

# A Meeting of Minds

On the 60<sup>th</sup> year since the publication of *The Fountainhead*, join us for a day celebrating rational individualism. From Ayn Rand's themes of love and work, to the threats facing a free society and human progress, *A Meeting of Minds* offers excellent society and intellectual stimulation in the dynamic ambience of autumn in Manhattan. The expert speakers include **David Kelley, Alan Charles Kors, Susan McCloskey, Robert Bidinotto, and Edward Hudgins.**

## The Objectivist Center

The Objectivist Center is a think tank promoting a free society and its cultural foundations: a commitment to reason, individualism, and human achievement as cardinal values. Its work is based on the ideas of novelist and philosopher Ayn Rand, author of *The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged* and founder of a new philosophy of rational individualism that she called Objectivism.

The Center promotes freedom and its cultural foundations through conferences, public speeches and debates, books, articles, and other publications. Its monthly magazine *Navigator* applies the principles of Objectivism to issues in business, art and literature, education, intellectual trends, personal values, and other areas. Its weeklong Summer Seminar draws hundreds of people each year for lectures on philosophy, art, politics, psychology, and self-improvement.

The Center's work has been featured in numerous publications, including *USA Today*, ABC-TV's *20/20*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Washington Post*, and many others. Center spokesmen comment frequently on current issues in radio and television interviews and Op-Ed commentaries.

The Center is a not-for-profit organization supported by contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations. For more information about the Center and its work, contact:

The OBJECTIVIST CENTER, 11 Raymond Avenue, Suite 31, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603, or call 1-800-374-1776, or e-mail [toc@objectivistcenter.org](mailto:toc@objectivistcenter.org).

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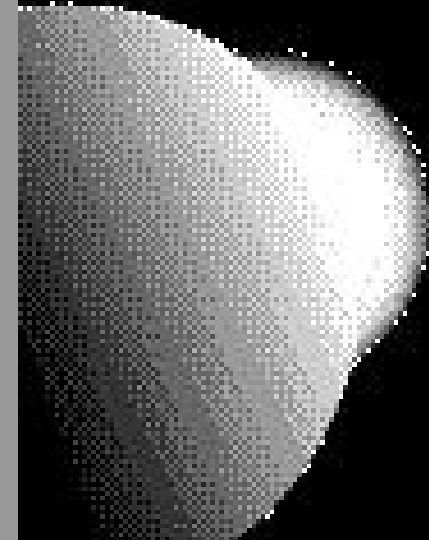
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Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

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THE OBJECTIVIST  
CENTER

November 1  
2003

AMERICAN  
MANAGEMENT  
ASSOCIATION,  
48TH & BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY



## Saturday Morning

9:30 – 10:00 **Registration/Exhibits**

10:00 **Opening Remarks**

10:15 – 11:15

### **Robert Bidinotto, “Death by Environmentalism”**

Environmentalists see inherent clashes between the “artificial and the natural worlds”—between human values and the alleged “intrinsic value” of untouched nature. Environmental regulations to restrict man’s impact on nature have had grave consequences...not only for human economic activity, but for actual human survival. Robert Bidinotto, a veteran environmental reporter and commentator, shows how environmentalist premises, codified in policies and laws, have caused the deaths of millions of people worldwide.

Robert Bidinotto is an award-winning writer and lecturer who reports on cultural and political issues. A former Staff Writer for *Reader’s Digest*, he authored high-profile investigative exposes on environmental issues including global warming, the 1989 Alar scare, and the ozone depletion issue. He is author of *The Green Machine*, a monograph published by The Objectivist Center that critically examines the environmentalist philosophy and movement. He is editor of The Atlas Society Web site for the Center, and runs a new Web site, [www.ecoNOT.com](http://www.ecoNOT.com), focusing on environmentalism.

### **Break/Exhibits**

11:30 – 12:30

### **Susan McCloskey, “Love and Work in *The Fountainhead*”**

The characters in *The Fountainhead* speak often about love—the world, of themselves and one another, and especially of their work. Indeed, the characters earn their places in the novel’s moral hierarchy in part through their ways of loving and working. What do *love* and *work* mean in the novel? Why do even the best characters struggle to find happiness in their experiences as lovers and workers? This lecture explores Rand’s development of these themes, which are so deeply allied that they are sometimes indistinguishable, and the literary means she used to develop them.

Susan McCloskey is the president of McCloskey Writing Consultants, a former professor of English literature, and a frequent lecturer at The Objectivist Center’s Summer Seminars.

## Saturday Afternoon

12:30 – 2:00 **Lunch/Exhibits**

2:00 – 3:30

### **David Kelley and Edward Hudgins, “America in the World”**

Terrorism, war, conflicts with our allies... At a time of heightened risk and confrontation, it’s important to know what we stand for. Above and beyond our physical safety, America has always claimed to fight for its ideals. What are those ideals? What should they be? What are the values we should protect at home and promote abroad? And who are our allies in this mission? Does America still share a community of values with the Old World? Differences over Middle Eastern policy, as well as Europe’s increasingly statist, big-government policies, raise the question of whether Europe and America are drifting apart in culture and values. Is Western Europe still part of the West? These are the issues for a panel session with David Kelley, the Center’s executive director and Edward Hudgins, its Washington director.

3:30 – 4:00 **Break/Exhibits**

4:00 – 5:00

### **Alan Charles Kors, “Betrayal of Individual Liberty and Dignity on America’s Campuses”**

Most critics of higher education emphasize the degradation and politicization of the academic disciplines, which indeed merit intense criticism. There has been a yet more striking and ominous betrayal of mind, morality, empirical truth, and dignity, however, in the university *in loco parentis* (standing in the place of parents), where higher education has engaged in a systematic assault upon individual identity, individual rights, individual responsibility, legal equality, and human dignity. Under the banner of group rights, group entitlements, and the fraud of academic multiculturalism, colleges and universities coercively seek to impose a frightening anti-individualist and illiberal orthodoxy on students, revealing a cold contempt for the critical minds of those whom they entice to matriculate. Our institutions of higher education must be exposed and brought to account.

Throughout his distinguished career as a professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania, Alan Charles Kors has been a courageous and effective defender of academic freedom. He is a founder and co-director of The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, which has defended students and teachers against infringements of their freedom of speech by more than 200 colleges and universities, private and public, large and small. Professor Kors has earned an international reputation for his work on the Enlightenment era in European intellectual history. In addition to numerous publications, he has recorded two courses for The Teaching Company: “The Birth of the Modern Mind” and “Voltaire: The Mind of the Enlightenment.” Among many other honors, he has served on the Council of the National Endowment of the Humanities.

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THE OBJECTIVIST CENTER

NOVEMBER 1, 2003

AMERICAN  
MANAGEMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
48th & Broadway  
New York City

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

	Early Registration Due October 17	After October 17
Regular Fee	\$125	\$150
Student Fee	\$75	\$100

*The conference price includes admission to the lectures and the exhibition hall, coffee breaks, and lunch.*

Number of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_, payable to  
*The Objectivist Center.*

Please bill my: Mastercard Visa AMEX

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Register by mail, phone, fax, or on our website.

Individuals or organizations interested in exhibiting at the conference should e-mail Jamie Dorrian at [jdorrian@objectivistcenter.org](mailto:jdorrian@objectivistcenter.org).