

# Jack Schwartzman

## An Impromptu Biography

Jack Schwartzman has been connected with the Henry George School since 1938 when, as a student of Frank Chodorov, he was asked to join the faculty. This was the same year that Schwartzman had become an attorney in the State of New York.

Born in Russia, Jack Schwartzman came to the United States in his teens, and has been the recipient of four college degrees, including two earned doctorates. His departure from Russia was dramatically described in two widely quoted autobiographical essays, "Flight from Kiev" (*The Freeman*, 1942) and "Lilacs" (*Fragments*, 1966).

Once he became bitten by the bug of teaching, as exemplified by the fiery classes he conducted at the HGSSS, Jack Schwartzman determined that teaching was to be his lifetime vocation, instead of a hobby, and he did not stop until he achieved his burning desire. After a short interval of teaching mathematics at The Rhodes School, he persevered (teaching seven different courses) until he became Professor of English at Nassau Community College. The greatest tribute to any teacher was paid to him in March of 1974, when he was nominated by the president of the college for the New York State State Chancellor's Award for excellence in teaching.

At the Henry George School of Social Science, Schwartzman taught twelve different courses, all with unvaryingly large enrollments. He was also a member of the Speakers' Bureau and addressed numerous audiences. (In the last four decades, Schwartzman has spoken to hundreds of groups on scores of diverse topics.)

Taking time out to serve in the Army of the United States (from which he was discharged as an officer, and received a Citation), Jack Schwartzman also contributed to the Georgist cause by organizing two branches of the Henry George School: in Seattle (with Robert Clancy and George Dana Linn) and in San Francisco (with J. Rupert Mason). He is a member of the Academic Advisory Council of the HGSSS, and recently was considered for nomination to its Board of Trustees.

The great thrill of Jack Schwartzman's life (besides teaching classes jammed with beautiful girls) is writing. His book, *Rebels of Individualism* (New York, 1949), made a tremendous impact on the

libertarian world. After having more than a hundred articles published in various magazines, Schwartzman achieved his "success" by becoming Chairman of the Board of Editors of *Fragments* magazine. To this day he receives mail from all over the world asking that the "temporarily dormant" intellectual quarterly be revived. To all this urging his answer is: "Soon."

In 1973, Jack Schwartzman traveled through Israel as a member of the American Professors for Peace in the Middle East. Speaking in Israel, he propounded the tenets of Henry George.

As to his philosophy of teaching, Jack Schwartzman subscribes to the Socratic method (which he learned at the Henry George School), coupled with a brand of insanity, wild humor, and unrelenting dynamism which stamp his classes as unique. For the rest of his life, he pledges his troth with truth, as personified by Henry George and the school that expounds his principles. And Jack Schwartzman expects to be around for many eternities.

So much for the more-or-less objective biography of this most interesting man: the dates, the places, and the events. But to write objectively is to leave too much unsaid, for there is far more to Jack than his remarkable accomplishments. A few lines must be written from the heart, to bespeak his character and his personality. He is gregarious, demonstrative, ebullient, and volatile. However, these qualities are not a superficial pose; they reflect a deep affection for people and a rare compassion for their weaknesses. Socially, Jack is the best of boon companions, and spiritually he is the warmest and truest of friends.

To hear Jack Schwartzman discuss Henry George is a revelation. He is less intrigued by Georgist economic proposals (which he sincerely advocates), than he is by George's love of liberty, his desire for justice, and his hope for the future of humankind. To Schwartzman, George is to be respected for his brilliance as a political economist, but revered for the nobility of his social philosophy. Such reactions show Jack's feeling for that which is right and good.

Perhaps this brief account is ending on a personal note, rather than with editorial formality. But how do you write "objectively" about someone you love?

—S.A.M.

HENRY  
GEORGE

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# NEWS

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## New Trustees Elected to HGS Board

Six new members were recently elected to the Board of Trustees of the Henry George School of Social Science, bringing the total membership to fifteen. They are (alphabetically) Messrs. Richard Friedlander, Samuel A. Krasney, R. Dean Meridith, Stanley Sinclair, Glenn E. Weeks, and Simon N. Winters.

Richard Friedlander holds the position of Senior Investment Executive at Harris, Upham & Company, members of the New York Stock Exchange. He took his B.A. degree at Columbia College and his M.B.A. at the Columbia University Graduate School of Business Administration. He is treasurer of the Columbia College Alumni Association, and a member of its Board of Directors and Executive Committee. He is on the teaching faculty of the New School for Social Research, and has also taught at the Henry George School, Cooper Union, and Manhattan Community College of CUNY.

Samuel A. Krasney is president and Chairman of the Board of Samuel Krasney Associates, Inc., and of its numerous subsidiaries in this country and abroad. He was formerly president of DeNigris Inc., and vice-president of Harshe-Rotman & Druck, Publicker Industries Inc., and The Hoffman Company. He is listed in Who's Who in Public Relations, The Public Relations Blue Book, the International Bibliography of Business Executives, and Poor's Directory. He is a member of the International Association of Business Executives, the Bankers Club, the Wings Club, the Presidents' Association, and The Silurians; accredited by PRSA; the author of ten books and over 100 professional articles. Mr. Krasney has lectured widely, and has contributed to many leading business publications.

R. Dean Meridith, a certified Ph.D. candidate at Antioch College-based Union Graduate School, received his B.S. degree at the University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture and Art, and his M.C.P. at the MIT Graduate School of City and Regional Planning. His academic and professional accomplishments include: Dean, Professor, and Adjunct Professor at Pratt Institute School of Architecture and Planning; Visiting Professor, Pratt Institute Graduate School of Library and Information

Science and School of Art and Design, and Assistant Professor of Community Planning and Architecture at the U. of Cincinnati. Mr. Meridith has served in many major cities as Planning Consultant, Urban Planner, Urban Design Specialist, and Project Planner and Designer; and also as Learning Consultant for the Pratt Institute Development Corporation in Japan.

Stanley Sinclair is a financial writer and analyst, who has contributed to many magazines, particularly those in the fields of business, finance, and economics. He is a former contributing editor of *Financial World*, and the author of *Reform For Our Time*. Mr. Sinclair has been associated for many years with the Henry George School, where he developed a number of special projects, including the preparation of new, revised, and updated courses. He has served on the editorial staff of The Henry George News, to which he has been a frequent contributor.

Glenn E. Weeks, a native Californian, lived in San Francisco for eight years prior to his recent move to New York. He attended La Sierra College and Santa Ana College in California, and Baylor University in Texas, majoring in Philosophy. For the past ten years he has been engaged in marketing computer utility services in San Francisco, Boston, and New York. Mr. Weeks first became associated with the Henry George School in San Francisco in 1964, and in 1971 served as president of the North California Extension. He has taught classes in New York and San Francisco for ten years.

Simon Neal Winters has been associated with the Henry George School as a student and teacher for twenty-six years. He attended Pratt Institute, City College of New York, and the Art Students League of New York, where he majored in Advertising and Design. Mr. Winters has been employed as a marketing executive by some of the nation's largest advertising agencies and packaged-goods firms.

The six new trustees now join the nine incumbent Board members, who are: Arnold A. Weinstein, president; Bill Davidson, Agnes de Mille, Lancaster M. Greene, Edward C. Harwood, Thomas A. Larkin, David C. Lincoln, William S. O'Connor and Leonard T. Recker.