



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

September 2004



CSH Affiliate

Ken Feder on UFOs at Roswell

Join us Monday, September 20, 2004, 7:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden to welcome back Dr. Kenneth L. Feder, Professor of Anthropology at Central Connecticut State University. Ken is one of those rare speakers who manage to be both highly entertaining and thoroughly informative.

Though often stereotyped as the investigation of the dim mists of antiquity, contemporary archaeology is a broad discipline that focuses on the investigation of the material evidence of human behavior ancient, recent, and even modern. For example, archaeology is currently being applied in the search for remains of MIAs from the Korean and Vietnam Wars, in an assessment of the prevalence of cannibalism among members of the Donner Party, and even to help solve the mystery of the disappearance of Amelia Earhart.

In fact, solving historical mysteries through the recovery and analysis of material evidence is an important part of modern archaeology and the assertion that a flying saucer crashed into the New Mexico desert near Roswell in July of 1947 lends itself perfectly to just such an analysis. Though a recent dig in Roswell sponsored by the SciFi channel left much to be desired, archaeologists, working in the way of historical detectives, can contribute to a solution of the Roswell mystery. Ken Feder will summarize the Roswell story and assess the archaeological evidence of what happened there in 1947.

Join us on Monday, September 20th at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden, starting with coffee and conversation at 7:30 p.m. followed by Ken's presentation at 8:00 p.m. All are invited, so bring a friend!

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER, 2004

Mon., 13	Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. RSVP at humanism.meetup.com	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 20	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	7:30 p.m.
	Coffee and conversation	7:30 p.m.
	Main program. Ken Feder: <i>How Archaeology Didn't Clear Up the Roswell UFO Incident and How it Should Have.</i>	8:00 p.m.
Sun., 26	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:30 p.m.
Wed., 29	Dinner at the Curtis House, 506 Main Street South, Woodbury	7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER, 2004

Sat., 2	Humanist Conversations, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden. Vegetarian Potluck.	2:30 p.m.
Sat., 9	Book discussion: "Demonic Males" at Joseph & Miriam More's home in Cromwell	3:30 p.m.
Mon., 11	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	7:30 p.m.
	Coffee and conversation	7:30 p.m.
	Main program. Annette Lamoreaux, Esq., of the CCLU will discuss <i>Civil Liberties Issues Connected with the November Election</i>	8:00 p.m.
Mon., 18	Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. RSVP at humanism.meetup.com	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 24	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:00 p.m.
Wed., 27	Dinner at the Bombay Indian Restaurant, 54 Pembroke Rd, Danbury	7:00 p.m.

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Conversations - Vegetarian Potluck

A previous Humanist Conversations meeting on vegetarianism was one of our more popular and well-attended events, so we're going to return to the subject.

Join us on Saturday, October 2nd at 2:30 p.m. for Humanist Conversations when we will have a vegetarian pot luck. This is an opportunity to share your favorite vegetarian dishes and discuss the relationship between humanism, environmentalism, longevity, and vegetarianism. So, dig out your family cookbook and bring something to share.

We'll also spend a few minutes discussing topics for future Humanist Conversations meetings. Currently on the possibilities list are books such as "What's the Matter with Kansas?" by Thomas Frank and "Snow" by Orhan Pamuk. Bring some ideas and newspaper clippings, if you're interested.

Please bring a copy of your recipe along with your dish so others can imitate your masterpiece! Join us and bring a hungry friend to 700 Hartford Turnpike on Saturday, October 2 at 2:30 p.m.

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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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Second Copy?

If you'd like additional copies of the newsletter to post in the local library, senior center, etc., please contact Carol Stone (see contact details above). We're stuffing a few extra copies into selected envelopes during the monthly mailing.

If you have a friend who'd like to receive the newsletter, please send their name and address to Carol.

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Book Discussion: "Demonic Males"

On Saturday, October 9 at 3:30 p.m., we'll return to the home of Joseph and Miriam More in Cromwell, Connecticut for a book discussion. This time we'll be examining "Demonic Males: Apes and the Origins of Human Violence" by Richard Wrangham and Dale Peterson. Joseph More, MD, suggested the book and will lead the discussion.

This quote from the book's cover gives you an idea of the subject matter: "This is an exceptionally well written, riveting dispatch from the research front on the aggressive social behavior of wild apes — and what it reveals about their close relative, Homo sapiens." — Edward O. Wilson

The book is readily available at Connecticut libraries and bookstores, and there's plenty of time to read it by October 9th. (There's a link on the home page of the HAC web site if you'd like to order the book from amazon.com.) See you at the meeting! (Directions will be in the next newsletter.)

Humanist Dinners

If you can join us at any of the dinner meetings listed in the calendar please RSVP to editor@cthumanist.org or (203) 264-8546!

This month the Danbury/Waterbury area dinner will return to the Curtis House in Woodbury.

The New Haven area dinner and monthly program will swap dates in October so we can accommodate our guest speaker, Annette Lamoreaux, from CCLU.

A Course Entitled "Humanism"

Ed Savage has brought to our attention a course to be held at the Unitarian Meetinghouse at 50 Bloomfield Avenue in Hartford from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. for four Sundays, Oct. 3, 10, 24, and a fourth date to be announced after the election. Course registration, including materials, is \$30. Course F04-03 is described as follows: "American Humanism and Evangelicalism have had cycles of popularity in our history. Although we are currently in a humanistic trough, this remains a good time to reflect on and reconstitute our basic principles. Edward Said wrote powerfully about the history of humanism in academia, and much of his critique carries through to the political arena. The late Minister Emeritus of the Hartford Meetinghouse, Nat Lauriat, also wrote on the Unitarian humanist tradition. We will examine these critical threads and their challenges to our communities." If you should decide to attend, would you please let a member of the HAC board know? For more information and to register please contact Contact Ed Savage at (860) 232-5603. The group is limited to twelve people and the course will not run without a minimum of eight.

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