



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CENTRAL CONNECTICUT

August 2003



CSH Affiliate

## 7 Events of 2 Highly Active Humanists

What's the next best thing to attending seven national humanist events? Join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday, August 18, at 7:30 p.m. and hear all about them! (The Resident on Pennsylvania Avenue is not the only one who gets briefings from high-powered experts; you can too!)

Dr. David Schafer, co-founder of the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, Contributing editor of the American Humanist Association's publication *The Humanist*, and recently elected President of the Unitarian Universalist Association's Humanist affiliate (known as HUUmanists) will talk about four meetings, beginning with one last October 4-6 in Buffalo, NY. This was a meeting of the of the Coalition for the Community of Reason, founded around 2000 in Minneapolis by Sharon Fratepietro and Herb Silverman and half a dozen other interested individuals. By last October the CCR included 10 atheist and humanist groups, and David and June represented the North American Committee for Humanism/Humanist Institute.

Next he will tell us about a board meeting of NACH/HI in New York on April 6, which focused on beginning to make a strategic plan for the next five years. David was the chair of the curriculum committee and a member of the structure committee chaired by Tony Hileman of the AHA.

The third meeting we will hear about is the annual colloquium of the adjunct faculty of the Humanist Institute in St. Paul, MN, which took place May 16-18. The topic of the 2003 colloquium was "Bioethics," and about 15 papers on a variety

## Calendar of Events

### AUGUST, 2003

Sat., 9	Conversations, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike — <i>Evil Revisited</i>	3:30 p.m.
Mon., 11	Dinner at Gabriele Restaurant, 326 Boston Post Road, Orange	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 18	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Tnpk. Coffee and conversation Main program. David Schafer and Manny Ratafia — <i>Humanism Today</i>	7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Sat., 23	Picnic at the home of Bill and Kathy Lyon	1:00 p.m.
Sun., 24	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike	2:00 p.m.
Wed., 27	Dinner at Leo's, Main Street South, Southbury	7:00 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER, 2003

Sat., 6	Conversations, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike	3:30 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 Main program. Ken Feder — <i>The Mysterious Moundbuilders: Anatomy of a Historical Enigma</i>	7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Sun., 21	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike	2:00 p.m.
Wed., 24	Dinner at Leo's, Main Street South, Southbury	7:00 p.m.

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of topics were presented and discussed in preparation for future publication. The topic chosen for 2004 was "Problems of Democracy."

David's fourth meeting was the General Assembly of the UUA in Boston, June 26-30, where the annual meeting of the HUUmanists took place. The HUUmanists also presented two workshops, each of which was repeated, and launched a vigorous and successful campaign for new memberships. It was at this meeting David was elected president of HUUmanists.

David will attempt to identify perennial issues and recent trends in the organizations represented in these meetings.

Manny Ratafia, President of the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, went to three Humanist events earlier this year.

April 11-13 he attended a

Council for Secular Humanism conference titled "One Nation Without God? Secularism, Society, and Justice."

Next Manny could be found at the AHA Annual Conference, which started with an AHA board meeting on May 8 and ended with a joint AHA/IHEU conference on May 11.

He also went to the conference "Responding to Evangelical Influence in American Public Life" on May 31, which was sponsored by the Center for Inquiry-Metro New York.

Manny will share his personal impressions from these Humanist events and will also relate to us the reactions of others who do not entirely agree with him.

Join us with a friend on Monday, August 18 at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden at 7:30 p.m. for coffee and conversation followed by our presentation beginning at 8:00 p.m.

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**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.

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**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)

**Have you registered for the Northeast Regional Conference? October 11 Worcester, MA**

\$25 per person / \$40 couples until September 6th.

For more details call the regional director, Tom Ferrick, at (617) 495-5986, talk to Richard Siddall or Carol Stone, or visit the website at [www.regional.cthumanist.org/conf2003](http://www.regional.cthumanist.org/conf2003)

# Cards Welcome

Bob Wolsch has recently been in the hospital. You can send cards to: Bob Wolsch, 4B Heritage Village, Southbury, CT 06488.

# Dinner Moving

Our Southbury-area dinner meeting for August will be held at Leo's on Main Street South in Southbury. Please RSVP for this event to to Carol Stone: (203) 264-8546/[editor@cthumanist.org](mailto:editor@cthumanist.org).

# Conversations

Join us Saturday, August 9, 3:30 p.m., at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden to follow-up Nash Boutros' June presentation on evil. Light refreshments will be served.

# Barbeque in the Northwest Hills

Bill & Kathy Lyon will be hosting another barbeque on Saturday, August, 23, at their beautiful home in Cornwall, Connecticut. All you have to do is bring a side dish to share and a lawn chair for your comfort. Show up anytime after 1:00 p.m. and the party will end when it ends. If you missed it last year, you missed a great time!

Directions: Take Route 8 north from either I-95 or the Merritt Parkway. Go through Waterbury and get off at exit 38 (Thomaston). Make a left at the end of the exit ramp. Go a short ways until you see signs for Route 254. Make a left onto 254 and head up towards Litchfield. 254 ends at Route 118 where you make a left turn and go up the hill about a 1/2 mile. Make a right onto Route 63 before you go through Litchfield center. Stay on 63, pass the Goshen Fairgrounds, and make a left onto Route 4 at the rotary in Goshen. In a few miles you will make another left at an intersection in order to stay on 4. Watch for a sign for Cornwall Village. You will make a left onto Pine Street (a right would take you onto Route 25). At the end of Pine St. make a left onto Valley Road. Follow this for 2 miles. Continue on Valley Road past the second street on the left (Everest Hill Rd.). Go over a small metal bridge, and then the road forks. A right takes you onto our road which is unmarked and a dead end. Climb a mile up the hill. The road turns to dirt a half mile up. At the end there's a metal gate, beyond which is a dirt path. The driveway is on the right. There is no mailbox, but #120 is painted on the telephone pole. The Lyon's phone number is (860) 672-0550.

# Back Issues of the Humanist

Tom and Halina Platt are looking for a good home for their collection of *The Humanist* magazine dating 1984 - 1995. Interested? Please contact them directly: [thomas.s.platt@snet.net](mailto:thomas.s.platt@snet.net)/(203)787-5686.

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Published monthly by the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, 27 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.

**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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