LYM Cadre School: Making a Renaissance

by Anna Shavin and Ali Sharaf, LYM

The idea for a Week of Action spanning the LaRouche Youth Movement's (LYM) West Coast cadre school April 22-23, and the Democratic Party Convention in Sacramento April 28-29, developed out of a proposal by LYM member Oyang Teng, who recognized that the Convention would give our work national significance. California is now the center of the fight between Lyndon LaRouche and Felix Rohatyn, and the Democratic Convention that we will be walking into, will be the site of a meeting on the call for impeachment of both Bush and Cheney by the State Legislature.

And the moment is only this great because we have prepared to make it great.

Two months ago, LYM members in Los Angeles created a reading list around the program LaRouche has outlined, which is available on the LYM website (www.wlym.com). The list was created as a curriculum which would give us the concepts to carry out the sharpest organizing possible at the convention. The main emphasis is on LaRouche's economics and epistemology: The list includes *Scientific Thought as a Planetary Phenomenon* and other works by V.I. Vernadsky, the Reports to Congress by Alexander Hamilton, and various intelligence reports from *EIR*. The list was chosen to focus the work on LaRouche's core concepts, to show the policymakers why certain projects are necessary; and the fight over how to fund them is crucial.

Up and down the coast, LYM Monge Brigades approached the task in different ways: Some divided the work up and reported back to each other, while other groups focussed on one aspect to master. In Seattle, groups were created to look at the different areas, and each gave a class on a subject. This is where the classes during the Week of Action are coming from. Then we took on the big one: working through Riemann's "Habilitation Dissertation" at the cadre school. And that now opens up more of a discussion on work we have done on the Gauss papers on curvature, making the connection to the mathematics and to the LaRouche-Riemann concept of measurement more clear.

The other driver for this event is our organizing. We are asserting LaRouche's and the movement's role in a much more up-front way. There is confidence that what we are doing is better than what anyone else is doing, and it's really fun. As Sky Shields noted about the campuses, anyone looking for the best will gravitate towards what we are

EIRNS/Robert Detloff

At the LYM West Coast cadre school April 22-23, Jason Ross used a copper wire, plunged into soapy water, to form a bubble in the shape of a catenoid. He showed that the oscillating circles taken at any given moment on the curve show that the forces on either side must be equal.

doing, and from that standpoint, our recruitment potential is unlimited.

'The Most Important Event of Our Lives'

Cody Jones opened up the cadre school by declaring, "This is the most important event of our lives." He identified the various financial bubbles of the economic collapse, and then hit on the denial of reality that is driving the response of the Baby Boomer generation.

The Oakland office has been looking at the characteristics of minimal surfaces. And to introduce the concept of potential for their presentation on the Apollo Project, Jason Ross worked through some real bubbles. He stuck copper wire in a bucket of soap and showed that the shape of the bubble (a catenoid) is determined by its attempt to minimize the total force. He showed that the oscillating circles taken at any given moment on the curve show that the forces on either side must be equal. Why does space do that? What would it be like if space wasn't organized according to least action? We ended promptly at 12 midnight, to make sure people were up for breakfast at 6:30 a.m. and LaRouche's cadre school presentation at 8 a.m.

After LaRouche addressed us by telephone, a contact from Seattle came up to at least two organizers proclaiming, "I can't go back to class after this!" He will be organizing with us this week.

Jeff Steinberg presented to us the two-phase process in which the U.S. Constitution was formed. He began with the crucial role that the young generals played, that is, Lafayette, Hamilton, and also von Steuben, especially, the absolutely important roles that Lafayette and Hamilton played in the first and second phases of the revolution. It was a fight all the way until the last signature was placed on the Constitution, and even then, the fight was not over, but was taken further by Lincoln with the Emancipation Proclamation. That this is living history, which continues into our Week of Action and the convention intervention, was made very clear.

Riemann's 'Habilitation Dissertation'

Next, there was an extended six-hour read-through of Riemann's 1854 "Habilitation Dissertation." All 140 youth got a copy of the 1854 paper, and then the six-hour "jihad" started.

"Plan of the investigation": The first section contains the concept of the whole paper. So, after reading each paragraph, there was explanation with a small pedagogy. Travis Johnson tackled the assumptions of Euclid. Tarranja Dorsey, to demonstrate a mode of determination that is continuous, passed out crayons and had the group try to order their colors. We worked with a paper square and tried to measure the side of the square with its diagonal by folding. Oops! Not so easy. There is no piece of the side by which there can be found an entity that can measure the hypotenuse. The so-called facts we get in our schooling about geometry are only hypotheses, and their certainty is not at all self-evident.

So, how do you measure the length of a line that wraps around a cone? Or the length of a line where something is not linear? Mike Steger and Ross used this to look at what Riemann develops in Section 2: that the length of a line must be independent of position. You need a different idea of length, as a fixed location, explained Ross using the example of a balloon, full of air, which is let go. As it travels around the room, it is releasing air, the pressure, volume, x and y change, according to what? What is the measure that determines the rest of the components? In this case, time. In that way, you've created a line that is outside of position.

Shields began by developing Kaestner's defense of Leibniz, and then used elements of the Leibniz-Clarke debate to show how Leibniz uses 1) the principle of contradiction, and 2) sufficient reason. Jones looked at the real world application of Riemann in Vernadsky. Six hours wasn't enough time to master the entire Dissertation! But now, people have an idea where we can go.

Creating 'Renaissance Men and Women'

In the evening, Michele Steinberg gave us the history of the National Caucus of Labor Committees, LaRouche's philosophical association. A member is to be a Renaissance

Man or Woman, engaged in study of economics, physical science, and areas of music and art and philology: At a certain point, a field should be studied at the level and effort of a Ph.D. course. She went through the political work of the Labor Committees, and showed how every individual fight that they faced always came from the flank that LaRouche was executing, based on what was happening in the world at that moment.

The roving wake-up singing crew made the rounds at 6:30 a.m. again, and we began the day with the significance of the LaRouche-Riemann method as applied to the Apollo program. This work came out of a section of LaRouche's "Powers Are Always Universals: Cauchy's Infamous Fraud" paper (*EIR,* April 1, 2005). Before discussing the specific aspects of the Apollo Project, we set up a physical concept of potential (from Gauss's paper). Ross followed up on the work he was doing on Friday night, to pose the difference between measuring objects (the heights of two people) and measuring principles, using *vis viva* as his example. Liona Fan-Chiang described the spinoffs that came from NASA, making the point that everything that has been produced in the past 50 years is related to the space program. Oyang Teng discussed the role that a nation-state plays in a science driver. People think about this totally wrong. He showed that President Kennedy drove the whole project from the standpoint of accomplishing the impossible, totally aware of the effects it would have on private industry and spinoffs. The most human quality about government is that it acts as an organizing principle, driven by the idea that the future has an efficient reality. And that contributed to the science of the space program, because as science gets farther away from production, it gets more and more weird. Jonathan Stuart presented the areas of science that LaRouche has put out there—optical biophysics, increased energy densities, and particle-beam technology.

Do you know how wonderful nature is? That potentially dangerous question led into a discussion of the complex functions a leaf carries out, for example, the coordination of the chloroplasts to harness the Sun's energy. Imagine standing in the middle of a nuclear reactor, the amount of noise, vibrating, and heat that you would sense. How does the leaf stay so calm, cool, and collected?

After the Apollo presentation, Harley Schlanger introduced the first Haydn string quartet by Mozart. Schlanger, Myhoa Steger, Anna Shavin, and Eric Thomas, played the quartet (K. 387) to demonstrate the Bachian principles in Mozart-Haydn collaboration.

The political discussion at the end of the weekend was very focussed on the upcoming week's deployment. We concentrated on the point that LaRouche had made: that the Youth Movement is now ready for adulthood. If you see yourself as the vanguard of leadership, you need to think about the generations coming after you. So, we are looking forward to challenges we don't expect, which will cause us to be better than we are today.