 **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”**

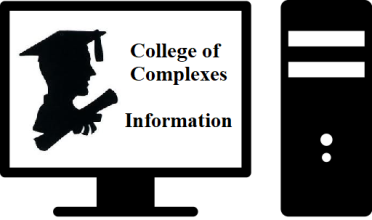
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**Every Saturday Main Page**

**at 6:00 PM** [**www.collegeofcomplexes.org**](http://www.collegeofcomplexes.org)

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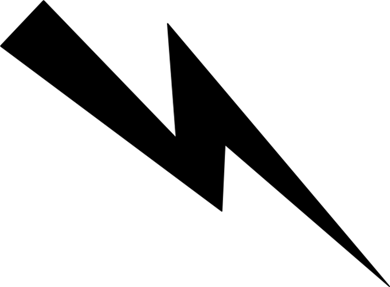
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April 10th **Special Earth Day Speaker I**

**The Texas Power Grid System:**

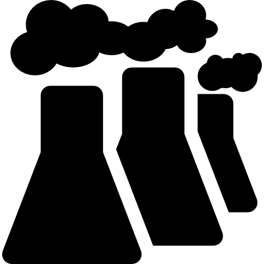
**what recently went wrong and why?**

Meeting # 3,611 - Pete Dove

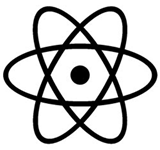
The presentation explains how the Texas power system works and why it is different from other systems in the US. It explains the history, components and entities that are involved, and who controls the system. It then explains what recently went wrong in the February 2021 winter storm, what caused it and what happened as a result of it. It then discusses the future, not only for Texas but the entire US and how the industry is going to be able to deal with climate change and the ability to meet zero carbon emissions by 2050, based upon current plans, future demand and projections.

 I am a retired Master Mariner with a BSc in Nautical Science. I was born in London. After sailing the oceans for 25 years, I became involved with the offshore oil business, and came to the US in 1975 after being offered the job of Marine Superintendent of a large Offshore Drilling Contractor. Later on I worked for energy contractors and in in 1986, started my own company where we worked on new ideas for floating production and power generation. I am a US citizen with middle of the road politics.

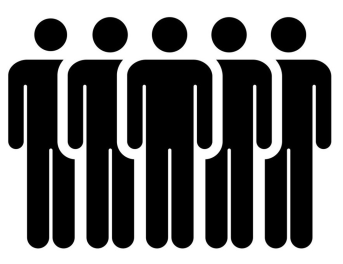
April 17th **Special Earth Day Speaker II**

**Expand Nuclear Power Now!**

Meeting # 3,612 - Nancy Bradeen Spannaus, Author of Hamilton Versus Wall Street: The Core Principles of the American System of Economics

 Speaker states that: "It is not only necessary, but urgent that the new Administration and U.S. Congress act immediately to expand investment in nuclear power. Such an investment conforms perfectly with Alexander Hamilton’s principles for the American System in two crucial ways. First, it puts the “mechanical genius” of the American people to work in the most advanced, efficient, and safe means of producing energy yet invented. Second, it fulfills the responsibility of the Federal government to stimulate technological progress and prosperity for our nation today, and its posterity."

April 24th **Special Earth Day Speaker III**

**Eco-Socialism: An Introduction**

**Organizing to Replace Capitalism with the Solidarity Economy**

Meeting # 3,613 - Rich Whitney, Green Eco-Socialist Network

****In the U.S. and around the world, there is a growing movement in support of the “solidarity economy,” which aims to build democratic worker-owned cooperatives and other community-based organizations that can serve as the building blocks of a new economic system. This movement is compatible with the aims of the Green Party, as expressed in the “Eco-Socialist” platform provisions adopted by the party in 2016. But what do these terms – the “solidarity economy” and “eco-socialism” – actually mean? In this presentation, Rich Whitney will provide an introduction and an opening argument for supporting these movements.

Rich Whitney is an attorney from Carbondale, Illinois, now working as an appellate public defender. He is one of the founding members of the Illinois Green Party and served as the Party's first candidate

****for Governor in 2006, winning over 360,000 votes. His current activist roles include serving as co-chair of the Illinois Green Party, interim chair of the Green Eco-Socialist Network, and is very engaged in the peace and environmental movements. He is also a Green public official, serving as Vice-Chair for the Jackson County Mass Transit District. He provides regular political commentary and is a volunteer DJ at community radio station WDBX in Carbondale.

****

May 1st **Special May Day Speaker**

**The Entire History of Work**

**in ½ Hour**

Meeting # 3,614 - labor activist Charles Paidock

the story of the human activity termed labor from the cavemen to computers, from working for yourself on the farm, to working for another in a factory

****May 8th **Kathy Kelly, Peace Activist and Pacifist**

**The Wouds of War:**

**Iraq, Afghanistan, and Yemen - U.S. Accountability and a Call for Reparations**

Meeting # 3,615 - Kathy Kelly is an American peace activist, pacifist and author. As part of peace team work in several countries, she has traveled to Iraq twenty-six times, notably remaining in combat zones during the early days of both US–Iraq wars.

May 15th **Should Chicago Be a State Separate from Illinois?**

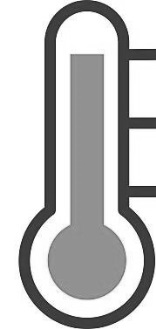
Meeting # 3,616 – Justin Tucker, New Illinois Cook County Committee

Justin Tucker will present a slideshow that makes the case that political separation between Chicago and the rest of Illinois is a practical solution to address the differences between rural and urban Illinoisians.

ABOUT US

New Illinois is a nonprofit organization that educates Illinois citizens about their right to pursue the creation of new state from the State of Illinois. We are seeking a state split, following the process provided in the U.S. Constitution (Article IV, Sec. 3). This is the same way that West Virginia split from Virginia.

New Illinois is a nonpartisan, educational nonprofit. We are addressing a longstanding divide in the State of Illinois. This divide is not between Democrats and Republicans—it is urban vs. rural, small town and suburban. We are two very different places, both culturally and economically. Legislation and policies addressing the needs and best interests of a major urban area like Chicago/Cook County are not necessarily in the best interests of the rest of the state.

 The issues New Illinois focuses on are representative government, government corruption, and our state’s fiscal catastrophe.

May 22nd **Climate Crisis Policy and**

**The Earth Bill Network**

**The Ideas to Save Life on Earth**

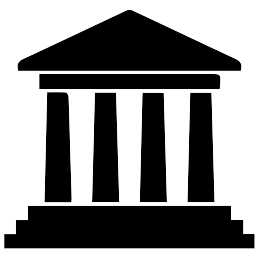
Meetings # 3,617 - J. Todd Fernandez, LLM

Executive & Legislative Director

Has compiled a digest of policy ideas from over 150 expert sources,

all you need to know to stop global warming! - Check out the 2020 Climate Bill Package

A nationwide group of expert volunteers and organizations working together to pass scientifically-based federal climate legislation to stop our current pollution now before it’s too late for our children and all life on Earth.

 Everyone is welcome to our inclusive and transparent organizing. Our Policy Teams are compiling The EARTH Bill, a comprehensive climate bill, and the 2021 Climate BIll Package for immediate action. On the ground, community-based Adopt-A-District teams are working by Congressional Districts for powerful advocacy. Volunteer to join the action today!

It is recommended that everyone should study the “Digest” compiled to show the Solutions to the Climate Crisis so we might unite across topics for concerted political power. Learn the solutions and get ready to fight for Mother Earth. All are welcome! <https://www.climatecrisispolicy.org/>

May 29th **Divest Chicago from the War Machine Coalition**

Meetings # 3,618 - Greta, Organizing Director, World BEYOND War et al

​Presentation will be "about the emerging campaign to divest the city of Chicago from weapons and war. The coalition consists of a number of member groups, including World BEYOND War, CODEPINK, and Chicago Area Peace Action, who would jointly give a presentation followed by facilitating discussion."



June 5th **Open**

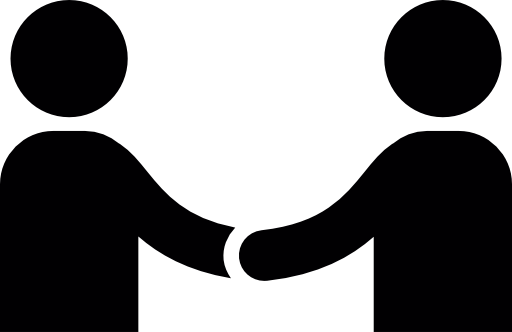
26th Meetings # 3,619 - contact the Program Coordinator Charles Paidock if you

would like to speak at (312) 842-5036, (312) 714-7790 cell, or by email to [cpaidock@hotmail.com](mailto:cpaidock@hotmail.com)

June 12th **Zen and the Art of Non-Conflict**

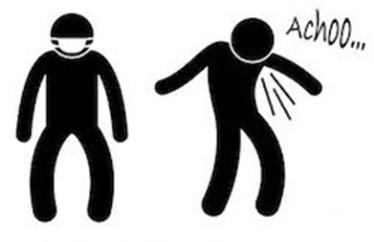
Meeting # 3,620 -

College regular Michael Kazanjian will tell us how nation states do not have to go to war. He maintains that by military-diplomacy ergonomics, designed around soft power, will make a difference and bring about a peaceful world without hard power war.

 **Soft power** is defined as: civil affairs teams working local people to secure and restore social structures including education, religion, recreation, infrastructure, healthcare, transportation, government, utilities, and so on.

**Hard power** is defined as: guns, bombs, combat aircraft, the traditional, conventional military but also nuclear weapons, and involves combat as a means to victory by military personnel.

June 19th **Cuban Health Care**

**Chicago Cuba Coalition**

Meeting # 3,621 - description in development

**"Communist island nation could become the world’s smallest country to develop not just one, but multiple coronavirus vaccines."**

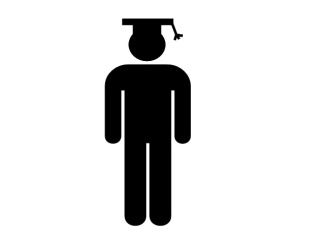
**Fifty-two Cuban doctors and medical professionals were sent to Italy to aid the country's fight against the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.**

Chicago Cuba Coalition is a group of organizations and individuals that come together in solidarity with revolutionary Cuba.

The Chicago Cuba Coalition – local affiliate of the National Network on Cuba (NNOC) – unites groups and individuals to stand for completely-normalized relations between Cuba and the United States while publicizing the accomplishments of the Cuban people’s Revolution.

We stand for free travel between the two countries and ending Washington’s economic and regime-change warfare as well as its illegal military occupation of Cuba’s Guantanamo territory.

Everyone interested in these goals – with no dues, restrictions, or requirements demanded – is more than welcome! Check out more information on our website: [www.chicagocubacoalition.com](http://www.chicagocubacoalition.com)

**Saturdays Presentation at 6:00 PM**

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