Rd., Skokie, IL 60076.

MANAGEMENT TRAINER: The Wonker-Owned Network (50 S. Court St., Athens, OH 45701, 614/592-3854) has an opening for a Management Trainer, with business training and experience in management and personnel issues. Salary is negotiable.

CREDIT UNION MANAGER: The Central Appalachian People's Federal Credit Union (Box 504, Berea, KY 40403, 606/986-1651) is seeking a Credit Union Manager, with an accounting/finance background and credit union experience. Salary is $15,000. Contact: Tom Del Savio.

NJ LOAN FUND: The New Jersey Community Loan Fund Inc. (126 N. Montgomery St., Trenton, NJ 08608, 609/989-7766) is seeking a Fund Manager and a Technical Assistance Coordinator as it provides technical and financial support for projects in affordable housing and community economic development.

No salaries listed.

PROJECT DIRECTOR: The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (140 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60603) is seeking a Project Director for its Fund for Neighborhood Initiatives. Salary is $35,000. Contact: Rebecca R. Riley.

PHILADELPHIA NHS: Philadelphia Neighborhood Housing Services has openings for a number of positions: Associate Director ($33,000-$37,000), Controllers ($25,000-$30,000), Neighborhood Development Coordinator ($24,000-$26,000), and Rehabilitation Specialist ($30,000-$40,000). Contact: Roberto Nazario, Development Training Institute, 4800 Seton St., Baltimore, MD 21215.
Healthful environment. "A healthful environment not only means docent, affordable housing, but also inclusion of open space in our comprehensive plans, preservation of wetlands, and support for urban agriculture.

I recently attended a meeting to learn more about a project to improve the unhealthful environment in Nicaragua. The project is called Wheat for Peace, was initiated by the Oregon-based Council for Human Rights in Latin America, and is co-sponsored by the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

Wheat donations are being collected in eastern Oregon in order to send up to 5,000 tons of wheat to Nicaragua to respond to the current food crisis. A delegation of Oregon farmers and church people visited Nicaragua in June to familiarize themselves with the program and to build ties of friendship with the Nicaraguan participants.

At the meeting, Father Jose Ismael Alas, formerly a priest in El Salvador, currently living in exile in Managua, Nicaragua, spoke about the desperate need of the Nicaraguan people. I was taken with Father Alas' simplicity, yet powerful, linkage between environmental protection and feeding the hungry. I loosely quote: "In Oregon you have Nature ... I hear that Oregonians are ecologists. You must continue to work to save Nature. In my country we have deforestation. The rains stop in August now. We have drought. We cannot plant our corn and our beans. The people go hungry. It is not just the war that causes this... it is the economic policy that began in 1950. Maybe it was a good idea at that time to plant more coffee and cotton for export... but we can't feed ourselves any longer. We need your help..."

Because of the Nicaraguan food shortages, Nicaraguan citizens are being encouraged to grow small gardens through a campaign comparable to the "Victory Gardens" established in the United States during World War II. Proceeds from selling the Oregon wheat (sold in Nicaraguan markets at a wholesale rate) will go toward purchase of seeds, tools and farming implements for family and community gardens in Nicaragua.

Projects such as Wheat for Peace are encouraging, but they are all too uncommon at home and abroad.

We need to begin at the root of the problem—environmental management. The need for these types of projects can be lessened through a heightened awareness of the use of our environmental resources. In the last few years, environmental considerations have been deliberately diminished in favor of short-term job gain.

Can we afford this attitude?

How do we work toward a healthful environment when a programmatic commitment in the area of environmental planning is no longer seen as important in a number of our major universities?

How do we teach the importance of our connection to the land when we are so concerned about short-term economic gain?

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- **HOMELESSNESS**: The Urban Land Institute (1900 Vermont Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20005, 202/289-8500) will cosponsor with the Home Builders Institute a national symposium November 17-18 in Washington, "Builders Examine the Many Faces of Homelessness: Laying a Foundation for Action."

- **SCHUMACHER LECTURES**: The E.F. Schumacher Society (195 Main St., Great Barrington, MA 01203, 413/528-1737) will present the eighth annual E.F. Schumacher Lectures October 29 in Great Barrington, with Alana Prebost, August Schumacher, and Robert Swan. Registration is $15.

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Networkers' Reports

Upgrading Environmental Considerations

by Cynthia Pappas
Community and Economic Development, Springfield, Ore.

While reading John Friedmann's "Rethinking PN" (PN 869), I found myself nodding more empathetically with each paragraph. I wholeheartedly agree that we, as PNers, do need to share more about what we do and what we are about and do our work.

Having been away from a university environment for six years and immersed in public sector planning work, I look to planning publications such as Planners Network for inspiration. It is good to be reminded of the impact our work has on the community and our ability, as planners, to make a positive difference.

Because my background is in environmental and land use planning, I am particularly interested in learning more from PNers about environmental planning issues. (In this consumeristically oriented time, is the idea of environmental planning no longer radical?)

Remember, PN's position statement includes the following message: "We believe that planning should be used to assure..."
Ex Conferences

- WOMEN/HOUSING: The Women's Research & Education Institute (1700 18th St. N.W. #400, Wash. DC 20009, 202/328-7070), held a conference September 15 in Washington on women, housing and public policy.

- AFFORDABLE HOUSING: The Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs (Univ. of Minnesota, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55455) sponsored a conference September 19 in Minneapolis, “Affordable Housing: National, State, and Community Perspectives.”


- REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT: The Northeast-Midwest Leadership Council (218 D St. S.E., Wash. DC 20003, 202/544-5200) held a conference September 22-23 in Chicago on developing regional policy positions and program recommendations on the region’s economic development and infrastructure needs.

Etcetera

- DECEMBER PN DEADLINE: The arrival deadline for copy for the December Planners Network is Monday, December 5. We look forward to hearing from as many Networkers as possible. As always, our thanks 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 PN #73 copy: Monday, December 5.

- 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 of 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) sometime 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 Profession,” 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.