

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 11

P.O. Box 60069, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0069

November 2013

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November Forums

November 3 One Nation Under Surveillance

In this talk, Paul George (Director of Peninsula Peace and Justice Center, www.peaceandjustice.org) will explore the history of US government surveillance (it goes back a long way), what information is being collected on US citizens and what the government can do with that information. Most importantly, he will examine ways ordinary people can and should be involved in the continuing efforts to rein in the NSA.

November 10 Humanist Interests Cross-Pollination

Who are you? What do you care about enough to join an organization to work on it? Who is connected to these organizations? And what are they (you!) doing there? Audience members will be invited to share their answers to these questions. Feel free to bring flyers, business cards, links to websites, etc. to offer to those who might be interested, Humanist Community member extraordinaire Laura Mappin will facilitate.

November 17 Palo Alto Zero Waste Program

Maybo AuYeung, Zero Waste Coordinator from the City of

Industry for 3 years. She promotes and educates Palo Alto community about Palo Alto's Zero Waste goal through outreach activities and campaigns. She will share Zero Waste practices, tips to reduce garbage bill.

November 24 The Challenge For Humanism In The Post-Post-Modern Era

While we are more connected through e-mail, text messages, Facebook, and Twitter, Americans feel increasingly socially atomized. John Figdor (M.Div. from Harvard, 2010, and currently the Humanist Chaplain at Stanford) will discuss why religious institutions, which have historically provided people with connections and roots, are no longer able to provide meaning for an increasingly non-religious America. In a talk ranging from Robert Putnam's *American Grace* and *Bowling Alone*, to Stephen Pinker's *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined*, as well as original research from the Humanist Community Project at Harvard, John will explain why he thinks Humanist communities are the answer to the problem of social atomization.

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 \$12 is requested.

Humanist Community serving Silicon Valley

Volume 19, Issue 11
November 2013



Editor

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Production

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Cover photo by Sena Havasy

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor may be submitted to
infhcsv@yahoo.com. The length of your
submission should not exceed 100 words and
may be edited for clarity.

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email 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.

Upcoming Board Election

The election for the Board of the Humanist Community will be held on
February 2, 2014.

In the interest of gender equity we are looking for a woman. Suggestions are
solicited. In addition candidates may be added to the ballot by a petition of 15
members submitted to the Nominating Committee by December 29.

Only members of the Humanist Community are eligible to vote, so renew
your membership early!

Sena Havasy, Nominating Committee chair

Calendar of Events

Fun Group Outing

Fourth Annual Jingle Fest

Get an early start on your holiday shopping at the largest handmade-only craft
show in the South Bay area. More than 100 talented crafters and artists provide
an opportunity for you to purchase unique handmade goods at reasonable
prices.

Where: Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose, CA 95131
Meet at the main entrance.

When: Sunday, November 24, 2013, at 2:00 PM

Cost: Free admission. Free parking. Free crafting activity!

For more information, visit <http://www.eventcalifornia.com/>
or call (925) 447-3276

90th Birthday Potluck

Our November Potluck is a tribute to Marion Bers hosted by her family on her
90th birthday. She is wonderful person and was an accomplished artist whose
last works enliven her walls. See her page in the Membership Album on the
Greeter's Table at the Forum. I hope you like Thai food!

When: Saturday, November 9 at 6:00 PM

Where: San Jose, contact Sena at 408-739-5638 or senahav@gmail.com.

Thanksgiving Dinner

You are invited to our home for a chip-in, sit-down Thanksgiving dinner at
3:00 PM on Thanksgiving Day. Nineteen dollars covers the basics starting with
a great warm avocado dip and progressing through turkey, dressing, mashed
potatoes and gravy, two cranberry sauces, corn bread, apple pie and more!
Bring something to round it out. (Pie? A vegetable? Your favorite
Thanksgiving dish? Ice cream?) Sign up at the Greeter's Table or contact me if
you can make it at senahav@gmail.com or 408-739-5638. Let me know as
soon as possible as our table will only seat ten.

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.

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

When: November 21 (3rd Thursday) at 3:00 PM

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. 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,
Committee 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.

Where: Science Resource Building of Palo Alto High School, Room 1732

When: Sundays, 10:30 AM to 12 noon

The Sharing Circle

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.

Where: Palo Alto High School Student Center

When: Sundays, 10:30 AM

Free Thought Discussion

Discussion of recent news or a book. For more information check www.humanists.org.

Where: Home of Hilton Brown

When: Wednesday, 7:30 PM. (No meeting November 27)

Academic Video

View an academic video followed by discussion. For more information check www.humanists.org.

Where: Home of Hilton Brown

When: Thursday, 8:00 PM (No meeting November 28)

Philosophy Talk Podcasts

Listen to and discuss award winning Philosophy Talk podcasts.

Where: Palo Alto High School

When: Sunday, November 3, 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM

Sign up and get more details at:

www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity/events/dbhrngyrnbjb

History Book Group

Featuring such goodies as 'Hannibal Crossing the Alps' in 218 and 'Exorcising Aristotle's Ghost' in the Middle Ages. *I Wish I'd Been There*, is our book for November. Twenty historians cast a light on dramatic events in history. Just show up. For more information contact Sena Havasy at senahav@gmail.com.

Where: Kimm's Flowers: 201 W. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale

When: Wednesday, November 27, at 2:00 PM

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.

Humanist Community Hiking Group

For information on the November hike, contact Bill Rausch at 510-299-0147.

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. Check the website below for the presentation topic.

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto

Fireside Room, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto

When: Saturday, November 2 at 6 PM (presentation at 7)

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

Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us to discuss chapter 16 of "The Conquest of Happiness: Effort and Resignation."

For more details see: www.meetup.com/philosophy-219

Where: Thai Pepper Restaurant, 103 East Fremont, Sunnyvale

When: Tuesday, November 19 at 7:00 PM

Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley

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

Sunday Assembly in Silicon Valley

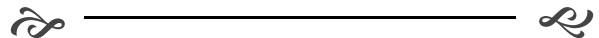
A godless congregation to celebrate life has come to Silicon Valley. Live better, help often, wonder more!

Where: Theatre on San Pedro Square

29 N. San Pedro Street, San Jose

When: Monday, November 11 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Cost: Free, but space is limited so you need to get tickets. Go to sundayassembly.com and scroll down to "Silicon Valley."



For more information on these and other groups of interest to Humanists go to:

www.humanists.org/blog/associated-organizations/

Computer Scam WARNING

Callers claiming to represent Windows are calling people saying they have detected problems with their computers. They ask permission to take remote control of the computer to fix the bugs. This is a scam! They will demand a fee and will lock you out of your computer if they are not paid.

Callers and emailers may not be who they claim. Don't give your passwords or control of your computer to anyone you don't know.

NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <u>6:00 PM</u> UU Humanist Roots
3 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	4	5	6 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	7 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	8	9 <u>6:00 PM</u> 90th Birthday Potluck
10 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	11	12	13 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	14 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	15	16
17 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	18 <u>7:30 PM</u> Board meeting	19	20 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	21 <u>3:00 PM</u> Welcoming Committee <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	22	23
24 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>2:00 PM</u> Fun Group	25	26	27 <u>2:00 PM</u> History Book Group	28 Thanksgiving Day! <u>3:00 PM</u> Thanksgiving Dinner	29	30

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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