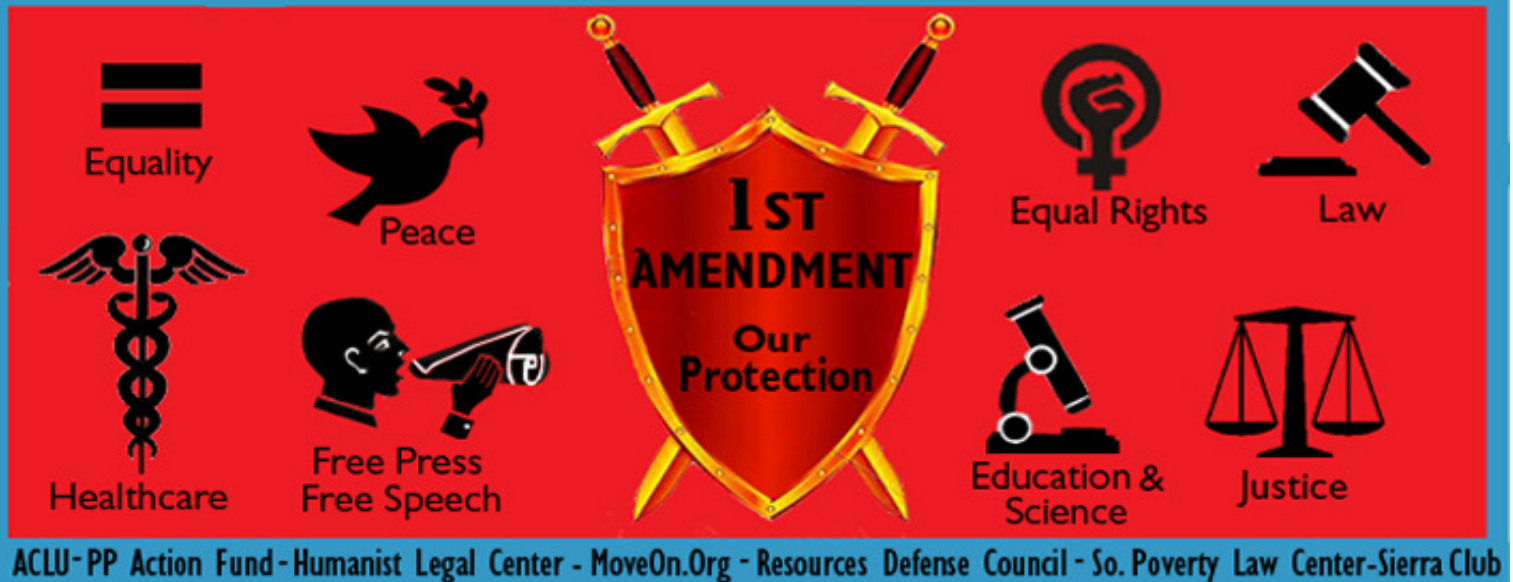


# HUMANIST COMMUNITY IN SILICON VALLEY



## March Forums

### March 5: A Progress Report on "Humanist Missionaries" in Uganda

On June 26, 2016, Hank Pellissier gave an HCSV Forum entitled "Humanist Missionaries" in Uganda ([www.humanists.org/blog/2016-06-26/](http://www.humanists.org/blog/2016-06-26/)). In this new talk, Hank will give us an update on everything that has gone horribly wrong, or gone fantastically better-than-expected, with the efforts of his organization (Brighter Brains, [brighterbrains.org/](http://brighterbrains.org/)) to spread humanism via schools, orphanages, and clinics in Uganda since he last talked to us.

### March 12: Racial Justice

Showing Up For Racial Justice (SURJ) is a national network of groups and individuals organizing white people for racial justice. Through community organizing, mobilizing, and education, SURJ moves white people to act as part of a multi-racial majority for justice with passion and accountability. Jessica Nifield, a SURJ volunteer, will be speaking to us about white privilege, and will help us explore ways we can contribute to building a powerful multi-racial majority to challenge racism in all its forms.

**Note:** Daylight Savings starts midnight this morning.

#### Forum Information

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

### March 19: Humanity's Space Frontier: Implications, Practicalities, and Ethical Issues

Our technological civilization enriches our lives in many ways, yet we despoil the Earth and deplete its resources, as our population expands. Would human expansion into space permit us to continue our technological civilization and allow Earth to return to a more natural state? Do we have the right to expand our carnage into the wider cosmos? Let's explore these issues.

Dr. Christopher R. Cassel has a B.A. in Physics from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in Engineering Sciences from UC San Diego, and has been an aerospace engineer. He is the co-founder of Deep Space Industries, Inc. ([deepspaceindustries.com/](http://deepspaceindustries.com/)), a company which intends to harvest the resources of near-Earth asteroids for use in space, and thereby help bootstrap a viable space economy. Chris is also a board member of the Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley.

### March 26: Making a Difference in Social Entrepreneurship

Raj Desai, an Indo-American born in Malawi, East Africa, immigrated to the USA from London, England. He has devoted over 30 years to supporting and building several non profits in Silicon Valley. During this time, Raj had the privilege of being included on a trip to India with President Bill Clinton. Recently Raj joined the India Community Center ([www.indiacc.org/](http://www.indiacc.org/)) as the CEO. ICC was established 12 years ago to serve the local Indo-American Community. It offers numerous Indo cultural activities for kids, adults and seniors hosted at three facilities; two in Milpitas and one in Cupertino.

## Humanist Community in Silicon Valley

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Treasurer Marie Stephens,  
Recorder Debbie Allen (non-voting),  
Greg Alexander, Carl Angotti, Pam Erwin, Alfred Jan,  
Suzanne Shalit, Will Weyer

### Contact the Board

ed@humanists.org.  
Board meetings are held at Humanist House (see calendar for time and date). Members of the Humanist Community are welcome at all board meetings.  
Our newsletter can be accessed online. Go to www.humanists.org, and click on "Newsletters" in the menu bar. Then, select the month and year of the desired newsletter.

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

### Do you need help?

If you need assistance such as a ride, some groceries delivered, etc., send a request to ed@humanist.org, and it will be forwarded to the Help Group. For confidential assistance contact Arthur Jackson at 123arthurjackson@gmail.com or 408-923-3774.



## HUMANIST HOUSE NEWS

Last night I attended San Jose's Annual Day of Remembrance, commemorating the 75th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066, issued on February 19th, 1942, that led to the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans in concentration camps during World War II.

This year's event featured guest speakers Samina Masood, Executive Director of FACES, and Congressperson Mike Honda. Samina, born in Pakistan and now a US Citizen, gave a moving speech in which she called for "Books, not bombs", and "Weapons of mass instruction". FACES is dedicated to equipping individuals to resist bias, bigotry, bullying, and violence. I hope that she will accept an invitation to deliver her remarks at Humanist House.

As luck would have it, I sat next to Mike Honda, who was forcibly imprisoned with his family at the Amache internment camp in Colorado. During his remarks, he reminded us of the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798, which were passed when congressional Federalists took advantage of the public's wartime fears. The first three acts were aimed at immigrants; extending the term of residency required before immigrants could apply for citizenship (from 5 to 14 years), and granting the president the power to detain and deport those regarded as enemies. The Sedition Act, in direct violation of the Constitution's guarantee of freedom of speech, permitted the prosecution and imprisonment of individuals who voiced or printed remarks about the government or its officials that the president deemed to be "false, scandalous, and malicious". One act, the Alien Enemies Act, is still law, and has frequently been enforced in wartime.

Both Samina and Mike asked us to consider what we might do if Muslims were unconstitutionally detained or imprisoned in our community. Unfortunately, the rhetoric of Trump and his supporters, as well as recent executive orders, have already denied many Muslims the protections guaranteed by law, and are laying the groundwork for making Muslims second-class citizens and likely victims of bigotry and violence.

Tonight was our first board meeting with our newly elected board members. Arthur Jackson, now the immediate past president of the board, presided over the nomination of officers. He then handed the meeting over to our new president, Paul Gilbert.

When I first met Arthur at the 2010 AHA conference in San Jose, I had no idea that I would one day be working so closely with him. You remember relatively few conference presenters, unless they capture your mind, your heart, or your curiosity. I remembered Arthur, and was pleased to find myself in his company at AHA conferences in subsequent years because of our roles as Humanist Celebrants and our interest in building community. Arthur had a vision for humanist communities that captured my own desires. He has been a wonderful board president, and I know he will continue to be a strong, committed and supportive presence during my time here. Thanks Art!

Debbie

### About the Cover

Some of our most cherished rights as citizens are under attack. Fortunately there are many groups working to preserve them. Some of the most active are listed below the picture. Others are: Emily's List, Marie Stopes International, NARAL Pro-Choice America, Democratic Campaign Committee, Peace is Loud.

**Beware:** The following are different names for the same group: Progressive Turnout Project, Progressives United PAC, Progressives United Political Action Committee, Progressives United Inc, GoTurnoutPac. They state their mission is to get Democrats to the polls, but 95% of money raised stays in house. Go to us-campaign-committees.insidegov.com and type in the name to check on political PACs.

### Special Thanks to the Following for Their Generosity

#### Contributing Members

Greg Alexander  
Debbie Allen  
Dana St. George and Gerry Gras  
Laurel Renish  
Robert Wasley  
Elisa Wells

#### Supporting Members

W.L. and Corinne Bales  
Fran and Jim Naylor  
Richard Rowland

Sandy Smith

Marie Stephens

#### President's Club

Hilton Brown

#### Ambassador's Club

Arthur Jackson

Susan and Bob Kressek

Martin Squibbs

Robert and Lola Stephens

#### Life Members

Peter and Catherine Bishop

# Calendar of Events

## Fun Group – Cut Up/Cut Out Exhibit ★

The Bedford Gallery presents Cut Up/Cut Out, an exhibition of local, national, and international artists who explore the captivating methods of decorative piercing and cutting, using a wide range of media from paper and plastic to metal and rubber.

**Where:** Leshner Center for the Arts,

1601 Civic Dr, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

**When:** Saturday, March 4, Meet at entrance at noon.

**Cost:** \$5; Youth (13-17) \$3; Children 12 and under, free

**RSVP:** Especially first time attendees, hcfungroup@yahoo.com

**Info:** www.bedfordgallery.org/ or 925-295-1417

## History Book Group

We are reading *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts.

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

**When:** 2nd Wednesday, March 8, 2:30 PM

**Info:** Sena Havasy, senahav@gmail.com or 408-739-5638

## Movie Night for Skeptics ★

The Humanist Community and the Silicon Valley Skeptics invite you to watch “Dan Barker – How an Evangelical Preacher Became One of America’s Leading Atheists.”

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

**When:** 2nd Friday, March 10, 7:00 PM

**Info:** On Meetup

## **New!** Computers, Bloody Computers. Hate’m or Love’m, Learn to use them better.

This workshop, taught by HCSV member Susanne Shalit, will be designed to address your needs, your interests, and your skill level.

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

**When:** Every other Thursday, March 2, 16, and 30, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

**RSVP:** On Meetup

## Membership and Volunteer Meeting

Calling current committee members and anyone willing to lend a hand to the Humanist Community.

**When:** Sunday, March 12, 12:30 PM, over Lunch

## Social Action Meeting

Visitors and members of the Humanist Community will gather to plan social action events.

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

**When:** 3rd Sunday, March 19, 1:15 PM (after lunch)

### Join Meetup for up to the minute event info

[www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity](http://www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity)

### Like us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/humanistcommsv](http://www.facebook.com/humanistcommsv)

### Follow us on Twitter

[twitter.com/HumanistCommSV](http://twitter.com/HumanistCommSV)

### Visit our website

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



**Your membership dues help us to create community for Humanists. Please, renew or join today! Online or at Humanist House.**

## Board Meeting

Meetings are open to all members of the Humanist Community.

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

**When:** 3rd Monday, March 20, 7:30 PM

## Potluck ★

Enjoy a delicious potluck dinner with a small group of humanists at a private home hosted by Emi Hester and Burt Liebert.

**Where:** Home of Burt Liebert in Mountain View

**When:** Saturday, March 25, 6:00 PM

**Info:** Burt Liebert 650-493-3747

## Board Communication Meeting

Members of the Board and the Community meet to discuss issues.

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

**When:** 4th Sunday, March 26, 1:15 PM (after lunch)

## LifeRing Secular Recovery

LifeRing is a non-faith-based, worldwide network of people living in recovery from addiction to alcohol or to other substances.

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

**When:** Every Tuesday, 7:30 PM

**Info:** lifering.org

## Free Thought Discussion

We discuss recent news on the first Wednesday of the month, and our current book other Wednesdays. 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/blog/free-thought-discussion](http://www.humanists.org/blog/free-thought-discussion) for information on the present book, future books considered, and our reading schedule.

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

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

**Info:** Hilton Brown, brownofmtview@aol.com or 650-941-3146

## Academic Video

The Academic Video Group watches videos from *The Great Courses*, followed by discussion.

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

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

**Info:** Hilton Brown, brownofmtview@aol.com or 650-941-3146

## **New!** Recovering from Religion

Learning how to live after questioning, doubting, and changing one's beliefs is a journey. Share your journey with others who are going through, or have successfully navigated, similar experiences. Everyone is welcome, and confidentiality is respected.

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

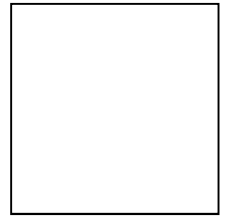
**When:** 4th Thursday, March 30, 7:00 PM

**Info:** On Meetup

♦Please Google the new US Senator for California, Kamala Harris. She is asking for our opinions on important issues!

♦Humanists have been volunteering for escort service at Planned Parenthood in San Jose for many years. Planned Parenthood needs volunteers in many capacities.

Humanist Community  
 1180 Coleman Avenue  
 San Jose, CA 95110



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>7:30 PM</b> Free Thought Discussion	2 <b>1:00 PM New!</b> Computer Workshop <b>8:00 PM</b> Academic Video	3	4 <b>★ 10:00 AM</b> Fun Group
5 <b>11:00 AM</b> Forum <b>12:30 PM</b> Buffet Lunch	6	7 <b>7:30 PM</b> LifeRing	8 <b>2:30 PM</b> History Book Group <b>7:30 PM</b> Free Thought Discussion	9 <b>8:00 PM</b> Academic Video	10 <b>★ 7:00 PM</b> Skeptic Movie Night	11
12 <b>11:00 AM</b> Forum <b>12:30 PM</b> Buffet Lunch <b>12:30 PM</b> Membership and Volunteer Meeting	13	14 <b>7:30 PM</b> LifeRing	15 <b>7:30 PM</b> Free Thought Discussion	16 <b>1:00 PM</b> Computer Workshop <b>8:00 PM</b> Academic Video	17	18
19 <b>11:00 AM</b> Forum <b>12:30</b> Buffet Lunch <b>1:15 PM</b> Social Action Meeting	20 <b>7:30 PM</b> Board meeting (open to members)	21 <b>7:30 PM</b> LifeRing	22 <b>7:30 PM</b> Free Thought Discussion	23 <b>8:00 PM</b> Academic Video	24	25 <b>3:00 PM</b> Encyclopedia Podcastica – Placedo Effect <b>★ 6:00 PM</b> Humanist Potluck
26 <b>11:00 AM</b> Forum <b>12:30 PM</b> Buffet Lunch <b>1:15 PM</b> Board Communication Meeting	27	28 <b>7:30 PM</b> LifeRing	29 <b>7:30 PM</b> Free Thought Discussion	30 <b>1:00 PM</b> Computer Workshop <b>7:00 PM New!</b> Recovering from Religion <b>8:00 PM</b> Academic Video	31	