



## Board of Directors

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## Happy Birthday

Catherine Bishop Hilton Brown III  
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I want to thank Jeff Justice for pointing out to me that there are several freethought conferences and conventions taking place around the U.S.A. this month, including California's 18th Annual Freethought Day in Sacramento, CSI Con in Las Vegas, Women of Color Beyond Belief in Chicago, and the Freedom from Religion Foundation in Wisconsin.

If you have the time and money, consider attending one of them to share plans and ideas from freethinkers across the U.S.A.  
 - Alex Havasy

## Special Thanks

### Ambassadors' Club \$1000

Matt Courtney  
 Pamela Erwin  
 Herman Winick

### Presidents' Club \$500

Jeff Justice  
 Robert Wallace

Kindly Consider a  
 Monthly Donation!

### **Mailing Address:**

Humanist Community  
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 Sunnyvale, CA 94087

## Italian American Heritage Month

The proud heritage of our Italian American citizens includes, "The Glory that was Rome," the artistic skills of the Etruscans, and all the strengths of the many people that contributed to the richness and diversity of that extraordinary land.

In the United States we can count many people of Italian descent recognized for their achievements in every field, from Fiorello La Guardia and Mario Cuomo, Rudolf Valentino and Frank Sinatra, and Bank of America founder A.P. Giannini. The list includes Geraldine Ferraro – the first woman to be nominated for vice president of the United States, and Nancy Pelosi – first woman to hold the office of Speaker of the House.

It was a blow to Italian Americans when Christopher Columbus was thrown in the dust bin of history for opening the gate through which the rest of us entered.

They managed to keep all the beautiful customs and traditions by changing over to Italian heritage Month. I hope we don't reassign October to another group to replace them.

### Italians have contributed some of the world's great inventions:

Newspapers – date from 1556, when the government of Venice published monthly news-sheets called *Avvisi*.

Jeans – come from the French word for Genoa, *Genes*. Denim came from Genoa in the 17th century.

Radio – Guglielmo Marconi sent the first transatlantic radio signal in 1901. His work earned him a Nobel Prize.

Battery – The first electric battery was created by Alessandro Volta before 1800.

Banks – can be traced to medieval and renaissance Italy. The Medici Bank was founded in 1397.

Besides all these wonderful things, many of the greatest artists and sculptors were Italians and, before them, the amazing Etruscans.  
 – Sena





# EVENTS

## October 2019



| Tues.   | Wed.  | Thu.  | Fri.  | Sat  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1   | 2 6:30 PM<br>Freethought Discussion   | 3 7:00 PM<br>Academic Video<br>On the Nature of Law<br>Justice and Just Wars<br>Mitchell Park Library<br>Palo Alto  | 4   | 5 10:AM<br>CORN MAZE<br>Meet at Entrance<br>G&M Farms-Livermore<br>487 East Arroyo Blvd<br>Fun Group<br>5:00 PM<br>AUTUMN POTLUCK<br>Marie Stephens<br>for information contact<br>925-968-8144 or 650-453-4308 |
| 6 11:00 AM Sunday Forum<br>Develop Your Speaking Skills<br>Dennis Dawson & Brendan Murphy<br>12:30 Buffet Lunch                       | 7   | 8   | 9 7:30 PM<br>Freethought Discussion<br>Scott's  | 10 7:00 PM<br>Academic Video<br>Mitchell Park Lib<br>Palo Alto   |
| 11  | 12 1:00 PM<br>Atheist<br>Abby<br>Brunch   | 13 11:00 AM Sunday Forum<br>How Bad is Eating Meat?<br>Jeff Justice<br>12:30 Buffet Lunch<br>Hosted by the Social Action committee<br>to include special Vegan dishes | 14  | 15 'Sunnyvale<br>Shelter Dinner<br>for Homeless'<br>Led by Humanists<br>Social Action Event<br>Monthly<br>408-734-2635   |
| 16 7:30 PM<br>Inquiring Minds<br>408-246-3790<br>Freethought<br>Discussion  | 17 7:00 PM<br>Academic Video<br>Fahrenheit 119<br>Mitchell Park Lib<br>Palo Alto                                | 18  | 19 Fall Picnic<br>Atheist Community of San Jose<br>and Atheist Abbey<br>1:00 PM to 3:00 PM<br>Quiesta Park - Mt. View | 20 11:00 AM Sunday Forum<br>The Vienna Manifesto on Digital Humanism<br>Edward A Lee<br>12:30 Buffet Lunch<br>1:00 Social Action Meeting   |
| 21 7:PM<br>Board<br>Meeting<br>Members Welcome  | 22  | 23 7:30 PM<br>Freethought<br>Discussion<br>Scott's<br>Contact Carl for<br>location  | 24 7:00 PM<br>Academic Video<br>Fahrenheit 119<br>Mitchell Park Lib<br>Palo Alto                                      | 25   |
| 26 Humanist Community<br>Halloween<br>at the San Jose Home of<br>Susan and Roy<br>for details see MeetUp<br>contact maing99@gmail.com | 27 11:00 AM Sunday Forum<br>The Woman Who Shot at<br>Gerald Ford<br>Geri Spieler<br>12:30 Festive Italian Lunch | 28  | 29  | 30 7:30 PM<br>Freethought<br>Discussion<br>Contact Carl for<br>location  |
| 31 Halloween  | Nov 2nd Cancelled<br>Forum Lunch Italian On<br>Halloween Party is On<br>Thanksgiving Dinner is On               |   |   |  |

www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity



Details about many of our events can be found at Meetup.com. Your RSVP is appreciated for planning Purposes. [www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity](http://www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity)

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