

# The Newsletter of the Humanist Community



Our Values - Freedom, compassion, fairness, and scientific knowledge. **in Silicon Valley**

Our Vision - A human population leading ethical and personally fulfilling lives that contribute to the good of humanity.

Our Mission - To support the social and intellectual needs of our members and to live by our values and vision.

Volume 20 Issue 4

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

April 2014

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Spring is a Perpetual Astonishment

## April Forums

### April 6 What is Occupy Now?

In September 2011, the Occupy Wall Street encampment captured the public's attention. Within months, however, it faded from the mainstream media, and many think the movement has died. In this presentation, Derek Tennant will discuss some of the ways the Occupy movement continues to bring change to our communities, including Strike Debt and Occupy Sandy. He will also lead the audience in an "Occupy Experience."

Derek Tennant is the former Facilitator of several General Assemblies held by Occupy San Jose in 2011 and 2012.

### April 13 Secular Activism

The number of non-believers is increasing rapidly. Like all social movements, the laws that represent us lag behind our wishes. However, that is now set to change rapidly as well. Tom Manger will present an update about secular activism in California and nationwide.

Mr. Manger is the Legislative Chair for the Secular Coalition for California (<http://states.secular.org/states/california>), and Chair of the Volunteer Management Committee for SecularityUSA (<http://www.secularityusa.org>).

### April 20 The California DISCLOSE Act (S.B. 52)

Laurel McClure, a California Clean Money Campaign volunteer, will discuss the California DISCLOSE Act (S.B. 52), which would require political ads for local and state candidates, and state propositions, to identify very clearly the people, corporations, unions, and/or other organizations that contributed the most money for the political ad. S.B. 52 must be approved by a 2/3 majority in the State Assembly this summer (and then signed by Gov. Brown). Please come hear about this very important bill, and learn how you can help. (See <http://www.caclean.org/>)

### April 27 The Bay Area linkAges TimeBank

The Innovation Center of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF) offers a community-based program called linkAges to address the social and psychological factors that impact health and support aging in our community. A new component of the linkAges program is the Bay Area linkAges TimeBank a free, community-based service exchange network. LinkAges TimeBank members, including older adults and family caregivers, can use the TimeBank to meet daily needs, pursue interests, and get to know people in their communities.

Vandana Pant is Senior Director, Strategic Initiatives, and Christina Araiza is the Community Engagement Manager at Palo Alto Medical Foundation.

### FORUM INFORMATION

Palo Alto High School Student Center, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto 94301

Sundays 11 AM-12:15 PM - Free and open to the public

Lunch 12:15-2 PM. - A donation of \$12 is requested.

## Humanist Community serving Silicon Valley

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### Editor

Alex Havasy

### Production

Hilton Brown, Helen Athey, Carl Angotti, Sena Havasy, Brian Davis, Burt Liebert  
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### Letters to the Editor

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

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### To contact the Board

email [Arthur@arthurmjackson.com](mailto:Arthur@arthurmjackson.com)

### Disclaimer:

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

### Visit our Facebook:

Humanist Community in Silicon Valley. We welcome people to post ideas and information of interest to members of the Humanist Community.

## HELP

Do you need some help?

· For confidential assistance contact Arthur Jackson at [Arthur@arthurmjackson.com](mailto:Arthur@arthurmjackson.com) or call 408-620-4278.

· If you need to talk to someone about a problem, call Arthur Jackson at 408-620-4278.

· 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@yahoo.com](mailto:hchelp@yahoo.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 reach them through Sena Havasy at [senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com).



## Annual Installation Dinner Awards



Awards were presented at the Annual Installation Dinner in March.

Martin Squibbs (left) was voted Humanist of the Year for 2013 for his service as Vice President and for his ability and readiness to step in and make things happen behind the scenes.

Dianne Jacobsen received a Lifetime Achievement Award for a life of service to humanity.

Other awards given were:

Alex Havasy

Andrea Dorey

Ann Hardy

Arthur Jackson

Bill Rausch

Burt&Margie Liebert

Carl Angotti

Helen Athey

Hilton Brown

Laura Mappin

Sandy Smith

Sena Havasy

for the Newsletter

for Our Holiday Tree in the Park

for 2013 Webmaster

for Keeping All the Balls in the Air

for Leading Monthly Hikes

for Art, Literature & Social Action

for Creating Master Database

for Talented Scribe as Board Recorder

for Hosting at Humanist House

for Online Media

for the Sunshine Committee

for Sharing Her Love of Beauty

## Camp Quest

Sign-ups have begun for Camp Quest West in Northern California.

Camp Quest is designed for children, ages 8-17, from non-religious families. It blends world-class science, critical thinking, and interactive activities with a traditional all-American outdoor camp experience. It's the scientific method with campfires and s'mores. The sessions are July 6 through July 12.

To donate to Camp Quest or to register, go to [west.campquest.org/](http://west.campquest.org/)

## Progress Report on Instove

In April of 2013 Fred Colgan of Institutional Stove Solutions (InStove) spoke at our Sunday Forum about a safe, easy to operate, portable cook stove high in fuel efficiency, and low in emissions that also sterilizes water and, with an available autoclave, can sterilize medical equipment. The stove is designed for use in refugee camps, schools, orphanages, and clinics in the developing world.

Humanist Charities, a program of the American Humanist Association, is providing support to bring these stoves to people around the world.

## Calendar of Events

### The Sharing Circle

Meets prior to the Forum each Sunday. Attendees may share personal feelings or experiences in an environment of trust and confidentiality.

**Where:** Palo Alto High School Student Center

**When:** Sundays, 10:30 AM

## The Family Program

The HC Family Program is designed for children ages 4 to 13 in freethinking humanist families. The parents supervise the program. 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.

**Where:** Science Resource Building of Palo Alto High School, Room 1732

**When:** most Sundays, 10:30 AM to 12 noon, call 650-257-0478 to confirm the upcoming meeting

## Welcoming Committee Chair Needed! Our Chair, Dianne Jacobsen, has left the area.

### We need volunteers!

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.

If you are interested in attending, hosting a Coffee & Dessert, or joining the Welcoming Committee, please contact Sena Havasy ([senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com)) or 407-462-2156.

## 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.

If you are interested, please contact Sena Havasy ([senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com)) or 408-462-2156.

Sena Havasy, Committee Chair

## History Book Group

We are reading *Daily Life in Medieval Times* by Frances Gies and Joseph Gies. It is a fully-illustrated edition of the three classic and popular books of history and anthropology; *Life in a Medieval Castle*, *Life in a Medieval City* and *Life in a Medieval Village*. Contact Sena Havasy at [senahav@gmail.com](mailto:senahav@gmail.com) for more information.

**Where:** Kimm's Flowers: 201 W. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale

**When:** Wednesday, April 9, 2:30 PM

## Free Thought Discussion

Discussion of recent news or a book. For more information check [www.humanists.org/blog/free-thought-discussion/](http://www.humanists.org/blog/free-thought-discussion/).

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown

**When:** Wednesday, 7:30 PM

## Academic Video

View an academic video, followed by discussion. For more information check [www.humanists.org/blog/academic-videos/](http://www.humanists.org/blog/academic-videos/).

**Where:** Home of Hilton Brown

**When:** Thursday, 8:00 PM

## Clinic Defense

Planned Parenthood, any Saturday of the month. 1691 the Alameda, San Jose; 8:00 AM. For information, contact Alex Havasy at [havasy@live.com](mailto:havasy@live.com).

## Fun Group

### Metamorphosis and Tasty Too!

Metamorphosis: Clothing & Identity is a retrospective of the San Francisco Bay Area Art-to-Wear movement that traces the evolution of the rich history and legacy of this genre from its inception in the 1960s to the current group of second generation designers that are creating their own one-of-a-kind, handmade, artful garments. The exhibition will also present a "metamorphosis" of clothes that transcends functional attire and becomes sculptural manifestations of symbolic ideas that challenge our notion of clothing and identity.

Tasty, too! offers a whimsical exploration into the intersection of some of our most basic needs—food, warmth, community—showcasing food-inspired quilts and textiles from a private collection, contemporary artists, and the community.

A complementary exhibit displays small scale (16" x 16") food-related quilts created by artists responding to the Tasty! theme and challenge. Donated to the museum, these quilts are available for sale to raise money for the museum's programs.

**What:** Two Exhibits at the San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles

**Where:** 520 s. 1st St, San Jose, CA 95113

**When:** Saturday, April 19, 2014 at 10:00 AM

Meet at the main Entrance

**Cost:** general: \$8, seniors and students with ID: \$6.50,

Members and children 12 and under: Free

## HCSV Potluck

For the April Humanist Potluck contact Susan at [susanq99@gmail.com](mailto:susanq99@gmail.com) or 408-926-4609 for directions. Please bring a dish of your choice.

**Where:** home of Susan Shalit and Roy Elder in San Jose.

**When:** Saturday, April 26 at 6:00 PM

## 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. Check the website below for the topic.

**Where:** Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto

Fireside Room, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto

**When:** Saturday, April 5 at 6 PM (presentation at 7)

Direction to UUCPA: [uucpa.org/main/location.html](http://uucpa.org/main/location.html)

### Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us on Tuesday, April 15, 7:00 PM at the Thai Pepper at 103 E Fremont in Sunnyvale to discuss the second essay in *Why I Am Not a Christian*, "Has Religion Made Useful Contributions to Civilization?"

For details see: [www.meetup.com/philosophy-219](http://www.meetup.com/philosophy-219)

### Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley

For details see: [www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org](http://www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org)

For more information on groups of interest to Humanists go to: [www.humanists.org/blog/associated-rganizations/](http://www.humanists.org/blog/associated-rganizations/)



# APRIL 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	3 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	4	5
6 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Group <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	7	8	9 <u>2:30 PM</u> History Book Group <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	10 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	11	12
13 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Group <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	14 <u>7:30 PM</u> Board meeting	15	16 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	17 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	18	19 <u>10:00 AM</u> Fun Group
20 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Group <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	21	22	23 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	24 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	25	26 <u>6:00 PM</u> HCSV Potluck
27 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Group <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum	28	29	30 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion			

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