

# \$1,000 to Student Submitting Most Thoughtful Question

We want your most challenging questions regarding the Federal Reserve System.

On November 19, 2009, Gene Epstein, Economics Editor of Barron's magazine, and former senior economist at the NYSE, will speak about the Federal Reserve System (the "Fed") at the Ridgefield Playhouse. **\$1,000 will be awarded to the student who poses the most thoughtful question** (for details and conditions, see our web site). Only high school and college (undergraduate) students are eligible for the \$1,000 prize.

**Deadline November 9:** Submit written questions to Ridgefield Liberty Cooperative c/o Richard S. Land (business 203-744-1929 and home 203-438-9814) at [rsl@danburylaw.com](mailto:rsl@danburylaw.com) by midnight on Monday November 9 (200 word limit).

**Program Subject Matter:** The topic will be the Fed's recent activities, their effects on the economy and proposed legislation to audit the Fed. Gene says: "There are three reasons to abolish the Fed: recession, inflation and war." **We encourage contrasting and opposing points of view.**

**Sample Question:** The Fed was created to tame boom/bust business cycles that culminated in a series financial panics in 1873, 1884, 1893 and 1907. We have had almost a century of experience with the Fed. Has the economy performed better after the creation of the Fed than it did before?

**Question Content:** Use Gene's advice to journalists as guidance: "When interviewing a source, make sure you ask all your dumb, naive & ignorant questions, or you'll never be able to properly report your story. I have had experts hang up on me because I ask too many such questions. But I'm not trying to impress them--- and besides, sometimes my dumbest questions turn out to be my smartest. (If what they're saying doesn't make sense to me, maybe it just doesn't make sense.)"

**Collaboration:** We encourage you to collaborate with parents, teachers, friends, neighbors and others when preparing your questions.

**Where:** Ridgefield Playhouse, Ridgefield, Connecticut

**Times:** 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

**Admission:** Free for high school and college students (undergraduate); \$10 for others.

**Other:** For details and conditions go to <http://ridgefieldlibertycoop.org/>

**Resources:** The Housing Boom and Bust by Thomas Sowell; Bailout Nation, by Barry Ritholtz; and Meltdown by Thomas Woods, Jr. For history: Secrets of the Temple, by William Greider; History of Money and Banking in the United States by Murray Rothbard, and The House of Morgan by Ron Chernow.