

## MDL IS ON THE AIR!



*O'Brien Broadcasts from the Belly of the Beast (Leviathan)*

"The following is commentary this morning by Tim O'Brien of the Metro-Detroit Libertarians..." So begins the bi-weekly four minute broadcast that can be heard every other Friday morning at 7:30AM on none other than WDET, 101.9 on your FM dial. WDET is owned and operated by Wayne State University, supported by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and is an affiliate of National Public Radio System. For those who still somehow missed the clue bird, that is *government* radio folks. At this writing Tim has completed four commentaries that include: drug re-legalization, education and the now defunct Proposals A and B, abortion, and a hardy but unenthusiastic welcome for Detroit's newly re-elected mayor. For those of us who know Tim's work, its understood that

he hardly, if ever, pulls a punch. His words are crisp and hard-hitting. Is such praise just simple fawning over another local libertarian making good? Wrong again. Tim's first commentary earned him a *station record* twenty-four requests for transcripts.

WDET has one of the area's highest listener shares, especially during "drive time" when the commentaries are heard. The audience is mostly a left liberal and a highly issue-aware audience. Also made available from WDET is a listing of listener's requesting transcripts, making Tim's effort perhaps our most effective local outreach tool to date. His personal goal is to continue these commentaries and possibly work towards a national feed to the network. He is off to a great start.

*(Excerpts from Tim's original commentary begins on page 9.)*

### INSIDE - THIS SPECIAL ISSUE

#### "LIBERTARIANS WHERE YOU LEAST EXPECT THEM"

- Boettke at Oakland
- Van Eaton at Oscoda
- Silver on Environmental Non-Aggression
- Abortion Debate Shoot-out (with real sides!)
- You To ... U2?  
Rock Band Review

and more →



## Profile

### INTRODUCING PETER BOTTKE

*Oakland Economic's Professor Traces His Free Market Lineage Through Sennholz Back to Von Mises*

What is it like to be an intellectual radical at a state-run Oakland University in the People's Republic of Michigan? In a department otherwise based strongly on neo-classical theory, econometrics, and formal modeling, he is certainly a welcome and needed alternative. Using such libertarian favorites as *Atlas Shrugged* (Rand), *Liberalism* (Mises), and *Road to Serfdom* (Hayek) as required reading, he presents bold and refreshing alternatives to the traditional economics curriculum at Oakland University. [Reporters note: As graduate of Oakland, I testify that I would not have slept through Macro or Micro under Peter]

Peter Boettke was not born a libertarian. He grew up as a nationalistic-fascist sports enthusiast in rural New Jersey. As a typical public school educated youngster he felt that sports should be nationalized so that the United States could compete with the Russians and Eastern Europeans in Olympic sports. His love of sports did lead him to the conclusion that *competition* breeds excellence.

As an undergrad at Grove City College in Pennsylvania, Peter had a professor who changed his life — Hans Sennholz — who was Ludwig Von Mises first Ph.D. student in the United States. Hans is known for inspiring the "love of liberty" into his students and

*"The state has been the source of the world's ills in the twentieth century. . ."*

Pete caught the bug. He became a diehard capitalist-libertarian while tennis and basketball took a back seat.

From there Peter headed for George Mason University for his masters and Ph.D. on a scholarship from the "Center for the Study of Market Processes" and an Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) fellowship. There he studied under Don Lavoie, Gordon Tullock, and Nobel Laureate James Buchanan, the originator of

"Public Choice" economics.

Peter considers himself 100 percent Rothbardian on public policy but disagrees with him on strategy and the refinements of economic theory. As an anarcho-capitalist he believes in a system of law and order based on natural rights without formal government. He says, "The state has been the source of world's ills in the twentieth century...Stalin, Hitler, Churchill, and Roosevelt come to mind...government by nature drags man into expansion (entropy)...the minimalist state becomes the maximum state by the nature of the contradictions of democracy."

Peter has had articles on Austrian Economics published in the journals: *Critical Review*, *Market Process*, *Research in the History of Economic Thought*, and



the books: *Nation in Debt* and *Marketing Theory*. He is on the academic board of advisors for the Mackinaw Center and the Heartland Institute. Peter was recently featured on the front pages of the most Michigan newspapers, including the *Detroit News* and the *Free Press* as the author of the controversial MET study sponsored by the Mackinaw Center. The subsequent bashing by the statists didn't bother him as much as being labeled a "Republican" by the *News*. The reporter who made the mistake got more than ear full from the author.

Although Peter is 110% libertarian on both economic liberty and personal liberty issues, he has little empathy for the Libertarian Party itself. He believes that ideas and education change society — not the



## NOTEBOOK: Supper Club Update

ballot process, which by its nature, sanctions the system. His advice for those wishing to be involved in political action is to excite the young with libertarian ideology and organize on college campuses. "The movement needs leaders who can appeal to college age students — they are the future revolutionaries."

When you visit Peter's office in Varner Hall on Oakland University, you can't help but notice the imposing photograph of Ludwig Von Mises or the numerous quotes placed strategically on his door such as: "He who seeks the salvation of the soul, of his own and of others, should not seek it along the avenue of politics, for the quite different tasks of politics can only be solved by violence." — Max Weber. Also "A student who's only acquaintance is with mediocre books and mediocre minds has lost something of the sense of potentiality of the human organism, even though we may only dimly perceive what that potential is." — Kenneth Boulding.

As you can tell Peter Boettke rarely lacks a well defined opinion on libertarianesque matters. Join us January 15th for his supperclub presentation, "Prospects for Liberty in the Eastern Block." His doctoral dissertation "The Political Economy of Soviet Socialism" will be published as a book by Kluwer Academic Publishers in 1990.

*by Jack Elder*

### METRO-DETROIT LIBERTARIAN "THE GRAY SHEET" is published quarterly

Adam Selene, senior editor  
Dave Sheldon, assistant editor  
Mark Sellers, newsletter coordinator  
Lorie F. Garstecki, design and layout  
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*Metro-Detroit Libertarians is an association of individuals committed to liberty. We are not a political party; but instead a multi-dimensional organization that promotes individual freedom.*

### January's Supper Club Details:

Metro-Detroit Libertarians will host **Dr. Peter Boettke** of Oakland University's Department of Economics for its January Supperclub. Dr. Boettke will speak to the dynamic changes now occurring in eastern Europe. His presentation is, "Prospects for Liberty in the Eastern Block."

**The Place:** Mr. L's Bootlegger Dining and Spirits  
3364 Rochester Road—Troy, MI

*1/4 mile north of 16 mile road on east side of Rochester Road*

**The Menu:** A set menu of lasagna, chicken parmesan, or broiled or batter-fried scrod.  
(includes salad bar, coffee or tea, homemade bread, and side orders)  
Total price is \$10.50.  
There will be a cash bar.

**The Time and Date:** 6:00PM for Drinks  
6:30PM for Dinner  
8:00PM Speakers Address  
Monday/January 15, 1990

Please make reservations with Stan Gentry (757-5085) by 12 January.

**EDITORIAL OUTREACH** — Jack Elder, Editorial Outreach Coordinator, would like to pass on his thanks for those who have forwarded names and/or addresses of concerned citizens taking libertarian positions in their letters to various local newspaper editors. In recent weeks he has received and processed over 15 usable referrals. Jack has worked up a package of libertarian materials that he mails to these "highly probables". Already he has received replies. A big thanks goes to our big referral contributors: Virginia Cropsey and Brian Wright. Jack asks that you keep those cards and letters coming. And any extra help in researching more complete names and addresses would be very welcome, as this part takes the lion's share of the time. Send your referrals or clippings of the letters-to-the-editor to: Jack Elder, 384 Olivewood Court, Rochester, MI 48064

*Bill, hope you can come!*

**MDL's Winter Solstice Party Rescheduled** — The annual Winter Solstice Party normally scheduled for 9 December is now rescheduled for 16 December due to an unforeseen planetary orbital shift that apparently occurred during last years planetary alignment and/or harmonic convergence. An understandably embarrassed Mark Sellers stated that he is always the last to know these things and to hell with the Druids anyway. After calming down he said the format was the same and yes, the mystic tree worshipers could still come to what will be MDL's fourth annual winter extravaganza. Doors open Saturday at 7:00PM with heavy partying expected to kick in about 9:00PM. Serious discussion will be discouraged with the exception of the Rhetorical Blather Contest that will be held in Mark's unfurnished/unheated basement. Bring your own legal drugs and any extra seasonal snacks and goodies to Mark's house conveniently located two miles north of Lakeside Mall (Utica). For the inside scoop on all the fun call Stan Gentry 757-5085. [Special MDL Board Meeting will be held same place, same date at 6:00PM. Early arrivers are welcome to attend.]



# CHOICE

Nancy  
Geragosian

Since the Supreme Court decided in the case of *Webster vs Reproductive Health Services* that individual states could place restrictions on legalized abortion, there is a new saying in the State of Missouri: "Come to Missouri where life starts sooner." This is because of the inclusion of a provision in the preamble of Missouri's new anti-abortion law which states that life begins at conception — a disturbing thought when you consider that this provision has the potential to outlaw the use of certain contraceptives such as the IUD and the birth control pill. The Supreme Court, however, chose not to grapple with the issue of when life begins or the issue of fetal viability. They side-stepped these questions in spite of receiving an *amicus curiae* brief from 167 doctors and scientists, including eleven Nobel Prize winners, which concluded that the immaturity of several basic life systems make it currently and foreseeably impossible to sustain fetal life outside the woman before 23 to 24 weeks gestation. Indeed, concluded, based on their personal religious and moral beliefs, that they know more about this subject than the best medical and scientific minds in the country and have imposed those beliefs on the entire population of Missouri. Moreover, there is currently a resolution in effect in the state of Idaho that would impose a one to five year mandatory prison

sentence on any woman who has an abortion in that state should *Roe vs Wade* be overturned.

If you believe in property rights and also believe that your body is your property, then no other person needs can take preeminence over your right to dictate the use of your organs. Under current law, no one can forcibly remove your kidney from your body to save the life of another. Even after you are dead, your organs cannot be taken without your pre-consent or the consent of your next of kin. In fact, no one can forcibly drain a pint of your blood, not even to save the life of your living, breathing child. To impose a different set of laws, standards or even moral duties on the special organs of women's bodies is blatant sex discrimination. This is made doubly so by the fact that the tiny collection of cells that make up fetal tissue are not even recognized by many of the most reputable minds of science, medicine, law and theology as people.

One needn't like abortion to be pro-choice. But the pro-choice position is the only one that allows the existence of both schools of thought on the morality of abortion. It is the only position which allows individuals to maintain sovereignty over their lives without government interference and is the one in keeping with fundamental libertarian beliefs.

*Nancy Geragosian is Chair of the Reproductive Rights Task Force, President of Michigan NOW, and works closely with Michigan Abortion Rights Action League. She resides in Allen Park.*

# LIFE

Mark  
Sellers

1,589,000 abortions are performed each year in the United States, accounting for one fourth of all probable births. Few Americans in the days before *Roe vs. Wade* would have envisioned such a statistic. No need for shock. Some examples are even worse. Eastern European countries regularly record higher abortion rates than birth rates. In Belgrade in one year alone there were four abortions for every live birth. I am, like many libertarians, uncomfortable with such numbers.

But it doesn't stop there. With the abortion debate reaching its climax, even more questionable ideas have surfaced in trade pieces, in medical journals, and within academic halls. The focus is now upon infanticide. The language is crafted carefully. The words are innocent and inoffensive and yet somehow transparent; phraseology such as "meaningful life," "life devoid of value," or "life not worthy to be lived." A few are more blunt. Writes Nobel-laureate and co-discover of DNA Francis Crick, "...no



## DEBATE (continued)

newborn infant should be declared human until it has passed certain tests regarding its genetic endowment and if it fails these tests it forfeits the right to live." His colleague James Watson rejoins, "If a child were not declared alive until three days after birth, then all parents could be allowed the *choice....*" [my italics]. Do we now ponder abortion after birth? Libertarians know that ideas have consequences. But there is more.

Joseph Fletcher writing in the *American Journal of Nursing* in the same year of *Roe v Wade* offers, "If we are morally obliged to put an end to pregnancy when an amniocentesis reveals a terribly defective fetus, we are equally obliged to put an end to a patient's hopeless misery when a brain scan reveals that a patient with cancer has advanced metastases." Governor Lamb of Colorado a few years back went public on the talk show circuit with his complaint about the elderly getting in the way of younger generations. His suggestion: the elderly should know the right time to move on. The term "euthanasia" as we know it first surfaced in the early German Weimar Republic. Leo Alexander, a Boston psychiatrist, present during the Nuremberg War Trials, tried to explain the holocaust in his own words. He wrote, "It started with acceptance of the attitude basic in the euthanasia movement, that there is such a thing as life not worthy to be lived.... a propaganda barrage was directed against the traditional, compassionate, nineteenth-century attitudes.... Sterilization and euthanasia of persons with chronic mental illnesses was discussed at a meeting of Bavarian psychiatrists in 1931." National Socialism came to power in 1933. There is no need to extend the metaphor. National Socialism had found its fertile soil.

Ideas do have consequences. The unthinkable of twenty-five years ago is today openly discussed. This rapid and yet subtle loss of human definition has passed in the night mostly unobserved. Hospitals and clinics are becoming abattoirs and hardly sanctuaries for healing. When the self-defined elite, whether they wear jackboots or hold the doctorates can redefine human life to meet their individual sensibilities, how soon before we find ourselves defined out of the picture? The euthanasia of Huxley's *Brave New World* or Asimov's *Pebble in the Sky* may prove a little more prophetic and less entertaining than science fiction.

To label the apologists of abortion as monsters is a mistake. They walk largely in cadence with their times. It is our time, this climate, that is out of step.

Today values drift; relativism is sovereign. To say in this atmosphere that an action is right or wrong, is to call for a poll. Most who defend abortion, advocate it for a myriad of plausible reasons, and with the few notable exceptions residing in distant ivory towers, hardly consider the issue of taking human life. It is this casual redefinition of "human" that is the real danger. As we begin this course, defining fewer and fewer expressions *homo sapiens* as human life, we find ourselves on treacherous footing, walking further down a steeper and far more slippery slope. History tells us many nations have taken the plunge. Freedom of choice is praiseworthy, but that freedom without respect for the rights of another human, of non-initiation of force, is the chaos of our times. That respect is essential libertarianism.

What has caused this drift to a darker paradigm? You may have your own ideas; here a few of my own:

- \*Middle-class imagery that can't distinguish critical differences, confusing wealth and property with owning a set of perfect blond, blue-eyed moppets that, in actuality, are smooth-skinned caricatures of their own egos.

- \*Individuals who value their sexuality little more than a good tennis backhand. Who regularly hit on the bedtime lottery and with a shrug say, "it was just a mistake, it can be fixed." A pop culture that winks at sex as the healthy, accepted rite of passage.

- \*A narcissistic government that fashions an atmosphere free of reality-testing and as result breeds greater individual irresponsibility.

- \*A church suffering from internal rot, a lunatic edifice complex intent upon media empires, unable or unwilling to practice its founder's values. Failing to touch the pain of unplanned parenthood, it extends, instead, an accusatory finger or far worse, benign indifference.

The modest (and only) chore legitimizing government of any kind is defense of the individual from the aggressor. If we narrow our definition to exclude life deemed somehow inconvenient and therefore not defensible, we have qualitatively rationalized every horror of our age. Since it is not thought of as human, it forfeits its life. There are many that walk among us today who, in times not too distant, were thought not fully human. Now we see them as people. Do not be surprised if their enthusiasm lags a bit upon the suggestion of return to the death camp, the Cambodian rice paddy, the plantation, the state sanitarium, or the vaccum bottle.



## IDEAS

### A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT SANS THE COERCION

by Steve Silver

Protecting the environment is a contentious issue for libertarians. In an all too familiar pattern capitalism gets blamed for all our difficulties (in this case ecological) and the call soon goes out for leviathan. Despite intellectual bankruptcy on most issues, the statist appear here to have freedom lovers on the run. Murray Rothbard weeps for Exxon, a *Liberty* magazine article claims that those with environmental concerns shouldn't be called libertarians, and free market academics suggest that effluent taxes are needed to minimize our pollution difficulties. I for one refuse to run up the white flag on this issue. Freedom works—even in protecting the environment.

To protect the earth's ecosystem we need greatly reduced pollution. Pollution is an example of the classic "problem of the commons". Our air and large bodies of water are permanent "commons". Everyone uses them; no one owns them. When a resource has no owner, the incentive is to use the resource before someone else does. Whales and elephants have value; however, with no owners they are soon likely to become extinct.

Some environmental problems are relatively easy to solve. If property rights can be established, the problem is eliminated. The Nature Conservancy is a non-profit organization which raises money to purchase property and preserve the beauty of wilderness areas. Ducks Unlimited raises money from hunters to purchase or lease wetlands thereby preserving the duck habitats.

I have some shocking news: government makes environmental problems worse. Municipalities (Boston comes to mind) dump raw sewage into our water ways. The British government makes money processing nuclear waste from all over Europe by dumping the wastes into the Irish sea. In addition to being a major polluter himself, Uncle Sam protects the polluters from suits by damaged parties. Most pollution is, in our legal system,

deemed a public nuisance. Since many are hurt, none may sue. Today in Scotland rivers are clean because property owners sue polluters.

It is left to government to solve these problems. In the political arena, the iron triangle of special interests, bureaucrats, and politicians conspire to make matters even worse. A tangled web of government regulation prevents many problems from being solved. An example close to me is used motor oil. Used oil can be recycled. With oil as a scarce resource,



the market was gradually working toward this goal. But the government declared used oil a toxic waste. The additional regulatory burden of this particular product drove most of the recyclists out of the business. Also it is the National Forest Service that is supposed to protect our wilderness areas. Today there are more than eight times as many miles of roads in our national forests as exists in the entire interstate highway system, simply to get to the remote lumber. Tree cutting, in places like Colorado, destroys the aquifer. Later the lumber is sold, often at a 90% loss.

As I mentioned before, our legal system protects polluters. If these polluters had to face the consequences of their actions, they would behave more responsibly. Pollution liability insurance would become prevalent. Insurance companies would then help clients reduce pollutants. Don't doubt the ability of insurance companies to reduce risk.

Underwriters Laboratories was formed by the insurance industry to reduce the risk of electrical fires. When was the last time you heard of a house burning because of an electrical fire?

With our improved standard of living, concerns for the environment has mushroomed. This creates enormous opportunities for ecological entrepreneurship. A single individual cannot predict how the market will respond to the desires of large populations of free persons.

I would like to offer a few possible scenarios to stimulate further thought: A charitable organization receiving public donations from concerned citizens could test transportation vehicles. Published results would then detail which vehicles pollute least. With accurate information we could buy cleaner automobiles. Manufacturers would compete to be number one in clean air. Another approach would be for a similar organization for the investigation of pollution sources. Non-coercive means could be used to remedy newly identified problems. Boycotts are just one possibility. Courts would be a last resort. They would likely be handled by the insurance companies that actually could make a profit solving our environmental problems.

There is no reason for libertarians to take an ostrich-like approach to the environmental issue. Government is the major polluter. Government stands in the way of market efforts for environmental protection. A growing free market economy will bring increasing resources to bear on solving these critical problems. Freedom can solve these problems. The real pollution threat we face is ubiquitous government coercion.

*Steve is part-owner of The Oil Dispatch, Inc. a local quick oil-change chain. He is active in the Advocates for Self-Government Seminar One project having graduated the current record of eight new libertarians. He has been active with Metro-Detroit Libertarians for the past year and currently serves as fundraising coordinator.*



## REVIEW

### LIBERTARIAN IDEAS IN TODAY'S ROCK MUSIC

By Dion Roddy

Libertarians constantly keep their eyes open for others who might express their own political views. I am no exception to this. I look mostly within my generation—the one that has only recently made it to adulthood—for those individuals who show early signs of real understanding of liberty. The search led me to today's laureates, those who (for the most part) communicate to and in behalf of my generation: the rock musicians. I am a rock fan, especially of the newer, more creative, and (should I say) the more politically aware genre. There is one band in particular that has held its place on the leading edge, on the forefront of the industry for some time. It is a band with a conscience; one particularly critical of politics as usual. That band is U2. Let's take a brief excursion into their brand of music and see what they have to say.

Hailing from Ireland, a land still victim of considerable unrest, U2 has never taken a side in the war between the IRA and the British. More correctly they taken a side *against* both of them. Their songs decry the military slaughter, of which "Sunday, Bloody Sunday"; a song depicting an actual event, is the most popular:

I won't heed the battle call,  
It puts my back against the wall.  
(Sunday, Bloody Sunday" from the album "War")

They take every available opportunity to denounce the antics of world powers and their policies of intervention in third world countries:

U.S.S.R., D.D.R., London, New York, Peking  
Its the puppets who pull the strings  
("Seconds" from the album "War")

Also notable is "Bullet in the Blue Sky" from "Joshua Tree" that deals entirely with United States intervention in Central American. Here again they speak quite plainly about their non-interventionist stance.

U2 speaks for equal rights of all people, regardless of race or political orientation. "MLK" from the album "Unforgettable Fire" is an eulogy dedicated entirely to the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. Not only do their powerful lyrics speak of victims denied basic human liberty, they put those lyrics into action. U2 has performed with several other top musicians at benefits in behalf of Musicians Against Apartheid as well as Amnesty International, an organization aiming to free prisoners held for opposing their own country's political views.

The attitude of all their songs seems to indicate a marked lack of faith in politicians, regardless of how high-minded their intentions appear to be in setting this world's



problems straight. U2 is no stranger to the ideas of faith, however. *Rolling Stone Magazine* claims that three of the four in the group are born-again Christians. Known for their emphasis upon the spiritual, they choose to rely on higher value as Christians in that only God, through Christ, can really change the world. The members of U2 do not wage some kind of holy war but, instead, believe that God changes each individual from within. Their kind of faith can be found within the lyrics, lyrics that reject government intervention in individual's lives. The only realistic conclusion that may be drawn is one that we libertarians have heard before—the lesser the amount of government intervention there is in one's life, the better.

U2 is quite unique in the world of rock, especially for their metaphysical views. They are prominent members of a new emerging group of performers that are cynical about government intervention and, on the other hand, quite fond of their personal freedom. While U2 may not be libertarian in name, their work certainly reflects the view of the freedom philosophy.

Dion Roddy is lead singer and contributing songwriter for an upcoming Detroit rock group, Missionary Stew. He is currently a senior at University of Michigan, Dearborn pursuing studies in history, psychology and philosophy. He along with two other band members were among the area's first Seminar One graduation class, a program pioneered by Marshall Fritz and The Advocates for Self-Government.



# PRIVATIZATION

## ECONOMIC OSMOSIS IN OSCODA

What a concept! What a township! Yes libertarians should be excited about this summer's turn of events in this sleepy community tucked in beside Wurtsmith AFB at the north-west corner of Iosco County. What began as a poorly attended visit in early May by Hillsdale College's venerable gadfly, Dr. Charles Van Eaton, to the Oscoda Township Hall has blossomed into a possible rout of established public service programs. Dr. Van Eaton, preaching his brand of privatization gospel in behalf of the Michigan State Chamber Foundation, was able to plant the essential seed that dislodged decades long prejudice for public sector solutions. Talking of efficient low-cost delivery of services and armed with real-time examples (including our own Ecorse) that ranged across the continent from Buffalo to Kansas City to Phoenix, the economist provided real intellectual food for the nine attendees. Present were the Executive Director of Oscoda-AuSable Chamber of Commerce, Oscoda Township Supervisor, and a reporter from the *Oscoda Press*.



In the interim months Oscoda has since acted, opening bids for emergency ambulance service and water/waste water management. As of late summer the township has had contracts with St. Mary's Hospital of Saginaw for ambulance service and W.W. Engineering and Science of Grand Rapids for water and waste water treatment. The thrust of Dr. Van Eaton's proposal is to insure that these efforts were not seen as a contest of government employee versus private employee. Community support is crucial if privatization is to work; and public employees are part of that community too. The plan calls for displaced employees to be rehired by the

new contractors at comparable wages and benefits. For now government growth has abated in Oscoda. For further information about Dr. Van Eaton's program contact Michael L. Mills of the Michigan State Chamber Foundation (see companion advertisement). *by Mark Sellers from ideas contributed by Amos Hasner.*

## CLASSIFIEDS

Ayn Rand's *WE THE LIVING* Videotape Rental is available to any MDL member for personal use for one week for a ten dollar contribution to our newsletter production. This video is the full 174 minute, VHS, high-quality black and white print © 1988 Angelika Films. Comes with package of reviews and articles, biographies of all major protagonists, list of credits, history of the film, screenplay synopsis, original photos, and reprint of January 27, 1989 *National Review* article about the film's restoration. Call (313) 247-4257 for arrangements.

**RESTORING THE AMERICAN DREAM** by Robert Ringer is still available locally. Why not give the "American Dream" to those certain someones on your Christmas list. The beautiful hardbound edition goes for \$5.00 each or three for \$10.00. Call Jack or Karen Elder about these incredible bargains at 651-5250.

**ADVERTISERS AND CLASSIFIEDS WANTED** - The *Metro-Detroit Libertarian* wants to attract advertisements and classifieds that are little beyond the simple photo-copying of business cards. If you want to get a message out about your business, sideline, special interest, or cause call 247-4257. The MDL newsletter finds it way into five hundred Metro-Detroit residences quarterly.



THE LOST PATROL

*With Permission of John Trevor*



## IDEAS

*Excerpts of Original Transcript Tim O'Brien's first commentary on WDET 9/15/89*

The American government has declared war. They claim it's a war on drugs. But you don't make war against inanimate objects. You don't attack a packet of cocaine or heroin. You don't arrest and imprison a marijuana plant. No, the American government has actually declared war on the American people. By their own admission, millions of American people. Mayor Young wants to build concentration camps. Senator Kelly wants to station armed troops on street corners. Drug Czar Bennett wants to shoot down unidentified civilian airplanes and actually encourages children to turn in their own parents. The Supreme Court finds nothing wrong in seizing the property of people accused of drug crimes never to be returned even if the accused is later found innocent.

Now, there is a wealth of evidence to prove that prohibition doesn't work, has never worked, and never will work. In fact the overwhelming majority of the problem associated with drugs — the property crime, the turf wars, the overdoses, and so forth — are actually the consequence not of drug use, but of drug laws. Yet all the practical arguments for repeal of prohibition seem to fall on deaf ears.

The Drug Warriors claim that users *do* harm others by their drug use. Bullfeathers! People don't take heroin or cocaine and suddenly become possessed by an overwhelming desire to steal cars. Rather, by forcing these substances into the black market, the government has driven the prices as high as one hundred times their real value. Without prohibition, the junkie with a three hundred dollar a day habit could kill himself for no more than the cost of a two-pack-a-day cigarette habit. How many people break into houses to get money they need to buy their tobacco? None! And it's not because tobacco isn't addictive. The Surgeon General said it's as addictive as heroin. The difference is that tobacco is much more realistically priced.

Let's face it. America is a drug-ridden society — from the legal ones like tobacco, caffeine and alcohol to the restricted ones like barbituates and amphetamines to the prohibited ones like heroin and "crack" cocaine. By what rightful authority does government preempt individual choice in which ones to use or not use?

Wake up, America, and see what's become of you. Our government is turning our country into a police state. George Bush and rest of the politicians are scapegoating drug users precisely the same way Adolph Hitler blamed all of Germany's problems on Jews — claiming that they are a less than human scourge to be ruthlessly exterminated.

It's very tempting to resort to practical arguments against prohibition. But I believe it is vital to get more fundamental than that. It's time to start telling politicians that we have what the founding fathers called "unalienable rights." And the most basic of these is self-ownership. Free adults own their own bodies and have absolute right to go hand-gliding or motorcycle racing or use drugs if they want to. That's the point the collectivist politicians don't want to face. So, let's start confronting them with it. And let's repeal prohibition now...before they start building ovens.

## The Capitalist Revolution

*... now in video*



Back in 1947, the heyday of central planning and socialism, F. A. Hayek gathered a small band of writers and thinkers at Mont Pelerin in Switzerland. Their "mission impossible" task: to reverse the worldwide trend toward socialism and restore the vitality of classical liberal ideas of free trade, individualism, and free markets.

Thirty years later, they have succeeded beyond their wildest dreams. Their ideas are shaping policies of deregulation, privatization, and liberalization not merely in the United States and Britain, but in France, Italy, Spain, Hong Kong, India — and even China.

Now you can learn the never-before-told-story of this intellectual revolution in "The New Enlightenment," a six-part video documentary. In it you will meet some of the key thinkers — E. A. Hayek, Milton Friedman, James Buchanan, and others — as well as intellectual entrepreneurs such as Antony Fisher,

Irving Kristol, and George Gilder. You will see their ideas in action... in an auto plant in India, in Sony's corporate headquarters, in the part-time Swiss parliament, in Washington, D.C. public housing project, and many other places.

"The New Enlightenment" was produced by London's Diverse Productions, in association with the Reason Foundation. It was broadcast last December on Britain's Channel 4 — and quickly became the country's most talked about television series. Denounced by the left-wing dailies but taken very seriously by other media, it was termed "the most exciting and important non-fiction programme on television" by the *Financial Times*.

You can order this unprecedented six-part documentary for showing at home and to your local civic group. The complete set, on three 60-minute videocassettes (VHS or Beta) is just \$119.95.

**reason**

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ sets of "The New Enlightenment" on videocassette at \$119.95. My check of money order is enclosed. (California residents please add 6% sales tax.)

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## PRIVATIZATION OPPORTUNITIES ARE IN YOUR HOMETOWN!!!



The Michigan State Chamber Foundation commissioned Dr. Charles Van Eaton to complete a privatization study specific to Michigan. The study is a constructive alternative from the business community to deal with growing government costs. The study's aim is specifically at local city and county government, where business and government leaders can work together most effectively.

Business leaders are encouraged to take advantage of the State Chamber Foundation's privatization efforts in one of three ways:

1. Order and read the complete Privatization Report (\$10/issue).
2. Urge your local Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a **PRIVATIZATION WORKSHOP** with Dr. Van Eaton (approximately three hours) for elected officials including City Council, School Board, Township Boards, County Commission, Mayor, City Managers, Service Clubs, and appropriate Chamber of Commerce Committees, or
3. Schedule Dr. Van Eaton to "Introduce Privatization" as a **keynote speaker** for a program, a service club, or appropriate organization.

If you would like to support any or all of these activities or would like more information about any of these programs, write Michael L. Mills, Executive Vice President of the Michigan State Chamber Foundation, 600 South Walnut, Lansing, Michigan 48933. Or call at (517) 371-2100.

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