



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

August 2008



CSH Affiliate

Margaret Kennedy Knight, Humanist Hero

Our meeting on Monday, November 20th, 2000, featured Mickey Koth's presentation on "Margaret Knight: Humanist Sheroe." Join us on Monday, August 18, when Douglas Peary will present his treatment of this influential woman for his Humanist Hero series.

Margaret Kennedy Knight (1903-1983) was born Margaret Horsey in Hertfordshire, England. Uneasy about religion as a teenager, she threw off those beliefs in her third year at Cambridge upon reading the writings of Bertrand Russell. She studied psychology and taught at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland where she met and married psychologist Arthur Rex Knight (1903-1963) in 1936. They worked there together and she continued alone until 1970.

The Knights co-authored several textbooks in psychology including one in 1950 on the teachings of Psychologist William James.

In 1955 she was invited by BBC Radio to present her views of Scientific Humanism as a successor to Christianity. She made two positive presentations of moral training for children without religion. After the first, Knight was labeled "The Unholy Mrs. Knight." She published her views in 1955 in her book "Morals Without Religion." She was frequently called on to lecture and debate about Humanism to students at most British

Calendar of Events

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

AUGUST, 2008

Sat., 9	Humanist Conversations: Bring a Book	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 11	Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 18	Monthly meeting Main program: Doug Peary: <i>Margaret Kennedy Knight, Humanist Hero</i>	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Thu., 21	Waterbury-Area Dinner at Lisboa, 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789 for directions	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 24	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER, 2008

Sat., 6	Book discussion: <i>Creating a World Without Poverty</i> by Muhammad Yunus	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 8	Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 13	Humanist Conversations: TBD	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 15	Monthly meeting Main program: TBA	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Thu., 18	Waterbury-Area Dinner at Lisboa, 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789 for directions	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 21	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Sat., 27	Bible Reading Group	2:30 p.m.
Tue., 30	Hartford-Area Dinner at Lemongrass, 7 South Main Street, West Hartford. (860) 233-4405.	7:00 p.m.

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Universities after her radio presentation. In 1961 she published, "Humanist Anthology: from Confucius to Bertrand Russell" covering 65 individuals.

Join us with a friend at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday, August 18 at 7:30 p.m. for coffee and conversation. Doug's talk will follow brief announcements at 8:00 p.m.

(Incidentally, the write-up for Micky's talk is on our web site in the November, 2000 newsletter.)

Conversations

Read any good books lately? Well, bring one that you've read recently on Saturday, August 9, and recommend it to all the book lovers who show up. We haven't done this since we started having book discussions, and it's always fun! Everyone will get to share at least one book.

We'll meet at 700 Hartford Turnpike on Saturday, August 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Dinners — Change to Previously-Published Schedule!

There are a few changes to our social dinners in August from the schedule published in the previous newsletter. Our New

Haven-area dinner at Pasta Fair has been rescheduled to Monday, August 11. Our Hartford-area dinner has been replaced with a

dinner at Lisboa in Waterbury on Thursday, August 21.

Please be sure to use the calendar above.

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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.

Ideas Wanted

If you have an idea for an event, please suggest it to a board member! We're always looking for suggestions for conversations topics, speakers, books to read, and other interesting activities!

Book Discussion — “Creating a World Without Poverty”

The next book we will read is “Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism” by Muhammad Yunus. Copies are available at public libraries as well as at bookstores and online.

We will meet to discuss this book on Saturday, September 6, from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

Included as an “Epilogue” to the book, on pages 235-248, is Muhammad Yunus’ Nobel acceptance lecture “Poverty is a Threat to Peace.” You may want to read this speech before the rest of the book. Alternatively you can view the thirty-five-minute Nobel lecture at http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2006/yunus-lecture.html (in the video, about two minutes near the beginning of the speech are in Bangla and the remainder of the speech is in English).

Perhaps even more informative and interesting than the Nobel lecture (mainly because of the Q&A), is a speech Muhammad Yunus gave at MIT shortly before being awarded the Nobel prize. To play the MIT speech video, which runs 53 minutes including Q & A, go to: <http://mitworld.mit.edu/play/287/>

As always, feel free to invite a friend.

Bible Discussion Group, Part V

The next meeting of the HAC Bible Discussion Group will be on Saturday, September 27, from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

For September 27 please read the following:

A. In “How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now” by James L. Kugel:

Chapter 16. The Ten Commandments 250-259

Chapter 17. A Religion of Laws 260-279

Chapter 18. Worship on the Road 280-295

B. In Wikipedia:

» “Ten Commandments”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ten_Commandments

Section 4, *Religious Interpretations*, which covers Judaism, Samaritan, Christianity, Islam, and Other Traditions and Section 5, *Controversies*.

Note the different versions within religions and among different religions.

» “Seven Laws of Noah”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seven_Laws_of_Noah

» “Five Pillars of Islam”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_Pillars_of_Islam

In addition to discussing the reading materials, we will be watching a 15-minute video segment.

Feel free to invite a friend.

Please go through the assigned reading materials.

MEMBERSHIP

- i Adult \$35
- i Family \$50
- i Newsletter Only \$10

i 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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