

PLANNERS NETWORK

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Let's get right into some communications from Networkland:

GENERAL COMMENTARIA:

From John Friedmann (UCLA School of Arch. & Urban Plng.): "Looking at Number 17 and the Network Listing, I come to certain conclusions.

1. For the most part, 'radicals' are frustrated and have a sense of isolation.

2. The great majority of so-called radicals are concerned with direct action at the community level. Castells should be their hero, because he provides them with a radical mission: urban social movements. But Americans are not particularly interested in comprehensive visions, ideological justifications, political statements. It would be interesting to see why not, and whether it makes any difference. (I happen to think that it does.)

3. Marxist theorists are confined to the university. But then, it's also no longer possible to be clear about who's thinking along Marxist lines and who's not. The long march through **Capital I-III** can lead to many final destinations: Anarchism, utopianism, eclecticism, even Fabianism . . . in addition to varieties of Marxist thought, from Althusser to Miliband, from Adorno to Habermas.

4. What can the Network do to link theory with practice??? I suspect that a lot of praxis goes without the 'benefit of theory (see 2 above). Could the Network suggest some basic readings? I know it sounds stuffy, but all the same. You can either talk theory or read it. There is no third way. How about providing a list of radical journals with a two-line description? (**Telos**, **Antipode**, **Review of Radical Political Economy**, **New Left Review**, **Working Papers**, **Monthly Review**, **Theory and Society**, **International Journal of Urban and Regional Research**, and so forth. If there's a demand, I'll be glad to start the effort; others can add to it, if they wish.)

5. Would someone volunteer an annotated bibliography of radical literature, particularly as it pertains to our interests?

6. Are people aware that the generation-long effort to establish an accreditation system for planning schools seems finally to be succeeding under the new dispensation of APA? And are they aware that this will lead to a tightening up of certification procedures for planners? You might call it 'the guilding of planning!' Those of you who are members of the APA, work to sabotage the effort!"

From Andy Schiffrin (331 Chilverton St., Santa Cruz, CA 95062): "I enjoyed the last issue but find that I tend to skim the discussion of the Network's future, organization, and the desirability of putting out a journal. On the other hand, I devour the information on what people are doing and end up writing at least one or two people for more material each time. I guess for me that's the real value of the Network."

From Paul Demers (1215 Prospect SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507): "While I support the concept of area and regional Network organization building, on the national level, the Newsletter, in its present format, seems to me to be ideally suited to facilitating communication between Network members."

From Tom Angotti (Div. of Urban Planning, Columbia U., NYC 10027): "The Network newsletter continues to be a useful and important means of putting progressive / radical / Marxist oriented planners and activists in touch with each other. I usually find myself sending off at least one or two letters or requests for publications as a result of each newsletter.

"On the debate about a journal, I think this ought to be our lowest priority. Under the present circumstances, a journal would probably wind up being just another in the present glut of pseudo-Marxist, semi-liberal publications that contribute little to—and often disorient—the left, working class and progressive movements. And given the enormous time and resources required to get it together, I question whether it can actually be pulled off. I feel, however, that there is a need for an outlet for good political and theoretical work being done by Network-type people—particularly for Marxists."

From Suzanne Rie Day (1125 Nielsen Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48105): "**Format & Type**—I agree on the eyestrain expressed by Waitzkin!!! The first few issues I received, I didn't even read, they seemed so formidable. What makes them worth wading through (in a very good light!) is the glow of enthusiasm and optimism from both you and your readers.

"What would help is **Grouping** by some topic clusters: transportation, zoning, subsidies and regulating the poor, health . . . Only problem I see with this is that so often it's the multi-faceted problems which really grab Networkers more than the neatly classified ones! Since I'm a health planner, much housing stuff is 'extra time' to me; and usually fascinating too.

"**Journal?** I tend to agree with the 'Nays.' We are not very vigorous yet as locals and we are not very clear yet on how our **writing** would transmit our message differently than more mainstream journals. Perhaps our journal would even **deflect** intellectual effort from cross-pollinating the regulars with articles from Networkers. Stimulating, well justified action seems more the purpose of the PN newsletter, and the current style (given some editorial opening up as discussed above) seems fine for the exchange and motivating by example to progressive activism."

From Rick Hyman (PO Box 1214, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): "I enjoy the Newsletter. As an organized type I wouldn't mind slightly more organization—e.g.—all conference notices together—but I can make it through the newsletter without such groupings. Ideas about paper exchanges and more members writing articles and ideas within a newsletter format as opposed to a full-blown journal seem fine."

From Martin Krieger (Natl. Humanities Ctr., PO Box 12256, Research Triangle Pk., NC 27709): "Re journal, etc. Do not get into that business. Maybe you ought to have one paragraph argument summaries with write in for paper, but that is all. Also, list jobs available on first page on top. They often have tight deadlines. Type is fine, layout ok. What I miss most in all the comments is a lack of historical sense that may reflect a lack of a broad generational grouping in the Network. Things may be hard now. Are they harder than ten, twenty, thirty, forty, . . . years ago? Right now I think the whole business is corrupted by the fact that lots of people make a living as teachers and academics and researchers. Same problem in the arts. Not that it is good to starve, not that it is bad to think. But the good salaries of academics (I know they are declining, inadequate for families... etc.), and research may have little to do with sufficient food for body or mind. Somehow the talk about journals strikes me that way."

From Steve Coe (38 Tompkins Pl. #3, Brooklyn 11231): "While nothing is ideal, the current Newsletter approach seems most appropriate for the vast majority of PN constituents. However, the winds-of-change (breezes-of-modification?) do tend to blow in the direction of a more formalized structure in terms of in-depth analysis on specific issues. Here I would agree with Pam Emerson's comments in #17, that PN might best serve as a facilitator in exchanging articles. Toward this end I offer the following approach which I believe has been alluded to often and maybe even stated concretely, in which case pardon my redundancy.

"Many PN readers are also authors, and they regularly announce in the Newsletter that they have available a product of potential interest to other PN readers. Why not set aside space in the Newsletter that would corral these announcements and possibly group them according to major topics (as has been suggested for all correspondence to the newsletter)? This new 'Publications Section' might include a brief synopsis of the author's piece (written by the author), an address, and price. Authors could be required to enclose a small fee (e.g., \$5) with their announcement to cover additional costs this would engender.

"This approach would not have to preclude the proposal mentioned by Warren Jones and others, that 'theme' issues be developed (e.g., tenant organizing, the 'crisis' in Cleveland, etc.). These issues could be printed as special editions of the Newsletter so that the more-or-less regular publication schedule is not disrupted.

"Naturally, those who do the work of putting together the Newsletter should move in the direction most suitable for them. If nothing else, myself and 800 others are providing tacit consensus for the current state of affairs. It does not seem wise to stray too far from our refreshingly straightforward tabloid."

Andrew Herman (1713 Euclid St. NW, Washington 20009): "If I may throw my two cents in concerning the name of the network I think that the time will come when the group will have to openly declare the nature of its goals. While I am not obsessed with ideological purity I think that it is crucial to make people aware of what we are fighting for. In other words, if socialism is what you want to be built in this country, then you should let people know it. On the other hand, since there are too few of us in this country as it is there is no reason to be dogmatic and isolate ourselves from those who might be sympathetic. Therefore, I can understand why the network is just The Planners Network and not the Network of Urban Socialist Revolutionaries United to Slit the Throats of Capitalist Speculators or any other sectarian nicety."

Mary Vogel (2805 E. 16 Ave., #11, Denver 80206): "I would definitely like to see a journal—one that's oriented at the practitioner and addresses putting theory into practice rather than just developng theory."

From John Mollenkopf (Urban Studies Prog., Stanford, Palo Alto, Ca 94305): "As always, the Network newsletter contains many useful bits and pieces. As I leaf through the back issues which have accumulated in my file, it is interesting to note the ways it has grown and changed. It seems to me that the newsletter fully justifies itself, and that nothing more pre-tentious or formal is really needed. Or would work as well."

Several comments of my own: We really should be moving on the idea many people have put forth of more short informal articles and reports (Mary Vogel's report on the Women's School of Arch. — PIng. in #16, my report on the International Hotel in #10, etc.) For that to happen, people simply have to think of things they're involved in that ought to be written up and take the time to set down 500-1000 words or so. The NYC report in this Newsletter and the Schuman-Barton exchange also represent thoughtful, provocative substantive discussion of issues, which go beyond mere information exchange. Let's do it. On the

question of format, type size, organization, etc. I'll do my best to organize things a little more (although Susan Rie Day's point about the usefulness of non-order is well taken), but time and financial constraints are a factor as well. Larger type size, more "spacey" layout, etc. result in greater printing and postage costs, and we're skating on pretty thin financial ice right now. Doing things in a more orderly manner takes more time, which is something I can't really afford to put into the Newsletter right now. For future issues, I'll try to do what I can to group things a little more sensibly, but don't expect any big change in that area.

\$\$\$—Speaking of money, we're in fair shape. After paying the \$450 or so to put out this issue we'll have about \$750 in the bank account. Those of you who send in largish amounts—\$25, \$50, etc.—really help out a lot. It costs about \$4-5 per person per year to do the Newsletter. Everyone should help out as best he/she can.

On the Great Bulletin Board and Library Subs Question raised earlier (whether or not Network material should be publicly displayed on bulletin boards and at libraries, as opposed to informal word-of-mouth communication to those we think might be interested), only a couple of responses, one negative, one positive. Any other thought on this? (It's actually not as trivial as it sounds.)

A note we recently received from someone in Sacramento: "Although I think Planner's Network is a valuable publication, I find that I am not reading it. I am not in planning any longer. Would you please take me off the mailing list? Best wishes for the future." We appreciate that; if you're not longer interested in receiving the Newsletter let us know, so we can save money and time. (It does occur to me that someone in that category probably won't be reading this item, but wotthehell.)

NEW YORK AREA REPORT: From Bruce Dale (56 W. 22 St., NYC 10010): "The Network/Forum lecture and discussion series in New York continues quite successfully. We held our second forum on Friday night Febuary 9th and had a lively and informative discussion centered around our invited guests, Ruth Messinger, a New York City Councilwoman; Ramon Rueda, Executive Director of the People's Development Corp.; and Doug Moritz, Director of Development for Los Sures.

The discussion had three substantive concerns:

1. alternative roles for professionals, i.e., how to use professional credentials and technical know-how in a politically useful way;
2. the potential impact or scope of community-based development;
3. the pitfalls and virtues of self-help practice.

The first of these issues, in part, was concerned with the old question of process and product, yet at the same time the discussion made apparent the two-fold nature of the housing movement in New York. Housing activism results from different combinations of class struggle and idealism. Different levels of concern and involvement lead different people to different practices. Yet, despite our differences, many of us would agree with Ron Shiffman, who, before the discussion, argued that at this juncture unity in the housing movement is more important than the ideological debate.

As indicated by the second and third issues of the discussion, we are all concerned with the success and failure of the New York community groups. What came across clearest was that they are intensely involved with a very demanding activity—urban redevelopment—and in their need to build up their resources (i.e. capital), they want to be 'left alone' to work things out. Such total absorption does not leave us optimistic for the leadership they will be able to give to the larger tenants' movement. To say nothing about the selling of equity shares by one of the groups, which is troublesome, even for their own advocates.

The discussion was good, open and searching. There are indeed difficult issues to resolve and we in the New York Area Network have decided to confront some of the more basic themes directly in Network/Forum #3 and #4, scheduled for April 6th and May 11th, both Friday nights, at the AIA meeting room, 20 West 40th Street, third floor.

On April 6th we will discuss the issue of the IN REM or tax foreclosure properties in New York. By current Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) projections, by September of 1980 the City will have taken ownership of 236,410 units of housing with about 73,000 of those being occupied. The scope of this problem goes well beyond the City's current management capability. Although HPD's alternative management programs will give the various community and tenants associations many more units to manage and/or own, they will, however, still account for less than the overall occupied City-owned residential units. The real question remaining for our consideration is what will happen to the great majority of tenants in these properties. We will also discuss the eventual acceptance of a new municipal policy based on government responsibility and tenant control.

On May 11th we will try to go one step further toward understanding the dynamics of disinvestment and reinvestment. With the aid of a panel discussion (discussants to be announced) we will discuss a Marxist analysis of economic redevelopment and community participation.

Our continuing concern for these and other related issues is a result of our Network/Forum series, as well as, our practice in New York City. Judging by Steve Barton's petulant outburst at Tony Schuman (Network Newsletter #17) we believe that these issues are important to Bay Area planners and probably to many other Network people as well. We would like to see more in depth discussion and endorse Tony's recommendation (see letter from Tony Schuman this issue) for open debate in the pages of the Newsletter.

While I am on the subject, Barton is really off the wall. Red-baiting on the left, by someone who seemingly considers himself a Marxist, can only be divisive and lead to disaster. It is just such a holier-than-thou attitude which seems to me dangerous and irresponsible—certainly not dialectical. We all want clarity on crucial issues facing the movement and the New York Area Network will continue to try to analyze concretely these and other issues, through open public discussion. We have a full program planned for this spring, which includes one pleasant surprise, as well as the two events described above. But more on that later . . . ”

Not too much cooking, Network-wise, from the other regions. I would like to mention a new labor-neighborhood housing coalition, San Franciscans for Affordable Housing, which several local Network folk are deeply involved in. It's got a broad range of community groups, plus some of the largest unions in the city (SEIU Joint Council, Hotel-Restaurant Workers, etc.), and we're working toward a comprehensive housing reform package to be placed on next November's ballot via the initiative process (to include controls over rents, housing speculation, and condominium conversions, a tenants' bill of rights, city funds for non-profit housing development corporations, etc.) The SF Renters Alliance (the new name of the Renters Rebate Comm., which put Prop. U on last November's ballot, calling for landlords to pass back to their tenants any Prop. 13 property tax windfalls) is playing a key role in this new coalition and will be co-sponsoring, with the SF Women's Centers, a dinner-meeting on Sunday, April 8, at the new SF Women's Bldg., (Dovre Hall, 3543 18th St.). The benefit dinner (\$5) will be at 6pm, the (free) meeting (with entertainment afterwards) will begin at 8. It will be a good chance for people in SF who want to get involved in housing reform to come together. For further information about SFAH, people can call me at 282-1249.

SANTA BARBARA AREA: From Jilliene Bolker: "On Wednesday night, the 31st of January, Women 'Environmentalists' met for the first meeting of Women Planners, Environmentalists, Students, Academics, etc. who live and/or work in Santa Barbara/Ventura County. We shared laughter, homemade cookies, some anger, and lots of our individual frustrations and feelings of encouragement about the work we are doing. We are unsure what direction (support group, trying for changes in our work environments, sensitizing and pursuing women's issues in our communities or? our group will take.

The ten women who attended this meeting came to: Eearn

from the past experiences of others in the field, . . . Express concern and want to develop strategies for getting women planners involved in major decision making positions, . . . Reaffirm their social consciousness and how easy it is to get frustrated in this profession if you are ethical and try to be humane, (i.e. you 'can't change the system in an unemployment line.') Discuss the ways secretaries are treated, . . . Express different ways of maintaining your credibility. Some shared thoughts are as follows: Read B. Harragan's book **Games Your Mother Never Taught You: Corporate Gamemanship for Women**, also the **New Executive Woman** and **Guerillas in the Bureaucracy**.

Other strategies include learning as much as you can so that your co-workers can't ignore you, build alliances with others who have more power than you do, and be good at what you do. Our next meeting, on February 21st, will probably include six more women.

If anyone has any questions, please have them contact me at my new address and phone number: PO Box BC, Ventura, California 93001, 805/648-4251. (If I am not at home, they can leave a message with my human/humane answering service.)"

JOB: 1) Through Bill Siembieda (Univ. NM School of Arch. & Plng., Albuquerque): "The City of Albuquerque is now seeking a 'City Planner' to head the division of Planning under the new organized Dept. of Municipal Development (DMD). This person will head a staff of some 30 folks and report to the Director of DMD, Jerry Davenport (the former City Manager of Stockton), who has been on board since January '79. They are looking for a 'professional' planner who can manage as well as plan. Folks should contact Davenport directly (505)766-7468. The rice bowl is about \$30K. Generally the issues are growth, its management, physical problems, and adaptation to change. Some opportunity for joint work with a newly formed Dept. of Human Services. Person must be able to handle a 'Southwestern Style.'

2) "Community activist who has worked in Nottingham (pop. 300,000) for 7 years wants to come and work on a tenants/community project in the States preferably on housing/planning issues. Have worked for tenants association in slum clearance area on a wide range of issues, also was appointed as Centre Worker at Nottingham's Resource Centre, serving all Nottingham's tenants and community groups. Badly want to visit States and learn from your experience and hopefully contribute something useful from our experience. Failing a job would welcome house exchange for a couple of months with someone in this field. Any ideas/suggestions/contacts would be very welcome. Please write to Roger Critchley, 83 Beauvale Road, Meadows, England."

3) From Peg Spak, 564 Colorado, Palo Alto, CA 94306: "I am seeking employment in health planning either with an HSA or other community health organization. I am especially interested in the planning and delivery of health services in rural areas and am seeking employment in rural areas in Northern California. I would be interested in hearing from others who either know of planning projects in rural areas or who know about jobs in health planning."

4) The new Chinatown Comm. Housing Corp. (615 Grant Ave., 2nd fl., SF Ca 94108) is looking for an Executive Director, a Rehabilitation Director and a Housing Services Specialist. Salary \$17-24,000 plus fringes; bilingual Cantonese helpful but not mandatory. Very challenging/exciting community context. Resumes/information requests to Network member Tim Dean, Secretary.

ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES/WOMEN: From Robin Saltonstall (Solar Energy Research Inst., 1536 Cole Blvd., Golden, CO 80401): "I'm particularly interested in finding information on individuals and/or groups involved in alternative technologies (particularly groups which are focused on integrating women into the AT field.)"

SHUMAN-BARTON: In #17 Steve Barton (605 Hillsborough St. #3, Oakland 94606) sharply criticized Tony (Schuman's (56 W. 22, NYC 10010) commentary on cooperative and self-help organizing printed in #16. Herewith Tony's response and Steve's rejoinder (see also Bruce Dale's related comments in his NYC report):

From Tony Schuman: "With some restraint, I would like to respond to Steve Barton's subjective and I believe, irresponsible attack in Newsletter #17 on my remarks in the previous Newsletter. The subject of the form and content of self-help housing, and its relation to the broader process of social change, is a fundamental issue facing housing activists. I propose that this exchange between me and Steve in the Newsletter be the start of a principled debate among the wider Network audience, rather than a dialogue between the two of us.

Although my original letter did not represent official views of either Homefront or the New York Network, I would like to defend both these organizations against Steve's defamatory remarks.

1. It is too easy to dismiss a radical critique as coming from an abstract theoretical stance. Homefront's practice with community groups is well-known in New York. Indeed, half our membership is more involved in day-to-day community struggles than with Homefront activity *per se*.

2. Homefront's practice, based on our analysis of housing abandonment including its critique of self-help programs, had been to build on areas of unity with self-help groups in the interest of forging tenant power. The In Rem Tenants Coalition, an important voice for tenants in city-owned property, was organized by Homefront and includes a number of self-help community groups.

3. My remarks about self-help participation in the campaign to stop the auctions were perhaps slightly exaggerated, as Homefront colleagues among others have suggested. At Network/Forum #2 (reported elsewhere in this newsletter), a spokesperson for a major community development organization agreed that the primary initiative in coalition work of this sort would have to come from outside the community groups due to the pressures of daily work in the neighborhoods.

4. The New York Area Network is sponsoring open discussion of community-based redevelopment. Network/Forum #2 provided a platform for People's Development Corp. and Los Sures to speak to the question from a community perspective.

5. Steve's attempt to denigrate my views through a spurious reference to the International Hotel struggle was an appalling piece of red-baiting.

The question of sweat equity vs. state assistance has the potential of splitting the housing movement. As Steve's letter demonstrates these issues threaten to emerge in a disruptive and unproductive manner. Failure to explore the issues openly will prevent us from identifying areas of unity and will promote divisiveness within the tenant movement. In the interest of providing a framework for Network debate on the issues at hand, I would like to propose the following summary of some critical questions.

1. Self Reliance vs. self-exploitation (the agony and the equity.)

—Tenants reduce the cost of housing by volunteering thousands of hours of unpaid or low-paid labor.

—There is an inherent conflict between self-help labor and the large pool of unemployed minority construction workers.

—Voluntary labor reduces pressures on the private sector and government to provide wage levels (and jobs) adequate for survival.

2. Economic self-determination vs. dependence on state subsidies.

—Even with voluntary construction work, sweat programs are still dependent on government subsidies for labor (CETA, LEAA) and mortgage financing.

—This dependency creates a vulnerability to changes or cutbacks in available state assistance, as well as to state regulations such as turn-over in CETA workers.

3. Tenant as co-operator vs. tenant as landlord.

—While tenant co-ops are certainly more responsive to tenant needs than the private sector or government, they also assume a landlord role in several problematic respects:

a) The responsibility for upward restructuring of rents to meet costs as they rise due to inflation, interest rates, etc.

b) The responsibility for evicting or subsidizing families who can't pay the rent due to legitimate personal or economic problems.

c) Under co-op ownership, inability to cope with these problems may be seen by the community as their own failure, rather than that of a society which creates and tolerates miserable living conditions for so many people.

4. Enthusiasm for immediate small-scale results and local solidarity (sweet ecstasy) vs. struggle for structural change and class solidarity (social equity).

—According to Barton, sweat programs are limited to 'the younger and more energetic of the poor.'

—Community based development groups are forced into a 'partnership' with government and private interests, which may include financial gimmickry such as sale of tax shelters.

—While taking advantage of conventional sources of capital may be a necessary short-term strategy, it carries the risk of lending credibility to the very institutions which created the housing crisis in the first place.

—Although some community groups are attempting to address underlying economic problems such as finding jobs for sweat workers after the CETA grants run out, there is a serious question whether the basic inequities in a capitalist economy can be solved on a neighborhood basis.

I hope the above formulations are a useful start to the discussion. Theory and practice are necessary complements in understanding reality and building a base from which to change it."

From Steve Barton: "The exchange between Tony Schuman and myself will, I hope, open up a broader discussion not simply of the uses and limitations of cooperative housing but of the uses and limitations of Marxism. Marxists from New York to San Francisco criticize reform struggles in the same terms, presenting the usual excellent critique of capitalism but with nothing whatsoever to say about how to begin creation of the new society. Instead, support for the Party dictatorship after the revolution is left as the implied, and often the overt answer.

For Schuman apparently, criticism of the limitations of the Marxist tradition itself, rather than of Stalinist 'deviations' is 'red-baiting,' while the expression of feeling is 'subjective,' a term whose use to dismiss opposition is part of the sad legacy of the Communist Party, with its 'scientific' approach.

This is not an academic problem. The statist solutions put forward by Schuman do little to develop people's belief that they can control their own lives, the essence of movement-building for a truly democratic society.

Finally, I would like to recommend Martin Buber's *Paths in Utopia*, and Lawrence Goodwyn's recent book *The Populist Movement*, which discuss the uses of cooperatives in building a democratic movement."

HUD OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT: Once again, we'd like to bring to your attention the periodic mailings put out by Joe McNeely, Director. The latest contains materials on HUD's Innovative Grants Program, the HUD Sec. 202 Program, HUD's Solar Grants, and the Dept. of Energy's Appropriate Technology grants. I think you can get on their list by just writing McNeely.

"TAX REVOLT: WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? WHAT'S THE CURE?" is a 8-session Thursday evening workshop being run by the Policy Training Center (4 Nutting Rd., Cambridge 02138), starting March 29, at Suffolk Univ., Archer Bldg., President's Conf. Rm. They're also putting together another workshop titled "The Politics of Public Employment and Community Service". Further information on both from Barbara Beelar, 617-547-4473. And finally they're having an open house, April 6, 4-8 pm.

"CAREERS AND EDUCATION IN THE GREEN ENVIRONMENT" is a resource sheet by Donald Loggins, available from him at 723 E. 10 St., Brooklyn NY 11230.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION (AUSTIN BRANCH): From Webb Smedley, Austin NAM, Bread & Roses Ctr., 2204 San Gabriel St., Austin TX 78705: "Yet another downtown revitalization scandal is unfolding here in Austin. We would very much appreciate advice and material from anyone who has had experience in confronting both municipal and federal agencies to reorient projects for the benefit of lower and middle income people. Specifically, we would like to know of cases where housing has been constructed for a variety of income groups in such projects, where public funding for convention centers has been defeated and how, and where automobile emphasis has been reduced. Additionally, we would like to know of possible sources of funds to publish a citizens guide on downtown revitalization to distribute through the community organization and activist networks. Yours for community control."

FROM JAY FARBERSTEIN (358 Broad St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401): "I have not been very active politically lately, but Network members might be interested in a book I wrote recently with Min Kantowitz (now of D.C., recently of Albuquerque). It's called **People in Places: Experiencing, Using and Changing the Built Environment** (Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632, 1978, \$4.95 pb, 184 pp). The approach of the book is one of directed self-learning with experiences which structure involvement for the reader around 42 topics. Of particular interest to Networkers would be the section on Politics of Places with 6 main topics an number of experiences. One deals with spatial segregation by class, race, age and sex. Another looks at the system of high and low status places. A third explores the ownership and transfer of property (real estate), including: financing, redlining and cooperatives. A fourth examines the role of governmental power in the built environment. The final ones examine conflicts in places and the possibilities for sharing places....

While the book does not push any particular ideology, the entire approach is political, stressing values, power, involvement and possibilities for change. It is introductory level and can be used for teaching, working with community groups (I have used some of the experiences with lay planning groups and have heard from others who intend the same), or for turning on non-planning friends."

ZEITLIN ON BLUMENFELD: From Morris Zeitlin (183 Crown St., Brooklyn NY 11225): "I just finished studying Hans Blumenfeld's newly published volume of essays **Metropolis and Beyond** (John Wiley and Sons, 1979) and am moved to share my impressions with fellow Networkers. It is a veritable gold mine of facts, clear analysis and brilliant insights on our fast urbanizing world. Reading it would go a long way, I think, to answer the searching often revealed on the pages of Planners Network.

I find it hard to understand why the profound essays by this renowned progressive planner and scholar have been omitted from recently published anthologies on the metropolis with avant-garde pretensions. Progressive planners will find in Hans Blumenfeld's two volumes (the first: **The Modern Metropolis: Its Origins, Growth, Characteristics and Planning**, MIT Press, 1967) not only a source of clarity on the complexities of urban development but also a compass to steer one's professional life by. Hans' example of a long life of steadfast dedication to honest scholarship in planning and to peace and progress might well serve as a model for forward looking planners to follow."

JIM CARNEY (329 S. 17 St., San Jose Ca 95112), active in union work with his job at the Santa Clara County Planning Dept., writes: "I think at this time I can be most helpful and useful to the Network in the area of labor and community relations, an area that I see as needing careful thinking by many people and groups such as those in Planners Network who are trying to organize around urban reform to build strong lasting mutual commitments. I'm not at all sure how to go about functioning in such a capacity within Planners Network. But I'm sure there are many people and groups with similar intent and goals that are part of the Network that I could contact for exchange of ideas and information."

FROM JESSE SCHWARTZ (PO Box 7537, San Diego 92107, (714) 222-1096): "I am setting up a consultancy on patterns of living centering about local self-sufficiency. We will approach this in four main directions:

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Urban Agriculture—Modern methods of organic gardening make it entirely possible for most communities in America to go a long way towards growing their own food. This elemental truth is being re-discovered by the burgeoning community gardening movement. Our local community garden has 20 members and we focus our energy on a small lot. An abundance is produced at negligible cost. Associated with this is the idea of 'edible landscapes' wherein fruit trees will be planted in public parks and on vacant land so that people can freely gather walnuts, persimmons, apples, apricots, and so forth. Trees need but little care and create a microclimate pulsating with life.

Solar design—Roof-top solar collectors to heat water have proven themselves for homes, yet this saves only a fraction of the typical household's expenditures for energy. The true frontier is in designing buildings to function organically, to store and circulate heat and air without need of mechanical devices. There are quite a few examples wherein solar energy issued, almost exclusively, for space heating in homes.

Traffic Separation—It is wrong for people to dodge motorcars. The latter should be confined to parking lots at the edges of neighborhoods. Motorists can either walk or bicycle to their homes. The cement and black top in local streets should be rolled back and replaced by footpaths surrounded by flower and vegetable beds. Children will be able to play freely. Autos and humanity do not mix.

Workplace-Living Space—That productive effort takes the form of a 'job' which is performed in a 'factory' remote from one's inner life and dwelling space is a recent discovery of the human spirit. For millennia useful work has been performed in the midst of one's family, relatives, and neighbors. Small power tools make it entirely practical to return to neighborhood and cottage industries, yet on a higher level. With this will come the joy in useful activity of which philosophers have dreamed but is nowhere to be found in the modern world. By dissolving the dichotomy 'Workplace-living space,' a host of inseparable problems—traffic congestion, pollution, urban decay, etc. likewise disappear.

I would appreciate suggestions and would like to explore ways of working with people who are interested in these themes. I would also like to meet local people to gather energy toward crystallizing alternatives to the Los Angelization of San Diego County."

WANTED. Contact persons and information on examples of grantsmanship and fund-raising projects or centers that offer training, consultation, library, or other resources development services to neighborhood-based community organizations and nonprofit groups. We are designing such a service for Cincinnati's neighborhood organizations. Contact : Ken Corey, c/o CHART, Inc. 1287 Ida Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202;

CHART (Community Human and Resources Training), Inc. is an action research, training and consulting organization that seeks to strengthen neighborhood-based community organizations in their quest for self-determination and independence from institutional domination. CHART was founded in 1968; it offered its services as a university-affiliated association until 1977. CHART, Inc. incorporated in 1977 as a tax-exempt non-profit organization. It conducts: citizen education programs, action research, and consultation in program planning and management, leadership development, advocacy and strategic planning, and grantsmanship/fundraising.

The Neighborhood Grantsmanship Center (NGC) Project, which prompts this request, is a result of responding to the specifications of Cincinnati's neighborhood organizations. We have available a paper describing our early thinking on the project."

THE CONVERSION PLANNER is the bi-monthly newsletter of SANE's Action on Economic Conversion (514 C St. NE, Washington, D.C.20002). Free, but \$5 contribution requested. Along with Environmentalists for Full Employment (1101 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite 305, Washington, D.C. 20005, 347-5590) they are trying to create a "conversion network."

THE CALIF. COUNCIL FOR HUMANITIES IN PUBLIC POLICY (312 Sutter St., 6th fl., SF 94108 and Humanities 136, Santa Monica College, 1815 Pearl St., Santa Monica 90405) funds some very progressive ventures and organizations as long as one can find a "humanist" tie-in. According to Barbara Beelar of the Policy Training Ctr. (4 Nutting Rd., Cambridge 02138) their Mass. counterpart has funded them and many other progressive groups. The Calif. group also has a newsletter titled **Humanities Network**.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSN.: Nick Jeffrey of their Planning Dept. (34-36 Bedford Sq., London WC1B 3ES) sends in their new departmental prospectus and outlines/reading lists for the following courses: "Political Economy of Cities and Regions," "Planning in Socialist Countries."

PHOTOGRAPHY: From Martin Krieger (Natl. Humanities Center, PO Box 12256, Research Triangle Pk., NC 27709): "I would appreciate any reading lists or course syllabi on using photography in planning and public policy studies. Anybody doing it in political science or economics? There is lots in anthropology and sociology."

LES KILMARTIN (visiting at the UC Santa Barbara Sociology Dept. from the Swinbourne College of Tech. in Melbourne) notes the availability of the 1978 **Australian and New Zealand Urban Conference Papers**, through Patrick Mullins, Dept. Anthropol. & Soc., Univ. Queensland, St. Lucia, Queensland 4067 Australia. Price is \$A3.75 (\$A2.75 students), surface postage, checks payable to ISA Urban Group, and you'll have to figure out for yourselves what that comes to in US currency. Included are Kilmartin's paper on central city land ownership in Australia and NZ, Michael Jager's interpretations of Castells' work on urban social movements, and 10 other papers.

SMALL CHANGE FROM BIG BUCKS, the report on Bay Area foundations by the Bay Area Comm. for Responsive Philanthropy (mentioned in #17), will be available in early April (\$6 from BACRP, 944 Market St., Rm. 705, SF 94102). A similar report by the Denver affiliate of the Natl. Comm. for Responsive Philanthropy is being released simultaneously; for that report, contact NCRP, 1028 Conn. Ave. NW, Suite 822, Washington 20036.

NCRP also is sponsoring a conference (with the Sierra Club, Grey Panthers, Natl. Council of La Raza, NOW Legal Defense & Educ. Fund, Natl. Conf. of Black Lawyers, etc.) titled "Fundraising in the Workplace: Exploring Alternatives to the United Way." It's April 29-30, at the Hotel Adolphus in Dallas. Further info. from NCRP, address above.

"**THE HOUSING NEEDS OF PILSEN AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO REHABILITATION DESIGN**" by Robert Mier, Robert Gilroth and Thomas Amato is available from Mier, Ctr. for Urban Econ. Dev., Univ. of Ill. School of Urban Sciences, Chicago 60680 (appears to be free.) According to Mier, the report "begins with the question of whether a combination of design efficiencies and sweat equity could make the rehabilitation of housing in a particular neighborhood in Chicago feasible and still enable that housing to be marketed to the neighborhood's low-to-moderate income population. As we expected, the answer is 'no,' and furthermore even with available HUD housing subsidies the rehab process will exclude neighborhood residents."

Incidentally, Mier's synopsis is a model for what people should include when they send in reports for listing in the Newsletter. A concise description of the scope and results makes mention of such items much more useful for readers.

THE NATL. SELF-HELP CLEARINGHOUSE (CUNY Grad. Ctr., 33 W. 42 St., Rm. 1227, NYC 10036) has a regular newsletter (**The Self-Help Reporter**) and other information exchange activities, supports and conducts training, and research activities, and now has a publication list.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS NEWSLETTER is available from 813 N. Lincoln, Urbana, IL 61801.

STATE HOUSING POLICY: From Mary Vogel (2805 E. 16 Ave., #11, Denver 80206): "I've just volunteered to work on developing a State Housing Policy for Colorado. The Director of the Colorado Housing Finance Authority chairs the task force and Colorado is a conservative state, so I don't have any delusions that we'll come up with an even moderately radical housing policy. (Some people see having a housing policy at all as rather radical!) I'm going to see what I can do about moving it towards the Left however—but I NEED HELP! Is anyone else in the Network working on state housing policy? Does anyone know which states are furthest ahead in this regard? Any suggestions will be appreciated."

FROM DALE ADLER (Greenwood, VA 22943): "I'm recently appointed Coordinator of local 12 year old Experimental University. Wonder if PN members might have suggestions for leading E-U into viable roles in affecting future of conservative 100,000 urban-rural community. How to build an effective E-U?"

I'm leading course on Networking—any materials welcome—especially info on other Networks. A friend is leading S.F.&P.-Consumer Action Seminar.

Anyone interested in an Alternative University using a Network format rather than a campus, etc.? Have a line on such a possibility—Accreditation?—faculty?"

SOLAR: From Jim Samsel (PO Box 7231, Asheville, NC 28807): "One recent and one forthcoming publication which may be of interest to solar enthusiasts: **THE FIRST PASSIVE SOLAR CATALOG**, \$5 from the Passive Solar Institute—P.O. 722—Davis CA 95616; and **PLANNING SOLAR NEIGHBORHOODS** by Living Systems, Winters, CA.—contact APA for info on its publication.

I'm interested in hearing from folks who are involved in solar analysis of existing neighborhoods re: passive solar retrofitting and possibilities for new solar infill construction.

Would also like to learn of successful short-term solutions to abandoned houses, i.e.—stabilizing them while legal proceedings take place for condemnation, etc. Any references for publications on successful neighborhood planning processes would also be appreciated."

ALASKA FOR ARKANSAS: Jeff Scott (US Bureau of Land Mgt., PO Box 1150, Fairbanks, AK 99707) amends our state-by-state roster as follows: "I regret to inform you that contrary to the information provided by your latest roster, you do not have any members in the fair state of Arkansas. The official Post Office abbreviation AK stands for Alaska. Please let your readers know that anyone who attempts to call me at the Bureau of Land Management in Fairbanks, Arkansas, may end up with a surprisingly large telephone bill."

"**REDUCING THE DEVELOPMENT COSTS OF HOUSING: CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHY**" (33 pp.) has been prepared by Larry Keating (Grad. City Plng. Prog., Georgia Inst. of Tech., Atlanta 30332) for HUD's National Conference on Housing Costs. Unclear where it's available—best write Larry directly. He also is editing the conference proceedings and writing an overview article.

"**WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD: A LAND USE DILEMMA**", prepared by Lew Lubka and his class, is available from him at the Grad. Prog. in Comm. & Reg. Plng., N. Dakota St. Univ., Fargo 58102.

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT: Bob Adams (500 Oakland, CA 94610), working as a community organizer in Richmond and Oakland for East Bay Citizens Action League, would like to hear about strategies for using the CRA "to combat both redlining and displacement, given the weakness of the regs." CAL's bi-monthly **Citizen Action News** is available (\$15/yr) from CAL, 814 Mission St., SF 94103.

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT: Dianne Reed (1701 E. 12 St., #12 St., #10-S, Cleveland 44114) writes: "I am looking for any response from anyone who has tried to assemble a 'task force' concerning the recent Community Reinvestment Act."

"EVICTIONS IN SAN FRANCISCO" is a new 26 pp. study just released by the People's Law School (558 Capp St., SF 94110), \$5.50 postpaid.

"COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE STATES" by Carl Sussman and Stephen A. Klein is a new 57 pp. study by the Center for Comm. Econ. Dev. (639 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 02139). Appears to be free.

"PROFESSIONALS AS WORKERS" is the title of a 29 pp. annotated bibliography and a 161 pp. selection of readings, both compiled by Rand Wilson, available through the Poly Training Center, 4 Nutting Rd., Cambridge 02138. No price listed.

"HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND THE MINORITY COMMUNITY" is a (rescheduled) conference, now being held April 5-7 in Pittsburgh. Further information from the Manchester Citizens Corp., 1120 Penn. Ave., Pittsburgh 15233.

NATL. ASSN. OF HOUSING COOPERATIVES (1828 L St. NW, Washington 20036) has available a revised publications list.

"AN ADVOCACY GUIDE TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM," by the CDBG Training Advisory Comm., is a special 78 pp. supplement to the Jan. 1979 **Clearinghouse Review**. Available for \$2 from 500 N. Mich. Ave., Suite 1940, Chicago 60611.

"ENERGY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT" is a conference being held March 30 at the 1st Unit. Church in SF, sponsored by Calif. Planners Found. & No. Sec., Cal. Ch., APA. Information from Scott Lefaver, 1731 N. First St., San Jose 95112, (408)287-3400.

"RAISING HELL: A CITIZENS GUIDE TO THE FINE ART OF INVESTIGATION" by Dan Noyes of the Center for Investigative Reporting is available from **Mother Jones**, 625 Third St., SF CA. \$2.25, bulk rates available.

"COLLISION VS. COOPERATION FOR TWO NEIGHBORHOOD MOVEMENTS: Anti-Redlining & Anti-Displacement" is an article by Nathan Weber, available from him at the NYC Comm. on Human Rights, 52 Duane St., NYC 10007.

"NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION CONFERENCE," sponsored by the Natl. Ctr. for Urban Ethnic Affairs, March 28-30 at the Sheraton in St. Louis. Information from NCUEA, 1521 16 St. NW, Washington 20036, (202)232-3600.

"DOWN TO EARTH: CITY LIVING" is a 18 min. color film on "how to transform a typical urban residence into an almost self-sufficient household." It apparently deals with the Integral Urban House in Berkeley. Available from Pyramid Films, Box 1048, Santa Monica, CA 90406. (If anyone sees this and could offer an evaluation of it, that would be helpful to others.)

NATL. TRAINING & INF. CTR. (1123 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago 60607) is holding training programs June 18-22 and Sept. 17-21 in Chicago and a Phila. session May 7-11. (Similarly it would be useful to have an evaluation of NTIC's training program by anyone who has gone through it.)

"ATLAS OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR THE SO. CENTRAL [Calif.] VALLEY" (Feb., 1978, 107 pp.) is available from the Office of Appropriate Technology, 1530 10 St., Sacramento 95814; seems to be free. For those not in the area (Stockton-Fresno-Bakersfield) it's a nicely designed model for such catalogues.

"PARTNERSHIPS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION: A CITIZENS' HANDBOOK" is a 200 pp. publication prepared by Rick Cohen for the Penn. Dept. of Comm. Affairs. Seems to be free. Rick now is at 904 Hudson St., Hoboken NJ 07030.

CITY LIMITS: COMMUNITY HOUSING NEWS is a monthly publication of the Assn. of Neighborhood Housing Developers (115 E. 23 St., NYC 10010). \$6 for individuals and non-profits.

THE INST. FOR LOCAL SELF-RELIANCE (1717 18 St. NW, Washington 20009) has a new publication list available.

URBANISM PAST & PRESENT is a semi-annual journal (\$5/yr) published by the Dept. of History, Univ. of Wisconsin, PO Box 413, Milwaukee 53201.

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CUBA TRIP ON PLANNING: Aug. 3-13, departing from Tampa, cost around \$700. Tom Angotti reports that a lot of Columbia Univ. people are going, but still room for others. Details and reservations from Guardian Tours, 33 W. 17 St. NYC 10010 (691-0404).

URBAN POLITICS AND POLICY IN A BUREAUCRATIC AGE is a new book by Robert K. Whelan, co-authored with Clarence Stone and William Murin. Whelan writes: "Members of the Network would be especially interested in the chapter on Physical and Community Development, and the concluding chapter, which has some suggestions for future urban policy."

"CULTURE AND APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY" is a series of weekend workshops being run by the Farallones Inst. Upcoming are: "Social Ecology" (April 7-8, Murray Bookchin, Lee Swenson); "Filmmaking & Culture" (May 12-13, Bill Richardson); "Women & Ecology" (June 9-10, Nancy Jack Todd, Christina Rawley); "Music & Social Change" (Aug. 11-12, Guy Carawan); "Ecological Design & the Built Environment" (Sept. 15-16, Sim van der Ryn, Sterling Bunnell); "Appropriate Technology" (Sept. 22-23, Gil Friend, Ken Darrow, Tom Bender). Complete information available from The Rural Center, 15290 Coleman Valley Rd., Occidental CA 95465; send 9 x 12 SASE with 45¢ postage.

THE CITY AND SOCIAL THEORY is a new book written by Network member Michael P. Smith (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1979) (313 pp.) The book assesses the theories of five major social theorists who have stressed the alienating aspects of urbanization. Challenging many of the major premises that have guided urban research, the author argues that the economic organization of society, not the level of urbanization, creates the conditions for social alienation and the urban crisis. The book also considers the extent to which neighborhood based political structures can be made viable in the face of increasing corporate centralization.

PLANT CLOSINGS: Michael Kieschnick (1212 Clement Pl., Silver Springs, MD 20910) is now working for the EPA in economic assistance: mobilizing public resources in the case of threatened plant closings—or for a community if a number of plants close. "I am interested in hearing from local union officials, community development organizations or others facing plant closings in any way related to environmental regulations. In my financial consulting role, I would like to be in contact with anyone working on the creation of public development finance institutions. Similarly, if there are any progressive candidates out there who want support in developing innovative proposals for development banking or other areas of economic development, I am quite interested in working out campaign proposals."

THE NATL. LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION (215 8 St. NE, Washington 20002) has available a Jan. 22 statement on the 1980 HUD budget; a Feb. 21 statement on the impact of the 1980 budget on the housing of elderly people; a Feb. statement titled "Needed Increases in the Administration's Housing Budget;" and some materials on "Campaign for Housing," a grassroots effort to mobilize support for increased assisted housing programs.

MICHAEL APPLEBY (Env. & Urban Systems, VPI, Blacksburg VA 24061) brings to our attention a 1 page report to participants in the Natl. Conf. on Citizen Participation (available from Stuart Langton, Lincoln Filene Ctr., Tufts U., Medford MA 02155); word about a innovative training session Thom Cocoran has designed for environmentalists, citizens and forestry officials (available from Cocoran at Shasta-Trinity Natl. Forest, 2400 Washington Ave., Redding CA 96001); word that Michael will be giving another workshop in citizen participation at UC Berkeley July 11-13; and a list of useful reports available through the MIT Laboratory at Arch. & Planning.

"THE POLITICS OF RENT CONTROL" by Peter Drier (Dept. Sociology, Tufts Univ.) appears in the new (March/April 1979) **Working Papers**.

LOST NETWORKERS: #17 was returned for the following (let us know if you have any leads as to their whereabouts): Michael Alston (Marion IL), Tony Bialecki (Grand Rapids), Jim Bonar (LA), Lincoln Chu (Sacramento), Robin Erdmann (Madison), Dan Frankel (Madison), Sybil Frenette (Winnipeg), Debra Hase (Buffalo), Patricia Kelly (SF), Jack Mills (Madison), HM Mungaven (MPLS), Karen Murphy (Berkeley), Barbara Rosenthal (Chicago), Ron Weil (SF), Vin Wiewel (So. Bend).

Lots of thanks to Bill Burke for getting out mailing #17.

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A final note re the Cornell conference (this year's version of the Blacksburg conference.) It's April 26-29, and the title, is "PLANNING THEORY AND PRACTICE: ECONOMIC CONTEXT, EMERGING COALITIONS AND PROGRESSIVE PLANNING ROLES." Looks like there'll be well over 100 people there. Lots of good papers, lots of time for good discussion. One topic that will come up of course is how the Network can relate to all this. Get in touch with Pierre Clavel, Bill Goldsmith or John Forester at the Cornell City & Regional Planning Dept. (607-256-4331) for more information. I look forward to seeing Network folk there.

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