

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.

Volume 19 Issue 7

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August 2013

www.humanists.org

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Marian Sanders
as Miz Martha
Not pictured; Dana St. George as Miz Clara, costumes and casting by Sena Havasy.



Kay Culpepper
as Louisa Dobbin
Andrea Dorey
as Dorothea Dix



Alex Havasy
as Whig Delegate 2
Robert Ruether
as Whig Delegate 1



Andrea Dorey
as Dorothea Dix

Scenes from July 14 Forum Presentation of Meg Bowman's Play "Dorothea Dix, Mental Health Reformer"

August Forums

August 4 The 10 Commandments or the 11 Ways of Wisdom: What's Your Preference?

Arthur Jackson, author of "How to Live the Good Life: A User's Guide for Modern Humans," and "The Humanist Chapter of the Future and the Future of Humanism," has been a long-time participant in all levels of Humanism – local, national, and international.

In this program he will examine the Ten Commandments in a way most Humanists and other freethinker rarely do, and present a science-based alternative for providing moral guidance in today's world.

August 11 The International Court of Justice and The Wall

In 2004 the International Court of Justice in The Hague ruled that the barrier Israel was building in the West Bank violated numerous tenets of international law. Yet construction of the wall has continued to the present. What does the decision to continue rebuilding actually say, and what are the implications of that decision? How do US institutions react to this decision? And what does this reaction say about US institutions, and about the future of international law as a tool for creating a better world?

Michael Batchelder is a member of Jewish Voice for Peace, a group that supports peace activists in Palestine and Israel and works in broad coalition with other Jewish, Arab-American, faith-based, peace groups and social justice organizations.

August 18 One Hundred Years of Policing Morality

In her new book project, Santa Clara University Professor of History Nancy C. Unger asks: Can American morals be legally regulated? Should they be?

In 1910, Congress passed the White Slave Trafficking Act, known as the Mann Act, that prohibits the interstate transport of females for immoral purposes. In 1913, when the sons of two prominent Sacramento families abandoned their wives and children to run off to Reno with two single

women, the Supreme Court decided that consensual extramarital affairs that involve crossing state lines constitutes "immoral sex." The law was hailed by many reformers for its bold attempt to legislate morality.

The Mann Act remains in effect and has been used against "uppity" African American men from champion boxer Jack Johnson to rock and roll legend Chuck Berry. Come join in an illustrated discussion of the landmark 1913 case, which put the federal government in the business of legislating morality.

Nancy Unger earned her BA at Gonzaga University, and her MA and PhD at University of Southern California. She is a history professor at Santa Clara University and has written several books, including *Fighting Bob La Follette: the Righteous Reformer*, and *Beyond Nature's Housekeepers: American Women in Environmental History*.

August 25 Courageous Viola Liuzzo

When Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., called for people to come to Selma in 1965 to support a Voting Rights March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, 25,000 people responded.

Two of them, both white, were murdered. Rev. James Reeb of Boston was beaten to death and Viola Liuzzo was shot in the face by a KKK thug, who was paid by the FBI and never spent a day in jail.

To save face, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover led a media smear campaign not only against Viola but also against her husband, a union official. Learn the full story from Meg Bowman and consider its relevance to the current U.S. Supreme Court decision on the Voting Rights Act.

Written and narrated by Meg Bowman with Humanist Community cast.

FORUM INFORMATION

Palo Alto High School – Student Center
50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto 94301-- Sundays 11 AM-12:15 PM
Free and open to the public. Lunch 12:15-2 PM.
A donation of \$10 is requested



Editor

Alex Havasy

Production

Hilton Brown, Helen Athey, Marian Sanders, Carl Angotti, Sena Havasy

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor may be submitted to infohcsv@yahoo.com. The length of your submission should not exceed 100 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 408-620-4278.

· If you need to talk to someone about a problem you're having, call Arthur Jackson at 408-620-4278.

· 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 reach them through Sena Havasy at senahav@gmail.com.

Meg Bowman



Meg Bowman wrote and directed the play "Dorothea Dix, Mental Health Reformer," scenes of which are on the front of this newsletter as well as "Courageous Viola Liuzzo" which will be performed this month, and other dramatic presentations about great women for the Humanist Community over the years. A sociology Professor, she is the author of three books: *Lilith: Adam's First Wife*, *Readings for Older Women*, and *Readings for Women's Progress*.

Meg has traveled extensively promoting women's progress and education in Asia and Africa. She is a former co-chair of the American Humanist Association and of the Feminist Caucus of the AHA. Meg is a tireless advocate for Humanism and especially women's rights and an asset to the Humanist Community.

Calendar of Events

Humanist Community Hiking Group

Watch the website for information about an August hike.

Fun Group Outing

Educator Art at the Triton Museum

Did you know some of our region's most noted artists are also art educators?

The Triton Museum of Art celebrates some of these gifted artists and instructors in an exhibition of works by the Art Department faculties of Mission College in Santa Clara and West Valley College in Saratoga. It is an opportunity to see the rich array and diverse talent of the individuals who are training our next generation of artists.

A second exhibit presents the works of Salvatore Pecoraro, a painter, sculptor, and one of the Bay Area's leading art educators for over 50 years. This exhibition features one of Pecoraro's most celebrated bodies of work, his Sky Paintings from the 1970s, along with recent work produced by the artist over the past 10 years.

What: West Valley and Mission College Art Faculty Exhibition;
Salvatore Pecoraro - *A Journey with an Edge: 1963-2012*

Where: 1505 Warburton Ave. Santa Clara, CA 95050.

Meet at the main entrance

When: Saturday August 17, 11:00 AM

Admission: Free, donations accepted

For more information visit <http://www.tritonmuseum.org> or call (415) 247-3754.

Potluck

Saturday August 10th at 2:00am Sena and Alex Havasy are hosting. Please email them at senahav@gmail.com or call 408-462-2156 to let them know you are coming.

Welcoming Committee

We schedule small monthly get-acquainted gatherings in private homes, 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 PM.

If you are interested in attending, hosting a Coffee & Dessert, or joining the Welcoming Committee, please contact Dianne Jacobsen, Committee Chair, (diannej750@yahoo.com), Sena Havasy (senahav@gmail.com), or either of us at Forum on Sunday.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee arranges potlucks and seasonal celebrations, including the annual spring dinner honoring the new Board. At the Sunday Forum it prepares the Membership Table, the lectern flowers and the table decorations. It keeps Membership and Events Photo Albums and provides photographs. It provides directories and contacts members to update information. Birthday cards are sent electronically. Sandy Smith's Sunshine subcommittee sends paper cards.

Feedback and volunteers are always welcome. Please contact me at senahav@gmail.com: or 408-462-2156.

Sena Havasy,
Membership chair

The Family Program

The HC Family Program is designed for children ages 4 to 13 in freethinking humanist families. The parents supervise the program. Participants involve themselves in science, art, and drama projects, reflecting the ideas and goals of the families and community. At the end of each program meeting, they join the community for lunch when the program is on site.

The Family Program will meet in the Library behind the Student Center in the Science Resource Building in August.

Palo Alto High School, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto
Most Sundays 10:30 AM-12 noon.

For more information call 650-257-0478.

The Sharing Circle

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

Free Thought Discussion

Home of Hilton Brown, Wednesday, 7:30 PM.
Discussion of recent news or a book. For more information check www.humanists.org.

Academic Video

Home of Hilton Brown, Thursday, 8:00pm.
View an academic video followed by discussion. For more information check www.humanists.org.

Clinic Defense

Planned Parenthood, any Saturday of the month. 1691 the Alameda, San Jose; 8:00 AM. For information, contact Alex Havasy at havasy@live.com.

History Book Group

The new History Book Group encompasses all things history; biography, histories and historical fiction. We will meet at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, August 28, at Kimm's Flowers and Art (251 W El Camino Real, in Sunnyvale (650-949-1915), to discuss our first book; *The Brain that Changes Itself* by Norman Doidge.

Sena Havasy, senahav@gmail.com.

Other Events of Interest to Humanists

UU Humanist Roots Potluck and Discussion

Our meetings usually have 15 people. For the potluck, please bring a dish of your choice: salad, vegetarian, dish with meat, or dessert. We usually meet on the first Saturday of every month.

Presentation; "Pros and Cons of the Vegan,
Vegetarian and Omnivore Diet"

When: Saturday, August 3rd at 6 PM (presentation at 7).

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

Direction to UUCPA: <http://uucpa.org/main/location.html>

More: <http://www.humanists.org/blog/associated-organizations/>

Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us at the Thai Pepper Restaurant at 103 East Fremont in Sunnyvale. "We hope that our discussions will prove informative, interesting, and perhaps life changing, in making us happier than before." For more date and discussion topic see our website: www.meetup.com/philosophy-219

Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley

See their website: www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org for details.

For more information on groups of interest to Humanists, go to our website, www.humanists.org, click on ABOUT near the top of the page and on Associated Organizations on the drop-down menu.

Joke

Three logicians walk into a bar. The bartender asks "Do all of you want a beer?"

The first logician says "I don't know."

The second logician says "I don't know."

The third logician says "Yes."

AUGUST 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 <u>6:00 PM</u> UU Humanist Roots
4 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	5	6	7 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	8 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	9	10 <u>2:00 PM</u> Potluck
11 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	12	13	14 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	15 <u>3:00 PM</u> Welcoming Committee <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	16	17 <u>11:00 AM</u> Fun Group
18 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	19	20	21 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	22 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	23	24
25 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	26 <u>7:30 PM</u> Board meeting	27	28 <u>2:00 PM</u> History Book Group <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	29 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	30	31

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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