



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

July 2008



CSH Affiliate

What's New in Humanism

Humanist Convention Season has come and gone. Bill Lyon, David Schafer, Richard Siddall, and Carol Stone have lots to tell you all about the great events you missed at the joint conference of the American Humanist Association and International Humanist and Ethical Union, as well as at the Unitarian Universalist Association's annual General Assembly. David has even been quite busy right here in New Haven!

Bring a friend and join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday, July 21 at 7:30 p.m. for coffee and conversation followed by a review of recent events in Humanism at 8:00 p.m. If we do our jobs right, you'll be wishing you'd been there with us!

Picnic July 5

Join us for our annual picnic on Saturday, July 5th from noon to 4 p.m., rain or shine, at the lovely home of Dr. Bob and Ms. Joan Rafford at 57 Clearview Knoll Road in Middlebury.

Bring a chair and something to share! (Don't bother with the chair if it's raining.) The Raffords will provide hot dogs (regular and vegetarian), soft drinks and beer.

Directions from the New Haven area: Take Rt. 8 north to I-84 and go west to Exit 17. From the exit go straight ahead (west) on Rt. 64 to the first stoplight...

Directions from the Stamford area: Take Rt. 7 north to I-84 and go east to Exit 17. At the exit turn left onto Rt. 63, go straight to the second stoplight, and turn left again onto Rt. 64...

Directions from Hartford or Torrington: Take Rt. 8 or 91 south to I-84 and go west to Exit 17. From the exit go

Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at humanism.meetup.com.

JULY, 2008

Sat., 5	Annual rain or shine picnic at the Raffords' home in Middlebury.	12:00 noon
Mon., 7	Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 12	Humanist Conversations: <i>The Omnivore's Next Dilemma</i>	2:30 p.m.
Thu., 17	Waterbury-Area Dinner at Lisboa, 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789 for directions	7:00 p.m.
Fri., 18	Movie: <i>The Devil's Disciple</i> by George Bernard Shaw, starring Burt Lancaster, Lawrence Olivier, Kirk Douglas and Janette Scott.	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 19	Book discussion: <i>The Devil's Disciple</i> by George Bernard Shaw	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 21	Monthly meeting Main program: <i>What's New in Humanism?</i>	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Sat., 26	Bible Reading Group	2:30 p.m.
Sun., 27	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Tue., 29	Hartford-Area Dinner at Lemongrass, 7 South Main Street, West Hartford. (860) 233-4405.	7:00 p.m.

AUGUST, 2008

Mon., 4	Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 9	Humanist Conversations: TBD	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 18	Monthly meeting Main program: TBD	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Sun., 24	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Tue., 26	Hartford-Area Dinner at Lemongrass, 7 South Main Street, West Hartford. (860) 233-4405.	7:00 p.m.

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straight ahead (west) on Rt. 64 to the first stoplight...

...From the junction of Rt. 64 with Rt. 63: Head west on Rt. 64 less than one mile, passing through one more stoplight. If you pass a gas station you have gone too far. On the right, look for Tzepos Law Firm sign. At that sign, turn right onto Clearview Knoll Road and drive to the top of the hill. Number 57 is the last house on the left. Park in the driveway or on the street.

If you have any trouble finding them, the Raffords' phone number is (203) 758-9798.

Conversations

Join us on Saturday, July 12 at 2:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden when we will watch and discuss a 17½ minute TED talk entitled, "The omnivore's next dilemma." In this talk, author Michael Pollan poses the question, "What if human consciousness isn't the end-all and be-all of Darwinism?" He argues that we can heal the earth by merely shifting our perspective. This TED talk was recorded in March of 2007 in Monterey, California.

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.

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

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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.

Can you help?

June Schafer is working on raising \$2,000 for the Waverly inner-city youth program. Can you help? If so, please call her at (203) 281-6232.

Book Discussion — Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple"

The next book we will read is "The Devil's Disciple" by George Bernard Shaw. Lots of copies of this play and of collections of Shaw's works that include "The Devil's Disciple" are available at public libraries as well as at bookstores and online. We will meet to discuss this book on Saturday, July 19, from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

This play, set in the time of the American Revolution in New Hampshire, was Shaw's first major commercial success. Shaw's plays include lots of text that are not in the theatrical productions, making them at least as interesting to read as to watch. After reading the play, you may also want to view the film "The Devil's Disciple" starring Burt Lancaster, Kirk Douglas, and Laurence Olivier (see below).

While the play "The Devil's Disciple" is available as a separate item, it is usually included in collections and it is in most of the collections of plays by George Bernard Shaw. We therefore recommend that you look for a collection of Shaw's plays and then make sure that "The Devil's Disciple" is included.

This play is also available free on-line. One source can be found at <http://en.wikisource.org>. Enter the name of the play in the search box on the left side of the page and press the Go or Search button.

As always, feel free to invite a friend!

The Hollywood Movie Version

Join us on Friday, July 18, at 700 Hartford Turnpike for pizza and a viewing of the Hollywood version of George Bernard Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple." This eighty-two minute 1959 version stars Burt Lancaster, Kirk Douglas, Sir Laurence Olivier and Janette Scott. To get the most out of this experience, please read the play before seeing the film. We'll have the pizza at 7:00 p.m. and start the movie at 7:30 p.m. Because we will be splitting the cost of the pizza, please RSVP before July 18 to Carol Stone at (203) 264-8546 or editor@cthumanist.org. Please let us know if you're allergic to any common pizza toppings and if you're vegetarian.

Bible Discussion Group, Part IV

The next meeting of the HAC Bible Discussion Group will be on Saturday, July 26, from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

For July 26, in "How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now" by James L. Kugel, read the following:

- Chapter 12. Joseph and His Brothers 176-197
- Chapter 13. Moses in Egypt 198-216
- Chapter 14. The Exodus 217-232
- Chapter 15. A Covenant with God 233-249

In addition to discussing the reading materials, we will be watching another 15-minute video segment related to the Exodus and the Bible by noted Egyptologist John Romer.

See you on July 26. Feel free to invite a friend.

Please go through the assigned reading materials.

<p>MEMBERSHIP</p> <p>Adult \$35 Family \$50 Newsletter Only \$10</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Name(s): _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>E-Mail Address: _____</p> <p>Please add me to the e-mail Announce List (circle one): YES NO</p> <p>Where did you hear about us? _____</p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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