



The Organizer

A BULLETIN FOR ORGANIZERS OF THE MOVEMENT FOR A PEOPLES ASSEMBLY

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Labor Donated

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

A lot has happened since the March 28th conference in Baltimore that launched the Movement for a Peoples Assembly (MPA). This report is being sent out to MPA organizers and Organizing Centers around the country. Hopefully, sharing news and ideas in a more structured way will strengthen all of us in the work of building the Peoples Assembly.

Enclosed with this report are several items that should interest you. Please take particular note of the Draft Statement that will be discussed at the July 18th Counter-Convention in New York. (See article below.)

Finally, it would help us a great deal if

you would send or call in news of what you are doing in your area. (Including copies of leaflets, press releases, news clippings, etc.)

On to a successful summer of building the Peoples Assembly!

- The National Outreach Staff

P.S. As we go to press, we are in the process of moving into our new office, a larger, very usable space we'll be sharing with a number of other progressive organizations. Please note the new address and phone number listed on the masthead. And when you're in town, be sure to drop by!

Peoples Assembly Counter-Convention

Saturday • July 18 • 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Norman Thomas High School • 33rd St. & Park Ave. • New York City

The Democratic Party will be holding its presidential convention July 13-16 at Madison Square Garden in NYC. The Republicans are meeting August 14-16 in Houston. Protests are being planned by a number of progressive organizations at both events and the MPA will be there as well to say loud and clear that neither of the parties of Big Business represent poor and working people, that neither can come up with a solution to the problems we face. In fact, both of them are themselves *part* of the problem.

In addition, the MPA will be holding its own "Counter-Convention". On July 18, MPA organizers and affiliated groups will be gathering in New York to consolidate the work we have begun in building for the massive Peoples Assembly called for in the Baltimore conference. This conference will be the next major step in the year-long process of organizing that will culminate with thousands of people attending the Peoples Assembly next spring.

MPA organizers from up and down the East Coast will be attending the Counter-Convention, along with representatives from the Midwest, South and West Coast. Please make plans now to attend and to bring people with you!

Here are some ways to prepare for the Counter-Convention:

☐ Enclosed with this mailing is a copy of a draft statement that will be presented for ratification at the convention. Please read it over, give it some thought and discuss it with those you are working with. If you have comments, criticisms or suggestions now, call in before the 18th.

☐ Come prepared to make a short report on what you have been doing in your area to build the MPA. ("Short" is the key word here. With dozens of organizers, a few minutes apiece will add up quickly.)

☐ Come with your ideas on what we can do over the next few months to popularize the idea of the Peoples Assembly and involve more and more people in building it.

☐ If you are coming from a distance and will need housing either Friday or Saturday night, let us know right away so we can make arrangements.

☐ Let us know if you can come in early to help with MPA participation in the protests being planned for the Democratic convention.