



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT



UU Humanists Local Group

January 2022

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022

Congratulations to our new board members and officers, who were elected at our annual meeting in December. Also thanks to all who participated in and attended our Winter Solstice Celebration. We met our fundraising goal of \$500, donated by HAC members and friends, to Connecticut FoodShare, to make a difference in the fight against Hunger.

### OFFICERS - 2022

President Carol Siddall  
Vice President - open -  
Secretary Malcolm Staddon\*  
Treasurer Nina Stein

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Program Gayle Walter  
Membership John Connell\*  
Hospitality Amy Wexler  
Development Richard Siddall  
Publicity - open -  
Publications Aaron Goode  
- Newsletter editor: Aaron Goode  
- Webmaster: Richard Siddall  
At-large Frank Avitable  
At-large Kevin Gough\*

\*new to the Board - Many Thanks!

## Calendar of Events

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

The USNH indoor event Covid policy requires masks, social distancing, and no food.

Some programs are held ONLINE this month.

### January 2022

Mon. 3	Social Dinner (Virtual)	7pm
Sat. 8	Explorations [CANCELLED]	
Sat. 15	Book Discussion - "Evil Geniuses"	2:30pm
Mon. 17	Monthly Meeting (Virtual) - Dennis Culliton "Witness Stones" MLK Day Presentation	7pm
Sun. 23	Board Meeting (Virtual; All members welcome)	3:30pm
Mon. 24	Dinner Discussion (Virtual)	7pm

These two medieval queens have been forgotten or ridiculed:  
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/medieval-queens-daring-reigns-quickly-forgotten-180979246/>

Zoom link for the discussion: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83782952532>  
and the meeting id is 837 8295 2532

### February 2022

Sat. 5	Explorations - Frances Perkins & The General Welfare	
Mon. 7	Social Dinner	
Sat. 19	Book Discussion - "Frederick Douglass" by David Blight	
Mon. 21	Monthly Meeting - Darwin Day	

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - It is that time of year again when we need to remind you to officially renew, or start, your HAC membership by paying dues for 2022. Your membership dues help us meet expenses such as honorariums for speakers, postage and mailing supplies, and monthly space rental payments. In addition, the strength of numbers can enhance the impact of any public statements, in letters to the editor, in testimony at the State Capitol in support of bills supporting humanist values, and, in general, in our strength as a local stakeholder group. Please mail in your check as soon as you are able, to:**

Nina Stein  
380 Hitchcock Road, #272  
Waterbury, CT 06705

Please print and complete the attached membership form (see page 3 of this newsletter) with your updated contact information and enclose with your check. If you have any questions, or if you need any assistance re attending our programs via zoom, please contact us. We greatly value your participation in our supportive community!

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

[www.meetup.com/cthumanist](https://www.meetup.com/cthumanist) . [www.facebook.com/cthumanist](https://www.facebook.com/cthumanist) . [www.twitter.com/cthumanist](https://www.twitter.com/cthumanist)

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### \*\* Event of Interest \*\*

Climate Change 101  
 Wednesday, January 12, 7 pm on Zoom

This is a basic overview of how we arrived at our current climate crisis.

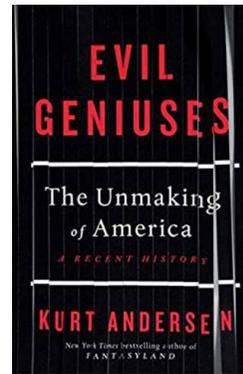
It includes a PowerPoint presentation, after which there will be plenty of time for questions and discussion and how we can take action as individuals and in organized groups, including through the UUA. Presenter is Melinda Tuhus, who has been a full-time climate activist for the past 5 years. For more information or to sign up, please email [melinda.tuhus@gmail.com](mailto:melinda.tuhus@gmail.com) and put **CLIMATE CHANGE 101** in caps in the subject line.

### Explorations - Sat. Jan. 8

**THERE WILL BE NO EXPLORATIONS IN JANUARY DUE TO THE OMICRON SPIKE. See you in February.**

### Book Discussion - Sat. Jan. 15, 2:30pm

The book this month is "Evil Geniuses: The Unmaking of America: A Recent History" by Kurt Andersen. The discussion will take place Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 2:30 pm at the Unitarian Society of New Haven, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden. This will be a 'hybrid' meeting so participants will be able to join this discussion via Zoom if they cannot attend in person. (Details on Meetup.)



### Monthly Meeting (Virtual) - Mon. Jan. 17, 7pm

Guest Speaker: Dennis Culliton - The Witness Stones Project

The Witness Stones Project (<https://witnessstonesproject.org/>) creates special monuments to enslaved people who lived and worked in Connecticut but have been forgotten over time. Please join us for this special MLK Day presentation.

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

The IRIS Run for Refugees is back in-person! Join us on Super Bowl Sunday for a flat 5K run/walk through New Haven's East Rock neighborhood!

The Run for Refugees 5k supports IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services). IRIS helps close to 2,000 refugees and immigrants each year. During the pandemic, IRIS helped more than 120 refugees and immigrants find work, provided \$200,000 in rental assistance, taught students English, art, and music, helped adults with immigration legal needs, and fed 300+ families per week with essential groceries from our food pantry.

Registration is limited to 2/3 of the usual number of participants to allow for increased distancing due to Covid.

Fundraising link: <https://runsignup.com/humanistassociationofconnecticut>

**MEMBERSHIP**

Adult . . . . . \$35

Family . . . . . \$50

Newsletter Only . . . . . \$10

Our membership year is 1/1-12/31.

In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. Please mail checks for annual membership payable to

Humanist Association of Connecticut to: **Humanist Association of**

**Connecticut, c/o 380 Hitchcock Road #272, Waterbury, CT 06705.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add me to the e-mail Announce List (circle one): YES NO

**You will be receiving your newsletter electronically unless you**

**indicate that you require a paper copy by checking here**

As a chapter of the American Humanist Association we share your information with AHA.