

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.



Arthur Jackson
 Hilton Brown
 Paul Gilbert
 Carl Angotti

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION
75 YEARS
of Humanism
 Chicago Humanists Host Conference

Roy Speckhardt
 AHA Director

Appignani Legal Defense Center
 Humanist Charities
 The Humanist Institute
 Feminist Caucus
 The Humanist Society
 Center for Freethought Equality
 The Humanist Hour
 LGBTQ Humanist Council
 The Kochhor Education Center

Appignani HUMANIST LEGAL CENTER
 CENTER for FREETHOUGHT EQUALITY
 LGBTQ

June

June 5: The 2016 AHA Annual Conference

Members who attended the 2016 American Humanist Association Annual Conference (conference.americanhumanist.org/chicago/) in Chicago will report on their experiences and impressions there, and will discuss their own views on the future of Humanism (with, of course, lots of questions and comments from the audience).

June 12: Long Journey to Stonewall: An Illustrated History of LGBTQ America

Tremendous gains are being made in revealing the long, rich, colorful, heartbreaking, and inspiring history of LGBTQ people in the United States. Too often, however, that history is reduced to the Stonewall Riots of 1969 or – especially here in California – the life and martyrdom of Harvey Milk. This illustrated presentation highlights the documented presence of people acting on same-sex desires as early as the 1600s, actions surprisingly tolerated within their communities. We'll follow the transformation of women's "romantic friendships" into "Boston Marriages," the roles of President Theodore Roosevelt, the U.S. military, and McCarthyism in promoting homophobia. The presentation concludes with the pre-Stonewall movements to eradicate internalized homophobia, and to remove the medical, legal, and social stigmas attached to same-sex love. Prof. Nancy C. Unger is a Professor of History at Santa Clara University, where her regular course offerings include "Lesbians and Gay Men in U.S. History."

FORUM INFORMATION

Humanist House 1180 Coleman Avenue, San Jose 95110,
 Sundays 11 AM-12:15 PM – Free and open to the public.
 Lunch 12:30-2 PM. - A donation of \$10 is requested.

June 19: Skepticism and Atheism

Yau-Man Chan is a long time skeptic and atheist. After becoming formally involved with the Skeptic Movement he learned that many skeptics are religious believers and many atheists are not skeptics. He was surprised to meet atheists who subscribe to all sorts of pseudoscience and conspiracy theories. In this talk he will try to engage fellow non-believers to explore why there is not more of an overlap. Why aren't skeptics naturally also atheists and why do some atheists manage to hold on to many superstitious and non-reality based ideas when they have rejected religion.

June 26: "Humanist Missionaries" in Uganda

Brighter Brains Institute (BBI, brighterbrains.org/) is a SF Bay nonprofit that promotes humanist principles in western Uganda. BBI built BiZoHa – "the world's first atheist orphanage"; it recently "converted" four schools in the Ruwenzori Mountains to secular humanist principles, and it publishes African humanist writers like Leo Igwe and Bwambale Robert Musubaho. It also established 12 clinics in the region to combat malaria, cholera, HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

Hank Pellissier is a writer for GreatSchools.org and program director of BBI. Previously he wrote for NYTimes.com and Salon.com, and authored *Brighter Brains: 225 ways to elevate or injure IQ*. He produced the world's first Atheist Film Festival (2009, San Francisco) and a 2010 Atheist Calendar.

*Humanist Community
serving Silicon Valley*

(HCSV)

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www.humanists.org

Editor

Alex Havasy

Production

Carl Angotti, Helen Athey, Hilton Brown, Brian Davis, Sena Havasy, Burt Liebert
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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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Ron Gerber

To contact the Board

email svhumanists@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 email 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.



Humanist House News

To Humanist Community Members and Well Wishers Everywhere-

The second Freethinkers Blood Drive held at Humanist House was co-sponsored by the Atheist Community of San Jose and The Humanist Community in Silicon Valley. Eighteen public spirited people arrived on Saturday, May 23rd at 1080 Coleman Ave. in San Jose. People seemed to appreciate the friendly, caring atmosphere. The certificate for a pint of Baskin Robbins ice cream that we each received was an appreciated bonus!

In addition to the Blood Drive the Downtown Streets Team used the Conference Room to assemble 100 kits for the homeless comprising under things (street gold!) and small sizes of shampoo and other products. This was a first for us and we hope they will continue to use Humanist House for their activities.

Our newest feature event is the co-sponsoring with the Skeptics of Silicon Valley of Movies for Skeptics. Last month we showed the cult classic, 'Life of Brian' from the creators of Saturday Night Live, with its beyond ironic rendition of 'Look on the Bright Side'. Showing on the 2nd Wednesdays at 7:00 here at Humanist House.

For further information and to suggest future titles contact Hunter Perrin of the Skeptics at HunterPerrin@hkperrin.com. Please note if it is in the public domain or source to contact for permission if it is known to you.

Rumour has it that two outstanding members have volunteered to serve on our Board of Directors. They both have regularly attended Board meetings and served on committees for many years although resisting joining because of their many duties. Their expertise and good energy there would be very welcome to us all.

HUMANIST HOUSE, 'A PLACE FOR ALL OF US', is available for sharing with secular or likeminded group events, meetings and classes at no charge until further notice, requiring only that you mention Humanist House in your announcements and advertising.

Our newsletter can now be reached directly [hcsv-newsletter-2016-06.pdf](#) (change the year and month to the month desired, IE: 2016-06 for June)

Yours for a Bright Humanist Future!
Sena Havasy- Membership Chair

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.



Hiram Pierce

1931 – 2016

With his wife, Arden, we mourn the death of Hiram Pierce, a beloved and longtime member. A Square Dance Memorial will be held in July. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Humanist Community are suggested.

Calendar of Events

Movie Night for Skeptics

The Humanist Community and the Silicon Valley Skeptics are co-sponsoring a movie night for skeptics. Restrained kibitzing encouraged. Always 2nd Wed. Contact Hunter Perrin at hunterperrin@hkperrin.com for more information

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

When: Wednesday, June 8, 7:00PM

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/blog/free-thought-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/blog/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 our new hiking coordinators. If you enjoy hiking with fellow Humanists, there is a signup sheet on the greeter's table at the Forum or contact the Naylors at 408-246-3790 or zaylors@sbcglobal.net.

History Book Group

We will be reading *Lucy's Child: The Discovery of a Human Ancestor* by Donald C. Johanson and James Sheeve.

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

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

When: 2nd Wednesday, June 8, 2:30 PM

An Exhibition of Vintage Pinball Machines

Bing! Ping! Flip! Thud!

Join us as we visit the Museum of American Heritage and explore the bright and colorful world of pinball, tracing the development and history of the game from its early beginnings during the 1700s, to the current revival it is experiencing today.

Of course, no pinball exhibit is complete without actual games to play--and MOAH has seven vintage machines to choose from, including playable games from the 1930s and even a completely transparent machine that offers 360 degree views of its inner mechanisms!

Visit www.moah.org or call (650) 321-1004 for more information.

Where: Museum of American Heritage,

351 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301

When: Saturday, June 4, 11:00 AM

Cost: Free.

Humanist Potluck

The monthly Humanist Potluck for May will be in beautiful Pacifica at the hillside home of Marie Stephens. RSVP appreciated. For details contact Marie at mlns1@att.net, 650-906-8144, or Sena at senahav@gmail.com, 408-739-5638. Please note that this is 1 hour earlier than usual.

Where: home of Marie Stephens in Pacifica.

When: June 18 Saturday at 5:00 PM.

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.

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 Escort

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.

Other Events of Interest to Humanists

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

Humanists at UUCPA Potluck and Discussion

Our meetings usually have 15 people. For the potluck, please bring a dish of your choice. Steve Greidinger will host the discussion on "Reality of Artificial Intelligence Now and Future."

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto,

Fireside Room, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto.

Directions at uucpa.org/main/location.html

When: Saturday, June 4 at 6 PM (discussion at 7)

Ethical Culture Society of Silicon Valley

For details see: www.ethicalsiliconvalley.org.

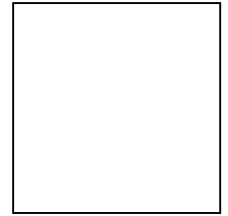
Bay Area Russell Set (BARS)

Join us to discuss *Religion & Science* Chapter VI – "Determinism", by Bertrand Russell. For further details see: www.meetup.com/philosophy-219.

Where: Thai Pepper, 103 E Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale




When: Tuesday, June 21, 7:00 PM

Humanist Community
 1180 Coleman Avenue
 San Jose, CA 95110



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JUNE 2016

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