

WALTER RYBECK OUTLINES PROGRAM FOR WASH., DC BUREAU

At the Annual Joint Georgist Conference, Walter Rybeck, former aide to Congressman Henry Reuss, announced his Georgist education and outreach program, which will be supported by the Henry George School, the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, and the League for Urban Land Conservation, who will monitor the 12-month project. The program will be aimed at introducing more Georgist thinking into mainstream discussions of economic theory and practice.

One of the major goals of the operation, based in the Washington Metropolitan area, is to set up a speaker's bureau so that there can be a successful matching of appropriate Georgists with program opportunities. To this end, Rybeck distributed questionnaires to the conferees in order to get a working list of leading Georgists who would be available to speak on the conference circuit. Major organizations, such as the American Planning Association, the National Governor's Conference, National Urban League, American Bar Association and the National Association of Homebuilders would be contacted to obtain information on the dates of their future national and regional conferences, major themes and subtopics, deadlines for choosing speakers and names of program directors or planners. In this regard, the speaker's bureau list and conference schedule would enable Rybeck and his associates great flexibility and provide many opportunities to get the ideas of Henry George heard in a broad-based arena.

An annual seminar, organized in cooperation with prestigious co-sponsors, which would include panelists who are experts on a newsworthy or timely subject, is being considered for further development, as is the continuation of a two-year project instituted by Rybeck for support of a National Land Price Index.

Publicity, promotion and the dissemination of information will be an integral part of the program. Any inquiries or requests can be directed to Rybeck c/o U.L.C., 1150 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., 11th floor, Washington, D.C., 20036.

PROFILE: R. LAWRENCE BARBUTO

R. Lawrence (Rich) Barbuto, who presented a speech, "Local Folks on the Move", at the Joint Georgist Conference, can speak with first-hand knowledge and conviction about being "on the move". Currently he is moving in three areas, as assistant Vice-President of the Real Estate division at a major New York City Bank, as Director of an organizing group for the Christian Citizen's Lobby, Bread for the World, and as a democratic candidate for the Westchester County, NY Board of Legislators.

As the new Director of Bread for the World for a three-year term, Barbuto has initiated the Green Pastures Project, which promotes the organization's focus on land use and hunger. He feels that because of the importance of Georgist fundamentals, it is vital that both the outreach of the Georgists and those connected with the Green Pastures project reach the "real power elite", or "those folks who are politically active, wealthy and can work with their neighbors in democratically participating in the attainment and maintenance of the basis for quality of life that can be called human". The message of the Green Pastures project is primarily directed to those leaders in big business who out of their sense of human solidarity, can join in this plea to the poor of the world: "Wait, we do hear you, we are in solidarity with you, we want green, not ever greener, pastures". Making these "insiders" aware of the Georgist taxation concepts and how they can be best implemented is a priority as well. Barbuto believes that "as business people concerned about land use, we seek the input of Georgists to help us in our objectives. We are simply "local folks on the move" who seek green pastures for ourselves and mankind".