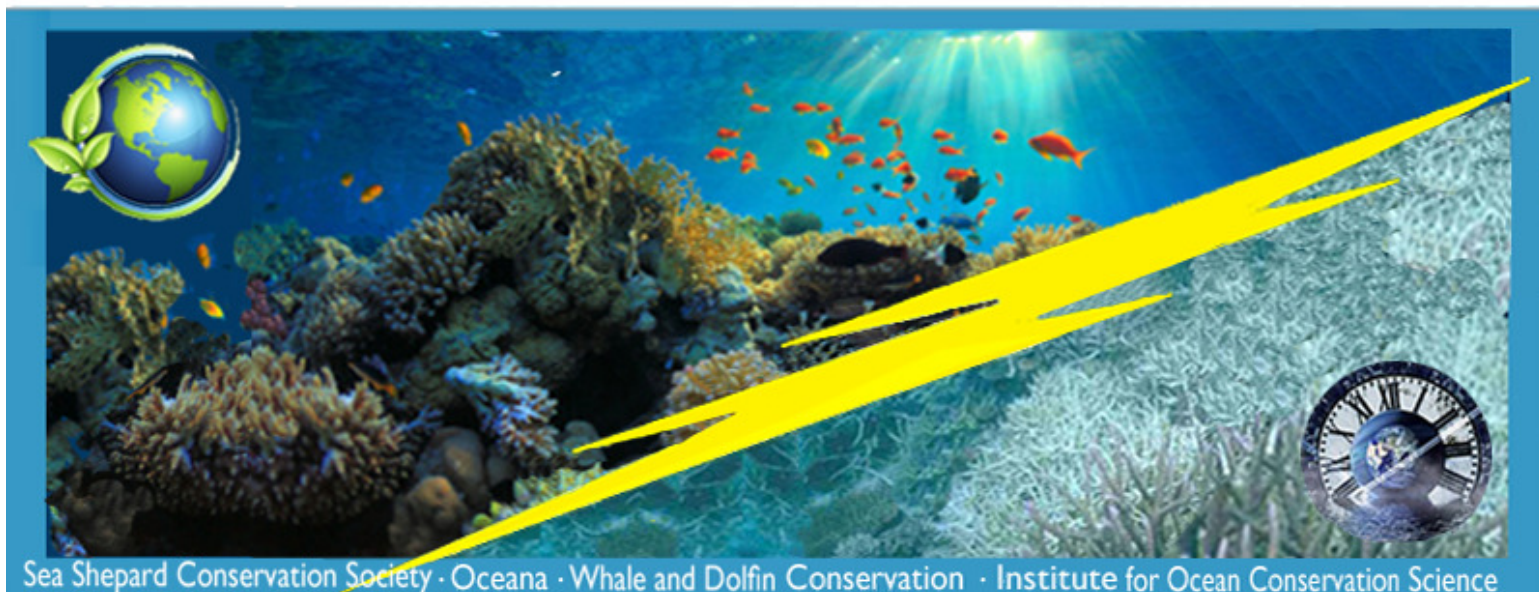


HUMANIST COMMUNITY IN SILICON VALLEY



May Forums

May 7: Bias, Use of Force, and the Criminal Justice System

Christopher Boscia will provide a framework to evaluate the lawfulness of police shootings of civilians. Topics to be covered include how criminal charges are instituted, the definition of homicide and its defenses, and how cognitive bias affects the evaluation of officer involved shootings.

Christopher Boscia has been a Deputy District Attorney for seven years, prosecuting cases in Santa Clara County and Contra Costa County. Prior to working as a prosecutor, he was a staff member to the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice. The Commission examined the causes of wrongful convictions and evaluated the death penalty system in California.

May 14: From Goddess to God: Elimination of the Feminine Divine

Karen Garst will trace the female images and figurines of the Paleolithic through the Neolithic and examine the loss of the female deity in several cultures in the Middle East at about the same time in the Bronze Age. She will contrast the memes of the goddess with the memes of the sole male deity that develops into monotheism in Judaism and eventually Christianity and Islam, and finally, show the impact religion has on the rights of women in the United States compared to less religious countries.

Ms. Garst has a PhD from the University of Wisconsin and is former executive director of the Oregon State Bar, and the author of *Women Beyond Belief: Discovering Life without Religion*, a collection of essays from women who left religion. See her website www.faithlessfeminist.com.

May 21: Soaring Past 7 Billion: Population Challenges for a Crowded World

John Seager will show the connections between human population growth and social justice, environmental issues, and women's rights.

Mr. Seager is president and CEO of Population Connection (formerly Zero Population Growth) the preeminent progressive grassroots group for population education and advocacy. It focuses on achieving global population stabilization through universal awareness and access to voluntary family planning together with the full empowerment of women.

May 28: Goals of Veterans for Peace

Phillip Pflager will speak about the goal of members of Veterans for Peace to serve the cause of world peace and their pledge to use non-violent means to achieve these goals.

Mr. Pflager is currently contact for South Bay/Peninsula Chapter of Veterans for Peace; a community partner of the San Jose Peace and Justice Center. Mr. Pflager enlisted in the Air Force in 1961, was sent to Vietnam and Thailand in 1964 and was discharged late in 1965. He retired from an electronics career in 2008.

Forum Information

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

Lunch 12:30-1:30 PM – A donation of \$10 is requested

Humanist House – 1180 Coleman Ave, San Jose 95110

Humanist Community in Silicon Valley

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Debbie Allen

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Brian Davis, Sena Havasy, Burt Liebert
Cover composite by Sena Havasy

Our newsletter can be accessed online. Go to
www.humanists.org, and click on "Newsletters" in the
menu bar. Then, select the month and year of the desired
newsletter.

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Greg Alexander	Carl Angotti Pam Erwin
Alfred Jan	Susan Shalit Will Weyer

Contact the Board ed@humanists.org
Board meetings are held at Humanist House (see calendar
for time and date). Members of the Humanist Community
are welcome at 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 Help Group. For confidential
assistance contact Arthur Jackson at 408-923-3774 or
123arthurjackson@gmail.com.



HUMANIST HOUSE NEWS

On April 18th the Humanist Community in Silicon Valley held its Annual Appreciation Dinner. It is our opportunity to recognize the many contributions our members have made during the previous year.

Elected Humanists of the Year were Greg Alexander and Chris Vogdes for skills, energy and time during 2016. They received an engraved plaque. This award has been awarded 30 times over the years.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Alex Havasy for a life spent bettering the lives of others. This is the sixth year this has been awarded. For the first time we are purchasing a large plaque to which the name of each new 'Lifer' will be added annually. The names of the previous Lifetime Achievement Awardees will be inscribed with room for six more.

Among the other Certificates of Appreciation were the following:

Keeper of the Flame to Arthur Jackson for Inspiring Us for Many Years

Our Town Crier to Brian Davis for Maintaining our Meet-Up Page

Good Samaritan to Pam Erwin for Many Things Untold

Winged Messenger Emi Hester for sending Birthday and GetWell cards

Benevolent Hurricane Sena Havasy for Many Services to Membership

Innovative Thinker Jim Hunt for his book on Chromosomes
"23 How Humanity Came to Be"

Open Door to Hilton Brown for hosting Book, Video, and Board Events

White Knight to Paul Gilbert for answering the call to be our President

Goldmaster's Guild to Carl Angotti for Financial Oversight

We are fortunate to have them in our ranks and acclaim them and others too numerous to mention!

In addition we offer heartfelt thanks to the Seven Noble Houses who have hosted us in their homes.

And to those Nine Generous Souls who monthly provide the loaves and fishes.

The Humanist Community Thanks You!

Sena Havasy, Member Services

Special Thanks to the Following for Their Generosity

Contributing Members

Greg Alexander
Debbie Allen
Dana St. George and Gerry Gras
Laurel Renish
Robert Wasley
Elisa Wells

Supporting Members

W.L. and Corinne Bales
Pam Erwin
Fran and Jim Naylor
Richard Rowland
Jean-Claude Roy

Sandy Smith
Marie Stephens

President's Club

Hilton Brown

Ambassador's Club

Paul Gilbert
Arthur Jackson
Susan and Bob Kreske
Martin Squibbs
Robert and Lola Stephens

Life Members

Peter and Catherine Bishop

About the Cover

Our ocean is steadily degrading. Its coral reefs are being destroyed by increasing acidification of the ocean, Global Warming causes melting of the icecaps making life perhaps impossible, for polar bears, and other creatures who watch solid ice turn into watery expanses too wide to swim across. Low lying land disappears under the rising water turning its human and animal inhabitants into climate refugees. Sea birds are perishing on a diet compromised by metal and plastic.

There are many groups working on ocean preservation. Some of the most active at, in addition to those on the cover, are: Ocean Preservation Society, Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation, Union of Concerned Scientists, and World Resources International.

All over our nation people are banding together over concerns caused by the weakening or obliteration of hard won protections on which the health of our planet and ourselves depend. On April 25th thousands around the world joined a Climate March to declare that we will not stand quietly by.

Sena Havasy

Calendar of Events

Encyclopedia Podcastica

View the filming of Encyclopedia Podcastica, a podcast featuring skeptics Hunter Perrin and Matt Courtney, organizers of Silicon Valley Skeptics. The May 13 podcast will be about guns.

When: Saturday, May 13, 3:00 PM

Where: Studio, Santa Clara **Info:** On Meetup

Video Game Development

Join us and learn the Unity 3d game engine (unity3d.com), the premier cross platform game engine, or work on your own project.

When: Mondays, May 8 and 22, 7:00 PM

Where: Humanist House **Info:** On Meetup

Citizens' Climate Lobby

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

When: Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 PM

Where: Humanist House **Info:** On Meetup

History Book Group

We are reading *The Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik.

When: Wednesday, May 17, 2:30 PM

Where: Humanist House

Info: Sena Havasy, senahav@gmail.com or 408-739-5638

Computers, Bloody Computers. Hate'm or Love'm, Learn to Use them Better.

This workshop, taught by HCSV member Susan Shalit, will be designed to address your needs, your interests, and your skill level.

When: Every other Thursday, May 11, and 25, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Where: Humanist House **Info:** On Meetup

Movie Night for Skeptics ★

The Humanist Community and the Silicon Valley Skeptics invite you to watch *Jesus Camp*, a documentary about kids who attend a summer camp hoping to become the next Billy Graham.

When: 2nd Friday, May 12, 7:00 PM

Where: Humanist House **Info:** On Meetup

Fun Group

Milpitas Camera Club's Photography Exhibit ★

The Milpitas Camera Club's 14th Annual Photography Exhibit features some of the best work by its members. You can participate in a Community Choice Award and vote on your favorite photos.

When: Saturday, May 13, meet at entrance at 10:00 AM.

Where: Reading Court of Milpitas Library, 160 N Main St, Milpitas

Cost: Free

Info: www.milpitascamera.com or call 408-262-1171

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

Board Meeting

Meeting are open to all members of the Humanist Community.

When: 3rd Monday, May 15, 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Where: Humanist House

Membership and Volunteer Meeting

Calling current committee members and anyone willing to lend a hand to the Humanist Community.

When: Sunday, May 7, 1:15 PM, after Lunch

Where: Humanist House

Humanist Start of Summer Potluck & BBQ Party ★

Join us at our Start of Summer Party to celebrate our Humanist Community and share our Humanist House. Bring something to the grill, something to share and a lawn chair for outside. Party until 7:00.

All ages welcome - bring your kids. We have indoor and outdoor games.

We need setup help. We have animators, face painters, balloon artists.

When: Saturday, May 13, 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Where: Humanist House **Info:** On Meetup

RSVP: Please RSVP so we can estimate how many will attend.

Cost: A suggested minimum donation of \$10 would be graciously accepted to sustain Humanist House and its activities.

Start of Summer Potluck and BBQ Party
Rescheduled to June 10

Social Action Meeting

On May 21 we will gather to plan social action events.

When: Sunday, May 21, 1:30 PM (after lunch)

Where: Humanist House

Membership and Board Discussion

Members of the board and the community meet to discuss issues.

When: May 28, 1:15 PM (after lunch)

Where: Humanist House

Recovering from Religion

Learning how to live after questioning, doubting, and changing one's beliefs is a journey. Share your journey with others who are going through, or have successfully navigated, similar experiences. Everyone is welcome, and confidentiality is respected.

When: 4th Thursday, May 25, 7:00 PM

Where: Humanist House **Info:** On Meetup

Free Thought Discussion

Discuss recent news on the first Wednesday of the month, and the current book other Wednesdays. Discussions range far from the topic, so don't worry about not being up to date on the book or the news. Go to www.humanists.org/blog/free-thought-discussion for the present book, the reading schedule, and future books considered.

When: Wednesdays, 7:30 PM

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

Info: Hilton Brown, brownofmtview@aol.com or 650-941-3146

Academic Video

The Academic Video Group watches videos from *The Great Courses*, followed by discussion.

When: Thursdays, 8:00 PM

Where: Home of Hilton Brown in Mountain View

Info: Hilton Brown, brownofmtview@aol.com or 650-941-3146

Join Meetup for up to the minute event info

www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity

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Follow us on Twitter

twitter.com/HumanistCommSV

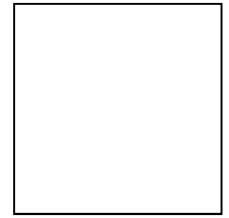
Visit our website

www.humanists.org/blog



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

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 May Day	2 7:30 PM LifeRing	3 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	4 National Day of Reason 8:00 PM Academic Video	5	6
7 11:00 AM Forum 12:30 PM Buffet Lunch 12:30 PM Membership and Volunteer Meeting	8 7:00 PM Video Game Development	9 7:00 PM Trivia 7:30 PM LifeRing	10 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	11 1:00 PM Computer Workshop 8:00 PM Academic Video	12 ★ 7:00 PM Skeptic Movie Night	13 3:00 PM Encyclopedia-Podcastica ★ 10:00 AM Fun Group
14 11:00 AM Forum 12:30 PM Buffet Lunch	15 7:30 PM Board meeting (open to members)	16 7:00 PM Climate Lobby 7:30 PM LifeRing	17 2:30 PM History Book Group 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	18 8:00 PM Academic Video	19	20
21 11:00 AM Forum 12:30 PM Buffet Lunch 1:30 PM Social Action Meeting	22 7:00 PM Video Game Development	23 7:30 PM LifeRing	24 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion	25 1:00 PM Computer Workshop 7:00 PM Recovering from Religion 8:00 PM Academic Video	26	27 Potluck and BBQ Party moved to June 10
28 11:00 AM Forum 12:30 PM Buffet Lunch 1:15 PM Membership & Board Discussion	29	30 7:30 PM LifeRing	31 7:30 PM Free Thought Discussion			

More details can be found at www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity