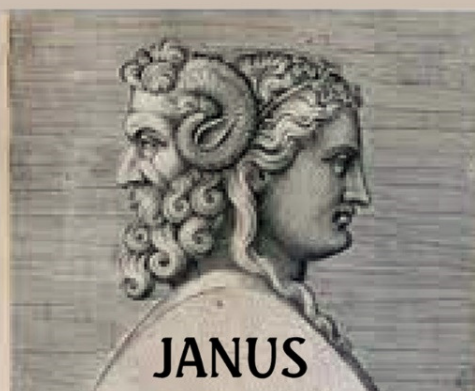


The Newsletter of the
Humanist Community
 in Silicon Valley

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



Ab actu ad posse valet illatio

January Forums

January 3: Life, Death, & The World (With a little Happiness thrown in)

James Hilgendorf (www.jameshilgendorf.org) is a filmmaker, speaker, and the author of ten non-fiction books. He and his wife Elizabeth have been practicing Buddhism for forty-three years with the Soka Gakkai International (www.sgi.org).

He will discuss: Arnold Toynbee, Physics, Holograms, Death, Leo Tolstoy, Happiness. There are no negatives!

January 10: The Unexpected Belle La Follette: Progressive Model for 2016

In doing the research for her new book, *Belle La Follette: Progressive Era Reformer*, Santa Clara University Associate History Professor Nancy C. Unger discovered that the work of previous historians (including herself!) had drastically underestimated this great humanist (1859-1931). Come discover the surprising truths about the radical reformer denounced as “disgraceful to the white race” who fought for votes for women, peace, civil rights...and more. This presentation, richly illustrated by PowerPoint images, will present Belle La Follette as a model of progressive reform for 2016.

FORUM INFORMATION

Humanist House 1180 Coleman Avenue, San Jose 95110
 Sundays 11 AM-12:15 PM - Free and open to the public
 Lunch 12:30-2 PM. - A donation of \$10 is requested
 Afternoon program at 1:30 PM

January 17: Sociolinguistics and the Deaf Community

Adam Frogel has an M.S. from U.C. Berkeley, and worked as an interpreter, translator and transliterator for 42 years. He will discuss the above topic.

January 24: Ending Extreme Inequality: An Economic Bill of Rights to Eliminate Poverty

Poverty and inequality are at record levels. Today, forty-seven million Americans live in poverty, while the median is in decline. The top 20 percent now controls 89 percent of all wealth. These conditions have renewed demands for a new economic Bill of Rights, an idea proposed by F. D. Roosevelt, Truman and Martin Luther King, Jr. Scott Myers-Lipton, Professor of Sociology at San Jose State University, will discuss these issues, and his new book, whose name is this Forum's title.

NOTE: Vote on bylaw change follows the speaker's presentation.

January 31: Prisons - The Challenge

Dorsey Nunn, Executive Director of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children (www.prisonerswithchildren.org/about/staff), has over thirty-five years experience working on prison related issues, and has received numerous awards. He is the Co-Founder of All of Us or None, a project of LSPC started by formerly incarcerated people in 2003. He has been in the forefront of many social justice organizations from their beginnings, including Critical Resistance and the California Coalition for Women Prisoners.

*Humanist Community
serving Silicon Valley*

(HCSV)

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www.humanists.org

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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.

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Arthur Jackson, President
Paul Gilbert, Vice President
Greg Alexander, Treasurer
Hilton Brown
Midge Dorn

To contact the Board

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 123arthurmjackson@gmail.com or call 774-757-4486.

•If you need to talk to someone about a problem, call Arthur Jackson at 774-757-4486.

•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 (which forwards your je-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.

Cover - Latin translation of:

"Ab actu ad posse valet illatio."

"From what has happened we can infer what will happen."

or, as Confucius puts it:

'Study the past, if you would divine the future.'

Sena Havasy



Humanist House News

Our Solstice party on Dec. 12th was a delight with the most Solstice carol singing I think we've ever had. We used the 'Songs for Solstice' song book, an ongoing project of mine. Copies available for a donation of \$5. Solstice presents for everyone attending were on tables by the stage all during the month of December.

We are looking forward to the Blood Drive on the 23rd of January with the Atheists Community of San Jose. If we have a good turn out we can have it here at Humanist House three times a year! So turn out folks!

We are giving thought to the ways we can share this pleasant space with other secular groups.

One idea we like is a Valentine's party at Humanist House on Sat., the 13th of February as a gathering of all the local groups. It would be a chance for each group to share its own special flavor of secularism via an information table and socializing. Red tablecloths available for use with your table. Please let us know if you like this idea and if your group would participate.

We are constantly looking for ways to make Humanist House a useful place for our entire secular community. We have transformed our paper calendar listing public events of all local groups into a Power Point presentation to run before the Sunday Forums.

We need new bookcases and are requesting donations of appropriate books for our library. Duplicate books can be added to our donation table. We hope to soon add a computer.

A basket is out asking for food donations which we will contribute to the Secular Connections Food Drive.

We are looking for suggestions of other ways to utilize our 24/7 space.

Yours for a bright Humanist future!
Sena Havasy, Membership Chair

LifeRing Addiction Recovery

"LifeRing is an abstinence-based, worldwide network of people living in recovery from addiction to alcohol or to other, non-medically indicated drugs. In LifeRing we offer each other peer-to-peer support in ways that encourage personal growth and continued learning through personal empowerment. Our approach is based on developing, refining, and sharing our own strategies for continued abstinence and crafting a rewarding life in recovery. In short, we are sober, secular, and self-empowered."

The LifeRing meeting at Humanist House occurs every Tuesday at 7:30 PM. Meetings typically last one hour.

For more information about LifeRing see Byron Kerr's talk of last September 13 (www.humanists.org/blog/2015-09-13), or go to the LifeRing web site (lifering.org).

Blood Drive



Atheist Community of San Jose Humanist Community in Silicon Valley

Date:

Saturday, January 23, 2016

Time:

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location:

Bloodmobile @ Humanist House
1180 Coleman Ave, San Jose

Schedule an Appointment:

- ♦ Online: www.sbcdonor.org
Use zip code 95110
- ♦ Phone: 650-723-7831

STANFORD
BLOOD CENTER 

Give blood for life!

For More Information:

Lyn Chiu
chiu.acsj@gmail.com



Special Gift: "Pint for a Pint"
for each presenting donor

Revision to Humanist Community Bylaws to be Voted on January 17

The below amendment to the HCSV bylaws is being recommended by the Board to allow the number of Board members appropriate to the size and activity of the membership.

This will be voted on 17 January, at 1:30 PM after our regular Forum at Humanist House.

Old:

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

Section 3. Term of Office Voting members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for a term of two years, five being elected in odd-numbered years and four being elected in even-numbered years. A board member may serve for a maximum of three two year elected terms plus the balance of any appointed term, and will be ineligible for the Board for the following year.

New:

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

Section 3. Term of Office Voting members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for a term of two years. A board member may serve for a maximum of three two-year elected terms plus the balance of any appointed term, and will be ineligible for the Board for the following year. The number of positions open for election each year shall be the number necessary to maintain the size of the Board at an odd number of directors. By default, the Board size shall be five, but the Board may change the size to five, seven, or nine by majority vote at least two months before the next election.

Election to the Board of the Humanist Community

On February 28 the membership will elect members of the new board of HCSV. Two members will be leaving the board: Hilton Brown and Paul Gilbert. Greg Alexander, Midge Dorn, and Arthur Jackson will be up for reelection in 2017.

The nominating committee (Greg Alexander, Sandy Smith, and Marie Stevens) has proposed the following candidates for the two open slots: **Ron Gerber**, **Jason Kazarian**, and **Will Weyer**.

Members of the community can submit a candidate by a petition signed by fifteen (15) members of the community to the nomination committee fifteen (15) days before the election. That would be February 13.

The election will be held at the February 28 forum. Members can request a mail-in ballot for the election. Members that request mail-in ballots may not vote in person. Mail-in ballots must be returned prior to the general election meeting.

Calendar of Events

The Family Program

The HCSV Family Program meets Sunday mornings.

Where: Varies, call 650-257-0478 for the time and location.

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.

After the Sunday Forum

Activities are planned for each Sunday afternoon: 1st Sunday is Video Day, 2nd Sunday is Game Day, 3rd Sunday is Social Action Day, 4th Sunday we'll discuss issues with the Humanist Community. Activity for 5th Sunday to be determined.

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

When: 1:30 PM, after the Forum

Clinic Defense

Planned Parenthood, Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1691 the Alameda, San Jose; 8:00 AM. For information, contact Alex Havasy at 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.

New Year's Open House

The annual New Year's Open House will be at the home of Sena and Alex Havasy. The tree is still up, the champagne flows, come and start the New Year right with a friendly group of fellow humanists! 408-739-5638 or senahav@gmail.com.

Where: Home of Sena and Alex Havasy

When: Friday, January 1 from 2:00PM to 5:00PM

Free Thought Discussion

We discuss recent news on the first Wednesday of the month, 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. For information on the present book, future books considered, and reading schedule go to: www.humanists.org/calendar/#/freethought-discussion. For more information, contact Hilton at: brownofmtview@aol.com.

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

When: Wednesdays, 7:30 PM

Academic Video

The Academic Video Group watches videos from www.thegreatcourses.com, followed by discussion. Go to: www.humanists.org/calendar/#/academic-videos for details of our present video. For details about the group contact Hilton at: brownofmtview@aol.com or 650-941-3146.

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

When: Thursdays, 8:00 PM

History Book Group

Our present book is *West with the Night* by Beryl Markham. This 1942 memoir by Beryl Markham, chronicles her experiences growing up in Kenya, in the early 1900s, leading to a career as a bush pilot and her record setting flight from Europe to America.

For information contact Sena at senahav@gmail.com or 408-739-5638.

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

When: 2nd Wednesday, January 13, 2:30 PM

Humanist Community Hiking Group

Fran and Jim Naylor are our new hiking coordinators. If you enjoy hiking with fellow Humanists there is a sign up sheet on the greeter's table at the forum or contact the Naylor's at 408-246-3790 or zaylors@sbcglobal.net.

Fun Group

Contemporary Art and Superhero Action

Here to save the day, it's... My Hero! Experience the escapades of iconic superheroes with this pumped-up collection of international artworks in a variety of media. My Hero celebrates and re-envision's the possibilities that exist when you have a magic cape, lasso, or some superhuman power that changes everything. Our heroes' desire to fight for truth and justice provide a rich source of artistic inspiration.

More information at 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, January 23, NOON.

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

Children 12 and under: Free.

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 have a free discussion and select topics for the next three months.

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

Directions at uucpa.org/main/location.html

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

Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us to discuss *Religion & Science Chapter II – The Copernican Revolution*, by Bertrand Russell. For further details see: www.meetup.com/philosophy-219.

Where: Thai Pepper, 103 E Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale

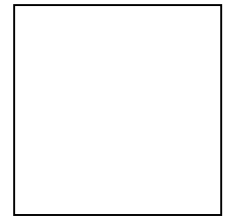
When: Tuesday, January 19, 7:00 PM

Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley

For details see: www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org.

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

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JANUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <u>2:00 PM</u> New Year's Open House 	2
3 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> Video	4	5 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	6 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	7 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	8	9
10 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> Games	11 <u>7:30 PM</u> Board meeting	12 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	13 <u>2:30 PM</u> History Book Group <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>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:15 PM</u> Vote on Bylaws <u>1:30 PM</u> Social Action	18	19 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	20 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	21 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	22	23 <u>11:00 AM</u> - <u>3:00 PM</u> Blood Drive at HH  <u>Noon Fun</u> <u>Group</u>
24 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> HCSV	25	26 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	27 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	28 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	29	30
31 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> TBD						