May Forums

May 7: Bias, Use of Force, and the Criminal Justice System
Christopher Boscia will provide a framework to evaluate the lawfulness of police shootings of civilians. Topics to be covered include how criminal charges are instituted, the definition of homicide and its defenses, and how cognitive bias affects the evaluation of officer involved shootings. Christopher Boscia has been a Deputy District Attorney for seven years, prosecuting cases in Santa Clara County and Contra Costa County. Prior to working as a prosecutor, he was a staff member to the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice. The Commission examined the causes of wrongful convictions and evaluated the death penalty system in California.

May 14: From Goddess to God: Elimination of the Feminine Divine
Karen Garst will trace the female images and figurines of the Paleolithic through the Neolithic and examine the loss of the female deity in several cultures in the Middle East at about the same time in the Bronze Age. She will contrast the memes of the goddess with the memes of the sole male deity that develops into monotheism in Judaism and eventually Christianity and Islam, and finally, show the impact religion has on the rights of women in the United States compared to less religious countries.

Ms. Garst has a PhD from the University of Wisconsin and is former executive director of the Oregon State Bar, and the author of Women Beyond Belief: Discovering Life without Religion, a collection of essays from women who left religion. See her website www.faithlessfeminist.com.

May 21: Soaring Past 7 Billion: Population Challenges for a Crowded World
John Seager will show the connections between human population growth and social justice, environmental issues, and women’s rights.

Mr. Seager is president and CEO of Population Connection (formerly Zero Population Growth) the preeminent progressive grassroots group for population education and advocacy. It focuses on achieving global population stabilization through universal awareness and access to voluntary family planning together with the full empowerment of women.

May 28: Goals of Veterans for Peace
Phillip Pflager will speak about the goal of members of Veterans for Peace to serve the cause of world peace and their pledge to use non-violent means to achieve these goals.

Mr. Pflager is currently contact for South Bay/Peninsula Chapter of Veterans for Peace; a community partner of the San Jose Peace and Justice Center. Mr. Pflager enlisted in the Air Force in 1961, was sent to Vietnam and Thailand in 1964 and was discharged late in 1965. He retired from an electronics career in 2008.

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
About the Cover
Our ocean is steadily degrading. Its coral reefs are being destroyed by increasing acidification of the ocean. Global Warming causes melting of the icecaps making life perhaps impossible, for polar bears, and other creatures who watch solid ice turn into watery expanses too wide to swim across. Low lying land disappears under the rising water turning its human and animal inhabitants into climate refugees. Sea birds are perishing on a diet compromised by metal and plastic. There are many groups working on ocean preservation. Some of the most active at, in addition to those on the cover, are: Ocean Preservation Society, Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation, Union of Concerned Scientists, and World Resources International. All over our nation people are banding together over concerns caused by the weakening or obliteration of hard won protections on which the health of our planet and ourselves depend. On April 25th thousands around the world joined a Climate March to declare that we will not stand quietly by.
Sena Havasy

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
Pam Erwin
Fran and Jim Naylor
Richard Rowland
Jean-Claude Roy

Sandy Smith
Marie Stephens

President’s Club
Hilton Brown

Ambassador’s Club
Paul Gilbert
Arthur Jackson
Susan and Bob Kresek
Martin Squibbs
Robert and Lola Stephens

Life Members
Peter and Catherine Bishop
Calendar of Events

Enyclopedia Podcastica
View the filming of Encyclopedia Podcastica, a podcast featuring skeptics Hunter Perrin and Matt Courtney, organizers of Silicon Valley Skeptics. The May 13 podcast will be about guns.
When: Saturday, May 13, 3:00 PM
Where: Studio, Santa Clara
Info: On Meetup

Video Game Development
Join us and learn the Unity 3d game engine (unity3d.com), the premier cross platform game engine, or work on your own project.
When: Mondays, May 8 and 22, 7:00 PM
Where: Humanist House
Info: On Meetup

Citizens’ Climate Lobby
The Silicon Valley South Chapter of Citizens’ Climate Lobby invites you to join and help us advance a national carbon tax to reduce CO2 emissions and grow jobs and the economy.
When: Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 PM
Where: Humanist House
Info: On Meetup

History Book Group
We are reading The Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik.
When: Wednesday, May 17, 2:30 PM
Where: Humanist House
Info: Sena Havasy, senahav@gmail.com or 408-739-5638

Computers, Bloody Computers. Hate’em or Love’em, Learn to Use Them Better.
This workshop, taught by HCSV member Susan Shalit, will be designed to address your needs, your interests, and your skill level.
When: Every other Thursday, May 11, and 25, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Where: Humanist House
Info: On Meetup

Movie Night for Skeptics ★
The Humanist Community and the Silicon Valley Skeptics invite you to watch Jesus Camp, a documentary about kids who attend a summer camp hoping to become the next Billy Graham.
When: 2nd Friday, May 12, 7:00 PM
Where: Humanist House
Info: On Meetup

Fun Group
Milpitas Camera Club’s Photography Exhibit ★
The Milpitas Camera Club’s 14th Annual Photography Exhibit features some of the best work by its members. You can participate in a Community Choice Award and vote on your favorite photos.
When: Saturday, May 13, meet at entrance at 10:00 AM.
Where: Reading Court of Milpitas Library, 160 N Main St, Milpitas
Cost: Free
Info: www.milpitascamera.com or call 408-262-1171
RSVP: Especially first time attenders, hcfungroup@yahoo.com

Board Meeting
Meeting are open to all members of the Humanist Community.
When: 3rd Monday, May 15, 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Where: Humanist House

Membership and Volunteer Meeting
Calling current committee members and anyone willing to lend a hand to the Humanist Community.
When: Sunday, May 7, 1:15 PM, after Lunch
Where: Humanist House

Humanist Start of Summer Potluck & BBQ Party ★
Join us at our Start of Summer Party to celebrate our Humanist Community and share our Humanist House. Bring something for the grill, something to share and a lawn chair for outdoor games. Not until 7:00.
All ages welcome - bring your kids and have some outdoor games. We need setup/cleanup helpers, balloon animal makers, face painters, etc.
When: Saturday, May 13, meet at entrance at 10:00 AM
Where: Humanist House
Info: On Meetup
RSVP: A personal RSVP so we can estimate how many will attend.
Cost: A suggested minimum donation of $10 would be graciously accepted to sustain Humanist House and its activities.

Humanist Start of Summer Potluck and BBQ Party
Rescheduled to June 10

Social Action Meeting
On May 21 we will gather to plan social action events.
When: Sunday, May 21, 1:30 PM (after lunch)
Where: Humanist House

Membership and Board Discussion
Members of the board and the community meet to discuss issues.
When: May 28, 1:15 PM (after lunch)
Where: Humanist House

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.
When: 4th Thursday, May 25, 7:00 PM
Where: Humanist House
Info: On Meetup

Free Thought Discussion
Discuss recent news on the first Wednesday of the month, and the current book other Wednesdays. 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 for the present book, the reading schedule, and future books considered.
When: Wednesdays, 7:30 PM
Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View
Info: Hilton Brown, brownofmtnview@aol.com or 650-941-3146

Academic Video
The Academic Video Group watches videos from The Great Courses, followed by discussion.
When: Thursdays, 8:00 PM
Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View
Info: Hilton Brown, brownofmtnview@aol.com or 650-941-3146

Join Meetup for up to the minute event info
www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity
Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/humanistcommSV
Follow us on Twitter
twitter.com/HumanistCommSV
Visit our website
www.humanists.org/blog

Your membership dues help us to create community for us all. Please, renew or join today! Online or at Humanist House.
### May 2017

<table>
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More details can be found at [www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity](http://www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity)