 **Weekly Free Speech Forum** established Jan. 6, 1951

#####  College of Complexes

 **The Playground for People Who Think**

sustaining the academic tradition of **“One Fool at a Time”**





March 28th **In Defense of the One Percent**

Meeting # 3,318 - David Ramsay Steele, a Chicago-based

libertarian writer



April 4th **The Rise and Fall of the Neoconservatives**

Meeting # 3,319 – college regular Donald Richie

****April 11th **Dialectical Materialism:  A Social, Physical**

**and Biological Law and Structure**

Meeting # 3,320 - Sid Cohen discusses the process about

how change comes about in the world.

April 18th **Special Earth Day Speakers: Debate**

**What Kind of Energy Future Do We Want?**

Meeting # 3,321 - John Kutsch, Thorium Energy Alliance (TEA) vs.

Dennis Nelson, Nuclear Energy Information Service (NEIS)

April 25thh **An Alternative Approach to a One-State of Israel/Palestine** Meeting # 3,322 – Howard Cort – more info at:

<http://approachestocoexistence.com/Approaches%20to%20Coexistence.html>

May 2nd **Special May Day Program Film:** [**Cesar Chavez: History is Made One Step at a Time**](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=9&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CFwQFjAI&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cesarchavezmovie.com%2F&ei=kdO7VMuPG4yaNqKegOAM&usg=AFQjCNEstLPHLytjg4q_1QlaaZ5oOLzv8w&sig2=8pSBJ0CsRADzboZHGmjx4g)

Meeting # 3,323 - The film follows Chávez's efforts to organize 50,000 farm workers in [California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California), some of whom were [braceros](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bracero_Program) - temporary workers required to return to Mexico if they stopped working. The film touches on several major nonviolent campaigns by the UFW: the [Delano grape strike](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delano_grape_strike), the [Salad Bowl strike](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salad_Bowl_strike), and the 1975 Modesto march.

May 9th **European Chocolate: Nobody Knows the**

**Truffles I’ve Seen** Meeting # 3,324 - Greg Sedbrook

Discover how to find some of the world’s best chocolate. We’ll discuss what makes chocolate good—*and* good for you. Greg has been to Europe’s best chocolate festivals, factories, shops, and museums.

May 16th **9/11 and Revolution**

 **The Political Implications** Meeting # 3,325 - In this

presentation historian Ted Aranda lays out more facts of the 9/11 events as well as the incident's wider political implications. He says, “The U.S. government used this disguised homicidal act as the pretext to wage endless, utterly unjustified war, and to construct an Orwellian police/surveillance/military state.”

****May 23rd **Red Hollywood with short clips to be shown**

**Were There Communists in the Film Industry?**

Meeting # 3,326 - Playwright, producer, and general troublemaker Mike Flores takes us on a journey with clips of the communist influence on Hollywood.  From the films made, to the films blocked, how Hollywood aided and abetted Stalin.

May 30th **Automation and the 21st Century Workforce**

Meeting # 3,327 – Allan Lindrup - British researchers Osborne and Frey have found that 47% of current jobs in the U.S. work force are at high likelihood be being automated within the next computer generation, roughly by 2035.  What are some of the economic, social and political issues/ramifications that will ensue, and how should American society address these?   Looking further out, human emulations are expected to become technologically feasible sometime during the last half of this century.  What are the societal implications and issues that would accompany that?

June 6th **Corrupt Illinois - Patronage, Cronyism and Criminality**

Meeting # 3,328 – Author Thomas J. Gradel spent 35 years as a media consultant and served on the staff of Governor Dan Walker. He is a freelance writer and political researcher.  "Corrupt Illinois is the most comprehensive account of corruption in our state ever published. It proposes cures, which will take decades to implement fully, but which deserve our attention now."

****June 13 **Chemtrails / GeoEngineering - Fantasy or Reality?**

Meeting # 3,329 – Nancy Hill, who asks: “Look at the sky...ever wonder why all those stripes are there, and why our sun gets hazed over almost daily? Why are we seeing sun halos, sun dogs, and scalar clouds so frequently…and such violent weather?”

****She noticed geoengineering being practiced in the form of "solar radiation management," sun dimming, or "albedo management" for the first time over a year ago, and has logged each day's observations since. She has over a thousand photos documenting these observations as well. Having thoroughly researched the issue, and spoken to some of the most involved experts from all over the world - she is still searching for answers, as we all should.

Nancy is a passionate nature photographer & birder. She has been actively involved in various environmental issues including habitat restoration, mountaintop removal, and various coal related issues.

June 20th **The Root Causes and Solutions to World Problems**  (poverty, crime, etc.) **10 Significant Facts**

Meeting # 3,330 - Tom O’Donnell - a 19 yr old independent researcher promises an innovative and simple presentation explaining root causes of and solutions to crime, poverty and poisonous environment, derived at by observation and scientific analysis, with information on 10 significant facts.

June 27th **Open**

 Meeting # 3,331 - Contact Program Coordinator Charles Paidock if you

would like to speak, or know of an individual or organization we shouldinvite at (**312) 842-5036, (312) 714-7790 cell o**r cpaidock@hotmail.com

July 4th **There is No Such Thing as On-Line Privacy: When You Log On, So Do They**

Meeting # 3,332 – Tim Bolger looks at privacy issues in using the internet.

July 11th **Meeting # 3,333**

**Three Things This Country Needs to Do**

**Open Invitation to All to Make a Brief Presentation**

Meeting # 3,333 – contact the Program Coordinator Charles Paidock if you would like to speak

****July 18, 25 **Open**

Meeting # 3,334, 35 – contact the Program Coordinator Charles Paidock if you would like to speak at (312) 842-5036, (312) 714-7790 cell or cpaidock@hotmail.com

 **Saturdays Presentation at 6:00 PM**

**Please Note: New Location + Starting Time**

**$3 Tuition, dinner optional**

**Hilltop Restaurant 6-9:00 PM**

**2800 West Foster Ave / at California**

**Free Parking, #92 Foster CTA bus from Jeff Park**

**Blue Line, Berwyn Red Line L Stations**

[**www.collegeofcomplexes.org**](http://www.collegeofcomplexes.org)

**Solicitation for Speakers**

If you would like to make a presentation, or know of an individual or organization

we should invite, contact: Charles Paidock, Program Coordinator at **(312) 842-5036**

**or (312) 714-7790** cell, email: **cpaidock@hotmail.com**

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**To Disquiet the Minds of the People**

 **“the legendary forum for free-thinkers and iconoclasts”** Chicago Tribune

 **“the entire spectrum of ideas…to the very far out”** Lerner Newspapers

 **“always ahead of its time, or completely out of step with it”** Chicago Reader

 **“people who have strong opinions on every topic under the sun,**

 **or beyond it”** Chicago Sun-Times

“**a weekly debate group that attracts outsiders and political obsessives”** Chicago Magazine

 **“rabble rousers who argue the pros and cons of everything”** Time Out Chicago

**Statement on Free Speech**

Our constitution and laws encourage the freest possible exchange of opinions, ideas, and information. In part, that recognizes our worth and dignity as human beings. To forbid us to speak our minds demeans us and makes us more like slaves or robots than citizens of a free country. But as important as freedom of expression is for us as individuals, it is perhaps more important to society at large.

**Studia Humanitatis** (“the studies of human things”)

Pico della Mirandola (1463-1494) exhibited an immoderate ambition to study and know everything. He was the Renaissance man *par excellence*. By age twenty-three Pico believed himself the equal in learning of any man alive. In a daunting challenge, perhaps unequaled in history, he proposed to defend a list of nine hundred theses (*Conclusiones* *Nongentae in Omni Genere Scientiarum* – “900 Conclusions in Every Kind of Science”) drawn from various authors. He invited scholars from all of Europe to come to Rome to dispute with him publicly.

The public battle of minds never happened. Unfortunately for Pico, his list of topics came to the attention of the Vatican, which declared thirteen of them heretical. Pico, stunned, issued an immediate recantation. This was insufficient to keep him out of prison. (A History of Knowledge: Past Present and Future – Charles Van Doren)

Were Pico alive today, I believe he would have become a “regular” at the College of Complexes, and participate in our own public battle of minds. Although none of us is as massive an intellect as Pico, each of us has at least a few theses we might like to defend. Nevertheless, if you’re interested in studia humanitatis, join us some Saturday evening. And you won’t be put in prison.

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