



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

September 2019



UU Humanists Local Group

Monthly Meeting— Humanism 101—Living a Humanist Life

Sept. 16, 7:00 p.m.

This is our monthly meeting, held on the third Monday of the month at 7 PM in the social hall of the Unitarian Society of New Haven. We start with 30 minutes of coffee and conversation followed by the main program at 7:30 PM.

Our speaker will be Dan Blinn, President of Hartford Area Humanists, graduate of the Humanist Institute, at-large member of the Connecticut Coalition of Reason and consumer rights lawyer. He will be giving us an introduction to Humanism. Dan will explore with us what it means to identify as a Humanist, and he will suggest different ways that we can find purpose and meaning by incorporating Humanism into our daily lives. We will discuss the history of Humanism as well as contemporary Humanism in America, and Dan will share his thoughts on how Humanism might continue to evolve.

Calendar of Events

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

SEPTEMBER 2019

Mon., 2	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 7	Explorations, Koch Brothers Exposed	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sun., 15	Board Meeting	3:30 p.m.
Mon., 16	Monthly Meeting: Humanism 101	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 21	Book Discussion: "Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon., 23	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden— "If not the Amazon, Where Does Our Oxygen Come From?"	7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 2019

Sat., 5	Explorations, TBD	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon., 7	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven	7:00 p.m.
TBD	Book Discussion: "The Hate You Give" by Angie Thomas	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon., 21	Monthly Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 27	Board Meeting	3:30 p.m.
Mon., 28	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, Topic TBD	7:00 p.m.

Labor Day Trivia The first Labor Day celebration wasn't really much of a celebration at all. On Sept. 5, 1882, more than 10,000 took to the streets in New York City, in large part to protest the long hours and horrid conditions in which they worked. At that time, it was common for the average worker to spend 12 hours a day, six days a week on the job, and by the late 19th century some had had enough. But it wouldn't be until 1916, with the passage of the Adamson Act, that the modern eight-hour work day was established. —The Cheshire Herald

HAC Newsletter--Email vs. Mail

If you have not already done so, we hope you will opt out of receiving a copy by mail. You can do this by sending a note to editor@cthumanist.org. Printed copies of the newsletter will be available at HAC meetings.

www.cthumanist.org

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

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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!*

The Importance of Voting

Does my vote really count? Is it worth it? These are questions with a long history of debate. You may feel like the lone sane voice in a shouting match. But the answer to both of those questions is YES!

--everythingcounts.com

Urgent: Vote in Your Local Elections!

There are no statewide elections in Connecticut this year, but check for local elections. Go to www.portal.ct.gov and search for 2019 Primary Ballots to see if your town is voting this coming Tuesday, September 10th. For instance, Hamden is having Democratic primary selection for Mayor and District Councilman. Hartford and New Haven also have Democratic primaries on that day. West Haven is having a Republican primary selection for Mayor. Eleven Democratic and fourteen Republican primaries are held around Connecticut next Tuesday. What about your town?

Explorations: Koch Brothers Exposed - Sept 7, 2:30 p.m.

We present Brave New Films' *Koch Brothers Exposed*. This 2014 film uncovers the Kochs' corruption.

Koch Brothers Exposed is a hard-hitting investigation of the 1% at its very worst. This 2014 full-length film is a documentary on Charles and David Koch—two of the world's richest and most powerful men. The billionaire brothers bankroll a vast network of organizations that work to undermine the interests of the 99% on issues ranging from Social Security to the environment to civil rights. This film uncovers the Kochs' corruption—and points the way to how Americans can reclaim their democracy.

Book Discussion: Educated: A Memoir -- Sept 21, 2:30 p.m.

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

Wood-n-Tap Dinner Discussion - If Not the Amazon, Where Does Our Oxygen Come From? Sept 23, 7 p.m., Hamden

This month we will discuss the "Atlantic" article, "The Amazon Is Not Earth's Lungs" at <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2019/08/amazon-fire-earth-has-plenty-oxygen/596923>.

How worrisome is the information buried in this article?

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.