



# Humor in the Fountainhead

## by Robert Mayhew, PhD

January 21, 2006 • 6555 Quaker Street, Arvada CO

6:00 Social Hour • 7:00 Dinner • 8:00 Talk followed by Q & A

\$50 for dinner and talk • \$35 for students

**"Howard Roark laughed..."** Ayn Rand said that humor did not play a major role in her novels nor in the lives of her heroes. This is certainly true of *The Fountainhead*, an earnest work of reverence for man the hero. There are, however, humorous touches in most of Ayn Rand's fiction—including *The Fountainhead*, her most satirical novel. In this lecture, Dr. Mayhew will examine the nature and role of humor in *The Fountainhead*, and conclude with a discussion of why humor is more prevalent in this novel than in *Atlas Shrugged*.

Robert Mayhew received his PhD in Philosophy in 1991 from Georgetown University. Dr. Mayhew is Professor of Philosophy at Seton Hall University. He is the author of *Aristotle's Criticism of Plato's Republic*, *The Female in Aristotle's Biology*, and *Ayn Rand and "Song of Russia"*, and the editor of *Ayn Rand's Marginalia*, *The Art of Nonfiction*, *Essays on Ayn Rand's "We the Living"*, *Essays on Ayn Rand's "Anthem"*, and *Ayn Rand Answers*. He is currently completing a book on Plato and editing a collection of essays on Ayn Rand's *The Fountainhead*.

