



THE NEWSLETTER OF
The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION
 of CONNECTICUT



AHA Chapter

March 2018

UU Humanists Local Group

The Pro-Truth Pledge

Are you concerned by the rising tide of fake news and alternative facts in our public discourse? What if you had the power to do something about it? Join us on Monday, March 19, because our speaker, Dr. Gleb Tsipursky, knows exactly how you can help orient the world toward truthfulness.

Dr. Gleb Tsipursky is passionate about promoting truth-oriented behavior, rational thinking, and wise decision-making in public discourse. He researches these topics as a professor at Ohio State University, and serves as the President of Intentional Insights, a nonprofit devoted to popularizing these topics. Its main current focus is the Pro-Truth Pledge, <https://www.protruthpledge.org>, a project that aims to reverse the tide of lies and promote truth in public discourse through combining behavioral science and crowd-sourcing. He has authored a number of books, most notably "The Truth Seeker's Handbook: A Science-Based Guide" and "Find Your Purpose Using Science," and has a new book forthcoming in 2018, "The Alternative to Alternative Facts: Fighting Post-Truth Politics with Behavioral Science." Pieces by him regularly come out in prominent venues such as *Time*, *Scientific American*, *Psychology Today*, *Salon*, *Truthout*, *The Huffington*

Explorations: The Gilded Age

With the rise of industrialization in the years after the Civil War, America began to see the rise of two classes, the haves and the have nots. As today, the distribution of wealth and opportunity tilted unevenly toward the very rich as government became the handmaiden of the upper classes. Today we see history repeating itself, and we must consider the outlook for the future, and what remedies are at hand.

Join us for this enlightening documentary at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 7, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

Calendar of Events

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

MARCH 2018

Sat., 3	Explorations: Typhoid Mary	2:30 p.m
Mon., 5	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 17	Book Discussion: "Margaret Fuller: A New American Life" by Megan Marshall	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Mon., 19	Monthly Meeting Main program: The Pro-Truth Pledge	7:00 p.m 7:30 p.m
Sun., 25	Board meeting	3:30 p.m
Mon., 26	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. (203) 248-9663. Topic: Feeling Foolish	7:00 p.m

APRIL 2018

Mon., 2	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 7	Explorations: The Gilded Age	2:30 p.m
Sat., 14	Book Discussion: "The Blithedale Romance" by Nathaniel Hawthorne	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Mon., 16	Monthly Meeting Main program: TBA	7:00 p.m 7:30 p.m
Sun., 22	Board meeting	3:30 p.m
Mon., 23	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. (203) 248-9663. Topic: TBA	7:00 p.m
Thu., 26	Dining Out for Life at Caffe Bravo, 794 Orange Street, New Haven	6:00 p.m
Sun., 29	Connecticut Food Bank Walk Against Hunger, Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven	1:00 p.m

www.cthumanist.org

www.meetup.com/cthumanist
www.facebook.com/cthumanist
www.twitter.com/cthumanist

Post and reason-oriented venues such as *The Humanist*, *Skeptical Inquirer*, *Free Inquiry*, *American Atheist Magazine*, and *Patheos*.

He has appeared as a guest on network TV, including affiliates of Fox and ABC, and radio stations such as NPR, WBAI (New York City), KGO (San Francisco), and 700WLW (Cincinnati), as well as reason-oriented podcasts, such as *Ra-Men Podcast*, *The Scathing Atheist*, *Serious Inquiries Only*, and *The Humanist Hour*.

We will start with half an hour of coffee and conversation at 7:00 p.m. with our main presentation after brief announcements at 7:30 p.m.

www.cthumanist.org

www.facebook.com/cthumanist • www.meetup.com/cthumanist • www.twitter.com/cthumanist

Email List

To join, send an email to:
hac-announce-request@cthumanist.org
with the subject **subscribe**.

To unsubscribe, send an email to:
hac-announce-request@cthumanist.org
with the subject **unsubscribe**.

Officers

- President Richard Siddall
(203) 264-2182
president@cthumanist.org
- Vice-President June Schafer
- Secretary Carol Siddall
- Treasurer Rebecca Williams

Committee Chairs

- Program Carol Siddall
- Membership Frank Avitable
- Development Gayle Walter
- Publications Richard Siddall
- Publicity Lisa Candido
- Hospitality Randy Olear

Newsletter

- Editor Carol Siddall
(203) 264-8546
editor@cthumanist.org
- Production: Richard Siddall
(203) 264-2182
webmaster@cthumanist.org

Copyright ©, 2018 Humanist Association of Connecticut.
Articles may be reproduced without written permission, providing attribution is given.

Published monthly by the Humanist Association of 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. We welcome humanist-themed letters, articles, poetry, news items, cartoons, and illustrations.

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.

Hunger Walk

The annual Connecticut Food Bank Walk Against Hunger will be held at Lighthouse Park in New Haven on Sunday, April 29, 2018. Sign up or donate at: www.cthumanist.org/walk.

Dinner Discussion: Feeling Foolish

“The first principle is that you must not fool yourself – and you are the easiest person to fool.” – Richard P. Feynman

According to the Justice Department, only 15 percent of fraud victims report the crimes. People fall for all kinds of frauds, and not all are considered crimes. Here are two stories from *The Atlantic* – one about romantic fraud, <https://tinyurl.com/ydgrgv79>, and one about people in a cult, including the leader, <https://tinyurl.com/y88djmvg>.

A common thread in those stories is people realizing they’ve been fooling themselves. Here are explanations of four common ways people fool themselves: <https://tinyurl.com/y7jg5wjl>.

Can you think of some times you’ve been fooled, you’ve fooled yourself, or you’ve seen others fooled? Is it always a bad thing? Come talk this over with us on Monday, March 26 at the Wood-n-Tap at 2100 Dixwell Avenue in Hamden at 7:00 p.m.

Dining Out for Life - April 26

On Thursday, April 26, HAC and Yale Humanists will be participating in this annual fundraising event to benefit Aids Project New Haven (APNH).

We have chosen Caffe Bravo, one of the participating restaurants, as our Dining Out location. Caffe Bravo is located at 794 Orange Street, corner of Willow Street, in the East Rock neighborhood of New Haven. 25% of the proceeds will go to APNH. (We will be asking for separate checks.)

Please join us for Dining Out with members and friends at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 26.

You can make your reservation by signing up on Meetup, at the HAC monthly meeting, or by contacting Gayle Walter at development@cthumanist.org or 203-640-3694.

You may also contact Gayle if you have any questions about directions, parking, etc.

Book Discussion: “Margaret Fuller”

Our book for March is “Margaret Fuller: A New American Life” by biographer Megan Marshall. The discussion will take place Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the library of the Unitarian Society of New Haven at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden.

From Amazon: “Pulitzer Prize winner Megan Marshall recounts the trailblazing life of Margaret Fuller: Thoreau’s first editor, Emerson’s close friend, daring war correspondent, tragic heroine. After her untimely death in a shipwreck off Fire Island, the sense and passion of her life’s work were eclipsed by scandal. Marshall’s inspired narrative brings her back to indelible life.”

“Megan Marshall’s brilliant Margaret Fuller brings us as close as we are ever likely to get to this astonishing creature. She rushes out at us from her nineteenth century, always several steps ahead, inspiring, heartbreaking, magnificent.” – Rebecca Newberger Goldstein

Light snacks will be served.

Mark Your Calendars: The April Book Discussion will occur on the second Saturday, April 14, instead of April 21.

MEMBERSHIP		Name(s): _____
i Adult	\$35	Address: _____
i Family	\$50	_____
i Newsletter Only	\$10	Telephone: _____
i Our membership year is 1/1-12/31.		E-Mail Address: _____
i In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. Please mail checks for annual membership payable to		Please add me to the e-mail Announce List (circle one): YES NO
i Humanist Association of Connecticut to: Humanist Association of Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321.		I want my newsletter electronically <u>only</u> (circle one): YES NO
As a chapter of the American Humanist Association we share your information with AHA. Please check this box if you do <u>not</u> want to be contacted by the Secular Coalition for Connecticut about legislative action <input type="checkbox"/>		