

I W C N e w s l e t t e r



'We shrink from the truth if we believe that the destructive forces of the modern work can be "brought under control" simply by mobilizing more resources - of wealth, education,, and research - to fight pollution, to preserve wildlife, to discover new sources of energy, and to arrive at more effective agreements on peaceful coexistence. Needless to say, wealth, education and research, and many other things are needed for any civilization, but what is most needed today is a revision of the ends which these means are meant to serve. And this implies, above all else, the development of a life-style which accords to material things their proper, legitimate place, which is secondary and not primary.'

E.F. Schumacher, *Small is Beautiful*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Keepers of Their Place:**Towards a Sustainable Urbanism**

*Seminar with filmed interview of
Stephanos Polyzoides*

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008

2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

**Concord House,
1407 Chapala Street,
Santa Barbara**

Presenters:

Kirk Gradin & Russ Lewin

An in-depth, private interview with architect and urban planner, **Stephanos Polyzoides**, that was filmed at the Institute of World Culture earlier this year. The discussion includes several relevant topics surrounding the principles of 'sustainable urbanism.'

* How might the urban planning and design

process be revolutionized to more faithfully contribute to a "sustainable", vibrant and democratic city fabric?

* How might neighborhood design principles assist in relieving the problems of continued sprawl, environmental degradation and pollution, personal isolation, financial exclusivity and the erosion of civic connectivity?

* The city of Santa Barbara is featured as both an exemplary model and a conflicted system in need of major reforms, if it intends to continue to approach the ideal of urban sustainability.

* An open discussion will follow the film.

For biographical information on **Stephanos Polyzoides** and excerpts from the "**Charter of the Congress for the New Urbanism**" please see page 3 and the IWC Program webpage.

For information: 805/963-6007
<http://www.worldculture.org>



Sandhya Tillotson presenting "Days of Wonder - India & Nepal 2008" 8/16/2008

Looking Forward to the Fall Program

Our year-long investigation of the imaginative use of spiritual, mental and material resources for the service of universal welfare around the globe (IWC Aim # 7) will continue this Fall with the assistance of some well-informed speakers. Each has mastered a complex set of ideas and information and demonstrated commitment to the application of these ideas in practice for the sake of human welfare.

Challenging Poverty in Latin America with Liberation Theology

October 25, Dr. Kevin Fagan, a scholar in Latin American studies, will explore the historical roots and contemporary applications of Liberation Theology. He will explain the philosophical foundations of "orthopraxis" and describe examples of political movements that illustrate the dynamic effort to link Christian values with challenges to injustice and poverty by empowering the poor, the priest and the politician.

Save the Date

Oct. 11, 7 p.m.: Annual meeting and brainstorming of 2009 Program!

Mountains Beyond Mountains On November 1, Dr. Gerald Pike, Professor at Santa Barbara City College, will lead a discussion on the work of Dr. Paul Farmer and his visionary paradigm for fighting infectious diseases by promoting social change. This book forum will be based on Tracy Kidder's book, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*. Discussion of Dr. Farmer's applications of Liberation Theology will be encouraged.

New Dimensions in Sustainable Development

On November 22, Dean Ernst von Weizsacker of the Bren School of Environmental Science and Engineering at UCSB will review the latest research and proposals for developing a sustainable economy and lifestyle. These findings and experiments offered by a team of engineers and designers committed to environmental sanity have just been published in a new book, *Force* edited by Dean Weizsacker. Global warming, labor productivity gains through sustainability, and whole systems construction are some of the topics to be discussed by this pioneer in green thinking and former member of the German Parliament.

Social and Educational Challenges of Sustainable Development

On December 6, Dr. Wolfgang Sachs, a fellow at the Wuppertal Institute in Germany, will discuss the social and educational requirements of a global commitment to

sustainability and fairness in resource development. Dr. Sachs is a prolific writer and much respected active voice in the current debates about the impact of globalization and industrial technology. Dr. Sachs is Head of the interdisciplinary project on "Globalization and Sustainability" and participated in the "Stock Exchange of Visions" project in 2007.

Vision and Change New Study Group in October

Can campaign promises of new vision and change be translated into meaningful accomplishments? What kind of vision and change might promote the universal welfare of humanity? What are voices from abroad suggesting as a way of promoting social, cultural and economic change?

Join in the discussion of these and other questions during the month of October, so that you can evaluate the presidential election debates from the perspective of an emerging world culture. The group will meet on Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21 and 28th from 8 to 9:30 pm and will be chaired by Carolyn Dorrance.



Concord House, 1407 Chapala Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 805.966-3941



Stephanos Polyzoides
Biographical Information

Stefanos Polyzoides received his Bachelor and Masters in Architecture from Princeton University. From 1983 through 1990 he was on the Advisory Board for the School of Architecture at Princeton. From 1973 until 1997, he was Associate Professor of Architecture at USC and has been Visiting Professor at several prestigious schools of architecture. He is also the author of two books, *Los Angeles Courtyard Housing: A Typological Analysis* and *R.M. Schindler, Architect*.

Mr. Polyzoides prominent career covers many areas of architectural and urban design theory and practice. Besides being one of the co-authors of the *Ahwahnee Principles* and co-founder of the Congress for the New Urbanism (www.cnu.org), he founded *Moule & Polyzoides, Architects and Urbanists* in 1982 through which he has led town-planning projects from New Jersey to Texas and from Guatemala to Dubai. He has been acknowledged for his work as a *Seaside Award* recipient, the nation's most prestigious award in the field of urbanism. Current projects include master plans for downtowns in Santa Ana, Whittier, Ventura and Newhall. Following the ravages of hurricane Katrina in Mississippi, Mr. Polyzoides was asked by Governor Haley Barbour to participate in a national charrette to provide emergency urban design and planning services to the communities that were devastated and to lead the reconstruction efforts of Biloxi.

Charter of the Congress for the New Urbanism

The following are excerpts from the Charter of the Congress for the New Urbanism. CNU members ratified the Charter of the New Urbanism at CNU's fourth annual Congress in 1996. Applying valuable lessons from the past to the modern world, it outlines principles for building better communities, from the scale of the region down to the block. To view the entire Charter visit cnu.org

The Congress for the New Urbanism views disinvestment in central cities, the spread of placeless sprawl, increasing separation by race and income, environmental deterioration, loss of agricultural lands and wilderness, and the erosion of society's built heritage as one interrelated community-building challenge.

We stand for the restoration of existing urban centers and towns... the reconfiguration of sprawling suburbs into communities of real neighborhoods and diverse districts, the conservation of natural environments, and the preservation of our built legacy.

We recognize that physical solutions by themselves will not solve social and economic problems, but neither can economic vitality, community stability, and environmental health be sustained without a coherent and supportive physical framework.

We advocate the restructuring of public policy and development practices to support the following principles: neighborhoods should be diverse in use and population; communities should be designed for the pedestrian and transit as well as the car; cities and towns should be shaped by physically defined and universally accessible public spaces and community institutions; urban places should be framed by architecture and landscape design that celebrate local history, climate, ecology, and building practice...

In September

Anniversaries

- 3rd Code Napoleon 1807
- 4th Pindar 518 BCE
Chateaubriand 1768
- 6th Jane Addams 1860
- 7th August Kekule 1829
- 9th Luigi Galvani 1737
Leo Tolstoy 1828
- 10th Charles Sanders Peirce 1839
- 14th Dante Alighiere d. 1321
- 16th Tintoretto 1518
- 17th Queen Elizabeth I 1533
- 18th Tulsidas 1532
Samuel Johnson 1709
- 21st Louis Joliet 1645
Kwame Nkrumah 1909
- 22nd Michael Faraday 1791
- 25th Dmitri Shostakovich 1906
- 26th T.S. Eliot 1888
- 28th Confucius c. 551 BCE
Friedrich Engels 1820
- 29th Euripides 480 BCE
Miguel de Unamuno 1864
Enrico Fermi 1901
- 30th Jalal al-din Rumi 1207

Observances

- 1st Labour Day
- 2nd Adoption of a new calendar 1752
- 8th World Literacy Day
- 15th Respect for the Aged Day (Japan)
- 16th Discovery of Saturn's moon Hyperion 1848
- 17th Citizenship Day
Discovery of Saturn's moon Mimas 1789
- 22nd Autumnal Equinox
- 23rd Discovery of Neptune (Galle & d'Arrest) 1846
- 29th Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year-begins at sunset)
First photograph of nebula in Orion 1880