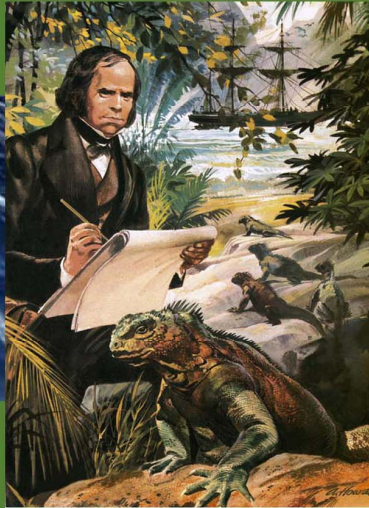


The Newsletter of the
Humanist Community
 in Silicon Valley

Our values - freedom, fairness and compassion
 health and happiness, science and reason to acquire and apply knowledge.



Charles Darwin

1809 - 1882

March

March 6: The Impact of Factory Farming on Animals, Poor People, and the Planet

Factory farming has devastating impact, not only on the animals but also on the factory and slaughterhouse workers, many of whom are undocumented, the planet, and public health. We'll look at the animal agriculture industry and its repercussions, and discuss how we can make a difference. Amy Halpern-Laff earned her JD at Stanford Law School, and is a full-time advocate and mentor, apportioning her time among animal rights, prison reform, poverty reduction, and education equity. She gives presentations for the Factory Farm Awareness Coalition (ffcoalition.org).

March 13: The New American Dream

The new American dream will be all about caring, productive, educational, participatory, and enjoyable activities, not about individual net worth. U.S. economic, political, and social institutions need to be re-structured to allow universal access to these humane activities. Our individual and institutional values should incorporate democracy, equality, cooperation, kindness, and sustainability. Unlike corporate structures, these values allow personal and social realization. Richard Hobbs is the Executive Director of the local human rights non-profit Human Agenda, the moderator of Move To Amend and the Santa Clara County Cooperative Collaborative, and a member of two local cooperatives in formation.

March 20: Evolutionary Psychology

When our ancestors lived in nomadic hunter-gatherer tribes, they evolved with emotional instincts for loyalty to their tribe and aggression toward other tribes. Later, when humans settled into large communities, some new behaviors were required, and religion was an evolutionary adaptation for this new social environment. These groupish instincts are with us still and are contributing to our religious and political polarization. Humanist Community member Ron Gerber will discuss the writers Nicholas Wade's and Jonathan Haidt's review of our evolutionary history and suggestions for resolving our current predicament.

March 27: Prejudice Against Muslim-Americans

Zahra Billoo is the Executive Director for the Council on American-Islamic Relations – San Francisco Bay Area (CAIR-SFBA) chapter. She spoke to us about Islamophobia in 2013. With the present political climate, the prejudice and stereotyping Muslims face has worsened. She will present an update to the challenges facing American Muslims and other minorities, and to what we can do to improve the situation.

Zahra is a 2010 recipient of the San Francisco Minority Bar Coalition's Unity Award and a 2011 recipient of the South Asian Bar Association of Northern California's Public Interest Attorney of the Year Award.

FORUM INFORMATION

Humanist House 1180 Coleman Avenue, San Jose 95110,
 Sundays 11 AM-12:30 PM – Free and open to the public
 Lunch 12:30-2 PM. - A donation of \$10 is requested,
 Afternoon program at 1:30 PM

*Humanist Community
serving Silicon Valley*

(HCSV)

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Editor

Alex Havasy

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor may be submitted to havasy@live.com with "Letter to Editor" in the subject line. The length should not exceed 100 words and may be edited for clarity.

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Paul Gilbert, Vice President
Greg Alexander, Treasurer
Ron Gerber
Will Weyer

To contact the Board

emailsvhumanists@gmail.com

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

Visit Us on Facebook:

Humanist Community in Silicon Valley.

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

Do you need help?

·For confidential assistance contact Arthur Jackson at Arthur@arthurmjackson.com or call 774-757-4486.

·If you need some other kind of help (for example, a ride to a doctor's appointment, some groceries delivered, 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). You can reach them through Sena Havasy at senahav@gmail.com.

Public Transport to Humanist House

From the Caltrain - Santa Clara Station on El Camino Real, catch the #10 bus toward Metro LRT and get off at Coleman and Brokaw (1st stop), cross Coleman, and walk about a block and a half to 1180 Coleman Ave.

It's essentially about saying yes to life, to the passions of life, to living in the moment. This – this life – is all we know right now. So love it. Love the opportunities, love the rain, the beauty, the people. Love everything around you.

- William Shatner discussing "Shatner's World"



Our election for new Board Members was held at our weekly Forum on Sunday, March 20. William Weyer and Ronald Gerber were elected by acclamation. We are fortunate to have the energy and dedication of these two talented men whose contributions to our board have been ongoing for many months. Ron has taken over the Power Point Presentation that runs before the Forum on Sundays which lists the events of the secular groups in the area and Will will be hosting our Facebook page. They both contribute technical skills so important today.

The Winter Gathering of the Tribes on Sat., February 13th was a spectacular success and we look forward to welcoming our sister secular groups again at a Summer Gathering in August. It easily fulfilled our goals of finding out about each other, strengthening our secular community and enjoying each other's company. Each group had a table and sign-up sheets which recorded their own members in attendance and people interested in hearing more about their group.

We expect soon to have a movie (DVDs) group monthly at Humanist House, co-hosting with the Silicon Valley Skeptics. Their young president, Hunter Perrin, is a remarkable person, an engineer at Google and a person of great charm and enthusiasm whose involvement with Humanist House is a very welcome addition.

Three tall bookcases have been added to our library corner by Hilton Brown, fulfilling a long time goal of having a Humanist library available to all. We are waiting until they are securely fastened to the walls to fill them and are requesting donations of appropriate books. Duplicate books will be added to our donation table.

Yours for a bright Humanist future!

Sena Havasy, Membership Chair

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

MAY 26-29



CHICAGO, IL

2016 75TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE #ahacon16

75 Years of Humanism: Chicago 2016

The American Humanist Association will host its 75th annual conference at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, on May 26 through 29, 2016.

Go to conference.americanhumanist.org to register and for details on speakers, awardees, and events.

Calendar of Events

The Family Program

The HCSV Family Program meets Sunday mornings.

Where: Location varies; call 650-247-0478 for details.

When: most Sundays, 10:30 AM to 12 noon.

The Sharing Circle

At 10:30, before the Forum each Sunday, attendees meet to share personal feelings or experiences in an environment of trust and confidentiality.

After the Sunday Forum

Activities are planned for each Sunday afternoon: 1st Sunday is Video Day, 2nd Sunday is Game Day, 3rd Sunday is Social Action Day, 4th Sunday we'll discuss issues with the Humanist Community. Activity for 5th Sunday to be determined.

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

When: 1:30 PM, after the Forum

Clinic Defense

Planned Parenthood, Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1691 the Alameda, San Jose. Planned Parenthood provides volunteer training. For information, contact Alex Havasy at havasy@live.com.

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. Emi Hester's Sunshine Committee sends paper cards.

The committee is composed of those members of the potluck circle who are willing to serve. Sena Havasy chair.

Free Thought Discussion

We discuss recent news on the first Wednesday of the month, our present book other weeks. Our discussions range far from the topic, so don't worry about not being up to date on the book or the news. For information on the present book, future books considered, and reading schedule go to: www.humanists.org/calendar/#/freethought-discussion. For more information, contact Hilton at: brownofmtview@aol.com.

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

When: Wednesdays, 7:30 PM

Academic Video

The Academic Video Group watches videos from www.thegreatcourses.com, followed by discussion. Go to: www.humanists.org/calendar/#/academic-videos for details of our present video. For details about the group contact Hilton at: brownofmtview@aol.com or 650-941-3146.

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

When: Thursdays, 8:00 PM

Humanist Community Hiking Group

Fran and Jim Naylor are coordinating hikes for the Humanist Community. If you enjoy hiking with fellow Humanists there is a signup sheet on the greeter's table at the forum or contact the Naylor's at 408-246-3790 or zaylors@sbcglobal.net.

LifeRing Addiction Recovery

"LifeRing is a non-faith-based, worldwide network of people living in recovery from addiction to alcohol or to other, non-medically indicated drugs. For more information about LifeRing go to their web site, lifering.org.

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

When: Every Tuesday, 7:30 PM

History Book Group

We will be reading about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

For information contact Sena at senahav@gmail.com or 408-739-5638.

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

When: 2nd Wednesday, March 9, 2:30 PM

Saint Patrick's Day Humanist Potluck

There will be an Irish Heritage potluck at the home of Pamela Erwin, our theme party go-to hostess. For information contact her at leddenpamela@yahoo.com or 408-887-6632.

Where: The home of Pamela Erwin in San Jose

When: 6:00 PM, Saturday, March 19th, 2016.

Fun Group

Guided Tour of Martial Cottle Park

Established by Edward Cottle in 1864 and continually maintained and farmed by his descendants until 2014, this land remained in agricultural production under one family for 150 years. Martial Cottle Park now celebrates how our shared agricultural heritage and the tradition of farming and sharing food continues to shape our landscape, people and history.

For more information you can call 408-535-4060 or visit www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/parkfinder/Pages/martialcottle.aspx.

Where: Martial Cottle Park, 5283 Snell Avenue, San Jose, CA 95136.

When: Saturday, March 12, 1:00PM.

Cost: Free. Parking admission fee: \$6.00.

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. Barbara Symons will host the discussion on "Longevity Myth Busters."

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

Directions at uucpa.org/main/location.html

When: Saturday, March 5 at 6 PM (discussion at 7)

Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us to discuss *Demonology and Medicine*, chapter IV of *Religion and Science* by Bertrand Russell. For further details see: www.meetup.com/philosophy-219.

Where: Thai Pepper, 103 E Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale

When: Tuesday, March 1, 7:00 PM

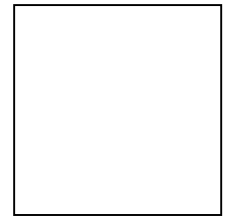
Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley

For details see: www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org.

For more information on groups of interest to Humanists go to: www.humanists.org/index/#/associated-organizations/.





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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MARCH 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	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 Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> Video	7	8 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	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 <u>1:00 PM</u> Fun Group 
13 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> Games	14 <u>7:30 PM</u> Board meeting	15 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	16 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	17 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	18	19 <u>6:00 PM</u> St Patrick's Day Humanist Potluck 
20 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> Social Action	21	22 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	23 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	24 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video	25	26
27 <u>10:30 AM</u> Family Program <u>10:30 AM</u> Sharing Circle <u>11:00 AM</u> Forum <u>1:30 PM</u> HCSV	28	29 <u>7:30 PM</u> LifeRing Sobriety Support	30 <u>7:30 PM</u> Free Thought Discussion	31 <u>8:00 PM</u> Academic Video		