



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CENTRAL CONNECTICUT

July 1999



ASHS Affiliate

## Picnic Directions

Our main activity for July will be the annual picnic, to be held again at the lovely home of Dr. Bob and Ms. Joan Rafford, 57 Clearview Knoll Rd., Middlebury, CT.

Telephone: (203) 758-9798

Bring something to eat and drink for yourself, a little food to share (hot or cold, salad, dessert, fruit, vegetables, or what have you), and your relaxed and festive Humanist mood. There will be coals for grilling.

*From the New Haven area:*

Take Rte. 8 north to I-84 and go west to Exit 17. From the exit go straight ahead (west) on Rte. 64 to the stoplight...

*From the Stamford area:*

Take Rte. 7 north to I-84 and go east to Exit 17. At the exit turn left onto Rte. 63, go straight to the stoplight (Rte. 64), and turn left again onto Rte. 64...

*From the junction of Rte. 64 with Rte. 63:*

Head west on Rte. 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. #57 is on the left. Park in the driveway (2 cars wide) or on the street.

## Calendar of Events

### JULY

Sat., 17	Annual picnic at the Raffords' house in Middlebury. See article for directions.	Noon
Sun., 25	Board meeting at UUNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike.	1:30 p.m.
Fri., 30	Humanist Conversations at 700 Hartford Turnpike. Program to be announced.	7:30 p.m.

### AUGUST

Mon., 16	Monthly meeting at UUNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike. Coffee and conversation.	7:30 p.m.
	Main program: Walter Wells on "Shelley Playing"	8:00 p.m.
Fri., 27	Humanist Conversations at 700 Hartford Turnpike. Program to be announced.	7:30 p.m.
Sun., 29	Board meeting at UUNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike.	1:30 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER

Mon., 20	Monthly meeting at UUNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike. Coffee and conversation.	7:30 p.m.
	Main program: David Schafer on "Science and the Humanist"	8:00 p.m.
Sun., 26	Board meeting at UUNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike.	1:30 p.m.

### OCTOBER

Fri., 1	Humanist Conversations at 700 Hartford Turnpike. Program to be announced.	7:30 p.m.
---------	--	-----------

## FUUS Vote Moot

In the previous newsletter we warned members of an important vote at the June meeting to accept or reject an offer by the First Unitarian Universalist Society of New Haven to move our operations to their facilities on Whitney Avenue. The offer was presented to members at last year's picnic by the FUUS President, ?????, and minister, John Lanz. Due to shrinking membership, FUUS needed additional income to finance their continued use of the building, and HACC publicity committee chair Nash Boutros argued in favor of supporting a liberal organization working within the New Haven city limits.

Shortly before the June meeting, it became known that FUUS has decided to sell the Whitney Avenue building and move to another site in the area. This made our acceptance of their offer moot, and after discussion, the vote was therefore dropped without objection from any member present at the meeting.

**Officers**

President David Schafer  
 (203) 281-6232  
 djschaf@compuserve.com

Vice-President Douglas Peary

Secretary June Schafer

Treasurer John Magnesi

**Newsletter**

Editor Carol J. Stone  
 (203) 264-8546  
 carolstone@freewwwweb.com

Production: Richard L. Siddall  
 (203) 264-2182  
 rsiddall@wtco.net

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Adult . . . . . \$35  
 Family . . . . . \$50  
 In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. The membership year runs from 1/1 to 12/31.

Copyright © 1999, Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, all rights reserved. Published monthly by the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321. All submissions should be made to this address, as should requests for permission to reprint articles. If you need material returned to you, please include a SASE and clearly mark the material to be returned. All material sent to the Editor will be considered for publication. We welcome letters, articles, photographs, poetry, comic strips, news items, cartoons and other illustrations related to humanism. Material may also be submitted by e-mail to rsiddall@wtco.net. Approximate circulation: 100 copies. Subscription price \$10.00 per annum, free to members of the association.

The deadline for each issue is three weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

The editor would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

This space reserved...  
 For your letter to the Editor.

# April Showers

*In lesser rain we walk among the ruins  
 Of many lives undone by mystical  
 Encounters with a voice demanding strikes  
 Against both reason and machinery  
 Of mind like credence to the sensible  
 Provenience of knowledge, when at birth  
 An infant's world is light, unspecified,  
 Enlarged thereafter to include such gleams  
 As beastly bones on floors of ancient seas  
 As judgments bottomed on experience  
 Unsullied by authority or faith.*

*Through rain that blinks like chromium we scan  
 A springhouse in collapse with ashlars sunk  
 In mire of the splash where once the frogs,  
 Now blood-shy on dissecting tables, puffed  
 A baritone that stirred the sumacs' drupes:  
 A patent probate of inviolateness!*

*Within a hillside boscage raindrops roll  
 Like bearings through the coils of early leaves.*

*High on the watershed the runoff gains  
 From snow-melt and the rain a volume viewed  
 As currents counter to theophany.*

*The rain-walk closes with a clearing wind;  
 A gusting whips a squirrel's furbelows;  
 The sky's chiaroscuro, pewter drab,  
 Recedes before priorities of blue,  
 Disproving, if disproof were still a need,  
 Platonic versions of reality.*

*And insects bid on glass a flat adieu.*

Franklin W Marshall, April, 1988  
 (Mr. Marshall is President of the Northeast Atheists Association.)

## Humanism On-Line

To subscribe to the new humanist e-mail list, send a message to <ListProc@uua.org> with the following line in the text (not the subject) of the message:

*subscribe humanists yourname*

Replace "yourname" with your actual first and last names. Enclose your name in quotation marks if your name is long or contains punctuation.

Stafan Johansson and David Schafer are the list managers.