



HAC Monthly Meeting

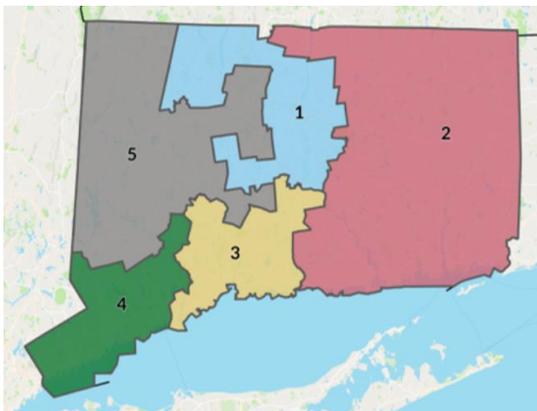
Redistricting & Gerrymandering with Patricia Rossi, LWV Monday July 19, 7:00 p.m.

Patricia (Tisha) Rossi is the current state-wide League of Women Voters Vice President for Voter Services. She lives in New Haven, where she has personally registered hundreds of new voters while serving on the Steering Committee of the New Haven League.

Her article, which appeared in the April 19 edition of the CT Mirror, offers an eloquent explanation of the serious electoral justice issues we face in the state of CT; a link to the article is posted here:

<https://ctmirror.org/category/ct-viewpoints/office-of-legislative-research-description-of-process-patricia-rossi/>

Here is a view of Connecticut's congressional map. (Why is District 1 shaped like a claw?)



The meeting will be held via Zoom.

RSVPs via Meetup are appreciated.

Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81444530449>

Calendar of Events

RSVPs are welcome at [meetup.com/cthumanist/events](https://www.meetup.com/cthumanist/events). You can view the latest newsletter at www.cthumanist.org.

Programs are held ONLINE this month, except for the Book Discussion and Wood-N-Tap Discussion.

JULY 2021

Sat. 10	Explorations	2:30 p.m.
	No event July 3; program pending July 10, TBA	to 4:30 p.m.
Mon. 5	Monday Social Zoom	7:00 p.m.
Sat. 17	Book Discussion: "This Life: Secular Faith and Spiritual Freedom" by Martin Hägglund	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon. 19	Monthly Meeting – Redistricting and Gerrymandering – with Patricia Rossi, LWV	7:00 p.m.
Sun. 25	Board Meeting (all members are welcome)	3:30 p.m.
Mon. 26	Wood-N-Tap Discussion	7:00 p.m.

AUGUST 2021

Mon. 2	Monday Social Zoom	7:00 p.m.
Sat. 7	Explorations pending - TBA	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon. 16	Monthly Meeting –	7:00 p.m.
Sat. 21	Book Discussion: "Free Thinker: Sex, Suffrage, and the Extraordinary Life of Helen Hamilton Gardener" by Kimberly A. Hamlin	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sun. 29	Board Meeting (all members are welcome)	3:30 p.m.
Mon. 30	Wood-N-Tap Discussion	7:00 p.m.

Monday Social

– Monday July 5, 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/83132656752>

In-Person Events Return!

What a great time we had at our Summer Solstice Celebration and Annual Picnic! 29 members and friends attended. In addition to eating and conversation, there was croquet - we may have to make that an annual picnic activity!

We meet again in person at the Wood-n-tap and for the Book Discussion meeting, which returns this month to USNH. Monthly Meeting and Explorations will soon follow as USNH officially reopens for large groups on September 12.

www.cthumanist.org

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

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Events of Interest

American Humanist Association Annual Conference (virtual) -- July 24-25, 2021
<https://conference.americanhumanist.org/>

Northeast Conference on Science and Skepticism (NECSS) -- August 6-7, 2021 <https://necss.org/>

Bridgeport Event, FYI - Dr. Mary Frances Berry will speak at the Klein Memorial Auditorium. Spread the Word! Read about it and register here: <https://www.mobilize.us/bridgeportnow/event/392678/>

Save the Date

Walk Against Hunger - The Connecticut Food Bank / Foodshare Walk Against Hunger returns September 18, 2021, stepping off at 10:00 AM both virtually and at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford. There will be plenty of entertainment on Walk day. Registration details TBA.

Wood-N-Tap Discussion: - Defund the Police, or...? - Mon. July 26, 7:00 p.m.

The Biden administration recently told cities to use stimulus funds to hire more police, pay for community policing programs, and pay for violence prevention programs. The "Defund the Police" movement argues that police departments are being asked to do non-police functions and that funds would be better spent increasing access to other services, including social workers who could respond to domestic and mental health crises without the threat and danger of the use of force. Do you think there's a sweet spot of allocation of funds to law enforcement, social services, and other services to have the best possible outcomes for everyone? Come to Wood-n-Tap in Hamden at 7:00 p.m. on July 26 prepared to discuss what kind of resources can reduce violence of every kind.

Due to the likelihood of heat, we will be dining INDOORS for this meeting. Please RSVP so we can reserve a table.

Tech Tip - Mulching

There are many benefits of mulching. It helps conserve soil moisture by slowing down the rate of evaporation from the soil. Mulching reduces some weeds, disease, and prevents compaction. The 2015 California Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWEL0) requires mulch be applied in 3" deep layer with an allowance of 5% of the area left bare for beneficial ground nesting pollinators. Instead of removing dead leaves, mulch them to create an organic layer that will help retain water and return nutrients to the soil.
<https://www.gardenworks-inc.com/tips-to-efficiently-water-your-garden-and-landscape/>

HAC Explorations

The Boshis have agreed to resume hosting in-person monthly Explorations as soon as space can be reserved at USNH. This could not be arranged in time for July 3, but may be possible for July 10, in which case an announcement will be emailed & posted on Meetup. Thank you, Steve and Sue.

Many thanks to Aaron Goode for his excellent programming via Zoom and at the Farmington Canal Greenway in this slot during the past year.

Book Discussion: "This Life: Secular Faith and Spiritual Freedom" by Martin Hägglund

Hosted by Kevin & Paula -- Sat, July 17, 2:30 p.m.

"This Life" offers a profoundly inspiring basis for transforming our lives, demonstrating that our commitment to freedom and democracy should lead us beyond both religion and capitalism. Philosopher Martin Hägglund argues that we need to cultivate not a religious faith in eternity but a secular faith devoted to our finite life together. He shows that all spiritual questions of freedom are inseparable from economic and material conditions: what matters is how we treat one another in this life and what we do with our time. - Amazon

"A sweepingly ambitious synthesis of philosophy, spirituality and politics, which starts with the case for confronting mortality, and ends with the case for democratic socialism. . . . Everything depends on what we do with our time together. This Life makes a forceful case for keeping that truth in mind."
- The Guardian

Upcoming Books:

Saturday, August 21: "Free Thinker: Sex, Suffrage, and the Extraordinary Life of Helen Hamilton Gardener", by Kimberly A. Hamlin

Saturday, September 18: "Quicksand" by Nella Larsen

Saturday, October 16: "The Evolution of God" by Robert Wright

We will meet for the Book Discussion at USNH.