

The Newsletter of the  
**Humanist Community**

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

in Silicon Valley



OCTOBER 2015 IS THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## October Forums

### October 4: A Discussion of the Humanist Community in Silicon Valley

HCSV member Paul Gilbert will moderate this Forum, which is designed to provide every member and friend of the Community the opportunity to contribute his or her ideas about how we can be most effective in achieving the purposes and aims of humanism in our Community and beyond. Please attend, share your ideas, and learn from fellow humanists.

A personal invitation with information about the structure of the meeting and how to participate fully is being sent to every member and friend of HCSV for whom we have contact information. If you have not received your invitation by Wednesday, September 23, please request it at paulgilbert@pobox.com.

### October 11: Creating Change Through Humanism

American Humanist Association Executive Director Roy Speckhardt will give a talk about, and host a book signing for, his new book, *Creating Change Through Humanism*, just published by Humanist Press. Speckhardt will explore the modern state of humanism and how our forward-thinking outlook, with its emphasis on critical thinking and self-reflection, can be at the forefront of pressing social issues.

### October 18: National Popular Vote

Scott Drexel from the National Popular Vote campaign, will discuss the National Popular Vote bill, which would guarantee the Presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes in the entire United States. The bill preserves the Electoral College, while ensuring that every vote in every state will matter in every presidential election. See [www.nationalpopularvote.com](http://www.nationalpopularvote.com).

### October 25: Understanding Psychopathology: Stories and Lessons from a Youth Treatment Facility

Robert Nelson, who spent two years working in one of Illinois' highest-end treatment facilities for children, will discuss anger management within the context of conduct disorder, and how psychopathology can result from abuse.

#### FORUM INFORMATION

**Humanist House** (our new home)

1180 Coleman Avenue, San Jose 95110

Sundays 11 AM-12:15 PM - Free and open to the public

Lunch 12:15-2 PM. - A donation of \$10 is requested

Afternoon program at 2:00 PM

*Humanist Community  
serving Silicon Valley*

(HCSV)

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

**Editor**

Alex Havasy

**Production**

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

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**Letters to the Editor**

Letters to the editor may be submitted to [havasy@live.com](mailto: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

Greg Alexander, Treasurer

Hilton Brown

Midge Dorn

Paul Gilbert

**To contact the Board**

[emailsvhumanists@gmail.com](mailto:emailsvhumanists@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](mailto: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 delivered, a recommendation for a lawyer), email [hchelp@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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).

**Cover Pictures Wanted!**

After over 2 years of composing every cover picture I realize I could use some help! We need an original composition or picture, seasonal or with reference to a historical event or holiday of the month, for each and every newsletter. if you are interested contact me at [senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com) or 408-739-5638.

Sena Havasy

**Looking Forward at Humanist House!**

We are settling in at our new location at 1180 Coleman Ave. in San Jose, created especially for us! Since we were incorporated in 1962 this is the first time we have had our own space 24/7. We look forward to sharing it with the many Free Thinkers and their impressive groups in this new area!

We have come through the fire (see 'What Happened', below) singed, but without missing a single Sunday Forum and delicious Lunch or a single Tue. or Sat. of clinic defense at Planned Parenthood! Dare we say 'Phoenix'?!

We are thrilled to welcome Greg Alexander and Paul Gilbert, appointed as new board members to guarantee a quorum. Greg, who as Treasurer was a non-voting member of the board, now has voting rights.

We have many exciting events coming up including a Halloween party in a private home (RSVP as space is limited) and a blood drive here at Humanist House by the team from Stanford.

We are adding Sunday afternoon events at 2:00 PM. The first Sunday afternoon is Video Day. The October video features the pre-Inca Moche Indian civilization of Peru and their 2,000 year old unlooted tomb. The second Sunday afternoon will be Game Day, the third a Social Action. The fourth Sunday will be a general meeting for members and the public to express their hopes and concerns about the Humanist Community and Humanist House. At least one member of the board will be present so that Issues discussed can be brought to the next board meeting.

We have created a calendar listing events by other secular groups as well as our own. We plan to put it on our web page, now in reconstruction.

We want to hear from other groups and individuals with suggestions for speakers, videos and projects. Send us your events to add to our 'EVERYBODY' calendar or present them in person at the 4th Sunday afternoon.

Join us at Humanist House with people who believe in people.

Sena Havasy, Membership Chair

**What Happened?**

Since the last edition of this newsletter our Executive Director has resigned, and six people have left the HCSV Board. Issues that were raised have either been resolved or are being addressed.

**The United Nations Turns 70**

On a late October day in 1945, the United Nations was born when its Charter was brought into force. It was established in the aftermath of a devastating war, to stabilize international relations and as a foundation to secure peace.

Amid the threat of nuclear war and regional conflicts, peacekeeping has become the main focus of the UN. Since 1945, the United Nations has been credited with negotiating 172 peaceful settlements that have ended regional conflicts.

Although it has yet to fulfill all the hopes of the world, better rates of child survival, greater environmental protection, improved human rights, health research and continuing work to eliminate poverty, among countless other achievements, are all examples of the UN's success since its establishment.

The "UN70" celebration aims to unite Member States, global civil society and the many individual women and men working in common cause. It will honour the historic breadth of the organization's development, security and human rights work.

Its vast family of agencies are tirelessly engaged in improving people's lives around the world.

Sena Havasy

drawing on many on line sources.

## Calendar of Events

### The Family Program

The HCSV Family Program meets elsewhere on Sunday mornings, to be announced each week.

**Where:** Varies, call 650-257-0478 for the location and to confirm the upcoming meeting.

**When:** most Sundays, 10:30 AM to 12 noon.

### The Sharing Circle

At 10:30, before the Forum each Sunday, attendees meet to share personal feelings or experiences in an environment of trust and confidentiality.

### 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).

### 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.

The committee is composed of those members of the potluck circle who are willing to serve. Sena Havasy chair.

### Free Thought Discussion

Free Thought Discussion/Book Group 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 information on the present book, future books considered, and reading schedule. For more information, contact Hilton at: [brownofmtview@aol.com](mailto:brownofmtview@aol.com).

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown

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

### Academic Video

The Academic Video Group watches videos 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. For details about the group contact Hilton at: [brownofmtview@aol.com](mailto:brownofmtview@aol.com) or 650-941-3146.

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown

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

### History Book Group

*Parallel Lives: Five Victorian Marriages* by Phyllis Rose. Rose's anecdotes and insights provide a fresh view of the circumstances that bedeviled relations between the sexes a century ago.

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

**Where:** Humanist House, 1180 Coleman Ave., San Jose

**When:** 2nd Wednesday, October 14, 2:30 PM

### Humanist Community Hiking Group

We are looking for someone to coordinate hikes. If you enjoy hiking with fellow Humanists and know trails in the area, please step forward and I will put your contact information in the next newsletter.

## Fun Group Art of the Brick

New York artist Nathan Sawaya creates awe-inspiring artworks out of an unlikely building material: LEGO® bricks. He meticulously crafts beautiful and intriguing sculptures using 1000s thousands of bricks, transforming the popular toy into something new. The exhibition also features work from "In Pieces," a collaborative photographic series by Dean West and Nathan Sawaya that captures the LEGO sculptures in Hopper-inspired images.

In the Alcove Gallery is an ancillary installation of a playful, colorful, toy-like sculpture by San Francisco artist Jud Bergeron.

For more information, visit [bedfordgallery.org](http://bedfordgallery.org) or call 925-295-1417.

**Where:** The Bedford Gallery at the Leshner Center for the Arts  
1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
meet at the gallery entrance on the first floor.

**When:** Saturday, October 24, 2015 at noon.

**Cost:** Adults: \$5.00. Youth (13-17) \$3.00.

Children 12 and under: Free.

### Humanist Halloween Potluck

The October potluck will be a Halloween party at the home of Pam Erwin. Contact Pam at Erwin [pamela@aol.com](mailto:pamela@aol.com), or call 408-926-1196.

**Where:** The home of Pam Erwin in San Jose.

**When:** 7:00 PM, Saturday, October 31.

## 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. Mary Grebenkemper and Barbara Symons will present the topic: Balancing Loss and Suffering with Hope and Joy.

**Where:** Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto,  
Fireside Room, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto.  
Directions at [uucpa.org/main/location.html](http://uucpa.org/main/location.html)

**When:** Saturday, October 3 at 6 PM (discussion at 7)

### Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us to discuss "How Russell Was Prevented From Teaching At The College of The City of New York," an account in the appendix of 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

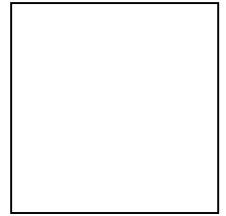
**When:** Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 PM

### 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 94306-0069



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## OCTOBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:00 PM Academic Video	2	3
4 10:30 AM Family Program 11:00 AM Forum	5	6	7 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	8 8:00 PM Academic Video	9	10
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18 10:30 AM Family Program 11:00 AM Forum	19	20	21 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	22 8:00 PM Academic Video	23	24 Noon Fun Group 
25 10:30 AM Family Program 11:00 AM Forum	26	27	28 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	29	30	31 7:00 PM Halloween Potluck 