



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

June 2019



UU Humanists Local Group

Annual Picnic

Summer Solstice Celebration

June 22, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Join us for our Annual Picnic on Saturday June 22 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 51 Linden Street in New Haven, rain or shine. Hosts Gayle and Gordon will provide hot dogs and veggie burgers. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP GayleCWalter@gmail.com. If you have any trouble finding the location, call Gayle at (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 and go north 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.

Directions from North of New Haven:

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

Once you are on Linden, #51 is the last house on the right of the first block. The house is a small butterscotch-colored Victorian. There is a 2-car garage between the house and the market on the corner. Park on the streets nearby.

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 2019

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|----------|---|---------------------------|
| Sat., 1 | Explorations, "Forgotten Ellis Island" | 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 3 | Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven | 7:00 p.m. |
| Sat., 8 | AHA Conference Watch Party | 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. |
| Sat., 15 | Book Discussion: "Origin" by Dan Brown | 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. |
| Sat., 22 | Annual Picnic – Gayle and Gordon's, New Haven | 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. |
| Sun., 23 | Board Meeting | 3:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 24 | Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden Topic "Should Humanists be Tolerant?" | 7:00 p.m. |

JULY 2019

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| Sat., 6 | Explorations, TBD | 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 1 | Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven | 7:00 p.m. |
| Sat., 20 | Book Discussion: "Before Your Know It" by John Bargh | 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 15 | Monthly Meeting | 7:00 p.m. |
| Sun., 21 | Board Meeting | 3:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 22 | Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, Topic TBD | 7:00 p.m. |

Anniversary Party

Thank you to all of you who contributed to the success of our 30th Anniversary Celebration! It was wonderful to have six founding members present, to reminisce, to have a "Champagne" Toast, the chocolate fountain, the cake, and the many other shared refreshments. About 35 people attended.

www.cthumanist.org

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

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

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Please take a minute to send in
your 2019 dues to the address
above: \$35 individual -- \$50 family
-- \$10 postal newsletter only
Many thanks to those already paid!

Explorations: Forgotten Ellis Island -
June 1, 2:30 p.m.

The first public health hospital in the United States was opened in 1902 on Ellis Island and functioned until 1930. As part of the immigration complex in New York Harbor, the challenges of dealing with contagious diseases were massive in the days before antibiotics and modern medicines. In light of the present anti-vaccine crisis, this documentary provides an insight into our current challenges.

Book Discussion: Origin -- June 17, 2:30 p.m.

In this story, a billionaire scientist claims that he has found answers to the questions: "Where did we come from?" and "Where are we going?" Origin is a familiar blend of travelogue, history, conspiracies and whodunit, with asides on everything from the poetry of William Blake to the rise and fall of fascism in Spain.

Wood-n-Tap Dinner Discussion - Zoned Out!
June 24, 7 p.m., Hamden

Towns around the country are using zoning regulations to keep poor people from moving in. This is especially prevalent in Connecticut (<https://www.propublica.org/article/how-some-of-americas-richest-towns-fight-affordable-housing>). Have you seen it in your town? Is this a good idea? Should we be fighting it? Any idea how we could?

AHA Conference Watch Party

Saturday June 8, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 51 Linden St., New Haven

The American Humanist Association is live streaming their conference from Friday, June 7 to Sunday, June 9. HAC will hold a watch party for the Saturday afternoon events at Gayle & Gordon's residence. Plan to drop in anytime between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. to watch all or part of the following events with friends:

- Dr. Ali Winters: [Prolonged Solitary Confinement and the Secular Humanist](#)
- Sharon Thompson: [You Think You Know What Love Is?](#)
- Jeffrey Caldwell: [A Faith for the Faithless](#)
- Vic Schachter: [Enhancing Human Rights and Rule of Law Around the Globe Through Peaceful Dispute Resolution](#)
- Kevin Bolling: [Next Generation of the Secular Movement: Are You Ready?](#)

You may register to see other conference programming on your own whether you drop by or not. Go to website www.conference.americanhumanist.org and follow the links for registration and schedule of talks.

Newsletter Supplement - Too many topics for two pages! Read more on pages 3 and 4.

We need you! There are many opportunities available to support this group, such as:

- Kitchen help is always welcome at the monthly meeting! (see [Carol S.](#))
- Shopping for coffee, snacks and supplies (see Carol S.)
- Submit ideas for activities or newsletter items to the editor.
- Visit a board meeting to see what goes on behind the scenes.

Walk Against Hunger

Our team raised \$420.22 for the Connecticut Food Bank. They are still accepting donations through 5/31. You can donate at www.cthumanist.org/walk.

Photo Exhibit at UUCM to Benefit Sanctuary

A photographic show about sanctuary, featuring photos of Nelson Pinos in sanctuary at First & Summerfield Church in New Haven and Sujitno Sajuti at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden (UUCM), will be re-exhibited at UUCM on Sat, June 8, at 5 p.m. There will be food and talk, and donations collected will be for the use of Sujitno and his wife Dahlia Sajuti who are trying to hold onto their apartment in West Hartford until they can move back there.

WAYS TO HELP

Come the afternoon of 6/8 to help set up the exhibit; Bring finger foods on 6/8 for the opening. To volunteer, contact Sarah Forman, USNH Sanctuary coordinator at 203-376-4536.

The Trust Act

Here is a new, urgent request from Connecticut Immigrant Rights Alliance (CIRA) to help fix to the TRUST Act. Supporting this act is one of the best things we can do for immigrant families. The TRUST Act limits cooperation between local police and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and has passed in the CT State Senate <https://ctmirror.org/2019/05/15/ct-senate-passes-bill-restricting-cooperation-with-ice>. Connecticut has taken the first step to push back against the current politics of hate and fear, and now we need to keep momentum.

WAYS TO HELP

Make a call today to House Leadership. Call 860-240-8500 and ask to be transferred to House Speaker Joe Aresimowicz or House Majority Leader Matt Ritter's office. Read/say:

“Hello, My name is _____. I am calling today in support of Senate Bill 992, or the TRUST Act. Senate Bill 992 would update the current TRUST Act to deny all detainer requests from ICE, unless ICE can present a judicial warrant to compel Connecticut cooperation. This fix would hold ICE to the same standard as any other police agency, protect individual rights, and keep our families and communities together. I urge Representative (Aresimowicz/Ritter) to let Senate Bill 992 come for a vote on the House floor.”

Connecticut Coalition of Reason

The Connecticut Coalition of Reason (CT CoR, ctcor.org), the umbrella group of secular organizations in Connecticut, held its May board meeting as a conference call on Sunday, May 19 at 7 p.m.

- The Secular Coalition for Connecticut (SCCT) organized a protest of Franklin Graham's appearance in Bridgeport on Tuesday, May 28. It got some media attention: <https://www.ctpost.com/local/ctpost/article/Bridgeport-prepares-for-protests-at-Franklin-13901997.php>.
- The legislative session is about over. The uniform oaths bill did not make it out of committee.
- The Patient's Right to Know Bill was not put forward in order to avoid distraction from The National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL) bill to outlaw deceptive advertising by fake women's health clinics (<https://www.prochoiceamerica.org/state-law/connecticut/#fake-health-centers>).
- The Governor's office did not issue a Darwin Day proclamation this year. It did issue a National Day of Prayer proclamation.
- Humanists and Freethinkers of Fairfield County (HFFC) is holding a screening of the 2019 documentary about the Satanic Temple, *Hail, Satan?*, at the Bijou Theater in Bridgeport on Thursday, June 13 at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30.
- Atheist Humanist Society of Connecticut and Rhode Island (AHSCTRI) will host The Satanic Temple's Lucius Greeves at the Groton Library on Thursday, August 1 from 7-9 p.m.
- Several groups are holding solstice picnics on Saturday, June 22nd.