

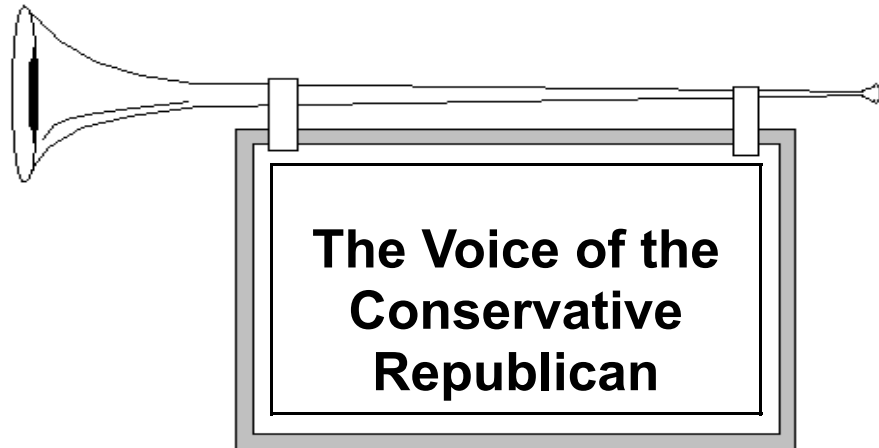
TAPROOT *Trumpet*

Vol. 38 No. 1

January 2004

**For if the
TRUMPET
give an
uncertain
sound, who
shall prepare
himself to the
battle?**

1 Cor. 14:8



TAPROOT Leadership for 2004

George Kocan Takes Charge

TAPROOT Republicans elected Warrenville resident George Kocan as its Chairman for 2004. Kocan, 58, previously served as the TAPROOT's First Vice-Chairman and now replaces Woodridge resident David Pittinger Jr. The political group held the election of officers at its annual Christmas party in Downers Grove, Illinois.

"I feel greatly honored by this election. I'll take this opportunity to thank the 2003 board for their service. Dave Pittinger and Don and Annette Smith helped the club at a particularly difficult time. Unfortunately, they are retiring from the board."

"Looking ahead, we plan to apply some shock and awe to Illinois politics and move it into the mainstream



Newly elected Chairman George Kocan and John Cox chat at TAPROOT's annual Christmas party.

**Ageing Rebel Visits
Naperville—see page 4**

where the conservatives live. I can hardly wait for the 2004 elections. I invite all the grassroots activists out there to join us," said Kocan.

The other board of directors include Dave Diersen, Wheaton, First (See page 2)

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PO Box 643

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Web Page: <http://www.taprootgop.org>

George Kocan
Chairman & Editor
630-393-6401
Fax: 630-393-0542
www.GeorgeKocan.com
E-mail: voteKocan@juno.com

Dave Diersen
1st Vice-Chairman
630-653-0462
Diersen@aol.com

Jack J. McInerney
2nd Vice-Chairman
312-965-5225 cell
McInerneyJack@yahoo.com

Carolyn Connell
Secretary
630-968-1565

Bob Graham
Treasurer
630-357-4846
E-mail: grahamgop@aol.com

Byrd Parmelee
Director

Art Thede
Director
630-968-8104
E-mail: artins@aol.com

Elden Brauer
Director

Dennis Driscoll
Director
773-281-3193
Djd1542@hotmail.com

Kocan takes charge, from p. 1

Vice-Chair; Jack McInerney, Homewood, Second Vice-Chair; Carolyn Connell, Downers Grove, Secretary; Bob Graham, Treasurer, Naperville; and four Directors: Byrd Parmelee, Glen Ellyn; Art Thede, Woodridge; Dennis Driscoll, Chicago; Elden Brauer, Wheaton.

The Christmas party also featured a legislative update from State Senator and Minority Whip Peter Roskam, representing Wheaton and surrounding towns. He criticized Governor Rod Blagojevich for raising government spending rather than cutting it as the mainstream press has reported.

Jim Oberweis, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, dropped in to say a few words about his campaign and treat the party-goers to his families' high quality ice-cream.

John Cox, who recently abandoned his candidacy to the U.S. Senate in favor of Elgin's State Senator Steve Rauchenberger, also dropped in with his Christmas greetings and announced his possible candidacy for the Cook County Recorder of Deeds. He would like to be elected so that he could "fire himself" and eliminate the office. Cox hosts his own radio program, "The Progressive Conservative", on WJGG, 1530 AM.

Since the beginning of 2003, all the Republican U.S. Senate candidates have come to TAPROOT's meetings to address conservative activists--Steve Rauschenberger, Jack Ryan, Andy McKenna, John Borling, Johathan Wright, Jim Oberweis and Chirinjeev Kathuria.

The January breakfast meeting, at the Lombard Old Country Buffet, will host the Rev. Mateen Ellass, an expert on Islam. The son of a Moslem father, schooled in Western philosophy, trained as an instructor in yoga and Eastern mysticism, Ellass converted to Christianity and now serves as a Presbyterian minister. See page 5.

Former State Senator George Ray Hudson, along with other conservative Republicans, formed the TAPROOT Republicans 38 years ago. Ever since, they have worked to bring the conservative message to the public and elect like-minded political candidates.

The organization is dedicated to preserving the U.S. Constitution and its guarantees of the right to life, moral decency, ownership of firearms, property rights, local government and low taxes.

'TAPROOT' stands for Traditions And Principles Republicans Often Overlook Today. Ω

Opinions expressed in the *Trumpet* belong to the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of TAPROOT Republicans or its Board.

Conservatives Celebrate with Pols

Two more Republican candidates for the U.S. Senate accepted TAPROOT's invitation to speak at its meetings.



Former Congressman Ed Derwinski speaks at TAPROOT's monthly breakfast meeting.

Ed Derwinski represented Jim Oberweis at the November 15 breakfast meeting. And Oberweis himself made an appearance at the group's Christmas party December 7.

entertained the group with his review of politics in Springfield, Dec. 7.

Jim Oberweis



Jim Oberweis visits Christmas Party.

Former congressman Ed Derwinski gave a thumb-nail review of Oberweis' conservative credentials. In 1966 the candidate from Kane County headed up College Students for Goldwater at the University of Illinois.

Since then Oberweis has proven himself to be an "old time conservative, a successful busi-

nessman, making good ice cream and a long time supporter of the party."

"Oberweis is the most electable," Derwinski declared.

Contact info: Jim Oberweis for Senate, 441/2 West Downers Place, Aurora, IL 60506; toll free 877-603-2004; office 630-301-7498; fax 630-301-7502; e-mail jim@oberweis2004.com; web www.oberweis2004.com.

Jonathan Wright

Also a candidate for the U.S. Senate, Jonathan Wright shared the stage with Ed Derwinski to promote his own campaign.

In support of his nomination, Wright, from Lincoln, Illinois, cited 18 months experience in the Illinois Senate. He promised to fight for conservative issues.

For example, he became chief sponsor of the Born Alive Infant Protection Act.

Contact: Citizens for Wright 2004, PO Box 82, Lincoln, IL 62656; office 217-732-3262; fax 217 732-3272; jonathanwright2004@yahoo.com; www.wright2004.com.

Peter Roskam

State Senator Peter Roskam, Wheaton, celebrated Christmas with TAPROOT at its annual party, December 7, in Downers Grove.

Roskam gave the group a brief review of politics in Springfield, where the Democrat Governor, Rod Blagojevich, "...is spending \$1 billion more than we know."

"We will borrow \$10 billion," Roskam continued, "with \$2 billion to fund current operations."

Roskam does not expect any decrease in spending because Blagojevich cannot alienate the labor unions, especially the public service union, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) which has even threatened to sue if the budget is cut.

Ω



Jonathan Wright speaks.



Peter Roskam addresses TAPROOT party-goers Dec. 7

How the end justifies the means

Ageing Rebel Looks to 2004 Election

by George Kocan

One of Saul Alinsky's top disciples, Ed Chambers, came to a Catholic parish in Naperville, Illinois, November 18, to promote his latest book, "Roots for Radicals". The title echoes that of one of Alinsky's books, "Rules for Radicals" which set out the author's ethical and organizing philosophy.

Most noteworthy in Alinsky's book is his acknowledgement of Lucifer as the first and ultimate rebel. Rebellion seems to be the consuming passion of both the master Alinsky and his acolyte, Chambers.

Before the talk started, Fr. Joel Fortier, Pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle parish, introduced the guest speaker to the group of 20 or so, which goes by the name of DuPage United. The Pastor admitted to being good friends with Chambers and having worked with him for many years. About a year and a half ago, he served at a parish in Bloomingdale, which he also brought into the DuPage United coalition.

DuPage United is a county-wide effort at politically organizing Christian churches, synagogues, mosques and other such institutions. It is a scheme to convince Republican suburbanites to fund projects that will promote the Democrat Party, something like the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

In 1995, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin gave one million dollars to the Chicago Metropolitan Sponsors (CMS) to hire IAF organizers to train members of Chicago churches in "community action". Ed Chambers heads IAF (Industrial Areas Foundation), an organization founded by Saul Alinsky. The CMS effort gave rise to another organization, United Power for Action and Justice (UPAJ), the parent group of DuPage United.

Among the co-sponsors with the Chicago Archdiocese of CMS were the Illinois Education Association and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, both reliable organs of the Democrat Party.

Incidentally, Chambers dedicated his book to Msgr. Jack Egan, another disciple of Saul Alinsky and former treasurer of IAF.

In his presentation at St. Thomas, Chambers, a gray-haired man in his 70's, noted that many religious persons recoil at the term, "power". There is nothing wrong, however, with power, the political organizer insisted. It can be used for good or for bad.

Power is used for bad in Iraq in the killing of inno-

cent civilians. We need power to operate in a democracy and to achieve social change, he explained. If something is wrong with assault weapons, correct it, he said, as he complained about some plan to undo the Brady Bill.

The author also complained about politicians who violate the boundaries between the public and the private. However, he failed to say exactly what this meant or to give any examples, except that former Republican President Ronald Reagan did it. This appeared to be the secret behind his political success. **In fact, Chambers admitted to watching Reagan on television and turning him off at one point because Reagan was "sounding pretty good".**

The veteran community organizer and former seminarian also attacked the Catholic Church. He objects to its hierarchical and bureaucratic organization. As he understands political science, bureaucratic institutions work against democracy. Whether business, government, religious or labor unions, they end up being authoritarian. He thinks young people are losing interest in religion because of this.

The Church needs another Reformation, he said. It was wrong on slavery, wrong on women and wrong on the priesthood. He did not elaborate on these defects, since it seemed clear that the assembly knew exactly what he meant. Nevertheless, such views and much talk about the "priesthood of the laity" he stated as the reason for his dismissal from the seminary. Officials accused him of being a Lutheran.

When speaking of the Holy Father, Chambers lamented that he has appointed 92% of the Cardinals. "In the old days, they poisoned him, or pushed him down the stairs," he cracked, sparking appreciative laughter from his audience.

During the question and answer period, a woman who identified herself as a Lutheran from a congregation in Glen Ellyn remarked that she always thought of him as a "closet Lutheran," to which the crowd responded with more laughter.

Chambers went on to regale the group with stories from his youth as an organizer in Harlem, New York, working with destitute Black people. He confessed to pretending to be their attorney in court when they had a complaint about a landlord who took advantage of them. "We couldn't afford a lawyer," he said.

He also briefly touched on current organizing efforts throughout the state, especially in (See page 6)

TAPROOT's Next Breakfast Meeting

Dr. Mateen Elass

Dr. Mateen Elass will be speaking January 17th on the theme of Christian-Muslim worldviews. Born to a Muslim father and raised in Saudi Arabia, Mateen became a Christian at age 20 after much religious and philosophical searching. Ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1981 and holding a Ph.D. in New Testament studies from the University of Durham, England, he now serves as senior pastor at Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Warrenville, IL. Dr. Elass is uniquely positioned to help Americans better understand the world of Islam and its challenges to the Christian faith and the Western world order.

Saturday, January 17, 2003

8:00 am, the talk starts at 8:30 am

Old Country Buffet, 551 East Roosevelt Rd., Lombard (630-916-8808),
in the High Point Shopping Center, south side of Roosevelt Rd.,
about 5 stop-lights west of Route 83.

Don't miss future program

Five Judicial Candidates from DuPage County.....Feb. 21

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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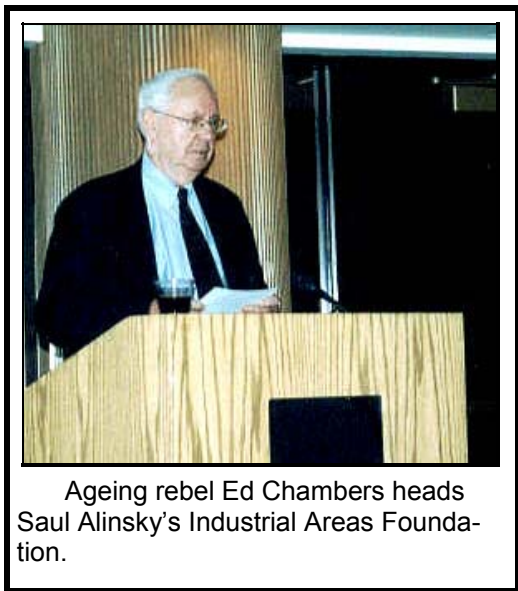
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Yearly membership in TAPROOT is \$20. Enclosed is my application for membership with \$20 ____.

Enclosed is a donation of \$500__ \$100__ \$50__ \$25__ \$15__ \$10__ for the expenses incurred by TAPROOT's many activities. The donation entitles you to an annual subscription to the *Trumpet*. Make your check out to TAPROOT REPUBLICANS OF ILLINOIS and send it to PO Box 643, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

Ageing rebel, continued from page 4



Ageing rebel Ed Chambers heads Saul Alinsky's Industrial Areas Foundation.

Decatur and Springfield.

He stressed the importance of voter-registration drives in parishes. Chambers wants everyone to vote, noting that the "largest party in the U.S. is the non-voter". He argued furthermore that limiting an

election to just one day is unfair since it favors those already in power. He even wants "undocumented" aliens to vote, to have their citizenship as soon as possible.

He looks forward to the 2004 elections as a test of the county organizing directed by UPAJ and to see whether Republican President George Bush will be reelected.

Concerning domestic arrangements, the self-styled rebel said that mothers should be given a salary for raising a child

in his first three years of life. This way, mothers would have an incentive to stay home and rear the kids and thereby protect the institution of the family. He also argued for increasing the salaries of teachers in Catholic schools, saying that higher pay will result in better teachers. This remark ignores the fact that Catholic schools tend to produce better students than the public schools which have almost unlimited budgets for salaries, bureaucrats and physical amenities.

Later Chambers engaged in banter about cheating on a vote to make sure some organization had conservative representation. He originally told this story in an earlier book, where he bragged about stealing an election.

When someone asked him what to do when a person does not have enough power, he gave two answers, one overt and one covert. The obvious answer was, "You get allies." He then told a story of an effort in New York to fund a housing project for poor people.

The Mayor, Ed Koch, refused to see the community representatives involved. So they appealed to a local bishop, who arranged for an audience with the Mayor. The bishop challenged Koch, saying, "I have ten million dollars for this project and I want you to come up with 12 million. Koch resisted, because all the city money was already committed. The Bishop responded, "If necessary, steal it, and if necessary, I'll forgive you." The anecdote about the efficacy of lying drew more laughter from the group, for the bishop, Chambers revealed, did not have any ten million dollars. Ω

TAPROOT Trumpet
Editorial Office
27 W 179 Galusha Rd.
Warrenville, IL 60555

Mail To