



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

March 2005



CSH Affiliate

Is Freedom Overrated? Monday, March 21

Our March monthly meeting has been restored to the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and will feature a presentation by our very own Nash Boutros, psychiatrist at Yale and the West Haven VA Medical Center. His previous talks to our group on "The Brain and Belief" and "Humanism and the Problem of Evil" continue to evoke animated discussion among us, and we expect a similar strong response to his topic this time, "Is Freedom Overrated?" He plans to adopt a format we all enjoy, opening the evening with an introduction to set up the question and then throwing the program open to the audience for challenges and general discussion.

Nash, a native of Egypt, grew up as a Coptic Christian, and as a student in Egypt became the first of his family to embrace Humanism.

Nash has recently accepted a position as Professor of Psychiatry at Wayne State University in Detroit and has been busy moving his laboratory there. This will be his last presentation here

Calendar of Events

MARCH, 2005

Sat., 5	Humanist Conversations: "Was Darwin Wrong?" article in the November 2004 <i>National Geographic Magazine</i>	2:30 p.m.
Sat., 12	Book discussion at the USNH library: Susan Jacoby's <i>Freethinkers: A History of American Secularism</i>	3:30 p.m.
Tues., 15	Dinner at Contrassegno, Route 10, Hamden. RSVP at humanism.meetup.com	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 20	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 21	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden (Note Date/Time)	7:30 p.m.
	Coffee and conversation	7:30 p.m.
	Main program: Dr. Nash Boutros. <i>Is Freedom Overrated?</i>	8:00 p.m.
Wed., 30	Dinner at <i>Lisboa</i> , 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789	7:00 p.m.

APRIL, 2005

Mon., 4	Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. RSVP at humanism.meetup.com	7:00 p.m.
TBA	Anniversary meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	TBA
Sat., 16	Humanist Conversations: Topic TBA	2:30 p.m.
Sun., 17	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:30 p.m.
Wed., 27	Dinner at <i>Lisboa</i> , 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789	7:00 p.m.

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before leaving in April to assume his new responsibilities. We will miss Nash, and we hope he visits us from time to time!

We'll start with refreshments

and conversation at 7:30 p.m. and turn the evening over to Nash at 8:00 p.m. Join us with a friend at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden on Monday, March 21!

www.cthumanist.org

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Note These Important Changes!

Our March meeting is no longer at its originally-publicized early date, but at our regular third Monday time slot.

Our April New Haven area dinner will be held a week early. Our April board meeting will also be held a week earlier than usual.

March 12 Book Discussion

Join us in the library at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden on Saturday, March 12 at 3:30 p.m. when we will discuss Susan Jacoby's "Freethinkers: A History of American Secularism."

We suggest that everyone read pages 1-11 (Introduction), 186-226 (Chapter 7, Dawn of the Culture Wars), 227-267 (Chapter 8, Unholy Trinity: Atheists, Reds, Darwinists), 317-347 (Chapter 11, Culture Wars Redux), and 348-365 (Chapter 12 Reason Embattled).

Dinners

Please plan to join us Wednesday, March 30, at 7:00 p.m. when we will again enjoy another authentic Portugese meal at Lisboa Restaurante, 19 Lafayette Street in Waterbury.

Also, join us for an Italian dinner at Pasta Fair on Monday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m. We would appreciate the effort if you would RSVP via humanism.meetup.com in order to maintain the New Haven humanism presence at meetup.com.

Was Darwin Wrong?

On March 5 Humanist Conversations will discuss the November 2004 *National Geographic* article, "Was Darwin Wrong?" by David Quammen. An introduction and extra photos are on-line at:

<http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0411/feature1/>
The article itself should be available in your local library.

So please plan to join us on Saturday, March 5 at 2:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. Refreshments will be served.

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.

MEMBERSHIP

- Adult \$35
- Family \$50
- Newsletter Only \$10

In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. Please mail checks for annual membership payable to Humanist Association of Connecticut to: Humanist Association of Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321.

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