

# Impact

## NEWSLETTER OF THE AYN RAND INSTITUTE

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### Ayn Rand Oral History Program Begins

In April, ARI began interviewing relatives and associates of Ayn Rand and Frank O'Connor. Ayn Rand Archive researcher Scott McConnell has interviewed seventeen people to date, including Ayn Rand's 1946 secretary, a 1930 next-door neighbor who was the inspiration for Peter Keating and for *The Fountainhead*, and five of her Chicago relatives.

Two of the relatives, Morton Portnoy and Fern G. Brown, a successful writer of children's books, first met Ayn Rand in 1926, just after she arrived in America, when she was living with her Chicago relatives for six months. Two of Frank O'Connor's nieces, Marna ("Ducky") and Connie Papurt, have also been interviewed.

The interviewees, Mr. McConnell reports, have been very cooperative and informative. "They provided extensive information on Ayn Rand's and Frank O'Connor's family trees and family histories. The interviewees' anecdotes range from the amusing, such as stories about Miss Rand training her cats—to the heartwarming, particularly about the love between Ayn Rand and Frank O'Connor—to the historically important, such as insights into Miss Rand's writing techniques."

Material from the Ayn Rand Oral History Program will be released in future books, lectures, and ARI publications.

### "The Leonard Peikoff Show"



**Strong Praise for Show from Mort Sahl** Mort Sahl, the father of stand-up political comedy (pictured above with Dr. Peikoff), was a guest on "The Leonard Peikoff Show" on July 29 and volunteered the following statements on the air:

[This is] the most stimulating program on the radio. . . . I tell people all day to listen, because you seem to have raised the radio to another level. . . . I don't know that I agree with anything, but I walk away with a feeling of affirmation. I listen to the show very faithfully. . . . You don't try to conscript people. You present the issue and you want them to draw their own conclusions, but you don't want them to jump to them. And in that sense you may be the teacher I never had in college.

**Update on the Radio Show** Some facts about "The Leonard Peikoff" show:

- Over 150 shows have been broadcast.
- Guests interviewed on the show include: Steve Forbes; Bill Archer, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee; Vincent Bugliosi, prominent attorney and author of *Outrage: The Five Reasons Why O.J. Simpson Got Away with Murder*; Mort Sahl; Clarence Page, columnist and TV commentator; Geoffrey Fieger, attorney for Dr. Jack Kevorkian; and Akhil Amar, professor of law at Yale.
- Guest hosts have been Gary Hull, Harry Binswanger, and Andrew Bernstein.
- For its first two quarters, the show has posted Arbitron ratings which document a substantial daily audience.

**May and June Shows** Topics for May and June shows were as follows. Only shows marked with an asterisk are available on cassette, typically as part of a set, from Second Renaissance Books, (800) 729-8149.

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|---|---|
| 5/1 Interview with Akhil Amar on the Exclusionary Rule*     | 6/3 News Jog (Israeli Election)*                                    |
| 5/2 The Evil of Sacrifice                                   | 6/4 Kennedy-Kassebaum Bill*   |
| 5/3 The Best of Everything                                  | 6/5 Interview with Richard Salsman on Labor Issues                  |
| 5/6 News Jog (Dr. Kevorkian, Gas Prices)                    | 6/6 The Best of Everything  |
| 5/7 The Evil of Sacrifice II*                               | 6/7 Interview with Michael Berliner on Letters (Gary Hull hosting)  |
| 5/8 Interview with George Putnam                            | 6/10 News Jog (Taxes & Deficit, UN)                                 |
| 5/9 New Age Quackery  | 6/11 News Jog (Teen Curfew, Abortion, 3-Mile Island)                |
| 5/10 The Best of Everything (Mother's Day)                  | 6/12 Interview with Robert Getman on the Insanity Defense           |
| 5/13 News Jog (Missile Defense, China)                      | 6/13 Interview with Darryl Evans on Handicapped Rights              |
| 5/14 Compromise   | 6/14 The Best of Everything (The Meaning of Life)*                  |
| 5/15 Interview with Jim Boulet on "English First"           | 6/17 Interview with Bill Archer on Taxes*                           |
| 5/16 Parental Rights*                                       | 6/18 News Jog (Freemen, Russian Election)                           |
| 5/17 The Best of Everything (Admiral Suicide, "Pod" People) | 6/19 Quack Medicine I (Homeopathy)                                  |
| 5/20 News Jog   | 6/20 Quack Medicine II (Naturopathy)                                |
| 5/21 When Are Parents Accessories to Crime?*                | 6/21 National Youth Service (Rerun)                                 |
| 5/22 Tie-in Contest*  | 6/24 News Jog (Gay Marriage)  |
| 5/23 Debate: Ed Locke vs. Muzammil Siddiqi on Islam         | 6/25 Bureaucrats vs. Your Doctor's Brain                            |
| 5/24 The Best of Everything                                 | 6/26 When Are Parents Accessories to Crime? (Rerun)                 |
| 5/27 The Roots of War (Memorial Day, Gary Hull hosting)     | 6/27 Interview with Earl Hall on Home Schools                       |
| 5/28 News Jog (Supreme Court on Gay Rights)*                | 6/28 The Best of Everything (Valedictorians, Va. Military Instit.)* |
| 5/29 Interview with Frank Gaffney Jr. on Missile Defense    |   |
| 5/30 National Youth Service*                                |   |
| 5/31 The Best of Everything                                 |   |



**1-900-PREMISE Hotline** Objectivists nationwide can now hear excerpts from "The Leonard Peikoff Show" on a daily basis. Highlights from recent broadcasts of the show are available on a 900 number. Short excerpts (two to four minutes each) are recorded from five recent programs, and are updated on a regular basis (usually every weekday). The number, which is accessible in all of the United States, is 1-900-PREMISE (1-900-773-6473). The line is sponsored by the Ayn Rand Institute. Anyone calling the number must be 18 years old or older, must use a touch-tone phone, and will be charged \$1.49 per minute. The length of the average call is four minutes. Proceeds from this service will help support the radio show.

## From the Archives

**Requests for Information** In order to augment the Ayn Rand Archive, ARI seeks:

- Recordings of Ayn Rand interviews or lectures (TV and radio) and copies of written materials such as letters, scripts, and papers.
- Names of biographies that mention Ayn Rand.
- Names of living friends and associates of Ayn Rand and Frank O'Connor.

If you can help, please contact Scott McConnell at ARI.

## General News

**Hull To Teach Course at Duke** Gary Hull will be teaching two business ethics courses this coming spring in Duke University's business school, a top-10 business school. Dr. Hull's selection as an instructor was made possible by an influential North Carolina businessman.

**Ayn Rand Essay Reprinted** The Progress and Freedom Foundation, an organization which supports abolishing the Federal Communications Commission, has reprinted Ayn Rand's "The Property Status of the Airwaves."

**Berliner Article Reprinted** The Montessori Public School Consortium's *Update* (May) reprinted an article by Michael Berliner in which he argues that introducing Montessori into public schools will be disastrous for Montessori education.

## Upcoming Events

**ARI Day** ARI will hold its first "ARI Day," an all-day regional meeting for ARI contributors, in Los Angeles on October 27. We hope this will be a successful model for regional meetings to be held around the United States. The central feature of the meeting will be extensive briefings on ARI programs. Andrew Bernstein will conduct a seminar on "Objectivism: Person-to-Person" (things an individual can do to spread Objectivism). Workshops on campus clubs, community groups, and planned giving are also planned. There will be no charge for the meeting, but it will be open only to current ARI contributors and will require advance registration. Contributors in California, Arizona, and Nevada will receive invitations in September.

**Touring Conference and Seminars** Lyceum International is holding conferences or seminars in the following cities on the following dates:

Arlington	September 21, October 19, November 9
Boston	September 28, October 26, November 17
Chicago	October 26
Houston	September 7, November 13
Los Angeles	September 8, October 19, December 7
Miami	October 5, October 6
New York	September 22, October 12, November 2
San Francisco	September 7, October 17, December 8
Tacoma	September 14, October 5, November 16
Toronto	October 12, November 16

For details, contact Lyceum International at (360) 479-4765.

Address Correction Requested