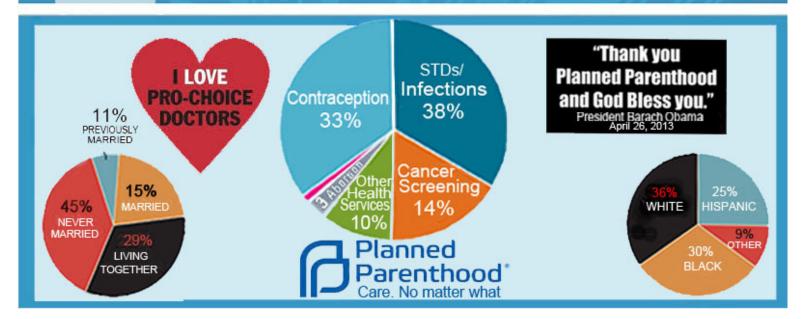


# HUMANIST COMMUNITY IN SILICON VALLEY



# **August Forums**

# August 6: LGBTQ Youth Space

LGBTQ Youth Space (youthspace.org) is a program of Family and Children Services of Silicon Valley and Caminar for Mental Health. It provides a safe and confidential drop-in center, as well as counseling services, for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth and young adults ages 13-25, in Santa Clara County.

At today's forum we welcome a panel of LGBTQ+ youth who will each speak about how their gender identities and sexual orientation have impacted different aspects of their lives, such as family dynamics, school, work, community, culture, and relationships.

# August 13: Community Building and Resilience via Transition/Permaculture

Permaculture is a creative process based on whole-systems thinking informed by ethics and design principles that guide us to mimic the patterns and relationships we find in nature. By learning these principles, we acquire valuable thinking tools to help us become more resilient in an era of change.

Marilyn Barry is a Business Consultant and Administrative manager for Barry Consulting. Among other things she provides business project support for small non-profit organizations.

# Forum Information

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

# August 20: Eyewitness to Central America

Barby Ulmer with husband Vic (now deceased) were the founders and co-directors of Our Developing World. Formed in 1982, the non-profit organization strives to raise awareness of the struggles and triumphs occurring in developing countries by creating resources for teachers, hosting events, and leading educational trips to Central America, Southeast Asia and Africa.

With a focus on Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala, she will provide a brief historical background of US policy toward these countries, exploitation by US & Canadian corporations, recent struggles and victories, and what can be done.

# August 27: Building Resistance and Alternatives to the Administration's Plan for America

This blueprint for a radical new economy and society is anchored not only in participatory democracy but in participatory human need-fulfilling activity. This includes self and family care, necessary labor with reduced working hours, and time and space for self-realization. Don't miss this holistic systemic transformational approach to reshaping the future of the United States.

Richard Hobbs is the Executive Director of Human Agenda, a national board member of Take Back Your Time, an immigration attorney and member of the legal collective CLARO (Colectivo Legal Accesible Razonable y Organizado), and member of the newly forming South Bay Progressive Alliance.



# Humanist Community in Silicon Valley

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### **Editor**

Alex Havasy havasy@live.com

#### **Production**

Carl Angotti, Helen Athey, Brian Davis, Sena Havasy, Burt Liebert, Debbie Allen

Cover art by Sena Havasy

Our newsletter can be accessed online. Go to www.humanists.org/blog/newsletter

#### **Executive Director**

Debbie Allen debbieallen@humanists.org

#### **Board of Directors**

President Paul Gilbert
Vice President Alex Havasy
Treasurer Marie Stephens

Recorder Debbie Allen (non-voting)

Greg Alexander Carl Angotti
Pam Erwin Alfred Jan

Susan Shalit

Contact the Board ed@humanists.org

Board meetings are held at Humanist House on the third Monday of each month. Members of the Humanist Community are welcome to attend all board meetings.

# 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 Social Action Group.

For confidential assistance contact Arthur Jackson at 408-923-3774 or 123arthurjackson@gmail.com.

## **About the Cover**

# Care. No matter what.

Planned Parenthood is a source of healthcare for millions of women. It's hard to imagine the stream of hatred and misinformation leveled at Planned Parenthood by Fox News and its ilk.

The fact is that only 3% of Planned Parenthood services are abortions, most of them in the first trimester. It has never made a profit from providing fetal tissue for medical purposes, the least of the outlandish stories regularly told to, and believed by, its anti-choice attackers.

Do not be maneuvered into calling a first trimester fetus a baby any more than a radish seed is a radish. Abortions beyond that point are only done for the most serious of reasons, such as the abnormality of the fetus or the life of the mother, a terrible decision only the doctor and the mother are competent to make.

# **HUMANIST HOUSE NEWS**

Since the Humanist Community hired Debbie Allen as our Executive Director last October, her directives from the board of directors have been to build a community where people can gather with friends who share a similar worldview, and to maintain our home here at Humanist House.

In addition to improving every aspect of our social media, expanding our publicity, growing our membership, and strengthening our relationships with other likeminded religious and secular organizations, we have broadened the scope and the appeal of our forums, programs, and social activities.

Since May we have hosted two hugely successful BBQ potlucks at Humanist House, with indoor and outdoor games, live music, and with as many as 50 adults and children participating. In June we hosted a catered brunch for 47 people, and in July we had a very successful book-signing event with Katherine Ozment, a former senior editor at National Geographic, who spoke about her book, *Grace Without God.* In addition to our long running discussion, book, and video groups, we have a Movie Night for Skeptics, hikes, workshops teaching computer skills and video-game development, museum and theater outings, and field trips like our tour of Blume Distillation and Whiskey Hill Farms. We have also revitalized our social action committee, and have been active in charitable and political causes.

In the next few months we hope to start a science fiction book club, and a discussion group to review current events, articles, or books that might help us understand all the astonishing events of today's world – political, social, and scientific.

In addition to augmenting our social calendar with special events to attract new members, the Humanist Community leadership recently sent 629 postcards to members of the American Humanist Association who live within a 20 mile radius of Humanist House. We want those who identify as humanists to know that there is an AHA Chapter nearby that offers lectures and social activities.

Administratively, we've upgraded to a database that gives us instant access to our members and their information; in fact, you can log in to our database and verify that your information is correct, and you can specify how much of your information is available to others in our community. This membership management platform, designed by "MemberPlanet", also allows you to easily pay dues and make donations via credit card.

To sustain these and other community programs, and to maintain our home here on Coleman Avenue, we need both time and treasure; which is to say, the volunteering of time and donations of money. We are currently not meeting our monthly expenses, as we knew we would not be when we set out to reinvigorate our organization, but eventually we must be self-sustaining.

We will be contacting our membership in August and September with a request for financial support to sustain Humanist House. Please give some consideration to how much you feel you could pledge through the end of this year.

We ask that you also consider ways you can help with community activities. Volunteer opportunities can be ongoing, like serving on a committee or the board of directors, but small ways are equally appreciated, such as welcoming visitors at forums, bringing a dish to our buffet lunch, or assisting in the setup of a potluck or other Humanist House event. It's a wonderful way to meet people and will also help to fulfill our mission of building community for generations of humanists here in Silicon Valley.

# **Calendar of Events**

# **Free Thought Discussion**

First Wednesday of the month: recent news. Other Wednesdays we will be discussing *The Fourth Turning: An American Prophecy* by William Strauss and Neil Howe. We expect to be reading this book through August. Discussions range far from the topic, so don't worry about not being up to date on the book or the news.

When: Wednesdays, 7:30 PM

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

Info: Go to www.humanists.org/blog/free-thought-discussion

#### **Academic Video**

This month the Academic Video Group will be watching *Great Philosophical Debates: Free Will and Determinism* by Professor Shaun Nichols, followed by discussion.

When: Thursdays, 8:00 PM

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

Info: Email brownofmtnview@gmail.com or call 650-941-3146

# **Social Action Meeting**

There is no Social Action Meeting this month. Our Social Action chairs, Fran and Jim Naylor, will return in September.

# **Hiking Activity**

# Saratoga Gap and Long Ridge Open Space Preserves

Meet in the parking lot at 10:30. Bring a lunch and we'll hike for a picnic at Turtle Rock overlooking the ocean. This is an interesting, pretty, and somewhat rocky and uphill loop of about 3-4 miles.

When: August 5, 10:30 AM

Where: Saratoga Gap Vista Point Parking Lot

Info: www.openspace.org/sites/default/files/map\_LR.pdf

## Fun Group — Roz Chast Exhibition

Roz Chast has published more than 800 cartoons in The New Yorker. She has also published in Scientific American and the Harvard Business Review.

When: Saturday, August 5, 11:00 AM, Meet at the main entrance.

Where: The Contemporary Jewish Museum, 736 Mission Street, San

Francisco

Cost: Adults \$14, Seniors (65 Years and Older) \$12, Students \$12,

Ages 18 and under and Members free

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

# **Movie Night for Skeptics**

The Humanist Community and the Silicon Valley Skeptics invite you to watch *Planet of the Apes*, the original 1968 film starring Charlton

Heston. Bring snacks to share.

When: 2nd Friday, August 8, 7:00 PM

Where: Humanist House

# **Video Game Development**

Join us and learn the Unity 3d game engine (unity3d.com), the premier cross platform game engine.

When: Monday, August 14 & 28, 7:00 PM

Where: Humanist House

# Citizens' Climate Lobby

The Silicon Valley South Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby invites you to join their effort to advance a national carbon tax to reduce CO2 emissions and grow jobs and the economy.

When: Tuesday, August 15, 7:00 PM

Where: Humanist House

# **Ruth Bader Ginsburg Women's Group**

Featuring discussion of timely events and local groups important to you, future plans, reading *I am Malala*, about the girl who defied the Taliban to teach girls and survived being shot in the head by them. Our July outing was a potluck with the League of Women Voters. Light refreshments.

When: 3rd Saturday, August 19, 2:00 PM

Where: Humanist House

Info: 708-739-5638 or senahav@gmail.com

# **Humanist Pool Party and Potluck in Sunnyvale**

The August potluck will be a Pool Party at the home of Sena & Alex Havasy in Sunnyvale. Most will not swim so don't hesitate to join us, even if you don't care to swim. For details contact the hosts at senahav@gmail.com or 408-739-5638.

Where: Home of Sena and Alex Havasy in Sunnyvale

When: Saturday, August 12, 4:30 PM

# **Board Meeting**

Meetings are open to all members of the Humanist Community.

When: 3rd Monday, August 21, 7:30 PM

Where: Humanist House

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

Join Meetup for complete information for all our events. Still need more info? Leave message at 408-650-8466

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Visit our website www.humanists.org/blog





Humanist Community in Silicon Valley Humanist House 1180 Coleman Avenue San Jose, CA 95110

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



# **August 2017**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		7:30 PM LifeRing	2 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	3 8:00 PM Academic Video	4	5 I0:30 AM Hiking Activity II:00 AM Fun Group
6 II:00 AM Forum I2:30 PM Buffet Lunch	7	8 7:30 PM LifeRing	9 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	8:00 PM Academic Video	7:00 PM Skeptic Movie Night	4:30 PM Pool Party Potluck
13 11:00 AM Forum 12:30 PM Buffet Lunch	14 7:00 PM Video Game Development	7:00 PM Climate Lobby 7:30 PM LifeRing	16 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	8:00 PM Academic Video	18	19 2:00 PM Ruth Bader Ginsburg Women's Group
20 II:00 AM Forum I2:30 PM Buffet Lunch	7:30 PM HCSV Board Meeting	<b>22 7:30 PM</b> LifeRing	23 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	24 8:00 PM Academic Video	25	26
27 II:00 AM Forum I2:30 PM Buffet Lunch	28 7:00 PM Video Game Development	29 7:30 PM LifeRing	30 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	31 8:00 PM Academic Video		