

Centennial Celebration and Mourning

The 33rd Annual Conference of the Council of Georgist Organizations
Pittsburgh, August 6-10, 2013



The Program

Tuesday, August 6th

2-5 pm — Pre-conference **Georgist Education Workshop**

Ed Dodson: PowerPoint presentations expanding on the vital, yet oft-ignored, influence of land policy in US history

Bob Jene: preserving farmland through "farm heritage trusts," and opportunities for alliance with Georgists

Lindy Davies: Key changes in economic definitions that make Georgist curricula more compatible with mainstream economics

Mike Curtis and Lindy Davies: recent enhancements to Henry George's theory of the boom/bust cycle that help to explain current phenomena

6:30-7:30 — **Registration**

7:30 -9 pm — **Opening Reception**

Welcome from the CGO; **Historical Voices on Land:** a readers' theater presentation by **Ed Dodson** and friends

9:30 — Hospitality suite opens

Wednesday, August 7th

7:30-8:15 am — Registration

8-8:15 — Open mike

8:15-9:45 — **Pittsburgh's land tax history.** From the scandals that led to reform to the assessment scandal that destroyed it: **Dan Sullivan**

10:15-11:45 — **Pittsburgh 1989 Tax Swap Hearing.** Public hearing on replacing wage tax with LVT (video and discussion)

Noon-12:45pm—Lunch; Member Reports

1:00-2:30 — **Experiences with LVT and Pennsylvania's assessments:** Clairton, Aliquippa, and Washington, PA, with Mayor **Richard Lattanzi** of Clairton

3:00-4:30 — **The politics of assessing:** **Ted Gwartney, Mike Curtis;** local assessors and officials invited

5-7 — Dinner on your own; organizational dinner meetings

7-8:30 — **100 Years of Georgist Music:** Performances and sing-alongs of historical Georgist songs, parodies and new songs. Collected by **Paul Justus**

8:45 — Hospitality suite opens

Thursday, August 8th

8-8:15 — Open mike

8:30-9:45 — **How the 1913 Income Tax Divided the Georgist Movement:** Historian **Alex Wagner Lough**, speaking on her doctoral thesis on Georgist history

10:15-noon — **The Commons Movement: "A Civil Right to the Commons,"** **Greg Pace**; "Pittsburgh Campaign to Reclaim the Commons," **Paul O'Hanlon**; Host, **Alanna Hartzok**

noon-1:00 — Lunch; Member Reports

1:15-6:45 — Bus Tour: **A Grand View of Pittsburgh:** Riding one of the last two inclines to Grandview Avenue for a look at how land value tax has affected the city; Hienz History Museum Tour: How the Washington family's illegal land speculation started the French and Indian War; Dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse

(Bus leaves at **1:30!**)

8:30 — Hospitality suite opens

Friday, August 9th

8:00-9:15 — **CGO Business Meeting**

9:30-10:45 — **Technology for Movement-Building.** The "Why" session: what's been done and why it's important. **Jacob Shwartz-Lucas** and **Ed Miller**

11:00-noon — **Introducing our vision** into communities of average

people, with Your Host **Frank deJong**; Personal experiences welcome

12:15-1:15 — Lunch; Member Reports

1:30-3:00 — **Transportation and Land Value.** The Transit Crisis in Allegheny County: **Helen Gerhardt**, Pittsburghers for Public Transit, Transportation and Investment: **Chris Sandvig**, Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group, London's Jubilee Line: **Ted Gwartney**, Profits from the DC Metro: **Rick Rybeck**

3:15-4:45 — **Social Media Workshop.** The "How" session: hands-on help with latest tools. Bring your laptop!

6:30-7 — Cash bar reception

7-9 — **Gala Banquet.** Advancing LVT through collaboration and team building: **Joshua Vincent**

9:30 — Hospitality suite opens

Saturday, August 10th

8:30-9 am — Open Mike

9-10 — **Subway-stop Taxpayer Lots in New York City.** **Lindy Davies** on major public-funding windfalls in the Big Apple, and how to craft a muckraking presentation

10:15-noon — **Friendship Brunch.** Toasts and Farewells

(The Law of Rent never changes — but our schedule might, without notice.)

Presenters

Bill Batt, Albany, NY — Trustee, Henry George School of New York; Executive Committee member International Union for LVT. One the first Peace Corp Volunteers in Thailand in 1962. Former tax policy analyst for the New York State Legislature,

Mike Curtis, Arden, DE — Vice President, Henry George Institute; Senior Trustee of the Single Tax Village of Arden, Delaware; Former Educational Director of the Henry George Schools of New York and Philadelphia.

Lindy Davies, Brooks, ME — Program Director of the Henry George Institute, publisher of the Georgist Journal. A fencing enthusiast, he's adept at point/counterpoint.

Frank deJong, Toronto, CA — Elementary school music teacher and former leader of the Green Party of Ontario, Frank is bicycling to the conference from Toronto after canoeing in Hudson Bay.

Ed Dodson, Cherry Hill, NJ — Retired business manager and market analyst for Fannie Mae; awesome softball player. Teaches political economy and history at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Temple University and at the Henry George School of Philadelphia.

Helen Gerhardt — Community Organizer for Pittsburghers for Public Transit, a volunteer, grassroots organization of

riders, drivers and other concerned Pittsburghers that advocate for mass transit

Ted Gwartney, Anaheim, CA — Served as Chief Assessor for Greenwich and Bridgeport CT, Southfield, MI and the State of British Columbia. Vice President of the CGO Executive Committee; former Director of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation. He and his wife, Toni, will host of the 2014 CGO Conference in Newport Beach, CA.

Alanna Hartzok, Chambersburg, PA — General Secretary of the International Union for LVT, a UN NGO Representative, Outreach Coordinator for the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, and Founder/Co-Director of Earth Rights Institute.

Bob Jene, Forest Park, IL — Director of the Henry George School, Chicago; member of the World Future Society. Just returned from traveling to the Grand Canyon with his grandchildren.

Paul Justus, Eureka Springs, AR — Regional Planner for the Northwestern Arkansas Planning Commission; Board member, Robert Schalkenbach Foundation; sings in the Ozark Chorale.

Richard Lattanzi, Recently elected to a second term as Mayor of Clairton. A lifelong Clairton resident and Citizen of the Year in 2006. In the Clairton he envisions, 300 to 400 abandoned

residential properties and 500 commercial ones are moved back onto the tax rolls while blighted properties are demolished.

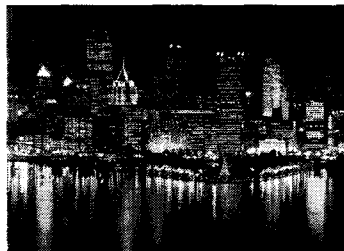
Alex Wagner Lough, Waltham, MA — Just earned her PhD from Brandeis University with a dissertation on the Single Tax movement in the Progressive Era; written articles on Henry George for the Journal of California History.

Edward Miller, Chicago, IL — Board member, Henry George School of Chicago; web designer and economic historian.

Paul O'Hanlon, Staff attorney with the Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania, and Co-Chair of the Pennsylvania Voters Coalition, a network of over 80 organizations working to improve election administration in Pennsylvania.

Greg Pace, Columbus, OH — Active volunteer at the Freshwater Accountability Project; a Global Commons Advocate since 2008 when he attended the "Kick off for the Coalition for the Global Commons" in Berlin, Germany.

Rick Rybeck, Washington, DC — Founder of Just Economics, which assists communities in promoting sustainable job creation, affordable



housing and transportation efficiency. An attorney with a background in real estate and urban development.

Jacob Shwartz-Lucas, New York, NY — Social Media Director, Robert Schalkenbach Foundation; Board member, Henry George School of Chicago and Henry George Institute. Social media Power-User.

Chris Sandvig — Regional Policy Director, Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group.

Dan Sullivan, Pittsburgh, PA — President, Council of Georgist Organizations; Director, Saving Communities. Active in promoting land value tax since 1978.

Josh Vincent, Philadelphia, PA — Executive Director, Center for the Study of Economics, which has been instrumental in bringing land value tax to Pennsylvania cities and in bringing an LVT option to Connecticut. Graduate of the Julliard School of Music.

The CGO thanks these contributors, who helped make our 33rd conference possible:

Robert Schalkenbach Foundation * Henry George School of Social Science * Herb Barry * Jake Himmelstein * Harold Kyriazi * Nicholas Rosen * Alice Vernier

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