



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CENTRAL CONNECTICUT

July 2002



ASHS Affiliate

“Trends In Humanism”

Monday, July 15, 7:30 p.m.

Perhaps you saw the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut mentioned on the front page of the Hartford *Courant* of Friday, June 28. The folks at the newspaper wanted to know our position on the separation of religion and government (“church and state”), and in particular our responses to the Ninth Circuit Court’s action on the Pledge of Allegiance and the Supreme Court’s ruling on school vouchers. The reporter who wrote that piece, Frances Grandy Taylor, found us on the Internet by searching, it seems, under “Atheists.” So we finally got their attention, and if we have our way there will be more interviews to come.

At our July membership meeting David Schafer will present an introduction and lead a vigorous discussion of the topic “Some Current Trends in Humanism,” including not only the topic of religion and government but several others that have been prominently featured in several meetings in which he and June have recently participated — the Coalition for the Community of Reason in Atlanta; the Humanist Institute in New York; the Humanist Institute faculty colloquium on “Power” in St. Paul; and two very well-attended sessions at the General Assembly of

Calendar of Events

JULY, 2002

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| Sat., 6 | Conversations, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike Planning session with potluck refreshments | 4:00 p.m. |
| Mon., 8 | Dinner at Gabriele Restaurant, 326 Boston Post Road, Orange | 7:00 p.m. |
| Mon., 15 | Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Tnpk. Coffee and conversation Lenora Howard — <i>Why I Am A Humanist</i> Main program. Dr. David Schafer, <i>Current Trends in Humanism</i> | 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:50 p.m. 8:00 p.m. |
| Thu., 18 | Dinner at Connecticut’s oldest inn, the Curtis House, Main Street South, Woodbury | 7:00 p.m. |
| Sun., 21 | Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike | 2:00 p.m. |

AUGUST, 2002

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| Mon., 5 | Dinner in New Haven area | 7:00 p.m. |
| TBA | Conversations, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike | 7:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 19 | Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike Coffee and conversation Manny Ratafia — <i>Why I am a Humanist</i> Main program. Mickey Koth: <i>Women and Islam</i> — <i>Continued</i> | 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:50 p.m. 8:00 p.m. |
| Thu., 22 | Dinner at Connecticut’s oldest inn, the Curtis House, Main Street South, Woodbury | 7:00 p.m. |

the Unitarian Universalist Association in Quebec City, Canada, entitled “Humanism in Dangerous Times” and “Humanism in Changing Times,” sponsored respectively by HUUmanists (formerly “Friends of Religious Humanism”) and the American Humanist Association.

The events of 9/11/01 have been in people’s minds at most of these meetings, and Humanists are asking each other how, if at all, those and other recent events and trends affect us and our movement. The meeting will begin as always at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, at 7:30 p.m. with an informal half-hour, including “Why I Am a Humanist,” this month by Lenora Howard. Because of construction on the premises remember to enter by the side (north) door. Be sure to come and bring a friend!

www.cthumanist.org

E-mail List

To join send an e-mail addressed to majordomo@cthumanist.org with **subscribe announce** in the body of the message.

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Conversations and Other Activities

At the next Conversations meeting we'll discuss suggestions that have been made for future conversations and other activities as well. I have been working since October to incorporate some of the suggestions from the last planning session, which was well-attended. In the meantime suggestions for daytime meetings, singing, dancing and other merry making have been received. Let's give it a try!

This meeting will be in the afternoon of July 6 beginning at 4:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Society of New Haven in Hamden, our usual location. Please bring cold snacks to share: fruit, cheese, crackers, water, whatever. Bread and coffee will be provided. Also a cassette of any music or spur of the moment ideas you'd like to share.

Note: There is construction at the site so use the entrance at the north end.

- Cynthia, Development Committee

USNH Summer Programs

The summer series of 9:30 a.m. Sunday presentations at USNH will include presentations by our members Walter Wells (July 7) and Nash Boutros(July 21).

Mystic/Noank Discussion Series

Join the humanist discussion group on Saturday, July 13, at 10:15 a.m. at the Mystic Noank Library. The topic will be Estate Taxes: Do they destroy the incentives for the small business owner? Is it an unfair burden on families of business or farm owners after years of hard work? Or do they prevent the establishment of a wealthy leisure class which can dominate our politics and economy?

- George Marcus (860) 572-9188 or gminnoank@worldnet.att.net.

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. 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 Central Connecticut to: **Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321.**

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