

## *Monthly Meeting*

### *“The Waverly Project”*

Speaker: Sharon McBlain

7 p.m., Monday September 21

*The first few minutes is a business meeting  
(see “ByLaws”, page 2).*

In 1999, calling itself the Waverly Extended Family, a group of loosely affiliated religious and civic organizations in New Haven descended upon a small housing project, the Waverly Town Houses, to do a little old-fashioned child saving. Members provide math tutoring, seek scholarship money for private schools and summer camp, mediate with school or police officials, and offer time, advice, and support for some 75 at-risk youngsters. It is easy to conclude that the Waverly Extended Family bears out some of the hopes of civil-society optimists.

The Waverly program that Sharon will speak about is sponsored by USNH, and Sharon is the coordinator on the USNH end. June Schafer was very involved from its early days. This is why we asked Sharon to speak and why HAC made the \$500 gift to the Waverly Project as a memorial to June.

## *Calendar of Events*

RSVPs are welcome at [meetup.com/cthumanist](https://meetup.com/cthumanist). You can find out about events and get the latest newsletter at [www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org).

Programs are held ONLINE this month with the possible exception of the Book Discussion meeting.

### SEPTEMBER 2020

Sat. 5	Explorations Topic: “The Syphilis Enigma”	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon. 7	Monday Social (Turkish Kebab House)	7:00 p.m.
Sat. 19	Book Discussion: “White Rage” by Carol Anderson	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon. 21	Monthly Meeting Topic: “The Waverly Project” Speaker: Sharon McBlain	7:00 p.m.
Sun. 27	Board Meeting	3:30 p.m.
Mon. 28	Monday Social (Wood-n-Tap) Topic: “A Visionary Project” with C.T. Vivian	7:00 p.m.

### OCTOBER 2020

Sat. 3	Explorations Topic: TBD	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon. 5	Monday Social (Turkish Kebab House)	7:00 p.m.
Sat. 17	Book Discussion: “How to Change your Mind” by Michael Pollan	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon. 19	Monthly Meeting Topic: “Water Conservation” Speaker: Paula Jones	7:00 p.m.
Sun. 25	Board Meeting	3:30 p.m.
Mon. 26	Monday Social (Wood-n-Tap) Topic: TBD	7:00 p.m.

### *Humanist Explorations*

*-September 5 - 2:30 p.m.*

#### *The Syphilis Enigma*

Syphilis arrived in Spain in the 1490s with Columbus and his crew when they returned from the New World. In this Timeline documentary, a researcher discovers evidence of syphilis long prior to the discovery of the New World. What was learned about syphilis raises questions about the possible unintended consequences of social distancing due to COVID-19.

Watch at: [https://youtu.be/2bWNF\\_eNwvI](https://youtu.be/2bWNF_eNwvI) Meeting link on Saturday: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87572907374>

### *We Need Your Membership!*

It's never too late to be part of this stimulating community. Mail your check (\$35 individual, \$50 family) to Treasurer Nina Stein at 380 Hitchcock Rd., #272, Waterbury, CT 06705

[www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org)

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## Events of Interest

### Electoral Justice

USNH volunteers have written and mailed thousands of postcards in the past months. These postcards support people of color who have been purged from the voting registry in their state. The cards help them check and secure their voter registration. The national initiative supports the efforts of the NAACP on a state by state basis.

Help by picking up and writing postcards, and/or purchasing rolls of postcard stamps. Check out the following one minute instructional video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gRsui5yfyw>

Contact [UUthevote@usnh.org](mailto:UUthevote@usnh.org) or Gayle Walter for details on how to help.

### Voter Outreach

USNH has been asked by the organizer of UU the Vote in Wisconsin to help phone bank. Please give this a try. The system is set up to make it pretty easy and your phone number is kept confidential. Folks in WI need to know we stand with them.  
<https://www.uuthevote.org/>

## Monday Social (Turkish Kebab House)

- September 7, 7:00 p.m.

Join us online for our Virtual Social Dinner, and discuss a wide range of topics with like-minded people.

Link to event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88333863806>

## Book Discussion: "White Rage"

by Carol Anderson

- September 19, 2:30 p.m.

"I've read a fair bit of African-American history, but *White Rage*, by Carol Anderson, which is beautifully written and exhaustively researched, illuminated for me just how deliberately education policy in the United States disenfranchised African-Americans." - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, bestselling author of *Americanah* and *Half of a Yellow Sun*

"*White Rage*" is a riveting and disturbing history that begins with Reconstruction and lays bare the efforts of whites in the South and North alike to prevent emancipated black people from achieving economic independence, civil and political rights, personal safety, and economic opportunity. - The Nation

Ken McClary will moderate the discussion. For details and meeting location (park or online) go to [meetup.com/cthumanist/events](https://www.meetup.com/cthumanist/events).

## Monday Social (Wood-n-Tap)

Topic: Rev. C.T. Vivian

-September 28, 7 p.m.

The Rev. C.T. Vivian was involved in the civil rights movement since 1941. He helped organize (and participated in) the 1961 Freedom Rides, played a key role in sit-ins, and risked his life to register Black voters.

Watch the Visionary Project series at

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCwE4GdJdVVRK4JtQ0WsBPAfy7jDJejuxC>

The online meeting is at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85225425608>

## Bylaws

Thanks to all who attended and voted at the special bylaws meeting. Result: All passed. We will assemble again very briefly at the Monday Monthly Meeting. The board would like to nominate Frank Avitable for election to the board as an at-large member.

## Connecticut Food Bank

Donate online at [www.ctfoodbank.org](http://www.ctfoodbank.org) or send checks to:  
Connecticut Food Bank, 2 Research Pkwy, Wallingford, CT 06492

## Tech Tip

Go to <https://www.meetup.com/cthumanist/> for the latest information. Scroll through the Humanist Association of Connecticut listings. This is a good way to RSVP and get a link to the meeting!