



THE NEWSLETTER OF
The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION
of CONNECTICUT



AHA Chapter

June 2018

UU Humanists Local Group

Picnic: June 23

Join us for our Annual Picnic on Saturday, June 23th, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the lovely home of Gayle Walter and Gordon Daniell at 51 Linden Street in New Haven, rain or shine.

Gayle and Gordon will provide hot dogs and veggie burgers. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share!

RSVP to Gayle at
GayleCWalter@gmail.com.

If you have any trouble finding the location, Gayle's phone number is (203) 640-3694.

Directions

From South of New Haven:

Take the Trumbull Street Exit off I-91, which is the first exit past the 95/91 interchange. At the end of the ramp, take a right onto Orange Street. Go north on Orange Street 10 blocks to Avon Street. All the side streets are one way, so you need to go around the block to get to 51 Linden Street: take a right onto Avon, then a left onto Foster, then a left onto Linden Street.

From North of New Haven:

Take Exit 5, the Willow Street Exit off I-91. At the end of the exit ramp, take a right onto Willow Street. Go west on Willow Street to the third traffic light at the corner of Willow and Foster Streets; there is a pizza parlor on the near right-hand corner. Turn left onto Foster Street and take the first right onto Linden Street.

Once you reach Linden Street:

#51 is the last house on the right of the first block of Linden Street. It is a small butter-scotch-colored Victorian. There is a 2-car garage between the house and the market on the corner, which is Romeo's. If you go too far, you will be back to Orange Street. Because Linden Street is one-way, either park on the street and walk back or go around the block again.

Calendar of Events

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

JUNE 2018

Sat., 2	Explorations: The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire	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., 16	Book Discussion: "One Nation Under God" by Kevin Kruse	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Sat., 23	Annual Picnic at Gayle Walter and Gordon Daniell's home in New Haven	4:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m
Sun., 24	Board meeting	3:30 p.m
Mon., 25	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. (203) 248-9663. Topic: Should HAC join the Connecticut Coalition to Regulate Marijuana?	7:00 p.m

JULY 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 Sweetest Sounds	2:30 p.m
Mon., 16	Monthly Meeting Main program: TBA	7:00 p.m 7:30 p.m
Sat., 21	Book Discussion: "Lincoln in the Bardo" by George Saunders	2:00 p.m to 4:00 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

www.cthumanist.org

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Explorations: The Sweetest Sounds

The evolution of the creative mind and the understanding of the human predicament is the focus of this biography of one of America's great composers, Richard Rodgers. From his schooldays at Columbia University, to his extended relationships with two brilliant lyricists, Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein, Rodgers plumbed the mind in innumerable ways and created musical plays for The Broadway Theater that still have a lasting impact today. Join us for this enlightening film, most appropriate for the current holiday.

We'll watch a documentary and discuss Richard Rodgers's life and works at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 7, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. We'll have refreshments; feel free to bring something light to share.

(Editor's note: You may recall we watched a film on Oscar Hammerstein in February of 2017. This presentation will give us the rest of the story of the Rogers and Hammerstein Duo.)

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Email List

To join, send an email to:
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The editor would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

The Issue of Marijuana Regulation

We have been invited to join the Connecticut Coalition to Regulate Marijuana (<https://www.regulatect.org>). Is this something that the Humanist Association of Connecticut should consider? At least read the “about” section of their website, which explains their mission and lists current coalition members. Should HAC join or endorse the coalition? Bring your thoughts to dinner on Monday, June 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wood ‘n’ Tap at 2100 Dixwell Avenue in Hamden.

Please help us reserve a table by letting us know if you’re coming via meetup.com or email to development@cthumanist.org.

Book Discussions

On June 16 we will discuss “One Nation Under God: How Corporate America Invented Christian America” by historian Kevin M. Kruse.

From the cover: “We’re often told that the United States is, was, and always has been a Christian nation. But in ‘One Nation Under God,’ historian Kevin M. Kruse reveals that the idea of ‘Christian America’ is an invention—and a relatively recent one at that.

“To fight the ‘slavery’ of FDR’s New Deal, businessmen enlisted religious activists in a campaign for ‘freedom under God’ that culminated in the election of their ally Dwight Eisenhower in 1952. The new president revolutionized the role of religion in American politics. He inaugurated new traditions like the National Prayer Breakfast, as Congress added the phrase ‘under God’ to the Pledge of Allegiance and made ‘In God We Trust’ the country’s first official motto. Church membership soon soared to an all-time high of 69 percent. Americans across the religious and political spectrum agreed that their country was ‘one nation under God.’

“Provocative and authoritative, ‘One Nation Under God’ reveals how an unholy alliance of money, religion, and politics created a false origin story that continues to define and divide American politics to this day.

“Kevin M. Kruse is a professor of history at Princeton University and the author or coeditor of four books, including the award-winning ‘White Flight’ He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.”

On July 21 we’ll discuss “Lincoln in the Bardo” by George Saunders, a non-traditional historical novel. Reviews from Amazon:

“A luminous feat of generosity and humanism.”—Colson Whitehead, *The New York Times Book Review*

“An extended national ghost story . . . As anyone who knows Saunders’s work would expect, his first novel is a strikingly original production.”—*The Washington Post*

“Saunders’s beautifully realized portrait of Lincoln . . . attests to the author’s own fruitful transition from the short story to the long-distance form of the novel.”—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

“Profound, funny and vital . . . the work of a great writer.”—*Chicago Tribune*

“Heartbreaking and hilarious . . . For all its divine comedy, Lincoln in the Bardo is also deep and moving.”—*USA Today*

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"/>