



The Secular Circular

Newsletter of the Humanist Society of Santa Barbara

www.SBHumanists.org

DECEMBER 2014



December Program: Winter Solstice Party



Come One, Come All to the 2014 HSSB Annual Winter Solstice Party!



Date: Saturday, December 20th, 2014

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Encina Royale Clubhouse

250 Moreton Bay Lane, Goleta

(North of 101 between Patterson and Fairview Aves.)

Fantastic Catered Buffet Dinner

Memorable, Not to Be Missed Entertainment

Fun, Friends, and Camaraderie

Cost: \$30 per person includes beverages, beer and wine, tax and tip.

RSVP an absolute must, by Monday, December 15th. Contact judithannfontana@yahoo.com or call 967-7911 to reserve



Activities

Judy Fontana

Our December activity is the Winter Solstice party on Saturday, December 20th. See the first page of this newsletter for details. Please RSVP to judithannfontana@yahoo.com or call 967-7911. RSVP by Monday, December 15th.

News About Members

New Members:

- Jeff & Sharron Adams, Santa Barbara
- Barbara Holzwarth, Goleta

President's Column - Thanksgiving Colin Gordon

It is that time of year again when we give thanks for all the good things that surround us and for good, if not perfect, health. But who are we giving thanks to? We have decided that there is no supreme being who has bestowed these gifts upon us and yet we have a feeling deep down that we did not acquire them entirely by our own efforts. We really want to thank someone or something. Maybe the best we can do is to pay homage to the laws of probability and be thankful that the dice rolled in our favor so it was not us who were hit by that eighteen-wheeler or who caught that rapidly fatal disease. And surely we do not have to thank anyone but ourselves for the things that we did acquire by our own efforts. To quote the King of *The King and*, "It's a Puzzlement."

And to confuse us even more, we are approaching another popular festival, Christmas, which celebrates an event in the Christian calendar that we Humanists find hard to believe, to say the least. But in spite of our skepticism many of us will join in the celebrations by decorating our homes with strings of colored lights which, we must admit,

makes for a festive and heartwarming occasion. To anyone such as myself who was raised in the Christian faith but has since forsaken it, the memories come rushing back; of a beautiful old church with stained glass windows, carols with such simple melodies that we used to sing at school many years ago. I still have a tendency to tear up when I hear "Away in a Manger" sung by a children's choir. I'm sure that those raised in other faiths have memories of a similar kind. It is certainly difficult to shake off the feelings that sink deep into your psyche as a young child, and we probably don't even want to.

But that's enough of the sentimental stuff. We are Humanists and we are tough and strong in our disbeliefs. Not long ago at a dinner party the conversation touched on religion and to my surprise and delight one of the guests announced, quite calmly "I am an atheist." I joined his team immediately, but then the thought occurred, why didn't I say that? The reason is, I think, that we in the U.S. are still reluctant to "come out" as atheists. It has bad connotations; for one it is associated with Communism or, more specifically, Godless Communism, which we all know is very bad. In 1956, two years after pushing to have the phrase "under God" inserted into the Pledge of Allegiance, President Eisenhower signed a law officially declaring "In God We Trust" to be the nation's official motto. In November 2011, the U.S. Congress passed Resolution 13 with an overwhelming 396/9 vote, reaffirming our national motto and encouraging its public display. Elected leaders and citizens have since taken action to display it in government buildings, courtrooms, schools and businesses. It's all rather intimidating to an atheist and he is not surprisingly a little reluctant to come out. And there is something just a little illogical about it. If you base your philosophy on disbelieving something, surely you have to define what it is that you don't believe. And it seems a little odd to define something and then assert that it does not exist.

Perhaps we should choose another word from the many used to describe non-believers. Agnostic? That means that you don't know if there is a god or not, and we don't really want to base our philosophy on ignorance. I know – Humanist! That implies that mankind holds his destiny in his own hands, and that's a thought I can believe in.

**November Program:
Wendy Hughes –
The Odds Must Be Crazy
Robert Bernstein**

"When you live your life with an appreciation of coincidences and their meanings, you connect with the underlying field of infinite possibilities. This is when the magic begins."

Wendy Hughes began her talk with this quote from Deepak Chopra that expresses exactly the opposite of her perspective -- the perspective of her *The Odds Must Be Crazy* (TOMBC) web site and blog.

Coincidences are common, everyday occurrences. Get used to it. We humans are not good at estimating what is an unlikely coincidence and that easily can lead to magical thinking. That is okay until it starts causing you to make important decisions in life based on, well, nothing more than a chance coincidence!

Hughes is a big fan of skeptic Michael Shermer who coined the term "patternicity" in a 2008 *Scientific American* article. Patternicity is the human ability to find patterns in noise. It allowed our ancestors to find food and to avoid predators. Easier to see a pattern and then realize it is wrong than to miss the food or the predator.

Two guys meet at a gym. They live 90 miles apart but they work at the same university. Turns out their wives each knew someone the

other should meet. It was these two guys. Crazy coincidence?

Barbara Drescher is one of the contributors to TOMBC. She points out that we tend to like people we share an interest, qualities and values with. That greatly increases the odds of chance meetings among others in that same shared circle.

She told the story of a man who found a desert tortoise in the street near his house in the San Fernando Valley. A month later, he was telling the story to an acquaintance. Turns out, the acquaintance had lived on that street 30 years earlier as a child and lost his tortoise when the family moved.

"Slow and steady stays at home" is the moral. Tortoises just don't roam much. It is a burrowing species and has a long life span.



Left to right: HSSB President Colin Gordon and our November speaker Wendy Hughes. Photo by Robert Bernstein.

A guy meets a friend in the grocery store and they are talking about birthdays. "Time keeps on slipping." "Flies like a beagle." Not sure if the misheard lyric was a joke, but it stuck in his mind. But not for long. When he got to the checkout line, "Fly Like an Eagle" was playing on the store PA.

It turns out commercial music services and radio stations have a fairly small play list of 150-200 songs at a given time. The odds are fairly high that the friend had heard that song recently, too.

Three guys go for lunch in Huntington Beach, making their way through an art show maze. Two are surfers. One surfer notices a photo of himself on display. They realize the photo right next to it is of the other surfer! The odds are enhanced by the fact that they live there and surf there a lot. Visiting a new restaurant brought them to see something they might otherwise have missed that had been there for about two years.

At this point, Hughes opened up for questions. Mostly, there were stories of coincidences.

How is it that sometimes I plan to call someone I have not talked to for awhile and then that person calls me? One explanation: Confirmation bias. There may be many times you think of someone and that person doesn't call. But you remember the hits and forget the misses. Confirmation bias keeps psychics in business!

When we are 6-12 years old we are full of creativity and imagination. Can't we keep that magical feeling going? Hughes said that is fine. She just does not want to be fooled. It is okay to feel the magic, but it can be dangerous to base important decisions on some coincidence that really has no deeper meaning.

Hughes talked of another of Shermer's terms "agency." Would you wear a jacket that once belonged to Hitler? Why not? We often attribute agency to inanimate objects. Again, this was good to avoid predators. Better to hear a rustle and find out it was the wind than to miss the tiger.

This was hard for some to reconcile. One woman had a locket that her mother wore coming off the boat from England. It was in a

photo. Some petty thief stole the locket. It still feels like a loss decades later to the woman. Hughes suggested she get over it; the special meaning of the locket was in her mind, not in the locket.

One questioner cited American founder Ethan Allen as challenging miracles. "In those parts of the world where learning and science have prevailed, miracles have ceased; but in those parts of it as are barbarous and ignorant, miracles are still in vogue."

I had a question that was interpreted as a story: I was standing in line for ice cream on Stearn's Wharf. I overheard the people behind me talking about my home town of Silver Spring, near Washington, D.C. I asked the guy where he went to school. Turned out he was older than me and we went to a different school.

But then I asked his name. I said, "I was at your Bar Mitzvah." Our connection had nothing to do with being from the same town. His mother and my mother were good friends as teens. My point/question: You might be standing next to someone "coincidental" quite often. But you would never know unless you asked the right question. I was not clear on how that gets factored into the odds.

Hughes also demonstrated the "Birthday Paradox": In a room with 23 people, the odds are 50/50 that two people in the room share the same birthday. This raises that same point: How would you know? As it turned out, we found two pairs of people who shared two different birthdays just in January.

Hughes urged us to go to <http://www.theoddsmustbecrazy.com/> and submit our own coincidence stories. Her experts are happy to try to figure out the odds!

Sonnet
Mary Wilk

When I was young they said it was the truth
That Santa Claus brought gifts on Christmas
Eve,
That fairies would reward a missing tooth,
And all I had to do was just believe.

And then they told me Jesus was my friend
Although I could not see him, he was there,
And if my wicked ways I would amend
That he would answer every single prayer.

They spoke of God, the mighty Lord, of all,
Who knew my every deed, my thoughts as well.
But if into temptation I should fall
Although He loved me, I would burn in hell.

Then I grew up and learnt to use my head,
And nevermore believed the things they said.

Victor Dominocielo:
New Community Science Standards
— The Supernatural and the Failure
of Education

(Excerpted from *Noozhawk*, 11-13-2014)

This is actually not about Common Core or Common Snore or Apple Core (because of Bill Gates funding) or even Obamacore as some have called this latest cycle of Federal Education Programs. However, I will digress for just a moment to mention this latest in a long line of Federal Education Programs.

Every president wants to be the “Education President.” Unfortunately, centralized planning reform in our gargantuan public education system always falls short, which creates the need for reform and further reform during each presidential cycle. Every president has millions of education budget dollars to reform their predecessor’s reforms.

President George W. Bush uttered the now famous words, “In return for federal dollars ...,” the states would sign on to his No Child Left Behind program. Bush’s comments explain how presidents get compliance on their signature programs. If the states don’t endorse the president’s program, they don’t get the money. This explains why the 45 states who appear to be “Racing to the Top” for President Barack Obama’s efforts are not giving Common Core a rousing endorsement because it’s a great educational program...

The real test of Common Core by education professionals would be for the federal government to disperse education funds to the states with no strings attached. Then we would see which states and educational institutions would endorse Common Core without the threat of losing money.

Now on to the new community science standards. These are personal science education standards that have to do with how well our high school and college graduates are doing in applying science in everyday life in our society. What is our Scientific Literacy Index? I propose that we open up the online phone book and look at how many psychics there are in town. Then we look at how many bookstores cater to Bigfoot and UFO investigations. We might also include sales of sensationalistic *National Enquirer*-type papers in our standards. Certainly, looking at the number of ghost hunting and alien autopsies shows on the Discovery and National Geographic channels would also be an indicator of how well we are training our science students.

If we find that the community has a lot of these supernatural outlets, then we know that the science education in that community is lacking. I’ve gone to beautiful Sedona, Ariz., many times and when I visit the grocery store, there is a giant bulletin board filled with every imaginable psychic expression. From the famous humming vortexes, to energy pyramids,

crystalline matrix light healing, Star Families, Tarot, astrology readings and chakra balancing, these people have you covered. So the science educators in Sedona should be having a field day with all the readily available examples of differences between fantasy and scientific methodology.

Locally, our very own Ojai, while not having quite the reputation of Sedona, is noted for its variety of interesting practices. If you pick up a copy of the "Ojai Quarterly" (fall, 2014, pages 134-5), you will be amazed. They have all the normal, healthy yoga and massage practices but they also advertise Chrystal Light Healing developed by John of God (or JOG, as I like to call him). JOG practices psychic surgery in Brazil and calls himself a healer. He sticks sharp objects up people's noses and into their sinus cavities and then claims that this mother of all distraction techniques cures everything from migraines to cancer...

Continuing on, there is advertising for chakra balancing, shaman dream weaving, crystal healing, miracles, psychics, Tarot, channeling and past life trauma release. The absolute top of the heap, though, has got to be the person who does energy healings for humans and animals — with Jesus of Nazareth — over the phone! You could go to the website and for \$125 (PayPal) you get a 30-minute phone consultation with Jesus...

My interest in all this activity is that someone is actually paying these people. Having a strange belief (for instance, that you can talk to dead) is one thing. Creating a business out of it and taking money from emotionally vulnerable people is something else entirely. Many people in our complex society need professional psychological help at one time or another during their lives. There is a robust psychological/medical care system where people can get professional help. However, being emotionally vulnerable and needing psychological help is not the time to consult a

psychic, Tarot reader, or energy healer who will use a simple "cold reading" procedure to tell you what you want to hear and charge you major bucks for something that any 12-year-old could do...

The clients of these psychics graduated from high school and college and their science teachers completely and utterly failed them. Somewhere along the educational line, their science teachers didn't give these psychic clients, alien autopsy people, Bigfoot believers and ghost hunting specialists the common science sense that evolution gave a gnat. If you can listen to a homeopath (or health food store clerk) tell you that diluting a solution makes it stronger, then your chemistry teacher failed to teach you the simple mechanics of serial dilution. If your biology teacher didn't explain evolution by natural selection as the fundamental theory of all biology and how all living things change and evolve over time, then your biology teacher failed...

So let's get science educated so that we, as a society, don't pay people to connect us to Jesus of Nazareth over the phone. Let's get our collective scientific literacy and understanding to the point where we can easily recognize parlor tricks, scams and frauds in everyday life.

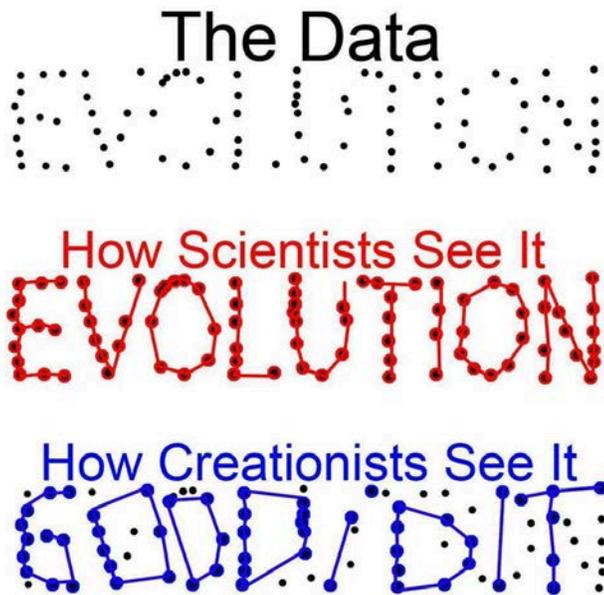
Read the entire article here:

http://www.noozhawk.com/article/victor_do_minocielo_new_community_science_standards

.....

"Always amazing to hear folks condemn Kwanzaa as 'made up' because other holidays are, of course, the product of Newtonian physics..."

-Ta-Nehisi Coates, American writer and journalist



Update: A Year Without War Joe White

Greetings 2020 AYWW Community:

I hope you've been following AYWW on our various social media to keep up with all that has been happening. None of OUR growth, opportunity or progress would be happening, if not for you. Many of you have been with 2020 AYWW since the beginning, approximately 30 months ago. Your moral support and financial support have been absolutely essential. WE thank you. WE are visionaries on a quest to tip history. I am not only honored to be a part of that but I'm also feeling optimistic and I hope you feel the same. So, here's a bit of 2020 A Year Without War happenings:

1. 2020 AYWW now has darted past 30,000 followers from over 125 nations. We have a growing list of partners yet to be posted. The city of Akron, Ohio, population 200,000, surprised us with a unanimous city council proclamation of support for 2020 AYWW. WE are growing and doing so in places unexpected

but that is our goal!! 2015 should be exciting. 2. Our student volunteers have designed a 2020 AYWW challenge. They were inspired by the recent Ice Bucket Challenge for ALS. The AYWW challenge is for a twenty second pillow fight. Loser is to donate \$10.00. If a tie, each "combatant" is to donate \$5.00. We are presently shooting videos and the first is up on Facebook and other social media. We will be posting more but start thinking of who you want to challenge to a pillow fight.

3. THE BIG ONE! Presently scheduled for December 2, AYWW's first Indie go-go crowd funding campaign. AYWW has the wonderful problem of growing so fast globally that a stable staff has become necessary. We hope to raise at least \$111,000.00 to support an Executive Assistant to assist me, as I will remain a volunteer Executive Director but to also assist a new paid Chief Operating Officer. AYWW also needs a secure tech team/support structure as we are presently migrating to a new website. That website will be quite dynamic with growth and functionality to accommodate all of the new programs and people coming on board from so many places. More on this crowd funding campaign to follow. Please consider how you might help us support this campaign at its kick-off. AYWW needs both early donations to start the frenzy and perks to give with donations. Do you have any perks to donate? These might be either or both objects and services.

4. We will shortly be posting photos and a video we've received from an orphanage in Afghanistan with the kids supporting 2020 A Year Without War. We have finalized our partnership with the Princess Basma Children's Foundation in Amman, Jordan. Princess Basma is King Abdullah's aunt. We are now working to finalize our partnership with the Satyagraha House in Johannesburg, South Africa. Satyagraha House was Gandhi's home during part of his stay in South Africa and it is where he developed his views on non-violence. We

have another film from New North Productions in a final edit phase to be released shortly. AYWW also had its film, *We Are Your Children*, shown recently at the First International Awakened World Film Festival.

There is much more to tell you but you will hear more shortly. Just know, 2020 AYWW's crew of approximately 20 volunteers is working hard. After nearly 30 months we now know that at this time in our collective history, when humanity seems pounded by a perfect storm of social and natural mayhem, our idea of 2020 A Year Without War is proving to be the perfect pause for humanity to recalibrate its existence as a global community. THANK YOU FOR PROVING THAT! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE CONTINUE JOINING, SHARING, LIKING, RECRUITING on all of our social media.

Letters to the Editor

A Question in Response to My Invitation to the HSSB Sunday Brunch

When I received my invitation to the monthly brunch, I thought of the reason I choose to go to my Unitarian Church instead.

I realized that I was a Unitarian first and a Humanist second (although I have served on the Board of the American Humanist Association). Actually, it stems from experiencing HUMANIST FUNDAMENTALISM. WHICH I FOUND REPULSED ME AS MUCH AS ANY OTHER KIND. I'm not sure what UNITARIAN FUNDAMENTALISM would be, since they espouse NO THEOLOGICAL POSITION, rather simply accepting each person, with THEIR unique package of beliefs, which they never even inquire about.

I have been a Unitarian Minister now for 53 years (joining one year before they merged

with the Universalists), with ten years in the Baptist Ministry before that. I have gloried in the fact that this is the one group which seems to understand what the Founding Fathers had in mind when they specifically left any reference to a god out of the U.S. Constitution, instead emphasizing that this new country would stand for FREEDOM OF RELIGION, and like the UU's, would TRY to accept each individual with his or her religion. This is very hard to do, but it means so much to each of them.

We UU's practice the common custom of coming together on Sunday mornings to practice this as we work together with others to make this a better world by being considerate of others, just as any Humanist would, and so by make this a better world for all to live in. If only this was really the policy of our government, but instead it seems to take side in most of these religious wars. I'm afraid Humanism will not reverse this, since we don't share the beliefs of any religion. Can the Unitarian reminder that this was what our Founding Fathers had in mind overcome the rule of the majority religion in this country that keeps us identified as the enemy in much of the world? "Better to the Light One Candle than to Curse the Darkness," or at least that's what THEY used to say.

-Rev. Charlie Archibald, UU Community Minister

"Yes, the long war on Christianity. I pray that one day we may live in an America where Christians can worship freely! In broad daylight! Openly wearing the symbols of their religion... perhaps around their necks? And maybe -- dare I dream it? -- maybe one day there can be an openly Christian President. Or, perhaps, 43 of them. Consecutively."

-Comedian Jon Stewart

Meet Your Board Members! (Part of a continuing series)

David Echols, Publicity:



David Echols, on left, and Helen Gordon, at the 2013 Winter Solstice party (hence the reason for the Santa hat!).

As a child, I was raised in a liberal Methodist church which espoused the modernist Social Gospel of community service--rather than fundamentalist doctrines--but most of my ethical instruction in the value of empathy, compassion, forgiveness, and yes community service, came from my parents.

At the age of nine, having been well versed in the deeper meanings of Bible stories, I was "confirmed in the Faith" and presented with an annotated study Bible--which introduced me to "the higher criticism," and changed my perspective. By twelve, however, I had become exposed to the larger multi-cultural world, and I (along with my parents) left the Church to explore various means of religious understanding.

Throughout my teenage years I studied the classic books and practices of the world's major

religious traditions, matriculating to UCSB as a humanist majoring in religious studies with a minor in philosophy. My goal was to understand religious phenomena through the critical lens of social science and communicate this to others.

I continued my education, doing post-graduate work at UCSB in worldview analysis and education, before teaching a variety of topics in social science and humanities--including world religions and critical thinking--to college-bound high school students here in the Santa Barbara area.

Being a member of both the local Unitarian-Universalist community and the Humanist Society, I describe myself as a religious humanist.

Wayne Beckman, Webmaster:

I was born in Chicago (the smooth part of Chicago, as opposed to the rough part of Chicago), but my family moved to Santa Barbara when I was about 10 years old, practically making me a Santa Barbara native.

I attended the local schools, including Peabody, Goleta Union, Hollister, La Colina, San Marcos High School, and UCSB, where I received a degree in Electrical Engineering, and then a Master's in Scientific Instrumentation.

As a born skeptic, I never believed in the claims of religion. However, my two sisters and I attended Sunday school regularly, though not necessarily willingly. Right around the time that I was confirmed at church, my father took me aside and told me, "You know, you probably don't want to believe all of this." After confirmation, I attended church services at the Lutheran church, run by a hip, young pastor – a self-avowed "Hindu-Christian- Mystic-Humanitarian." These evening services were unique in that the pastor would give communion and discuss different religions.



Wayne and his favorite website.

Because I was of draft age during the Vietnam War, I found that contemplating conscientious objector status without any religious beliefs to be an interesting situation. I couldn't truthfully claim to be Quaker, or Lutheran, or any other religion. But, I ended up with a high lottery number and the whole issue became moot.

As with many of our members, I attended my first Humanist Society meeting because of the speaker. This one was Paul Kurtz, and I am familiar with his writings because they have appeared in *The Skeptical Inquirer*, a magazine to which I have subscribed since 1979.

I have been a member of HSSB since 2001, and have been the Webmaster since 2007 and a board member since 2008.

A Grand Adventure in the Grand Canyon

Diane Krohn

After spending two wonderful weeks on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon and experiencing the beauties and vastness of scale of the canyon, I came across these quotes from author Edward Abbey that seemed to capture the essence of wilderness and non-belief for me:

“The desert world accepts my homage with its customary silence. The grand indifference. As any man of sense would want it. If a voice from the clouds suddenly addressed me, speaking my name in trombone tones, or some angel in an aura of blue flame came floating toward me along the canyon rim, I think I would be more embarrassed than frightened – embarrassed by the vulgarity of such display. That is what depresses me in the mysticism of Carlos Castaneda and his like: their poverty of imagination.... Only petty minds and trivial souls year for supernatural events, incapable of perceiving that everything – everything! – within and around them is pure miracle,” – Edward Abbey, *Abbey's Road*.

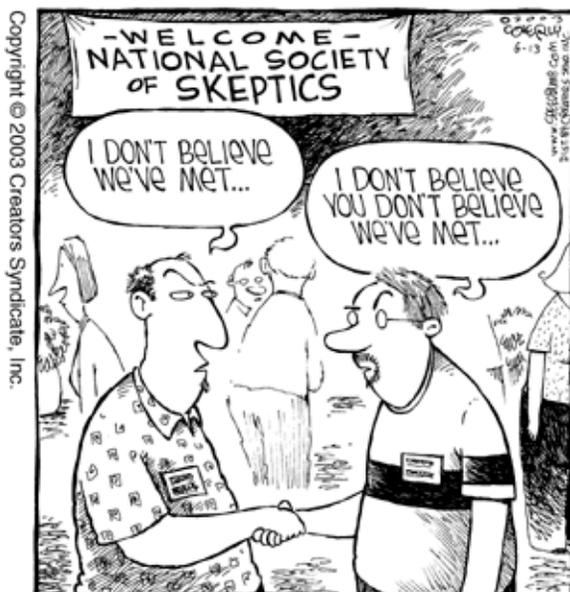
“An adventurous human life should be enough for anybody, and should free us from the childish hankering for immortality . . . If this life here and now on this splendid planet we call Earth is not good enough for us, then what possible pleasure or satisfaction or happiness could we find in some sort of transcendental, eternal existence beyond time and space? Eternity, in that sense, beyond time, could be nothing but a moment, a flash, and we probably experience that brilliant flash of eternity at the moment of death. Then we should get the hell out of the way, with our bodies decently planted in the Earth to nourish other forms of life – weeds, flowers, shrubs, trees . . . which support the ongoing human pageant – the lives of our children. That seems good enough for me...” Edward Abbey, *Headed Upstream*.



Non-HSSB Events of Interest

Upcoming Events in California:

- December 7: Paul Scott: *The Case for Electrifying Personal Transport*. Center for Inquiry West, Los Angeles.
http://www.centerforinquiry.net/la/events/the_case_for_electrifying_personal_transport/
- December 7: Dr. Andrew Hodges: *Alan Turing: The Enigma*. Skeptics Society, Cal Tech, Pasadena.
<http://www.skeptic.com/upcoming-lectures/alan-turing-the-enigma/>
- January 17-19, 2015. Geology Tour! Join the Skeptics Society for a 3-day tour of the highlights of central California. *Central California Classics: Castles, Missions, Wildlife and Geology*. Sponsored by the Skeptics Society.
http://www.skeptic.com/geology_tours/2015/Central-California-Classics/



HSSB Contact Information

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Newsletter Deadline:

Deadline for submissions to the Secular Circular is midnight, the last day of each month.

HSSB meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 2:30 pm, usually in the Patio Room of Vista del Monte, 3775 Modoc Rd., Santa Barbara. More information is available at our web site: www.SantaBarbaraHumanists.org. At meetings, a donation of \$2 from members and \$5 from non-members is appreciated. First-time visitors are welcome on a complimentary basis.

Annual HSSB membership dues are \$36 for a single person, \$60 for a couple, and \$100 (or more) to become a Society Supporter. One may subscribe to our newsletter only for an annual fee of \$20.

To join HSSB, please send your contact information and a check for your membership dues to HSSB, PO Box 30232, Santa Barbara, CA 93130, Attn: Mary Wilk. For membership information contact Mary Wilk at 967-3045, or mwilk@cox.net.

Copies of this newsletter are posted on the HSSB website. Photos are on the website and available via the link

<http://picasaweb.google.com/Humanist.Society.of.Santa.Barbara>

See us on Facebook::



HSSB Calendar

Tuesday, December 16: Board Meeting: 5:30 p.m. Home of **Mary Wilk**. Members invited to attend.

Saturday, December 20: Annual Winter Solstice Party! See the details in this newsletter, page 1.

Sunday, December 28: (and the last Sunday of every month), 10 a.m., **Secular Sunday Brunch** for humanists, atheists, agnostics, skeptics, freethinkers, singles, couples and families without religion. No cover charge; membership not required. Pay only for your food, drink and tips. Cody's Cafe, 4898 Hollister Ave. in the Turnpike Center, Goleta in the room to the right as you enter the restaurant. For information phone Board member, Mary Wilk at 805-967-3045.

Tuesday, January 13, 2015: Board Meeting: 5:30 p.m. Home of **Mary Wilk**. Members invited to attend.

Saturday January 17, 2015: Monthly Meeting: Ken Frazier will present a talk on the Shadows of Science; the Patio Room at Vista del Monte. Meet at 2:30 p.m. for socializing and light refreshments. Talk starts at 3:00 p.m. Dinner after the talk at Vista del Monte.



Humanist Society of
Santa Barbara
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