



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

March 2013



CSH Affiliate

## *Ken Feder on Lye Stones, Cider Presses, and Sacrificed Virgins*

We are pleased to welcome our favorite archaeologist Kenneth L. Feder, Ph.D., to present this talk on Monday, March 18, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. Ken says, "Researchers rely on multiple, independent channels of evidence converging on the same explanation to support a particular hypothesis. I'll assess the converging evidence for the object called 'The Sacrificial Table' located at the Mystery Hill site in New Hampshire."

Ken is a professor of Archaeology at Central Connecticut State University and is the author of several books on this subject.

We'll start with half an hour of coffee and conversation at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 18, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden, followed by Ken's fun and informative talk at 8:00 p.m.

## *The Abolitionists*

Join us at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 2, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. We'll watch and discuss parts of the recent PBS *American Experience* series, "The Abolitionists." What does their work mean today?

## *Calendar of Events*

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at [meetup.com/cthumanist](http://meetup.com/cthumanist).

### MARCH

Sat., 2	Humanist Conversations: "The Abolitionists"	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 4	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 9	RESCHEDULED Book Discussion: "The Better Angels of Our Nature. Why Violence has Declined" by Stephen Pinker.	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Mon., 18	Monthly Meeting	7:30 p.m.
	<b>Main program:</b> Ken Feder "Lye Stones, Cider Presses, and Sacrificed Virgins: Converging Evidence at the Mystery Hill Site in NH"	8:00 p.m.
Sat., 23	Book Discussion: "The Plague" by Albert Camus.	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Sun., 24	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Tue., 26	Hartford Area Dinner at Wood-n-Tap, 12 Town Line Road, Rocky Hill. (860) 571-9444	6:30 p.m.

### APRIL

Mon., 1	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 6	Humanist Conversations: TBA	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 15	Monthly Meeting	7:30 p.m.
	<b>Main program:</b> TBA	8:00 p.m.
Sun., 21	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Tue., 30	Hartford Area Dinner at Wood-n-Tap, 12 Town Line Road, Rocky Hill. (860) 571-9444	6:30 p.m.

[www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org)

## *USNH Cinema*

On Friday, March 1 at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden, David Schafer will be showing the Common Cause video that Kim Hynes mentioned during her talk for HAC in February: "The United States of ALEC."

An optional potluck dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.; the video will be shown promptly at 7:00 p.m.

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# Hartford Area Dinner: Doug Peary on Compassionate Ending

Our Guest Speaker for our Hartford Area Dinner in March will be Doug Peary, who has been both President and Vice President of the Humanist Association of Connecticut. Recently Doug has been active in advocating for Compassionate Ending legislation before the Connecticut legislature.

Join us on Tuesday, March 26 at the Wood-n-Tap restaurant at 12 Town Line Road in Rocky Hill. Drinks and socializing begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner and our speaker at 7:00 p.m.

## Book Group Double Header

We postponed our discussion of "The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined," by Steven Pinker. The discussion will now take place on Saturday, March 9 from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. Plenty of copies are available in Connecticut public libraries, in book stores and online.

Steven Pinker's 2007 TED talk was the impetus for writing the book and introduces the major themes. You can view it at: [www.ted.com/talks/steven\\_pinker\\_on\\_the\\_myth\\_of\\_violence.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/steven_pinker_on_the_myth_of_violence.html)

Pinker was very recently interviewed about "Better Angels" in a live "podcast" by Point of Inquiry. You can download the podcast or watch a video of the interview at [www.pointofinquiry.org/point\\_of\\_inquiry\\_live\\_steven\\_pinker\\_the\\_decline\\_of\\_violence](http://www.pointofinquiry.org/point_of_inquiry_live_steven_pinker_the_decline_of_violence). Some may be interested to hear what Pinker has to say about the Newtown massacre.

We will still meet on Saturday, March 23 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. to discuss the short, classic novel "The Plague" by Albert Camus. Refreshments will be served.

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Published monthly by the Humanist Association of Connecticut, 27

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Please include a SASE to have material returned. Approximate circulation: 180 copies. Annual subscription price \$10.00, included in membership.  
The editor would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

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