



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CENTRAL CONNECTICUT

December 2003



CSH Affiliate

## *Solstice Party, Monday, December 15, 7:30 p.m.*

As has been our tradition for many years, our Humanist Solstice party will feature Lois Woodrow's poem "The Tilt," honoring the inclination of the Earth's axis that makes a solstice party possible. This year, we will also have copies of the collected poems of Lois Woodrow!

We welcome back Mickey Koth and members of her Wild Notes ensemble, this year comprised of five people!

The auction will be raffle-style again. You will buy chances for the items you want and the winners of each item will be drawn at the end of the evening. Unsure what to bring? Items which have done well in the past have included books, trinkets, and music. If you bring any especially expensive items, they will be auctioned as silent auction items with a minimum bid.

One item at the auction will be an autographed copy of the book featured on the back of this month's *Freethought Today*, Jane Haddam's *Conspiracy Theory*.

Remember to bring a dish for the pot luck!

We will begin with a brief business meeting to elect officers for the coming year and to decide on the two proposed changes to the by-laws. This whole exciting affair will take place on Monday, December 15, at 7:30 p.m at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden. Come and bring a friend!

## *Cancellations*

The New Haven area dinner, scheduled for Monday, December 8 at Pasta Fair in Orange, has been cancelled.

In addition, the Mystic/Noank group has cancelled their December 13 event.

## *Calendar of Events*

### DECEMBER, 2003

Mon., 15	Annual meeting and Solstice Party, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	7:30 p.m.
	Coffee and conversation	7:30 p.m.
	Elections and Solstice Party	8:00 p.m.
Mon., 29	Dinner at the Curtis House, 506 Main Street South, Woodbury	7:00 p.m.

### JANUARY, 2004

Sat., 3	Humanist Conversations, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 12	Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 19	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	7:30 p.m.
	Coffee and conversation	7:30 p.m.
	Main program. Walter Wells — <i>Paul Robeson</i>	8:00 p.m.
Sun., 25	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:00 p.m.
Wed., 28	Dinner at the Curtis House, 506 Main Street South, Woodbury	7:00 p.m.

[WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG](http://WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG)

## *Proposed Slate of Officers*

### *January - December 2004*

President - Richard Siddall  
Vice President - Douglas Peary  
Secretary - June Schafer  
Treasurer - Robert Quint

### *Committee Chairs*

Program - David Schafer  
Membership - Joseph Stachelek  
Development - Manny Ratafia  
Publications - Carol Stone  
Publicity - June Schafer  
Webmaster - Richard Siddall  
Hospitality - Lenora Howard

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Nominating Committee:  
Helene Goward  
Joan Rafford  
June Schafer

## *Time to renew!*

You will find a self-addressed stamped envelope and a membership form enclosed with your newsletter this month. Why not take a moment and renew your membership?

If you are not presently a member, why not join in December so you can vote at this annual meeting?

Feel free to bring your renewal to the annual meeting.

[www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org)

**E-mail List**

To join send an e-mail addressed to [majordomo@cthumanist.org](mailto:majordomo@cthumanist.org) with **subscribe announce** in the body of the message.

To unsubscribe send an e-mail addressed to [majordomo@cthumanist.org](mailto:majordomo@cthumanist.org) with **unsubscribe announce** in the body of the message.

**Officers**

- President Manny Ratafia  
(203) 387-7348  
[president@cthumanist.org](mailto:president@cthumanist.org)
- Vice-President Douglas Peary
- Secretary June Schafer
- Treasurer Robert Quint

**Committee Chairs**

- Program David Schafer
- Membership Joseph Stachelek
- Development Cynthia Harvey
- Publications Carol Stone
- Webmaster Richard Siddall
- Publicity Richard Siddall
- Hospitality Lenora Howard

**Newsletter**

- Editor Carol J. Stone  
(203) 264-8546  
[editor@cthumanist.org](mailto:editor@cthumanist.org)
- Production: Richard Siddall  
(203) 264-2182  
[webmaster@cthumanist.org](mailto:webmaster@cthumanist.org)

**Social Dinners**

The New Haven area dinner formerly scheduled for Monday, December 8th, has been cancelled.

The Woodbury dinner at the Curtis House will be held on Monday, December 29, in order to avoid the New Year holiday. The time will be the usual 7 p.m.

If you plan to attend one of the dinners, please contact Carol Stone at (203) 264-8546 or [editor@cthumanist.org](mailto:editor@cthumanist.org).

Copyright © 2003, Humanist Association of Central Connecticut. Articles may be reproduced without written permission providing attribution is given.

Published monthly by the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, 27

**Proposed Changes to the By-Laws**

At the November monthly meeting the text of two proposed changes to the by-laws were distributed to the membership. They will be voted on during the annual meeting in December.

The first is a proposal to change the name of the organization from the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut to the Humanist Association of Connecticut.

The second proposal is to add a board position for the Webmaster.

As a democratic organization, neither of these changes can be made without the approval of the membership. Come with your concerns, be prepared for a lively debate, and enjoy the opportunity to make up your mind for yourself!

**Conversations**

The next Humanist Conversations will be a planning session to be held Saturday, January 3, 2004, at 2:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

Should we have a year-long study group on the essence of humanist philosophy? How about human nature, or globalization? Perhaps there are some things we can discuss just for fun? Refreshments will be served.

**In January**

Be sure to join us on January 19 for a multimedia presentation on Paul Robeson by our very own Walter Wells. This event celebrating Robeson's struggles for human dignity and true freedom will take place at 7:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

**Sherwin Wine in Westport "Secularism in a Religious World"**

Founding chair of the Humanist Institute, founder of the Jewish Humanist Movement and recipient of the 2003 American Humanist Association Humanist of the Year Award, Rabbi Sherwin Wine will be the keynote speaker for the 36th Anniversary Lecture of the Congregation for Humanistic Judaism of Fairfield County on Friday, Dec. 5, 2003 at 8:00 p.m. at the Westport Woman's Club, 44 Imperial Ave. in Westport.

Sherwin Wine has been a major force in the humanist movement for many years. He is a very dynamic and sensible speaker. If you've never had the opportunity to hear him speak, don't miss this one.

Free and open to the public, the event will be preceded by a short ceremony and followed by an informal reception.

Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321. Submissions and requests for permission to reprint articles should be made to this address or to [editor@cthumanist.org](mailto:editor@cthumanist.org). Please include a SASE to have material returned. We welcome letters, articles, photographs,

poetry, comic strips, news items, cartoons and other illustrations related to humanism. Approximate circulation: 120 copies. Annual subscription price \$10.00, included in membership.

The editor would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

<p><b>MEMBERSHIP</b></p> <p>Adult . . . . . \$35</p> <p>Family . . . . . \$50</p> <p>Newsletter Only . . . . . \$10</p> <p>In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. Please mail checks for annual membership payable to Humanist Association of Central Connecticut to: Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321.</p>	<p>Name(s): _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>E-Mail Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Please add me to the e-mail Announce List (circle one): YES NO</p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
--	---