

# PLANNERS NETWORK

#47—August 20, 1984

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**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY AHEAD:** Well, of sorts. Since this is Issue #47 of *PN Newsletter*, a simple calculation will reveal that Issue #50 is just around the corner. (February 1985, to be exact). It also will be our 10th year publishing our quasi-bimonthly. If anyone has any good ideas on how to make the February newsletter a celebratory issue, let us know. We're not big on self-promotion, but it's nice to have been around and together for so long; and there might be a creative way of marking that milestone.

## Passing the Word

**'NEW RIGHT' AGENDA:** *The New Right in the States: The Groups, The Issues, and The Strategies* reports on the renewed interest of New Right activists in state and local legislatures, provides a state roundup of New Right legislation, and suggests a progressive strategy in response. Copies are \$7.95, from: Conference on Alternative State and Local Policies, 2000 Florida Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/387-6030.

**'HIGH TECH' REPORT:** *Massachusetts High Tech: The*

*Promise and the Reality* is a progressive examination and analysis in Massachusetts of the claims of research-intensive industries for job creation, new product development, and regional economic development. The conclusions are mixed. The report's goal is to ignite a public debate on the industry's role. Copies are \$8, from: The High Tech Research Group, Box 441001, Somerville, MA 02144.

**BOOK REVIEWS:** *Design Book Review* is a glossy, illustrated quarterly, reviewing publications related to the broad field of design. Topics in a recent 148-page issue included landscape, interior design, cities, regional and vernacular architecture, history, and contemporary design. Subscriptions are \$15 (single copies, \$4.50), from Design Book Review, 1414 Spring Way, Berkeley, CA 94708.

**CRISIS RELOCATION:** *The Counterfeit Ark: Crisis Relocation for Nuclear War* is a 338-page anthology by experts, including PN Member Michael Lipsky, which examines and challenges government plans for massive civilian evacuation of major cities as protection in a nuclear attack. A Physicians for Social Responsibility book, it is available in stores or from the publisher: Ballinger Publishing Co., 54 Church St., Cambridge, MA 02138. The price: \$11.95.

## 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 do need funds for operating expenses. The Steering Committee has recommended the following amounts as minimums for Network

members: \$10 for students and temporarily unemployed; graduated payments for the employed of \$20 plus an additional \$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, DC; Jacqueline Leavitt, NYC; Jackie Pope, NYC; Alan Rabinowitz, Seattle; Pat Wilson Salinas, Austin; Tony Schuman, NYC; Derek Shearer, Santa Monica; Andre Tremoulet, Roanoke.

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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□ HOUSING FILM: *The Fall of the I-Hotel* is an hour-long documentary film that tells the story of speculators' plans to demolish San Francisco's International Hotel and of community efforts to preserve it as housing for elderly Asian men. The community lost, but the film effectively recalls the fight and examines the issues of elderly housing and displacement. Contact: Chonk Moonhunter, 2721 Bellaire Pl., Oakland, CA 94601, 415/436-6978.

□ PEACE ESSAY CONTEST: The Council on International and Public Affairs (777 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, 212/972-9877) is sponsoring a \$10,000 competition for the best essay on peace and justice in our time. Entries can not exceed 7,500 words, and may be submitted by anyone anywhere in the world. Details and entry forms are available from the Council.

□ PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER: *Partnerships: The Newsletter of Public-Private Development* is a new monthly

publication with news updates, case studies, technical reports, resource suggestions for linking public and private funding in economic development projects. Subscriptions are \$96, from: Center for Responsive Governance, 1000 16th St. N.W., Wash. DC 20036.

□ NEIGHBORHOOD WOMEN *Putting It Together* is a publication from the National Congress of Neighborhood Women, 249 Manhattan Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211, 212/388-6666. The price is \$3.

□ FARALLONES INSTITUTE: The Farallones Institute Rural Center (15290 Coleman Valley Rd., Occidental, CA 95465, 707/874-3060) is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a membership drive and a series of workshops on gardening, whole-systems planning, communications, and solar power in China, among other activities.

□ FUNDING AIDS: The Public Management Institute (358

## Report from Nicaragua

*(This report was prepared by PN Member Steve Kerpen (Peoples Housing, 1424 Old Topanga Canyon Rd., Topanga, CA 90290, 213/455-1348). Please contact him if you are interested in joining a trip to Nicaragua, or in belonging to a national organization of architects and planners in support of Nicaragua.)*

During the latter part of June, we led a group of architects and planners on a 10-day trip to Nicaragua. We were there to learn about the country, to see their specific housing and planning problems and how they were being solved, and to show solidarity with the struggle. The experience, the emotional impact, and the knowledge we gained were extraordinary.

We spent four days in the countryside in the north-central area around Matagalpa, visiting new rural housing projects in an agricultural cooperative, a state farm, and in a relocation community for Sumo Indians, dislodged because of the war from their native homes on the northern border with Honduras. These houses were generally of wood prefabricated wall sections, having two rooms and a porch. Individual cooking was typically done outside in a makeshift lean-to. Community water pumps and latrines were centrally located. Although very basic, the units were far superior to some of the existing housing on large land holdings run by the oligarchy prior to the revolution.

Although 25 percent of the country's budget is for defense, and repairs to the damage inflicted by the Contras amount to another 25 percent of the Gross National Product, they nevertheless continue to build and support social programs for the people. The continuation of U.S. support for the Contras has had a great impact, however, on their ability to affect, as expeditiously as hoped for, all the communities in need. We visited, for example, the community of Pancasan, historically important as the first area where peasants took up arms against Somoza. They planned for new housing, but have yet to receive funds for it, and now are doubtful they will because of the war. While there, we participated in reviewing the proposed housing

designs and plans, and a committee from our group will be actively working with them in the future.

In Managua, we visited two types of prefabrication plants presently in use. One was a wood plant, creating basically a single-wall system like we often observed in the countryside. The other was a concrete plant, producing the "Sandino System," a grooved column-and-panel system used generally for single-story detached houses. The same system has been utilized for many years in Cuba. We visited houses built of this system, as well as houses in more middle-income developments of poured concrete. Managua has other types of housing as well. Many people have been relocated from high health-danger areas to sites in Managua called "Progressive Urbanization." These sites are provided free along with a pit latrine and centralized water. Families build their homes with either found materials or materials bought through a government-operated materials bank, using low-interest loans.

We had a number of meetings with the Ministry of Housing, learning of its general housing and planning policies as well as of the downtown Managua urban plan, which calls for replacement of the buildings destroyed in the 1972 earthquake. Some of us also visited the Architectural School, talking with the Director and some of the students. We found, to our dismay, a complete lack of supplies and reproduction equipment, because of priority expenditure for defense.

On one of the last days of our trip, we traveled to Ocotol, a city less than 10 miles from the border with Honduras. Only a few weeks earlier, a force of 600 Contras had made a dawn attack there, killing 12 people and destroying a radio station, an agriculture reform office, grain storage silos, and a saw mill. The saw mill undoubtedly supplied the wood for the very houses we had seen in the area.

We have come back dedicated to working on concrete projects that will help the Nicaraguans against the wanton military and economic strangulation that the United States is insistent on. There's a great deal of work to be done, especially prior to the U.S. elections.

Brannan St., San Francisco, CA 94107, 896-1900) has a publications list that features a variety of print and computer-based fundraising aids. Some of the directories, handbooks, etc., are not cheap, but the publications list is free.

**RURAL HOUSING:** Rural Housing Improvement Inc. (218 Central St., Winchendon, MA 01475, 617/297-1376) has published an illustrated, 20-page report on its 15th anniversary as a regional technical services center serving the rural northeast. It serves low-income families, elderly, and farm-workers, among others.

**REBUILDING AMERICA** by Gar Alperovitz and Jeff Faux is a 320-page argument for making community-building (versus dog-eat-dog individualism) a major focus of economic policy. It's well written and insightful; but, alas, there's no pictures. Copies are \$10.95, from Pantheon Books of New York; or the National Center for Economic Alternatives, 2000 P St. N.W. #300, Washington, DC 20036.

**URBAN JOURNAL:** *Cities* is an international journal on urban policy, reporting on comparative approaches, effective Third World approaches, and community participation, among other topics. For subscription details and sample copy: Butterworth Scientific Ltd. Journal Division, Box 63, Westbury House, Bury St., Guildford, Surrey GU2 5BH, England.

**DALLAS RALLY:** The Dallas March and Rally Committee of the Alliance for Justice (1507-A S. Ervay, Dallas, TX 75215) was scheduled to hold a rally August 18 against the domestic and foreign policies of the Reagan Administration, in connection with the Republican National Convention.

**ANN ARBOR RENTERS:** From Jeff Ditz (Ann Arbor Tenants Union, 4001 Michigan Union, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109, 313/763-6876): I am now director of the Ann Arbor Tenants Union. We are working in the midst of multi-front housing struggles, some of them profiled in our *Insight Ann Arbor* tabloid. I am immediately interested in Section 8 discrimination by private landlords at the end of leases. Any leads?

**URBAN ACTION** is an annual publication from the Forum of Urban Studies Students of San Francisco State University. The 72-page 1984 edition explores living in an urban environment from the perspectives of housing, social and public policy, health and politics. There is a special Bay Area section as well. Single copies are \$1, payable to FUSS, from: FUSS, HLL 382, San Francisco St. Univ., 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco, CA 94132.

**ECONOMICS FOR ENVIRONMENTALISTS:** *America's Economic Future: Environmentalists Broaden the Industrial Policy Debate* is a 67-page report from the Project on Industrial Policy and the Environment which blends environmental concerns with economic growth. It includes goals, principles, and recommended actions. Copies are \$5, from: Natural Resources Defense Council, 1725 Eye St. N.W. #600, Wash. DC 20006.

**LABOR FORECAST:** *Storm Clouds on the Horizon: Labor Market Crisis and Industrial Policy* by Barry Bluestone, Bennett Harrison, and Lucy Gorham is a 37-page report from the Economic Education Project (152 Aspinwall Ave., #2,

Brookline, MA 02146). It argues that "there are discernable trends in the American labor market which, left unchecked, will lead to increasing instability and inequity throughout our economy." Single copies are \$5.

**ECONOMIC REBUILDING:** The Villers Foundation (1334 G St. N.W., Wash. DC 20005, 202/628-3030) has completed a project on exploring an integrated set of ideas for rebuilding the American economy. It includes a draft economic program, *Building a Balanced Economy*, as well as educational booklets, *America's Future Is Ours To Build* and *Rebuilding the American Economy*. Each is \$5 from the Foundation.

**JOBS BACKGROUND:** "Unemployment: Still a Key Issue" is a special report reprinted from the April 21, 1984, *AFL-CIO American Federationist*, which provides good statistics and background on unemployment in the economy.

**HUNGER IN AMERICA:** The National Anti-Hunger Coalition and the Food Research and Action Center have joined in a Feed America's Communities Today campaign to fight domestic hunger, and guarantee people the right to eat. Individual memberships are \$36. Contact: NAHC, c/o FRAC, 1319 F St. N.W., Wash. DC 20004.

**JOBS WITH PEACE** in '84 is a grassroots political organizing campaign to reclaim money used for wasteful military purposes for pressing domestic needs. It includes booklets, such as "Massachusetts Jobs with Peace Budget," and "Books not Bombs," as well as other materials. Contact: Jobs with Peace Campaign, 76 Summer St., Boston, MA 02110, 617/338-5783.

**PLANNING COURSE BACKGROUND:** Networker Alan Rabinowitz (Dept. of Urban Planning, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195) has prepared an outline and bibliography for a course on "Progressive Planning," which he said was very well received. It includes a very helpful reading list.

**JOBS NEWSLETTER:** *Jobs Impact* is a newsletter of the National Committee for Full Employment (815 16th St. N.W., Wash. DC 20006, 202/393-7415) which reports on Congressional and Executive Branch actions affecting wages, job training, and unemployment.

**INSIDE HUD:** *Impact Journal* is an occasional newsletter from inside the Department of Housing and Urban Development that has been known to take a somewhat subversive approach to issues. Subscriptions are \$10 for individuals, from: Impact Journal, Box 23136, Wash. DC 20024.

**FOOD MARKETING:** *New Leaf* is a quarterly magazine designed to provide fresh options for New York's food and farm economy, including a regionalized marketing and networking guide. Subscriptions are \$8, payable to CLFA/CRESP, from Center for Local Food and Agriculture/CRESP, Anabel Taylor Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853.

**COMMUNITY LEADERS:** In Our Own Way (2437 15th St. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/483-0710) is sponsoring an international exchange August 27-September 13 among leading women in community development from developing countries and developing regions of the U.S. Highlights include visits in rural Appalachia, a working forum in North

# Campaign for Social Responsibility . . .

## INTRODUCTION

The following material grew out of a meeting of about a dozen PN members (Spurgeon Cameron, Rachel Bratt, Emily Achtenberg, Peter Marcuse, Denis Woods, Frank Ehrenthal, Woody Widrow, Alan Rabinowitz, Jackie Leavitt, Ron Shiffman, Chester Hartman) attending the National Low Income Housing Conference in Washington in June. The PN meeting was called to discuss ways in which the Network could move in the area of "social responsibility" (as originally discussed in Frank Ehrenthal's article in #45-April).

We reviewed the various nascent effects involving planners and related professional groupings in New York, Boston, Los Angeles, and other areas, as well as the attempt to form a national group called Architects for Social Responsibility. We sought how the Planners Network might relate to all this.

While it was felt we should continue to explore relations with emerging national formations, our multidisciplinary perspective and membership, as well as our politics (as embodied in the Network Statement of Principles), argued for playing a role in trying to push other formations into a more radical and comprehensive stance on the war/peace issue and nuclear disarmament, and for developing among ourselves a broader outreach process, within the limits of our resources.

Consensus emerged around the idea of preparing and disseminating some kind of "manifesto," "call," or "campaign" that would serve to move current efforts in our direction politically.

Peter Marcuse volunteered to draft such a statement; and this, together with some questions and some thoughts on how to mount the campaign, was then circulated to those attending the original meeting, to the PN Steering Committee, and to a few others known to be active in this area. Comments and suggestions were received from Bob Bogen, Andrea Tremoulet, Bob Beauregard, Woody Widrow, Frank Ehrenthal, Kathryn Kasch, Alan Rabinowitz, Kate Warner, Jackie Leavitt, Peter Marcuse, Bill Goldsmith, and Spurgeon Cameron. Network Chair Chester Hartman then took all the suggestions and produced what is presented below: the proposed text of a statement and plan of action. [I have done my best to integrate and reconcile the always thoughtful, but sometimes conflicting, suggestions of the various commentators; if any of you want to re-argue for changes I have not incorporated, please do so.—CH]

It still is a draft. That is, we still want and need your suggestions, large and small, on what the statement should say and how it should be used. But we do want to move on this right away, consistent with allowing people enough time to respond. **We're arbitrarily setting a cutoff date of September 7 for your responses**, about three weeks after this Newsletter should arrive in your mailbox.

Beyond responses to the draft itself, we need from you suggestions on how it should be used and disseminated, and, most concretely, your own offers of assistance in using and introducing the statement. The effort will work best (and may only work) if someone with a connection to a

particular organization or institution is responsible for "running with it." If, because of vacation travel or other reason, you don't get to send in your comments on the draft by the September 7 deadline, we still will accept (and want) your suggestions and offers of assistance on dissemination at any time.

## CAMPAIGN[CALL?] FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE PLANNING AND BUILDING [DESIGN? DESIGN AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT? COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL?] PROFESSIONS

*A call to planners, architects, landscape engineers, environmentalists, preservationists, engineers, community workers, and all those concerned with issues of peace, equity, and the quality of life in the urban, rural and natural environments.*

The built and natural environments are threatened today by the actions of human beings and their governments, as they never have been jeopardized before. Efforts to build a secure, humane, and healthy environment are threatened by nuclear and conventional arms proliferation, exploitative foreign policies, and distorted public spending priorities. The need for constructive action is upon us.

As planning and building professionals and community workers, we face a moral choice: Do we continue to remain quiet about these destructive public policies and actions, or do we join together to speak out against them?

As citizens specially informed about the environment and actions shaping the built and natural world, we have a key role to play in helping to influence public opinion and the actions of our leaders. In addition, our professional associations can influence what happens to our world today by speaking out on the public policy issues which affect most closely the work their members are engaged in day by day.

We frequently not only condone but even contribute to planning and implementing such policies. We plan for, design, and build buildings that displace people and destroy neighborhoods. We promote housing whose effect will be high rents, segregated neighborhoods, sexist patterns of living, conformity and elitism. We draft civil defense evacuation plans that cannot provide true protection against a nuclear attack and yet that impart a false sense of security which engenders complacency among the citizenry and leads to their reluctance to work for measures that truly will protect our lives and communities. We design programs in health care, transportation, economic development, and environmental protection which we know will not work, arguing that we are at least mitigating an evil, without pressing for those policies that could actually deal with that evil effectively.

It is for this reason that the Planners Network issues a call for our professional associations to engage in serious discussion of these issues and to adopt and publicize this or similar statements on behalf of their members.

## . . . in the Planning, Building Professions

### A Statement of Concern

We believe that socially responsible individuals and organizations working in our fields should speak out on the following concerns and objectives:

**1. Nuclear Weapons:** The threat of nuclear war is the greatest threat to humankind that ever has existed. Deterrence beyond the point of annihilation will not benefit either East or West; further military build-up on our part increases, rather than decreases, the potential for war. A total freeze on the development, testing, production, and dispersal of nuclear weapons should be adopted by our country immediately. In addition, provocative first-strike weapons development, such as the MX missile system, the B-1 bomber, nerve gas production, and the deployment of additional missiles in Europe, should be halted, as the first step in a longer term process of dismantling the war machine all over the world.

**2. Public Spending Priorities:** The spiralling cost of further military build-up, whether nuclear or conventional, weakens us in the areas of our greatest potential strength: our position as a democratic, socially responsible, caring people. While the elderly, the poor, children, minority group members, women, the unemployed, the sick, and the handicapped suffer most from the burdens imposed by the shift from domestic social programs to military spending, all of us suffer as needed community building and environmental protection programs are continuously cut back. Priorities in federal spending must be reversed if our nation is to be strong, productive, and secure.

**3. Foreign Policy:** Excessive military spending and aggressive foreign policies also weigh heavily on the poor of other countries, particularly in the Third World. Our policies in Central America have already cost thousands of lives, and substantially reduced the chances of peaceful democratic change. Actual invasion by the U.S. or U.S.-supported forces in that region is a real threat. The United States is now often seen more as an opponent than an ally of progressive change. Most Third World countries are fiscally strangled by high interest charges and excessive arms purchases, the benefits of which flow to multinational corporations and U.S. banks; these demands prevent Third World countries from financing much needed development projects. With much of the developing world swollen by overpopulation and burdened by huge income disparities, we should provide more developmental assistance and less military hardware.

**4. Domestic Policies:** At home, our governments enact and implement urban, rural, and environmental policies that aggravate the problems of the disadvantaged, and divert resources from meeting their needs and the needs of the communities in which they live. Funds for housing are cut; governmental actions displace and encourage the displacement of people from their long-term residences, destroying working-class communities for the benefit of the well-to-do. The abdication by government of responsibility for progressive policies of economic development, environmental protection, economic development, health care, education, housing and community development, with the

pious but clearly unrealistic hope that private interests will take over what the public sector has abandoned, is pushing our society back 50 years, destroying generations of slow but real social progress. Government and private citizens and their organizations must take the lead in creatively and constructively dealing with the debilitating problems of drug abuse and the crime it generates, excessive health care costs, impoverishment of female-headed households, long-term unemployment and underemployment, and the dislocation of economic activity and communities.

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This call has been initiated by the Planners Network, a national organization of urban and rural planners, organizers, and academics. It is being disseminated as broadly as possible within our professions—to national, regional, state, and local branches of planning, architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, historic preservation, environmentalist, and other related organizations, and to academic departments and programs in our professional fields around the country.

We call on all these groups to circulate the statement to their members, print it in their publications, devote regular or special meeting time to discussing it, organize forums and debates on these issues, and schedule sessions on these topics at annual conferences.

The Planners Network (1901 Que St. NW, Wash. DC 20009, 202/234-9382) would like to be kept informed of any action taken on or response to this call. If we receive reports on what our document has triggered, we will endeavor to communicate periodically to the groups receiving the original statement.

### QUESTIONS FOR OUR GUIDANCE

1. Should it be titled a Call, a Campaign, or something else?
2. Which of the alternative labels offered to describe our colleagues is most appropriate, or is there a better phrase?
3. Is the Call too "left," the language too loaded? Do we increase our chance of positive response from more moderate colleagues if the wording is changed? (If you think so, please offer specific criticisms and, if possible, alternative language.)
4. Should there be more and better examples of the specific ways in which our professions are socially irresponsible in their current work? (If you agree, try to add some specifics.) More and better examples of how they could be more socially responsible?
5. Is there any problem with the "professional" orientation of the document? Planners Network has generally tried to shun that somewhat elitist, exclusionary term, and our membership, partly because of that, is very diverse. (The intention in framing the call and its implementary procedures toward the professions was not to alter the stance of the Network, but to focus a particular activity of ours on a

*(continued on next page)*

## Social Responsibility for Planners, Builders, *continued from preceding page*

particular set of our colleagues, their work, and their organizations.)

6. Is the statement too long? (If you think so, try to suggest cuts.)

7. How should the statement be signed? To generate a list of individual signers takes a lot of work. Alternatively, but perhaps less impressively, we can just sign it as the Planners Network, and list our Steering Committee members by name. It would be helpful if PN members receiving this who want to be individual signers (should we decide to send it out that way) would let us know their willingness to have their names appear as signers, and to get the signatures of others—particularly persons whose names might be easily recognized by professional colleagues in the various disciplines named at the top of the statement.

\* \* \*

We end by repeating the key organizing point we made way above: Without active effort by PN members this campaign will be a bust. If we simply send copies of the Call out to various professional chapters and schools, 99 percent of them will wind up in someone's wastebasket. On the other hand, if a member of the chapter, a student, or a faculty member in a department takes charge, and figures out the best way to get it on the front burner, the effort will take on some reality. So: Please get back to us with your ideas on how you can use it, and with your suggestions for contacts in other groupings.

Carolina, and conferences in Washington.

□ **WHO RULES BOSTON?** is a comprehensive study by 15 political activists—including some PN members—of the various power structures which struggle for influence in the city. Lots of names, addresses, and lists, plus an agenda for reform. Copies are \$10.95, payable to DSA, from: DSA, 145 Tremont St. 6th Flr., Boston, MA 02111, 617/426-9026.

□ **MEMBER UPDATE:** From PN Member Donald Perlgut (Box 814, Armidale, NSW 2350, Australia): I have recently been teaching undergraduate planning students at the University of New England in Armidale. I am particularly interested in book lists and course descriptions (especially of a progressive nature) for teaching first- and second-year undergraduates.

□ **GROWING IN THE CITY** by Christine Elliott is a handbook for local government officials and community residents on the role of urban agriculture in generating jobs and a sense of community in urban areas. It examines British and Australian examples. Copies are \$23 (in Australian funds) plus \$2.50 (surface mail), \$5 (airmail), from Special Impacts Publications, Box 814, Armidale, NSW 2350, Australia.

□ **PRESERVATION FUNDS:** The National Trust for Historic Preservation (1785 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20036, 202/673-4000) has a Critical Issues Fund, which can provide \$5,000-to-\$50,000 matching grants to local, state, and national organizations for technical and professional services. A major goal is to bring together groups with different interests in preserving historic properties.

□ **HOUSING IN UTAH:** The Utah Housing Coalition (231 E. 100 South LL, Salt Lake City, UT 84111, 801/521-2035) has issued a call to follow up a state conference on affordable housing, with advocacy, workshops, and networking. An agreed starting point is that there is a basic need and right to affordable, decent shelter.

□ **COMPUTERS & DISABILITIES:** *Computer Disability News* is a new newsletter covering computer developments for people with disabilities. It covers job opportunities and special

adaptive products, as well as publications and meetings. Copies: The National Easter Seal Society, 2023 W. Ogden Ave., Chicago, IL 60612.

□ **SUBSIDIZED HOUSING:** The July 1984 issue of *Progressive Architecture* is devoted to subsidized housing. The first section has examples of good design. The second section has a series of short essays (by Chester Hartman, George Sternlieb, Anthony Downs, Peter Calthorpe, C. Richard Hatch, Dolores Hayden, Oscar Newman, Sandra Howell, Donlyn Lyndon, and Joan Goody/John Clancy.)

□ **COMPUTER BOOKLET:** "Nonprofits Enter the Computer Age," *Community Jobs'* recent four-part series, will be available in booklet form starting in September. The booklet will provide nonprofits with the basic information they need to make sound computer decisions, and will include examples from nonprofits that have bought computers, as well as extensive resource listings of useful books, periodicals, and organizations. Copies are \$6.95 from *Community Jobs*, 1520 16th St. NW, Wash., DC 20036, 202/387-7702.

□ **MILITARY SPENDING:** The Center for Economic Conversion, formerly the Mid-Peninsula Conversion Project, announces the publication of a new research workbook, *The Military in Your Backyard: How to Determine the Impact of Military Spending in Your Community*. Author Randy Schutt compiled a step-by-step research methodology together with a thorough catalog of resources and references on military contracting, employment, companies, economic impacts, and economic conversion organizing. Copies are \$13.00, plus \$1.20 for shipping and handling, from Center for Economic Conversion, 222 C View Street, Mountain View, CA 94041.

□ **ENVIRONMENTALISTS FOR NICARAGUA:** Recognizing the efforts being made by the Nicaraguan government in appropriate technology, wildlife conservation, pest management, reforestation, and environmental education, Environmentalists for Nicaragua seeks to provide the country with technical aid and information. To join the network: Environmentalists for Nicaragua, c/o Activities Office A-frame, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064.

- **CANADIAN HOUSING:** The Center for Urban and Community Studies, Univ. of Toronto (455 Spadina Ave., Toronto M5S 2G8, Ontario) has a new publications list with a number of research papers on Canadian housing issues, including affordability, tenure, and housing for the elderly.
- **VOTER REGISTRATION:** A growing coalition of peace, women's, environmental, educational, and religious groups is sponsoring a citizens canvass September 12, urging those who support a U.S.-Soviet nuclear freeze to register for voting in November. Details: Andrea Elukovich, Women's Peace Initiative, 2121 Decatur Pl. N.W., Wash. DC 20008, 202/797-4609.
- **HOUSING REVITALIZATION:** The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (2600 Virginia Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20037, 202/333-2020) is sponsoring a competition for innovative and feasible proposals for revitalizing large, post-World War II rental housing developments. U.S. winners will be entered in an international competition sponsored by the International Federation of Housing and Planning.
- **BICYCLE TRANSIT:** The Bicycle Federation (1055 Thomas Jefferson St. N.W. #306, Wash. DC 20007, 202/337-3094) has concluded from a study of American, European, and Japanese experience that integration of bicycles with mass transit systems could reduce transit deficits without cutting services. Copies of the study, which includes case studies, data, and references, are \$15.95. The study's title is *Bicycles and Public Transportation: New Links to Suburban Transit Markets*.
- **TRIBAL PLANNING:** From Networker Lynnwood Brown (Tribal Planner, Box 1188, San Juan Pueblo, NM 87566, 505/852-4400): I am interested in contacting anyone involved with planning on reservations, particularly in development of tribal enterprises. It seems that a major block to tribal enterprises is the basic incompatibility between the traditional values of Native American communities and those that underlie "modern management." The pueblos of New Mexico and Arizona have strong cooperative traditions dating back more than a thousand years. What better context to evolve some new, more cooperative organizational models/cultures. I would like to give it a shot, and would greatly value input from people with expertise in training for democratic management and organizational development in general.
- **WOMEN AND HOUSING:** From Mary Vogel-Heffernan of the Minnesota Association of Women in Housing: I have copies of two papers on housing from a woman's perspective: "Housing from the Women's Perspective," and "Plan of Action: Women and Housing." For copies, contact me at: Val Michelson and Associates, 1821 University Ave. #N-345, St. Paul, MN 55104, 612/646-6377.
- **PRACTICAL THOUGHT:** *PIVOT Points to New Paradigms* is a bimonthly, tabloid newsletter of practical thought in such fields as imagery, astrology, symbols and mythology, and living wholistically. Subscriptions are \$9 from: PIVOT Points to New Paradigm, 12010 Bell Mountain Dr., Huntsville, AL 35803.
- **ELECTION FINANCES:** From PN Member Arnold Fleischmann (Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602): I am beginning a study of campaign financing in city elections. The research will eventually include four to six cities and detailed data about contributors and candidate spending. I would appreciate hearing from people with an interest in this subject.
- **REHAB COST CUTTING:** *Update* is a monthly newsletter on cutting construction costs for low-income housing rehabilitation from the Rehab Work Group of The Enterprise Foundation (519 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201, 301/332-1428). A recent issue included stories on rehab with the tenants in place, and on local rehab efforts in Baltimore, Cleveland, and Chicago.
- **DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION:** Networker Brian Doherty reports on new legislation, the Economic Growth Zone Act (HR 5874), introduced by his boss, Rep. William J. Coyne (D Pa.). The bill would supplement the tax-oriented provisions of the enterprise zone approach to economic development with up-front funds for business expansion and rehabilitation of properties. Details: Brian Doherty, 424 Cannon House Office Building, Wash. DC 20515, 202/225-2301.
- **ANTI-NUKE NEWSLETTER:** *Planning and Designing for Peace* is a newsletter of Planning for Peace/ Architects for Social Responsibility (Box 8655, Boston, MA 02114). It's a handy way to keep track of New England developments, and comes as a membership service. PFP/ASR memberships begin at \$25.
- **UTILITY RATE-MAKING:** From Networker Mickey Lauria (Graduate Program in Urban and Regional Planning, Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242): PN Member Michael Sheehan spearheaded a successful effort by the Iowa Planners Network for a rate reduction from Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric. The effort took two years, and finally wound up in the Iowa Supreme Court. Such victories, even if they're small ones, should be passed on.
- **JOB QUEST:** From PN Member James A. Rhodes (552 Hawkeye Dr., Iowa city, IA 52240, 319/351-8640): I desire to work with a progressive organization which deals with housing or other community issues. I'm finding it difficult locating listings of job openings for such organizations. I'd appreciate any suggestions anyone has to offer. I recently graduated from the University of Iowa with a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning. There my studies concentrated on housing and community development.
- **PRIZE TO NETWORKERS:** PN Members Troy West (Dietze Bldg., 60-64 Union St., Newark, NJ 07105, 201/589-3973) and Jackie Leavitt (UCLA, SAUP, Los Angeles, CA 90204) won first prize in the 1984 architectural design competition, "A New American House," sponsored by the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and the National Endowment for the Arts. The house may be built on a site in Minneapolis. A traveling exhibit of the "new American house" also is planned. Contact: Harvey Sherman, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, 133 E. 25th St., Minneapolis, MN 55404.
- **BOSTON HOUSING:** *Shaky Palaces: Homeownership and Social Mobility in Boston's Suburbanization* by Matthew

Edel, Elliott Sclar, and Daniel Luria, will be published by Columbia Univ. Press this fall. The book examines the Boston area over the past 100 years, and looks at the impact of suburbanization and home ownership on the working class. It compares these experiences with those of major property developers, and examines the political economy of the "suburban compromise," which the authors consider as a partial victory and a partial defeat for the working class.

□ **MONTREAL GENTRIFICATION:** From Networker Damaris Rose (375 rue Berube #7, Montreal, Quebec H2V 2S1, 514/271-6888): In connection with the April 1985 American Planning Association meeting in Montreal, I am thinking of organizing a Sunday afternoon workshop and walking tour on gentrification in east-central Montreal, if this could be sponsored by the Planners Network. Gentrification here takes some specific forms due to the unique nature of the housing stock and an absence of a home-ownership tradition in Quebec. The City of Montreal has particularly aggressive revitalization policies for poor neighborhoods, which continue to provoke controversy and opposition from community groups. Please contact me by early September if you will be at the APA conference and would be likely to attend such a workshop.

## Upcoming Conferences

□ **EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP:** A one-day conference on "Employee Ownership and Unions: Lemons, Lemonade, and Beyond" will be held October 12 at Wayne State University in Detroit, sponsored by the Michigan Employee Ownership Center, the National Center for Employee Ownership, and the Industrial Cooperative Association. Speakers will include union leaders, employee ownership experts, and public officials. Individual registration is \$25. Details: Michigan Employee Ownership Center, 1021 Nottingham, Grosse Point Park, MI 48230.

□ **REGIONAL OUTLOOK:** The Ecumenical Great Lakes/Appalachian Project on the Economic Crisis (2250 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115, 216/771-4815) is sponsoring a three-day conference December 7-9 on broadening participation in reshaping the region's economy. Titled "Building Justice in Communities," the conference will include major speakers and workshops.

□ **DESIGN RESEARCH:** The Design Methods Group of the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning of Eindhoven Univ. of Technology is organizing an international design research conference April 22-24, 1985, on "Design Participation in Architecture." Details: Dr. Reza Beheshti, Eindhoven Univ. of Technology, Box 513, 5600 MB Eindhoven, The Netherlands.

□ **HOUSING SYNDICATION:** The National Housing Law Project (1950 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94704, 415/548-9400) is planning two back-to-back syndication conferences in New Orleans in early 1985. The first will cover the basics of housing syndication; the second will stress new developments, including the 1984 Tax Act.

□ **STATE/LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** The Citizens Forum/National Municipal League will hold its 1984 National Conference on Government November 17-20 in San Antonio. Details: Citizens Forum, 55 W. 44th St., New York, NY 10036, 212/730-7930.

□ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** The Entrepreneurship Institute (3592 Corporate Dr. #100, Columbus, OH 43229, 614/895-1153) will sponsor a two-day forum September 13-14 in Columbus on "Creating More Jobs from New Enterprises." The format includes presentations and workshops. The fee is \$225.

□ **ANTI-NUKE, WEST GERMANY:** There will be a two-day congress October 13-14 in Dortmund, titled "Planners for Peace and Disarmament," which will try to come to grips with the role of and opportunities for planners in the struggle for peace. Details: O. Achilles, Univ. of Dortmund, Abteilung Raumplanung, Postfach 500500, 4600 Dortmund 500, Federal Republic of Germany.

□ **HOUSING CO-OPS:** The National Association of Housing Cooperatives (2501 M St. N.W. #451, Wash. DC 20037, 202/887-0706) will hold its annual conference October 18-21 in Boston on the theme, "Building on Today for Tomorrow." Registration before September 15 is \$215 for NAHC members, \$245 for others; after September 15, registration is \$240 and \$265, respectively.



## Ex Conferences

□ **WORKER COOPERATIVES:** Twin Streams Educational Center (243 Flemington St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514, 919/929-3316) sponsored a three-day conference June 1-3 on worker ownership in North Carolina. Workshops explored getting started, drawing on local financial resources, management training, legislative developments, and solidarity with Nicaraguan co-ops.

□ **ORGANIZERS EXCHANGE:** The Education Center for Community Organizing (Hunter College School of Social Work, 129 E. 79th St., New York, NY 10021, 212/570-5064) held a two-day organizers' exchange June 1-2 on the theme, "Skills, Songs, Struggles, and Strategies in the Critical 1980's." Workshops included grassroots fundraising, computers for communities, and coalition building, among other topics.

□ **NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION:** The National Trust for Historic Preservation (1785 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20036) was to hold a Neighborhood Conservation Workshop June 16-22 in Boston. Topics included nonprofit management, fundraising, real estate development, and neighborhood revitalization.

□ **LOW-INCOME HOUSING:** The Community Development Division, Utah Dept. of Community and Economic Development (6233 State Office Bldg., Salt Lake City, UT 84114) held a two-day conference June 14-15 on "Housing Utahns 1984." The emphasis was on low-income housing, and workshops examined special housing for migrants, Native Americans, elderly, and handicapped, among many other topics.

□ **SOUTHERN FUNDER:** The Fund for Southern Communities (Box 927, Atlanta, GA 30301, 404/577-3178), held its annual meeting June 29-July 1 at Christmount Assembly, Black Mountain, N.C. Donors, grantees, and friends attended.

## Conference Report

□ **LOW INCOME HOUSING:** More than 500 housing activists from nearly every state convened June 24-28 on the inviting campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., for the second National Low Income Housing Conference. The conference theme: "To establish decent, affordable housing as basic to the quality of life."

Workshops, plenaries, and caucuses were arranged into "How-To Day" on Monday, "Policy Development Day" on Tuesday, and "Specifics and Strategy Day" on Wednesday. Thursday was "Focus on Action Day," and included a special hearing on conference proposals before the House Subcommittee on Housing, and the annual meeting of the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

Major speakers at the conference included Cushing Dolbeare, who is retiring as Coalition President, and Rep. Parren Mitchell (D Md.).

The conference was organized to explore issues raised in a previously prepared Coalition policy statement. The statement stressed eight key points: Housing assistance should be an entitlement for all who need it; an adequate and affordable supply of housing should be provided; the present housing stock should be retained and improved to provide decent housing for lower income people; resident control of housing should be provided through a strong role for tenant organizations, limited equity cooperatives, community-based housing groups, and home ownership; displacement of low income people should be ended; fair housing laws and equal opportunity requirements should be strengthened and enforced; federal tax laws should be reformed to reflect priority for aiding people with the greatest housing needs; and needed financing should be provided to preserve, build, and rehabilitate housing.

The conference became a rallying point at times for some of the special constituencies of low income housing, including Third World activists, who urged the Coalition to greater advocacy, action, and confrontation.

At the conference, it was announced that Barry Zigas, currently assistant director of the United States Conference of Mayors, will succeed Dolbeare as President of the Coalition, and as Executive Secretary of the Low Income Housing Information Service.

In a Coalition-related appointment, it was announced that David Freed, formerly a development specialist with a community-based, Washington, D.C., cooperative housing group, has been named Director of the National Mutual Housing Network. The Network is a project of the Low Income Housing Information Service for assisting low-income, limited equity housing co-ops, and for encouraging locally controlled mutual housing associations.

## Jobs

□ **ROANOKE PLANNER:** The Roanoke Neighborhood Partnership (215 Church Ave. S.W. #355, Roanoke, VA 24011, 703/345-8250) is seeking a planner with experience in neighborhood-based housing rehabilitation to work with neighborhood organizations. Salary is \$17,006-\$21,704. Contact: Andree Tremoulet.

□ **RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** Utah Issues (231 E. 100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84111, 801/521-2035) has an opening for a rural housing and community development specialist. Salary is \$11,400-\$12,400. Contact: Bob Flores.

□ **HOUSING RECEIVERSHIPS:** The Essex County (N.J.) Dept. of Citizen Services has an opening for a construction superintendent/receiver to take primary responsibility for a one-year demonstration of using receivership as a method of preserving deteriorated apartment buildings. Salary is \$21,000-\$26,000. Contact: Patrick Morrissy, Housing Services Coordinator, 358 Bloomfield Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042, 201/744-4044.

□ **MEDIA NONPROFIT:** The Media Alliance (Ft. Mason Bldg. D, San Francisco, CA 94123, 415/441-2557) is looking for an executive director with a full range of fundraising, budgeting, and administrative experience. Salary is \$19,000-\$21,000.

□ **FAIR HOUSING:** The National Urban League has an opening for an assistant director of its National Fair Housing Demonstration. Contact: Karen Hill, 212/310-9182.

□ **SINGLE-ROOM OCCUPANCY:** The SRO Corp. (311 S. Spring St. #1110, Los Angeles, CA 90013, 213/488-9695) is searching for an executive director. Salary is \$33,000-\$37,000. Contact: Andy Raubeson.

□ **PLANNING INTERNSHIP:** Community Planning South of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20907) has an opening for a community planning intern for Fall 1984. The work involves research on developing neighborhood-based services in surplus space in single-family homes. Contact: Patrick H. Hare, Gail Price, 301/495-4558.

□ **NEWSPAPER BUSINESS MGR.:** *The People's Voice* (313½ Washington Ave., Weldon, NC 27890, 919/536-3141) has an opening for a business/advertising manager. This is a worker-owned community paper, serving rural northeastern North Carolina. Salary is negotiable.

□ **COMMUNITY DESIGN CENTER:** ASSIST Inc. (218 E. 5th South, Salt Lake City, UT 84111, 801/355-7085) has an opening for an experienced director, with skills as a fundraiser, administrator, and fiscal manager. Salary is negotiable. Contact: Tony Serrato.

## Etcetera

□ **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 contacts, 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.

□ **DEADLINE ALERT:** The deadline for getting copy into the October *Planners Network* will be Monday, October 1. We hope to hear from as many Networkers as possible, and we hope you'll keep typing your notes and letters (because it helps with production, and reduces chances of misreading what you write).

**Copy deadline for PN #48: October 1, 1984.**

□ **LOST SOULS:** Seems that a few folks have slipped away from us again without changing their addresses, and that means they missed the last newsletter. We're always optimistic that they really meant to stay in touch, and so we list them here for your help in re-establishing contact. Please let us know if you have an address for any of our wandering Networkers.

Cindy Pappas, Eugene, OR  
Jean Ross, San Francisco  
Robert E. Hosack, Chanute, KS  
Feygele Jacobs, New York  
Phil Tegeler, New York  
Patricia F. Kelly, San Francisco  
Margie Bray, Washington, DC  
Richard Rudolph, Cambridge,  
MA  
Marsha Ritzdorf, Corvallis, OR