



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CENTRAL CONNECTICUT

April 2000



ASHS Affiliate

## *Ammunition?*

Our meeting on April 17th will feature Jane Haddam, president of the Connecticut chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. Jane's talk will be entitled "Ammunition: Things You Might Not Know About Separation of Church and State at the Founding of the Nation."

As usual, coffee and refreshments will be served from 7:30 p.m., with the main program at 8:00 p.m.

## *Humanist Conversations*

The Death Penalty: "Blame the Humanists" Or should it be "Credit the Humanists?"

Apparently, humanists are being blamed (or credited, depending on your point of view) for the decline in the number of death penalty sentences.

From a web article "What About Capital Punishment?" by Glenn Dunehew: "When a human life is taken, God's justice must be enacted in order to protect society. Today, because of humanism in our courts and legislatures, justice is often not administered - and in its place we see man's own ideas about what is right and wrong being promoted." (See the full article at [http://www.forerunner.com/forerunner/X0131\\_Capital\\_Punishment.html](http://www.forerunner.com/forerunner/X0131_Capital_Punishment.html).)

## *Calendar of Events*

### MARCH

Fri., 31 Humanist Conversations at 700 Hartford Turnpike. 7:30 p.m.  
Discussion on the death penalty.

### APRIL

Mon., 17 Monthly meeting at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike.  
Coffee and conversation. 7:30 p.m.  
Program: Jane Haddam, President, Connecticut Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. 8:00 p.m.

Sun., 23 Board meeting at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike. 1:30 p.m.  
TBA Humanist Conversations at 700 Hartford Turnpike. 7:30 p.m.

### MAY

Mon., 15 Monthly meeting at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike.  
Coffee and conversation. 7:30 p.m.  
11th Anniversary Meeting. 8:00 p.m.  
Program: Lois and Bob Wolsch will present "A New 3 R's of Humanism."

Sun., 21 Board meeting at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike. 1:30 p.m.  
TBA Humanist Conversations at 700 Hartford Turnpike. 7:30 p.m.

### JUNE

TBA Humanist Conversations at 700 Hartford Turnpike. 7:30 p.m.  
Mon., 19 Monthly meeting at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike.  
Coffee and conversation. 7:30 p.m.  
Main program: Doug Peary will present "Richard Feynman, Humanist Hero." 8:00 p.m.  
Sun., 25 Board meeting at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike. 1:30 p.m.

This quotation from Dunehew suggests that humanists are seen as actively pursuing the moratorium on the death penalty. Are we really? Should we be? Let's talk about how we as humanists view the death penalty and how we should put those views into action.

The next Humanist Conversation will take place Friday, March 31, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Society, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

There is no specific reading this month. However, at your local library, search the subject heading "capital punishment" for books on the topic of the death penalty. A few articles I found are listed on the HACC web site.

While we cogitate on this issue, we'll order out for pizza. Coffee & tea will be provided. For more information, contact Mickey Koth at (203) 498-8333 or [mkoth@snet.net](mailto:mkoth@snet.net).

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The deadline for each issue is three weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

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

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**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Adult . . . . . \$35  
 Family . . . . . \$50  
 In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. The membership year runs from 1/1 to 12/31.

# Dinner Meeting

Our first dinner meeting was held on Thursday, March 16, at Jordan's Restaurant in Southbury Plaza, and was a great success. As hoped, the convenient location, just off I-84, made it easy for HACC members in the Danbury-Waterbury area to attend, and we even saw some faces that rarely grace the meetings in Hamden.

Over a relaxed dinner, the discussion tended toward atheist issues, and included details of what happened to Madalyn Murray O'Hair. The details of the investigation by a San Antonio-based reporter can be found on the web but haven't been widely reported in the national media. ([Http://mysa.com/mysanantonio/extras/ohair/](http://mysa.com/mysanantonio/extras/ohair/))

We are planning to dine in the New Haven area in May.

## New London News

The next meeting of the New London group will be at the Mystic & Noank Library from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 22. The library is located at 40 Library St., Mystic.

This month's topic is "Situational Ethics." For mor information call George or Paula Marcus at (860) 572-9188.

## Humanist Announcements

Listings here are free to members. To add your listing call Carol Stone at (203) 264-8546 or e-mail editor@cthumanist.org.

### Wild N'Oats

Featuring Mickey Koth on Fiddle.

Audubon Coffee House, Sat., Apr 1, 7:30 p.m., Audubon Center, 1361 Main St., Rt. 17, Glastonbury. (800) 633-8402. Admission \$10. Directions: [home.att.net/~ctaclubon](http://home.att.net/~ctaclubon).

For more information, call Mickey at (203) 498-8333 or e-mail [mkoth@snet.net](mailto:mkoth@snet.net).

## Humanist Professional Directory

To add your listing (free to members) call Carol Stone at (203) 264-8546 or e-mail editor@cthumanist.org.

### Northeast Professional Genealogy

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### HACC Humanist Services

Humanist services to mark all of life's major events.  
Douglas Peary  
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### Wild N'Oats

Celtic/World/Folk Quartet  
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