

## Ayn Rand Addresses the Ford Hall Forum

On April 10, novelist-philosopher Ayn Rand was honored by the Ford Hall Forum in Boston on the occasion of her 17th appearance before the group. At an afternoon luncheon, over 800 people from across the U.S. and several foreign countries gathered to pay tribute to her, as she reflected on her first appearance at the Forum and explained her long-term involvement---Ford Hall has been an "honorable adversary" which takes ideas seriously. It was the first time in its 69 year history that Ford Hall has so honored any of its speakers, who tend to represent a diversity of viewpoints---other speakers this year have included Tom Wicker, George Ball, Tom Wolfe, and James Reston.

Rand's speech that evening was on "Global Balkanization"---the breakup of nations into "tribes" based on ethnic background. Some of her opinions expressed during the lively question-and-answer session that followed:

.She recommends the novel/to program "Roots", not for its geneology, but for its portrayal of a moral hero.

.She is not writing more fiction because of the impossibility of writing heroic novels in today's setting.

.Individual citizens are responsible for war waged by their government.

.Any woman who would want to be President is "neurotic"---Rand believes "passionately" in male sexual and romantic superiority.

.The Austrian school of economics (as exemplified by von Mises) is attempting to substitute economics for philosophy.

.Mark Twain was a benevolently well-meaning socialist.

.Artist Maxfield Parrish is "trash."

.The prospects of the Republican Party? "Not much."

.Advice to aspiring writers: never take any courses in writing!

---Jo Chernow

"Any man whose income is confiscated by taxation, the proceeds used to subsidize other men, is a slave."

--- Leonard E. Read

## libertas '77

### REGIONAL LIBERTARIAN CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF PENNSYLVANIA

This is essentially a last minute appeal to all of you who have not yet decided to attend this year's LIBERTAS.

In case you have yet to receive your leaflet on this year's convention, let us fill you in on some details:

1. Being held at the Independence Mall Holiday Inn, 4th & Arch Streets, Philadelphia, the convention is within walking distance of Independence Mall and many historic landmarks.
2. A room will cost you \$28, single; \$35, double; \$39, triple; \$43, quad. Place reservations directly and quickly---mention LIBERTAS.
3. Display Space is available. Call Tony West, (215) 727-6463, for details.
4. Speakers are Don Ernsberger, Dr. Eugene Welsand, Bob Steiner, Hal Cundari, William D. Burt, and LP National Executive Director Bob Meier.
5. I almost forgot. The Holiday Inn's phone # is (215) 923-8660.

If you plan to attend, please make arrangements just as soon as you can. If possible call Tony West at the above number to let him know you are coming. It facilitates planning!

# FROM THE EDITOR

# End the Postal Monopoly!

The Editor wishes to express his apologies for the late arrival of this issue of the newsletter. Personal and other responsibilities, as well as a malfunctioning typewriter, made it impossible for me to get the April issue out on (the already rather loose) schedule. If I direct your attention to the left side of the logo, you will notice that it reads: "April-May, 1977, Vol. 5.03. That means that there will be no April issue as such.

You will no doubt be delighted to learn that a division of labor will soon be taking place in the production of the Penn. Starting with the June issue, I will be doing the editing, typing, and mechanicals. Josh Zissman, on the other side of the state, will be doing the paste-up and such other things that need to be done to produce the finished product that emerges from your mail box---the U.S. Postal Service willing. We hope that this will---after an initial period of confusion---settle down into a workable system which will ultimately enable us to publish a better quality newsletter. Wish us luck!

---Bill Lewis  
Editor

Somes weeks ago, Bob Black of Alternate Systems, Inc., sent us a copy of a brief filed in the Tenth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. He is contesting his conviction under the provisions of 39 U.S.C., s. 601-604 (the so-called "private express statutes,") and 18 U.S.C., s. 1696. You may recall the article we printed some time back which explained that Bob set up Alternate Systems and began delivery of what the Postal Monopoly calls "First Class Mail." To protect their monopoly status, the U.S. Postal Service hauled Bob Black into Court.

To get to the point of all of this, Bob's appeal has cost him a lot of money in legal expenses, and will in all probability cost him a lot more before the Courts settle this matter. You can help Bob present his principled stand in appellate court by sending him such money as you can spare. Send your check to:

Robert Black  
Alternate Systems, Inc.  
112 West Sixth Street  
Pittsburg, KS 66762

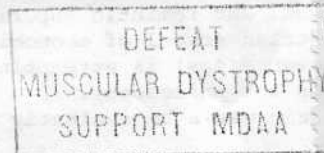
"It is error alone which needs the support of government. Truth can stand by itself."

---Thomas Jefferson

Declare your independence

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