

The Newsletter of the Humanist Community in Silicon Valley



The mission of the Humanist Community is to meet the social, intellectual, and emotional needs of Humanists of all ages; to contribute to the well-being of the larger community; and to be a voice for Humanism.

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June 2012
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June 16 is a remarkable day!

On June 16, 1871 the University Tests Act allowed students to enter the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge and Durham without religious tests (except for those intending to study theology).

(Wikipedia)

And, this June 16th, there is a potluck at the Feders, a hike along Page Mill near Skyline, and a fun trip to the San Jose Japan American Museum. Details inside!

National American Humanist Association Convention

The national convention is going on this June in New Orleans, and several HC members are planning to attend. We look forward to hearing about the event and what Gloria Steinem, Humanist of the Year, had to say.

Membership Information

Your membership and active participation is important to us and vital to the growth of Humanism, and, in particular, to our local community of Humanists. Membership gives you the right to vote, run for position and office on the Board of Directors, and attend board meetings.

Annual dues are \$45 for individuals, \$75 for households, \$20 for those with limited incomes, and \$15 for students.

Membership forms are available at the greeting table at the Sunday Forums.

Forums

JUNE 3 Planet Earth: the Most Colorful Thing We Know

In the known Universe, the Earth is the most complex object. It is also the most colorful thing that we have seen - Blue, White, Green and Red. Each of these colors has an intimate connection to the history of Earth. In this presentation, Earth's formation is given in the sequence in which the four primary colors of the planet came to exist. The Red came with iron. The White from ice. The Blue from water. The Green from life-photosynthesis. By exploring the primary colors of our planet, the principal characteristic and process of life-bearing planets are appreciated. The surprising conclusion? Mars is Red and White for the same causes that made Earth Red and White. Aram Harijan will present striking viewgraphs while he discusses this topic.

JUNE 10 Humanist Community Goings On

HC members Marie and Jon Stephens will be offering a mix of topics, to prompt discussions

that members of the Community have expressed interest in, including some reflections on the nature of humanism. We also expect to have a Treasurer's report, some comments on the goings on at the National American Humanist Association, the new face of the HC website, *et alia*.

JUNE 17 Surviving the Holocaust in Bulgaria

Lily Robins will speak from personal experience on how the Jews in Bulgaria survived the Holocaust with the help of the king, the Orthodox church, and neighbors.

JUNE 24 Operation Marriage

Cynthia Chin-Lee will discuss her new children's book, *Operation Marriage*, created with illustrator Lea Lyon and published by Reach And Teach. The book is based on a true story about two Bay Area children who convinced their moms to get married during the months leading up to the 2008 election, when Proposition 8 put marriage equality on hold. The "moms" the book was based on, and the book's publishers, may also be in attendance and say a few words about this

wonderful story.

FORUM INFORMATION

Palo Alto High School – Student Center
50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto
Sundays 11 a.m.-12:15. Free and open to the public.

LUNCH 12:15-2 p.m. Donation of \$10 requested.

Family Program

The Family Program is designed for children in freethinking humanist families. The children range from age 4 to 13, and the program is operated by the parents. The participants involve themselves in science, art, and drama projects, reflecting the ideas and goals of the families and community. The children receive hands-on supervision by the parents, and, at the end of each program meeting, they join in the community lunch.

Science Resource Building, Room 1732
Palo Alto High School
50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto
Sundays 10:30 a.m.-12 noon.

Editor, Pro Tem

Jon Stephens

Production

Hilton Brown Jon Stephens

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor may be submitted to infohcsv@yahoo.com. The length of your submission should not exceed 150 words and may be edited for clarity.

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e-mail Arthur@arthurmjackson.com

Disclaimer

Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or positions of the Humanist Community.

HELP *Do you need some help?*

•For confidential assistance contact Arthur Jackson at Arthur@arthurmjackson.com or call 408-923-3774.

•If you need to talk to someone about a problem you're having, call Arthur Jackson at 408-923-3774.

•If you need some other kind of help (for example, a ride to a doctor's appointment, some groceries brought by, a recommendation for a lawyer), email hchelp@yahoogroups.com (which forwards your e-mail to members of the HC HELP group, each of whom may send a reply e-mail to you and the group if they can help), or contact Sena Havasy at senahav@gmail.com or call 408-739-5638.

Calendar of Events

Fun Group Outing

A Visit to San Jose's Japanese American Museum – June 16

The mission of the Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMsj) is to collect, preserve and share Japanese American art, history and culture with an emphasis on the greater Bay Area.

Established in November of 1987, JAMsj grew out of a 1984-86 research project on Japanese American farmers in the Santa Clara Valley. The project collected family histories, historical photographs, private memoirs and other unpublished documents.

After viewing the museum's current exhibit, we'll also have information and maps for you to further explore San Jose's Japantown.

What: A Visit to San Jose's Japanese American Museum

Where: 535 North Fifth Street, San Jose, California 95112

When: Saturday, June 16, 2012. Meet outside main entrance at noon.

Welcoming Committee

We schedule small monthly get-acquainted gatherings in private homes, staff the Greeters' Table at the Forum, assist with all holidays, greet visitors, and keep ourselves informed about goings-on in the Community. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

If you are interested in attending or hosting a Coffee & Dessert or being on the Welcoming Committee contact Dianne Jacobsen, Committee Chair, diannej24@yahoo.com or Sena Havasy, senahav@gmail.com, or any one of us at Forum on Sunday.

Hiking Group

OLD PAGE MILL ROAD & SKYLINE BLVD June 16

We will leave Palo Alto High School at 1:30 p.m. after the Forum.

Our Humanist Hike will be to Old Page Mill Road in Mid Peninsula Open Space District's Skyline Preserve Ridge.

Think that Page Mill Road ends at Skyline Blvd? Not so!

We'll hike the western part, a foot path to what might have been William Page's redwood mill in 1868. About 4 miles round trip. Parents with children can take them to the Daniels Nature center, a short stroll from the parking lot. We leave PAHS at 1:30 p.m. to arrive at the Skyline Preserve by 2:30 p.m.



Saturday June 16th at 5 P.M. Carlos and Jacqueline Feder are hosting. Please email them at caline@earthlink.net or call 650-852-9010 and let them know you are coming.



Palo Alto High School – Student Center Sundays, 10:30 a.m. One of several groups that meet prior to the Forum each Sunday where attendees may share any personal feelings or experiences that they wish in an environment of trust and confidentiality.



Brown Home Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
... of recent news or selected book. For information,
contact Hilton Brown, 650-941-3146 or
brownofmountainview@aol.com.

Brown Home Thursdays, 8:00 p.m.
View an academic video followed by discussion. For
information contact Hilton Brown, 650-941-3146 or
brownofmountainview@aol.com.



Planned Parenthood 4th Saturday of the Month
1691 The Alameda, San Jose 8:00 a.m. For information,
contact Alex Havasy at 408-739-5638 or havasy@aol.com.

Dinah's Restaurant 4th Saturday of the Month
4261 El Camino Real, Palo Alto 10:00 a.m.
Come have a cup of coffee and join in the camaraderie.

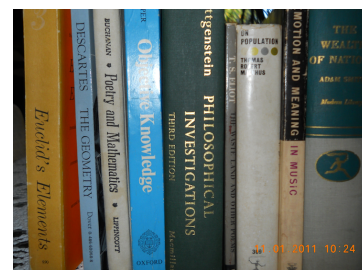
If you believe that life on earth began and evolved as a natural process, the same processes could certainly have happened elsewhere. Some experts estimate that of the 200 billion stars in our own galaxy, 60 billion of them have earth sized planets -- and there are hundreds of billions of galaxies! Moreover, the necessary chemicals will lead a discussion entitled "Who and what is out there?"

We start at 6 p.m. with wine and hors d'oeuvres, have the pot-luck dinner from 6:30 to 7:15, and then get into the discussion. To help with the planning, please let me know what you would like to bring to share. Contact Richard Duda at dick_d@uucpa.org.

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto
Fireside Room, 505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto

Join us as we continue with our new book by Russell entitled, "The Conquest of Happiness." We will be discussing Chapter 2, "Byronic Unhappiness." According to the Preface by Russell, he wrote the book "in the belief that many people who are unhappy could become happy by well-directed effort that I have written in this book."

Where: Thai Pepper, 103 Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale



JUNE 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10:30 a.m. Family Program 11:00 a.m. Forum	4	5	6 7:30 p.m. Free Thought Discussion	7 8:00 p.m. Academic Video	8	9
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

