

## COORDINATOR'S CORNER

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Dear *JustPeace* Reader,

A new and exciting newsletter combining various publications of the Sisters of St. Agnes is in process. This new publication, titled **CSA Reflections & Connections** will include many inspiring stories including justice, peace and ecology topics. So this is the final issue of *JustPeace*.

Social media has come to the forefront and much information is shared there. Approximately every week I send out information on three listservs/distribution lists. The messages vary whether they are intended for the Fond du Lac area, the state of Wisconsin or nationally/internationally. The Fond du Lac area gets all three sets of messages. Messages include action alerts, articles of interest and notice of upcoming events. If you would like to receive these messages, just click [sstorch@csasisters.org](mailto:sstorch@csasisters.org) and let me know.

Other means of staying in touch include the peace and justice section of the CSA website, [www.csasisters.org](http://www.csasisters.org). It also has the listing of the books and DVDs in the JPE Lending Library. (<http://www.csasisters.org/resources.cfm>). If you are on Facebook, type in [justpeacecsa@hotmail.com](mailto:justpeacecsa@hotmail.com) on the Search window and connect to my Facebook page.

In light of this being the last issue of *JustPeace*, I took some time to review the issues of the past ten years plus. They clearly indicate what issues were the "hot button" topics of the day. I was surprised how few topics were repeated. Remember the articles on tobacco, sweatshops and globalization? What about the Earth Charter, sustainability, the Millennium Development Goals, poverty, racism, the death penalty, health care, immigration, and nuclear weapons? Many of the issues are still relevant today.

The Editorial Board has been a faithful and helpful group. Besides those listed above, there have been a few others. To each of them, I say thank you for such generous service.

I thank you, readers, too, for the feedback I have received over the years and hope you continue to interact with me as we turn the page and begin a new chapter.

Gratefully,  
Sister Stella Storch, OP

### Inside

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## CSA and Wind Energy

By Sister Diane Bauknecht, CSA

**Care of Earth** has been a consideration and a pursuit of CSA for years. Our commitment to recycling, avoiding use of plastic bags and bottles, carpooling, conserving water, etc., has grown within us and has extended to our families, friends, and co-workers.

More recently we had requests to examine ways we could harness wind energy for our use and to share with others. To that end, research into the installation of wind turbines at the motherhouse was done. The following is a summary of the information gleaned and the decision that was made based on the acquired learning.

### Wind Energy

**Reason for research:**  
**Environmental benefits**  
**Financial advantages**

#### Useful Input and Data

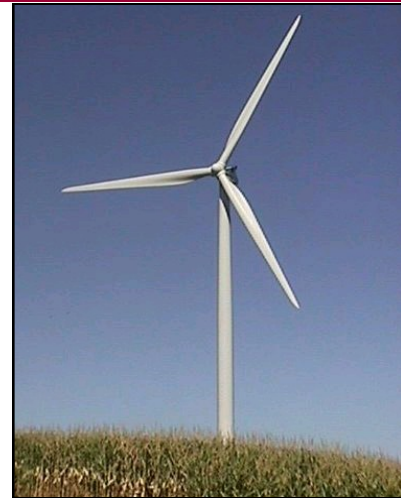
- Three reputable sources, including the Heston Wind Company in Iowa, were advisors to CSA.
- An administrator of the Sinsinawa Dominicans shared her experience with installing a meteorological tower which they purchased for a feasibility study on their campus. She also reported that new sensors, installation of a test tower, data monitoring, decommissioning the tower, the Wind Report, all

of which are required for the preliminary study, could exceed \$30,000. Upon completion of their study, the test tower was decommissioned and attempts were made to sell it. If the study reaps positive results, installation of the wind turbines begins.

- Monthly cost of electrical usage for the convent, administration building, maintenance building, and hermitages was used for calculations and projections of need.
- Zoning regulations for Fond du Lac area stipulate a 35' height limit of turbines here.
- Potential negative effects of wind turbines need to be assessed. These could include microwave interference that contribute to a "potential fatal flaw" (to computer and/or communication systems, TV reception, etc.) flicker effect that reflects sunlight into nearby buildings with every rotation of the turbine blades, noise, objection by residents, and various others.
- There may be some energy grants but many are given in the form of tax breaks for which CSA would not be eligible.

#### Facts and Considerations for the Environment

According to consultants who assisted with this study, CSA already has many prac-



tices in place that benefit the health and balance of the environment. They suggested that continuing and/or augmenting the following would probably improve the environment more than installing a wind turbine. We could

- ▶ decrease unnecessary use of electrical power
- ▶ plant more trees for CO2 balance
- ▶ buy more land that is devoted to prairie and ponds like we have
- ▶ put a rain barrel under each down spout and use rain water for plants
- ▶ if constructing, build flat roofs with grass that provides insulation, less runoff, CO2 balance

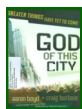
#### Facts and Financial Implications

One turbine could not supply all the buildings on campus. Because of rules from the utilities, separate turbines

*Continued on page 3*

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

To borrow these or any other materials from the JPE Lending Library. Contact Susan Ledesma at [sledesma@csasisters.org](mailto:sledesma@csasisters.org). There is no charge.



*God of This City* by Aaron Boyd and Craig Borlase shares the biblical mandate for God's people to right the wrongs done to the voiceless everywhere. This is a challenge to the Church to live lives of worship marked by actions that will transform a world of cities longing for greater things. This book was published by Regal in 2010.



*The Better World Shopping Guide* by Ellis Jones in its third edition, rates every product on the shelf from A-F so you can turn your grocery list into a powerful tool to change the world. This small-enough-to-fit-in-a-back-pocket booklet was published by New Society Publishers in 2010.



*Radical Simplicity* by Jim Merkel published by New Society Publishers in 2003. The book is a practical, personal answer to 21st century challenges to spiritual seekers, policy makers and sustainability professionals.



*EBF Anti-trafficking Resource Book 3—Demand*, published in 2009 by the European Baptist Federation, looks closely at the demand side of human trafficking, the way to use biblical alternatives and intercession and advocacy.



"The Power of Forgiveness" is 78-minute DVD with a bonus feature of Desmond Tutu at Washington National Cathedral. Also featured are Elie Wiesel, Thich Nhat Hanh, Thomas Moore and Marianne Williamson. This video by Journey Films, Inc. won First Documentary at Sun Valley Film Festival 2007. Clinicians now help guide people to forgive transgressions and get on with their lives.



In an over 45-minute DVD of *Gasland*, filmmaker Josh Fox documents his cross-country odyssey of finding out the shocking story about a practice that is an understudied and inadequately regulated: the process of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking." He was offered \$100,000 to lease his land for a 34-state drilling campaign developed by Halliburton which caused all kinds of drastic illnesses from hair loss to kidney trouble.



*The Concise Encyclopedia of Economics*, edited by David Henderson, is a hardbound 638-page book published by Liberty Fund, Inc. in Indianapolis in 1993, and reprinted in 2008.

## CSA and Wind / continued

would probably be needed for

- ◆ convent section of building
- ◆ administration section of building
- ◆ maintenance building
- ◆ each hermitage (5)

In other words, eight turbines would probably be required if we wanted some wind power allocated to each building.

If consideration were given to erect one turbine now, one for the administration section which is the largest user of electric power, 120' tower (12 stories high) would be proposed for it. This tower would

> provide about 61% of power needed in that section  
> cost about \$500,000 installed (Payback time would be 10 years or more.)

Recall that Fond du Lac limits turbines to 35' high. Annual costs of a considerable amount are needed to maintain the towers.

### Decision

In light of the recent research, CSA will not be installing wind turbines at this time.

(Sister Diane Bauknecht is a member of CSA's General Council.)

### Editors Note:

For future acquisitions, go to <http://www.csasisters.org/resources.cfm>.



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## Just Around the CORNER

### September

- 2 Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1990
- 5 Labor Day  
Blessed Teresa of Calcutta d. 1997
- 8 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 11 Ghandhi's nonviolent apartheid campaign, 105th anniversary
- 15 Four girls killed in Birmingham, AL, 1963 church bombing
- 25 Native American Day

### October

- 4 St. Francis of Assisi
- 8 Yom Kippur
- 16 Bishop Desmond Tutu won Nobel Peace Prize, 1984
- 21 Chicago refused to enforce Fugitive Slave Law, 1850
- 24 United Nations Day
- 31 Halloween

### November

- 1 All Saints Day
- 2 El Dia de Los Muertos
- 8 Election Day

- Dorothy Day, 1897-1980
- 9 Berlin Wall came down, 1989
- 11 Veterans Day
- 16 Six Jesuits and two women martyred in San Salvador, 1989
- 18 Sojourner Truth b. 1787
- 20 UN Universal Children's day instituted 1959
- 23 Pres. Clinton signed an apology to Native Hawaiians for the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom, 1993
- 24 Thanksgiving Day
- 25 International Day for the end of violence against women

### December

- 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 21 First Day of Hannukah
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 30 Holy family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph
- 31 New Year's Eve