

The Newsletter of the
Humanist Community
in Silicon Valley



The mission of the Humanist Community is to meet the social, intellectual, and emotional needs of Humanists of all ages; to contribute to the well-being of the larger community; and to be a voice for Humanism.

Volume 19 Issue 3

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

March 2013

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Humanism is the sweet elixir of compassion and sanity that can overwhelm the confounding wine of magic, fear, and blind obedience.

*Jon Stephens
(1942 – 2013)*

With great sadness we report the death of the editor of this newsletter, Jon Stephens, on February 15 after a brief battle with cancer. He was a longtime member of our Community. We will miss his generous spirit, his insight, and his wit. A memorial to Jon will be published in a future newsletter.

Forums

MARCH 3 - Tom Bergstrom on “My Religious Evolution”

HC member Tom Bergstrom will share his life’s transitions in *My Religious Evolution: From Simple Catholic, to Conservative Preacher, to Agnostic Atheist*. Tom grew up as a practicing Catholic in a blue collar town in southeast Wisconsin. After joining the conservative Church of Christ at age 18, he began a preaching career that lasted from 1991 to about 1994. A few years later he went through a divorce that led to his discovery of Christian hypocrisy. “This hypocrisy opened my eyes,” he says. “I educated myself about philosophy, evolution, and other sciences. Eventually I became agnostic. At the same time, American politics was becoming more conservative. The right-wing rhetoric in the name of Jesus encouraged me to write, blog, protest, and expose conservative right-wing American Christians’ hypocritical propaganda. I hope to open your eyes to the magnitude of the Christian hypocrisy I have seen.”

MARCH 10 - Planned Parenthood’s Teen Success Program

Lupe Rodriguez, Director of Public Affairs, and

Katrina Slater, Teen Success Replication Specialist, will discuss Teen Success, a program of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte. Teen Success serves pregnant and parenting teens through weekly support group meetings and encourages teens to maintain their family size, complete their education, and develop future goals.

MARCH 17 - Erik Schmollinger on “The Glasshouse: A Case Study in Fiction”

Erik will read from his forthcoming novel, *The Glasshouse*, then lead a discussion of the book, and of fiction in general. Topics for consideration will include the many formats fiction now takes, the place of the novel in an increasingly busy society, and the relationship between novels and movies.

Erik was born in Albany, New York. He grew up in Puerto Rico, Berlin, New York and Chicago, graduated from the Wharton School of Business, and spent ten years in public relations. He left the business world to travel, and rediscovered his love of fiction-writing while backpacking in Morocco during a two-year, round-the-world trip. He currently runs a publishing business and a nonprofit organization in Rwanda.

MARCH 24 - Installation of New HCSV Board Members

The main event today will be the installation of the HC’s new Board of Directors. Audience members will be encouraged to ask questions of Board members. If time remains, Sandy Smith will lead a discussion of HC members’ definition of Humanism and other Humanist-related issues.

MARCH 31 - Law as Hero: How Law Will Support the Creation of a Conscious and Sustainable Global Economic System

Speaker John Montgomery is an entrepreneur, executive coach, corporate attorney, and author of *Great from the Start*, a step-by-step guide to building a successful conscious corporation. John is the founder of the law firm Montgomery & Hansen. He is also the founder of Startworks, a Silicon Valley-based business that develops start-ups to thrive in an interdependent global economy. He was also a co-chair of the legal working group behind California’s new benefit corporation legislation.

FORUM INFORMATION

Palo Alto High School – Student Center
50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto
Sundays 11 a.m.-12:15p.m. Free and open to the public. Lunch 12:15-2 p.m.; a donation of \$10 requested.



Interim Editor

Sandy Smith

Production

Hilton Brown, Helen Athey, Marian
Sanders, Carl Angotti

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor may be submitted to
infohcsv@yahoo.com. The length of your
submission should not exceed 100 words
and may be edited for clarity.

Board of Directors

Arthur Jackson, President
Martin Squibbs, Vice President
Helen Athey, Recorder
Marie Stephens, Treasurer
Hilton Brown
Beverly Crowell
Andrea Dorey
Peng Zhang

To contact the Board

e-mail Arthur@arthurmjackson.com

Disclaimer

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

HELP

Do you need some help?

· For confidential assistance contact Arthur
Jackson at Arthur@arthurmjackson.com or call
408-923-3774.

· If you need to talk to someone about a
problem you're having, call Arthur
Jackson at 408-923-3774.

· If you need some other kind of help (for
example, a ride to a doctor's appointment, some
groceries brought by, a recommendation for a
lawyer), email 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), or contact Sena Havasy at
senahav@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events Fun Group Outing

A Visit to the Campbell Historical Museum - March 16, 2013

Located in the City's first Fire House, the Campbell Historical Museum
offers artifacts and memorabilia that help us interpret and recall the
vanishing world of Santa Clara's past.

What: A Visit to the Campbell Historical Museum

Where: 51 North Central Ave., Campbell 95008. Meet at the main entrance.

When: Saturday, March 16, 2013 at Noon.

Cost: Adults, seniors, and youth (7-17) = \$2.00 each; Under 7 years = free

For more information, visit

<http://www.ci.campbell.ca.us/museum/history.htm> or call (408) 866-2119.

Email hcfungroup@yahoo.com to join the Fun Group mailing list.

Welcoming Committee

We schedule small monthly get-acquainted gatherings in private homes, assist
with all holidays, greet visitors, and keep ourselves informed about goings-on in
the Community. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

If you are interested in attending, hosting a Coffee & Dessert, or being on the
Welcoming Committee, please contact Dianne Jacobsen, Committee Chair,
diannej24@yahoo.com or Sena Havasy, senahav@gmail.com, or any one of us at
Forum on Sunday.

Humanist Community Hiking Group

Watch the website for information about a March hike.

Humanist Community Board of Directors Election

The Board election will take place February 24, too late for the results to be
printed in the March newsletter. **Paul Gilbert** and **Harriane Mills** are the
nominees for the two openings on the Board. Paul is very active in the
secular community and, at one time, was Executive Director of HCSV.
Harriane, in addition to being a parent in the HCSV Family Group, is the
author of *A Mind of My Own: memoir of recovery from Aphasia*, and a counselor
at the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology at Palo Alto University.
Current board members **Arthur Jackson**, **Andrea Dorey**, and **Marie
Stephens** are running again. Beverly Crowell, who has contributed much
time and talent to the Community throughout her years on the Board, is
retiring. Current Board members who are not up for re-election and will
continue to serve are: **Helen Athey**, **Hilton Brown**, **Martin Squibbs**, and
Peng Zhang.

The Family Program

The HC Family Program is designed for children ages 4 to 13 in freethinking humanist families. The program is supervised by the parents. Participants involve themselves in science, art, and drama projects, reflecting the ideas and goals of the families and community. At the end of each program meeting, they join the community for lunch when the program is on site.

Science Resource Building, Room 1732
Palo Alto High School
50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto
Most Sundays 10:30 a.m.-12 noon.

Check at humanists.com for December dates.

Humanist Annual Installation Dinner

The Humanist Annual Installation Dinner in honor of the new Board elected February 24th will be Tuesday, March 19th at 6:30. The site is a private room at the Pro Bono restaurant in Palo Alto, site of last year's memorable event. Reservations may be made at the Forum on Sunday or by contacting Sena Havasy at senahav@gmail.com. The \$29 cost is payable beforehand.

Pro Bono restaurant, Palo Alto
Tuesday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.

Seating is limited, so please reserve your place!

The Sharing Circle

Palo Alto High School Student Center, Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
One of several groups that meet prior to the Forum each Sunday where attendees may share any personal feelings or experiences they wish, in an environment of trust and confidentiality.

Free Thought Discussion

Brown Home, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Discussion of recent news or a selected book. For information, check www.humanists.org.

Academic Video

Brown Home, Thursdays, 8:00 p.m.
View an academic video followed by discussion. For information, check www.humanists.org.

Clinic Defense

Planned Parenthood, 4th Saturday of the Month.
1691 The Alameda, San Jose 8:00 a.m. For information, contact Alex Havasy at havasy@aol.com.

Women's Coffee

Ten o'clock on the fourth Saturday, March 23rd, Dinah's Poolside again, as usual. We will discuss a topic.

UU Humanist Roots Potluck Dinner and Discussion

Buddhism and its humanist aspects, presented by Andrew MacKay.

Andrew will talk about how Buddhism facilitates personal transformation to salvage ourselves and to be more ethical, and our interconnected world, etc. We will also learn, among ourselves, what we've learned and how we've changed from Buddhist teachings.

Our meetings usually have 15 people. For the potluck, please bring a dish

of your choice: salad, vegetarian, dish with meat, or dessert. We usually meet on the first Saturday of every month.

When: Saturday, March 2nd at 6 pm (presentation at 7).

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

Direction to UUCPA: <http://uucpa.org/main/location.html>

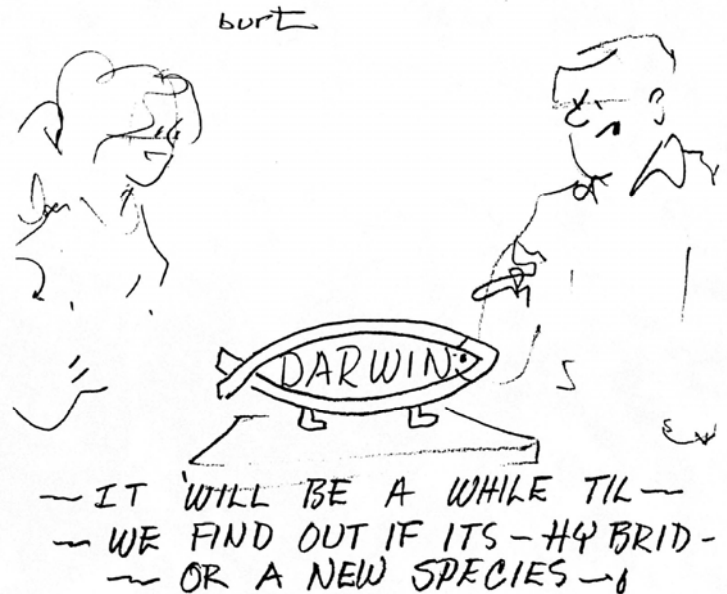
More: <http://www.humanists.org/blog/associated-organizations/>

Bay Area Russell Society (BARS)

Join us to continue with our new book by Russell entitled The Conquest of Happiness. According to the Atlantic Monthly, this small volume, first published in 1930, offers the reader "a primer of self-regeneration." We hope that our discussions of these writings will prove informative, interesting and perhaps life-changing in making us happier than before.

More: www.meetup.com/philosophy-219

Burt Dupree



Burt Dupree, a long time member, has died at the local VA Hospital where he was a resident for many years. We remember him for his clever cartoons, widely published, comments dashed off at any gathering. He also sculpted, painted, took prize winning photographs and was a superb raconteur. Born in Texas, he worked in the oil fields becoming part owner of a small plane at 18. After majoring in design engineering he joined the Army Corps of Engineers and represented the US in the Geodesic Survey of the Western Hemisphere. In Vietnam he served as Aviation Liaison to the 25th Division ARVN. After traumatic years in Vietnam he went on to fly for Northwest Airlines for 27 years. One of his eleven grandchildren gives an added perspective. "I love to be with Grandpa. His face looks like a 10 year old, but he is old. He has blue eyes. He is a very good pilot. He teaches me fun things and I love him." He is survived by his wife Sabra Dupree and many children and grandchildren.

MARCH 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 6:00 p.m. UU Roots
3 10:30 a.m. Family Program 11:00 a.m. Forum	4	5	6 7:30 p.m. Free Thought Discussion	7 8:00 p.m. Academic Video	8	9
10 10:30 a.m. Family Program 11:00 a.m. Forum	11	12	13 7:30 p.m. Free Thought Discussion	14 3:00 Welcoming Committee 8:00 p.m. Academic Video	15	16 12:00 Fun Group 6:00 p.m. Potluck
17 10:30 a.m. Family Program 11:00 a.m. Forum	18	19 6:30 p.m. Installation Dinner	20 7:30 p.m. Free Thought Discussion	21 8:00 p.m. Academic Video	22	23 10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee
24 10:30 a.m. Family Program 11:00 a.m. Forum	25 7:30 Board meeting	26	27 7:30 p.m. Free Thought Discussion	28 8:00 p.m. Academic Video	29	30
31 10:30 a.m. Family Program 11:00 a.m. Forum	April 1 (really)					

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

