

The Newsletter of the  
**Humanist Community**  
 in Silicon Valley

Our values - freedom, fairness and compassion  
 health and happiness, science and reason to acquire and apply knowledge.

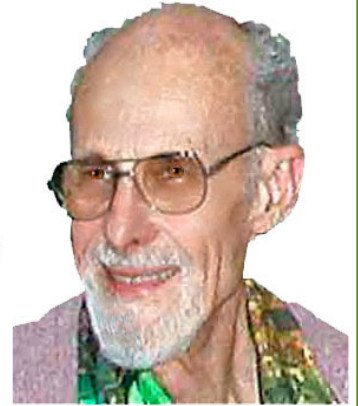


**Harriane Mills**

Harriane Mills is our Humanist of the Year for bringing the Family Program, an independent group closely allied but separate from us, closer to us, including joining our Board to do so. She has drawn new families to the program and has been an inspiration to us all

**Burt Liebert**

Burt Liebert has received a Lifetime Achievement Award for a lifetime dedicated to the Arts and Humanity. Burt and his wife Margie were always ready to help, opening their home, whether to relatives or not, for as long as needed, and making them family..They have written books, produced plays,painted, and been involved in the arts in many ways..



## May Forums

**May 3: Understanding Our World - The Human Mind**

Neuroscience reveals that our conscious self, and our mind (which contains memories, knowledge, understanding, future possibilities, and more), are both part of our remarkable, complex, human brain. Humanist Community member and board vice president Martin Squibbs will present a model of how he believes our mind, and our memories, function, and how such awareness might aid human progress.

**May 10: Two Documentaries Illuminating Homelessness**

Elizabeth Lo, M.F.A. candidate in the documentary film program at Stanford, will show and discuss her short documentary "Hotel 22", which charts the transformation of a public bus in Silicon Valley into an unofficial homeless shelter at night. Ron Garrett (a software engineer and entrepreneur) will discuss and show excerpts from his feature length documentary "Grace of God", which follows the lives of four long-term homeless men as the filmmaker struggles to understand what put them on the street, what is keeping them there, and what he might be able to do about it.

**May 17: How to Catalyze Collaborative Creativity Using Music Improvisation Techniques**

Dr. Michelle Chappel (an internationally acclaimed singer-songwriter-speaker and creativity thought leader with a Ph.D. in psychology from Princeton) will present ten creativity best practices for stimulating innovative thinking in teams based on techniques for producing great music. Learn how to establish highly effective harmonious business teams, as well as improve the creative dynamics of groups outside of work such as families, sports teams, and associations. Appropriate for non-musicians and musicians.

**May 24: Report on the American Humanist Association's Annual Convention**

Humanist Community in Silicon Valley members who attended the AHA Annual Convention in Denver from May 7-10 will report on their experiences there.

**May 31: John Rawls and Gender Discrimination**

Martin Carcieri (Associate Professor of Political Science at San Francisco State University) will discuss gender discrimination using what philosopher John Rawls calls the domain of non-ideal theory, which deals with such basic questions as civil disobedience and militancy. Prof. Carcieri will raise the question whether a public employee, who witnesses his unit's consistent secret discrimination in hiring against members of one gender, is allowed, by way of protest and compensation, to do the same in reverse within his sphere of influence

**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 HCSV*

Volume 21, Issue 5, May 2015  
www.humanists.org

**Editors**

Alex Havasy & Julie Wedge

**Production**

Carl Angotti, Helen Athey, Hilton Brown, Brian Davis, Sena Havasy, Burt Liebert  
Cover graphic by Sena Havasy



**Letters to the Editor**

Letters to the editor may be submitted to havasy@live.com with "Letter to Editor" in the subject line. The length should not exceed 100 words and may be edited for clarity.

**Board of Directors**

Arthur Jackson, President  
Martin Squibbs, Vice President  
Tom Bergstrom  
Hilton Brown  
Dominic Borg  
Midge Dorn  
Gerry Gras  
Harriane Mills  
Marc Perkel  
Marie Stephens (non-voting), Treasurer  
Julie Wedge (non-voting) Recorder  
& Executive Director

**To contact the Board**

email svhumanists@gmail.com

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

**Visit Us on Facebook:**

Humanist Community in Silicon Valley. We welcome people to post ideas and information of interest to members of the Humanist Community.

[Do you need 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, 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). You can reach them through Sena Havasy at [senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com).

•If you would like to discuss projects or ideas for HCSV contact Julie Wedge (916) 751 6401.

**Humanist Installation Dinner a Resounding Success**

We welcomed the new board and thanked outstanding members.

**Harriane Mills**, named '**Humanist of the Year**' and **Burt Leibert** '**Lifetime Achievement**', received engraved plaques.(front page)

**Carl Angotti**: 'Labors of Hercules' Master Database & major coping.

**Hilton Brown**: 'Dispenser of Knowledge' for his video & book groups.

**Brian Davis**: the 'Oscar Award' for producing videos of weekly Forums.

**Andrea Dorey**: 'Good Samaritan' for helping those sick or in need.

**Alex Havasy**: 'Guggenheim' for newsletter & weekly announcements.

**Sena Havasy**: 'The Spark Plug Award' for her energy behind so much.

**Paul Gilbert**: 'A Man of Many Hats', for networking with many groups.

**Arthur Jackson**: 'Leading Man' leading us on the path to a good life.

**Marc Perkel**: 'Genius of the Internet' Our web page internet host.

**Sandy Smith**: 'Harbinger of Cheer' birthdays & get wells-Sunshine.

**Martin Squibbs**: Our V.P. 'Valuable Gift from Over the Pond'.

sena

**Message from the Executive Director**

The American Humanist Association Convention is upon us. Many of our Board and membership will make the trip to Denver from May 7th through the 10th. We want to take time to thank those members that will be staying home and picking up the duties of the Forum. We are sure Elizabeth Lo and Ron Garrett will be presenting an eye opening discussion on homelessness.

As we are all aware, Humanist House has been launched. We are currently looking through the first round of rental options and I hope to have the Board looking at spaces in mid-May. This keeps us on track for a July 1st move in to our own facility. Those of us that will be in Denver will be promoting the project and hope to have some enthusiastic partners on board upon our return. We have also launched our first fundraiser for Humanist House. 100 People \$100 is in action and we have commitments from a number of people already. We hope you are inspired to donate as well!

At the April Board meeting, we finalized Committees and members. All information is on our website, and if you would like to join any of the committees please contact the Chair. A brief description of the work and time involved is included on the website as well. A summary is as follows:

HCSV Financial:

Budget - Chair Marie Stephens

Investment Oversight - Carl Angotti

HCSV Membership:

Membership - Chair Sena Havasy

Master Database - Chair Carl Angotti

Sunshine - Chair Sandy Smith

Membership Renewals - Chair Marie Stephens

HCSV Programs:

Forum Programs - Chair Arthur Jackson

Family Program - Chair Harriane Mills

Social Action Committee - Chair Paul Gilbert

HCSV Public Relations:

Social Media Committee - Chair Julie Wedge

Website Committee - Chair Martin Squibbs

Newsletter Committee - Chair Alex Havasy

HCSV Policy:

Committee of Committees - Chair Gerry Gras

Thank you all for your continued support of the Humanist Community. We are moving in a fun and positive direction and it is because of each of you that we can accomplish our goals.

Onward and upward,

Julie Wedge



**Dianne Jacobsen**  
July-12-1934 -- March-26-2015

We mourn the passing of Dianne Jacobsen, a dear friend and valuable member.

Dianne was a wonderful human being and an outstanding scholar. Valedictorian of her class in St. Paul, Minnesota, she then graduated from prestigious Smith College with honors. She got her degree in Social Work, her first love, at Illinois State. After years in that field she went on to serve as Executive Assistant to several local high tech firms.

In 1963, she married Bill Jacobsen, who became our beloved Executive Director.

Their children, Julie and Eric, were born in 1965 and 1967.

Dianne founded, with Bob Gauntt and others, the World Peace and Education Project website ([worldpeaceed.org](http://worldpeaceed.org)) providing links to basic documents by the UN and world governments on peace.

She was a warm and caring person and we sadly miss her.

## Calendar of Events

### Humanist Potluck

The monthly Humanist Potluck for May will be at the beautiful home of Jacqueline and Carlos Feder in Palo Alto. RSVP appreciated. For details contact <mailto:caline@earthlink.net> 650-852-9010, or [senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com), 408-739-5638.

**Where:** home of Jacqueline and Carlos Feder in Palo Alto.

**When:** May 30 Saturday at 6:30 PM

### The Family Program

The HC Family Program is for children ages 4 to 13 in freethinking humanist families. Parents supervise the program. Participants involve themselves in science, art, and drama projects. When the program is on site, they join the community for lunch at the end of each meeting.

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

**When:** most Sundays, 10:30 AM to 12 noon. Call 650-257-0478 to confirm the upcoming meeting.

### The Sharing Circle

Before the Forum each Sunday, 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

### Membership Committee

We arrange potlucks and seasonal celebrations, including the annual spring dinner honoring the new Board. At the Sunday Forum we prepare the Greeter's table, the lectern flowers, and the table decorations. Sandy Smith's Sunshine Committee sends paper cards.

If you are interested, contact Sena Havasy, Committee Chair, at [senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com) or 408-739-5638.

### History Book Group

We are starting 'Souls of Black Folks' by W. B. DuBois. A classic written in 1912, it still speaks to us today. His prose is often lyrically beautiful and always interesting.

For information contact Sena at [senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com) or 408-739-5638.

**Where:** Kimm's Flowers: 201 W. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale  
408-737-1139

**When:** 2nd Wednesday, May 13, 2:30 PM

### Free Thought Discussion

Discussion of recent news on the first Wednesday of the month, or our present book other weeks. Our discussions range far from the topic, so don't worry about not being up to date on the book or the news. Go to: [www.humanists.org/calendar/#/freethought-discussion](http://www.humanists.org/calendar/#/freethought-discussion) for the present book and reading schedule.

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown

**When:** Wednesdays, 7:30 PM

### Academic Video

View an academic video from [www.thegreatcourses.com](http://www.thegreatcourses.com), followed by discussion. Go to: [www.humanists.org/calendar/#/academic-videos](http://www.humanists.org/calendar/#/academic-videos) for details of our present video.

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown

**When:** Thursdays, 8:00 PM

### Clinic Defense

Planned Parenthood, most Saturdays. 1691 the Alameda, San Jose; 8:00 AM. For information, contact Alex Havasy at [havasy@live.com](mailto:havasy@live.com).

### Fun Group

#### Three Exhibits at the San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles

Please join us as we explore three exhibits at the San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles.

"A Common Thread" brings together the artwork of seventeen contemporary artists from across the United States who examine and sometimes subvert the centuries-old tradition of needlework.

"Kawandi Adventure: Quilts by Margaret Fabrizio" is inspired by a 2011 exhibition of kawandi at the Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco, Fabrizio was compelled to learn more about the Siddi women of Karnataka, India, who had created the dazzlingly colorful quilts (kawandi). Fabrizio created twenty kawandi style quilts from scraps and recycled clothing.

"Bedouin Textiles from the Collection of Robert and Joy Totah Hilden" looks at the rich woven history of the Arab nomads who have inhabited the Arabian Peninsula and elsewhere for millennia. The exhibit includes hand woven textiles as well as photographs of the Bedouin and their lifestyle.

For more information, visit [sjquiltmuseum.org](http://sjquiltmuseum.org) or call 1-408-971-0323.

**Where:** San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles,  
520 South First Street, San Jose, California 95113.

**When:** Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 11:00 AM

**Cost:** General: \$8.00 / Seniors and Students with ID: \$6.50  
/ Members and Children 12 and under: Free

### Humanist Community Hiking Group

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

## Other Events of Interest to Humanists

### Humanists at UUCPA

#### Potluck and Discussion

Our meetings usually have 15 people. For the potluck, please bring a dish of your choice. We will select the topics for May, June, and July.

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

Directions to UUCPA: [uucpa.org/main/location.html](http://uucpa.org/main/location.html)

**When:** Saturday, May 2 at 6 PM (discussion at 7)

### Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us to discuss "The New Generation," the eleventh essay in the book, *Why I Am Not a Christian* by Bertrand Russell. See [www.meetup.com/philosophy-219](http://www.meetup.com/philosophy-219) for details.

**Where:** Thai Pepper, 103 E Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale

**When:** Tuesday, May 19, 7:00 PM

### Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley

For details see: [www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org](http://www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org)



For more information on groups of interest to Humanists go to: [www.humanists.org/index/#/associated-organizations/](http://www.humanists.org/index/#/associated-organizations/).

Humanist Community  
P.O. Box 60069  
Palo Alto, CA 9406-006

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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## MAY 2015

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