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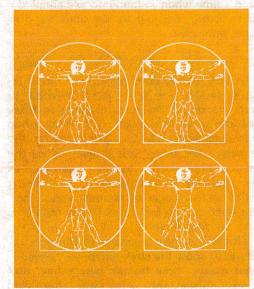
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## **RAMPART** INSTITUTE



# The New Renaissance





Like the immortal bird Phoenix, Rampart Institute arose from the ashes of a long deceased organization that once held the respect and admiration of many in the movement for individual liberty. Opening its doors in 1956, Rampart College, originally located in the Rampart Range of the Colorado Mountains, became defunct in

early 1975. Ever since its demise, a tremendous gap in the studies of liberty and free market economics has been apparent.

## The Dark Side of Liberty

With the passing of Rampart College, numerous organizations and institutes have tried to fill the vacuum. Although these groups purport to expound liberty, most have in fact become tied to political philosophy, partisan activities and promiscous statecraft, spending thousands of dollars on election campaigns, lobbying efforts and attempts to impress the political world. There has never been a time when so many people are pledged to liberty, and yet so few understand its basic principles.

## The Source of Liberty

Usually, liberty does not come from a nation's capitol, or from vote-gathering in precincts or by the masses trying to force freedom upon others; rather it comes when individuals learn how to apply liberty for him or herself on an individual level. Since the dawn of time, liberty has rarely been seen as the simple affirmation that each human being is the best manager of his own affairs, and that to coerce an individual in any fashion is tantamount to slavery.

This is the main message of Rampart Institute, to show the stark difference betweenwhat makes some human beings free, and others subservient. And with this vital

knowledge, we hope to raise from the ashes of ignorance a new enlightenment, a renaissance of scholarship and education to push back the darkness that threatens the liberty/individualist philosophy.

## Why Rampart Institute?

There are only a handful of individuals who have real understanding of liberty. Yet, compared to the 1940's and 1950's, the knowledge of liberty has increased dramatically. Currently, there is a strong revival of interest in liberty and free market economics. It appears that the liberty movement is on the threshold of a new era, an era which may once and for all establish individualism as the predominant influence opposing authoritarian ideas and measures.

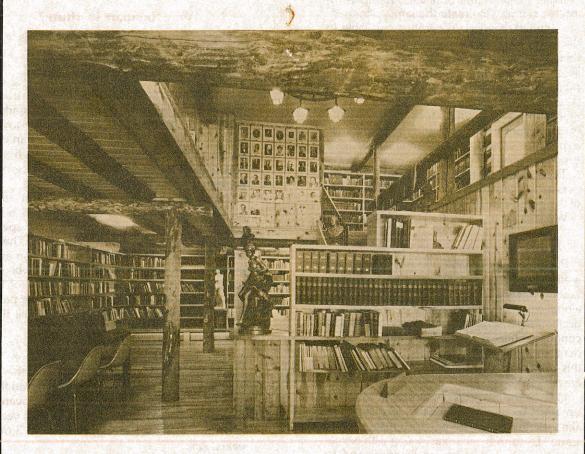
This effervescence of interest in the freedom philosophy has been nurtured by a small number of teachers who have spent decades teaching bedrock principles. These ideas have spread throughout the nation and the world with limited success. The problem, as with any idea, is that the bright star of today could be a dim remembrance of the past. There is cause for hope today, but will this situation last?

Ideas are often short-lived. The steam engine, for instance, was first discovered in 100 B.C. by Hero. But nobody knew this in England before James Watt re-discovered the principal. An electrical circuit was uncovered in an archaelogical dig in Egypt several years ago, in a tomb sealed approximately 3,600 years ago.

The point is, ideas can die. They can be ignored, neglected or banished by massive doses of propaganda.

The principles that caused a people to revolt against the coercion of British rule, died after several generations. People forget, and political leaders take advantage of this forgetfullness. It is true that men perish and that ideas can continue to grow, but this is usually

## Former Rampart College's Library Located in Colorado



## **Rose Wilder Lane Library**

Consisting of about 8,000 books, the Rose Wilder Lane Library (above) was built in the mid 1960's at Rampart College (also known as the Freedom School) near Colorado Springs, Colorado. The library was moved in 1968 when Rampart College relocated in Santa Ana, California, and in the late 1970's was sold to a university in Taxon.



The library consisted of many first editions that could not be found anywhere else. Besides economics and history, the library consisted of many literary works, including a whole section of Shakespearian plays.

The two-story library was combined with a private reading room, study tables and a 100-seat classroom. Constructed from pine, the library was part of the Rose Wilder Lane building, a three-story structure in the middle of Rampart College.

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the exception and not the rule. Often when the founders or re-discoverers of ideas die or fade, their ideas fade with them.

Rampart Institute was founded to insure the survival of past knowledge of liberty. In "Project: Intellectual Survival," Rampart Institue is trying to create the largest library of individualist/libertarian literature available in the world. like the great library of Alexandria, Rampart Institute plans to combine the library with study rooms, lecture halls and perhaps a near-by college. Furthermore, to secure the traditions of truth and liberty for all time, Rampart Institute hopes to establish the Institute/library and college in a location independent of any governmental interference (free-port island, for instance).

These are long-range goals, but are neccessary to insure that the wealth of knowledge of the past will be preserved for the future.

We can do no less for liberty's sake.

## For Rampart Institute to Succeed

For Rampart Institute to succeed, much work is needed. Gone is Robert LeFevre's Liberty Library of more than 10,000 books, along with several publications, a board of distinguished scholars, and a large building to conduct seminars, workshops and independent studies. Rampart Institute is trying to put this program back together, but it will take time and money.

One of the projects of Rampart Institute is an effort to retrieve LeFevre's former library (known in Colorado as the "Rose Widler Lane" Library) from Texas, along with collections now in other private libraries; and to locate a center in which to house the library, a bookstore, lecture rooms and publishing facilities. This center will enable us to publish books, produce educational films and organize mountain retreat seminars, and will become a meeting place for leading scholars and activists from around the world.

Currently, Rampart Institute is housed in a small office in Santa Ana, California; coin-

cidentally, the same city which housed the now-defunct Rampart College from 1968-1975. However, this small beginning is only a stepping stone to larger facilities.

## The Founding of Rampart Institute

Rampart Institute was founded in 1980 at the honoring banquet for Robert LeFevre during the 8th Future of Freedom Conference at Cypress College. Called "A Tribute to Robert LeFevre," the April 19 banquet saw more than 100 persons in attendance, with testimonials from nine prominent community leaders: Richard T. Radford, author; Harry Hoiles, part-owner of Freedom Newspapers, Inc. (including the Orange County based The Register); Richard Deyo, attorney-at law; John Roscoe, businessman; Linda Abrams, attorney-at-law; Chuck Estes, businessman; Shawn Steel, attorney-at-law; Walt Ryan, businessman; and Caroline Roper-Deyo, writer.

### Tax-Deductible Status

In November, 1981, Rampart Institute received official tax-exempt, tax-deductible status 501(c)(3) from the Internal Revenue Service. Rampart Institute is also incorporated in the State of California as a non-profit, educational institution.



Robert LeFevre accepting the Future of Freedom Award from Lawrence Samuels at the tribute banquet.