

The Secular Circular

Newsletter of the Humanist Society of Santa Barbara

www.SBHumanists.org

NOVEMBER 2018

Join Us for the November Humanist Society Meeting at Valle Verde:

Humanists at the Movies!

Let's have a fun meeting this month. After all, our monthly meetings don't have to be serious or science-y all the time so this will be a chance to sit back, relax and enjoy being at the cinema again.

We've schedule *Dogma*, a film that takes some humorous - and decidedly pointed - pokes at religion and especially the Catholic church. It stars Ben Affleck, Matt Damon, Linda Fiorentino and includes George Carlin as a Catholic priest (if you can believe that.)

Here's a short summary of the storyline:

Two mischievous angels who were laid off by God and are given the boot. Finding themselves banned to Wisconsin, they set out for New Jersey where they find a loophole that will allow them to re-enter heaven. The only problem is it will destroy humanity. An abortion clinic worker with a special heritage, a wisecracking 13th apostle, a stripper/muse, and mischievous mall rats Jay and Silent Bob band together to stop them.

This film is rated R for strong language and ribald humor so be forewarned.

Information about the dinner after the movie is shown below. Because this issue of the newsletter is being published much later than usual, please note that the deadline for signing up is little more than one day away so please plan to join us and get your reservation into Nan before the deadline.

When: Saturday, November 17, 2018

Where: Valle Verde. 900 Calle De Los Amigos, Santa Barbara, CA.

Parking: Please park at Veronica Springs Church, 949 Veronica Springs Road. Free shuttle to and from

meeting. *No parking at Valle Verde* (except for handicapped parking) **Time:** Doors open at **2.30 pm**. Program begins promptly at **3.00 pm Donation:** \$2 members, \$5 non-members. Students with ID are free.

Optional Buffet Dinner: After the Meeting at Valle Verde, \$25. **Reservations required.** RSVP to Nan Cisney at cisneynan@gmail.com by noon Wednesday November 14. Please pay Nan in cash or by check made out to "Humanist Society of Santa Barbara" before 3pm Saturday. Shuttle also available after dinner. Shuttle driver has a dedicated cellphone: 805-679-3660

For More Info: Call 805-769-HSSB (805-769-4772)

A Guest's Column Another Great Opinion Piece from Katherine Stewart

New York Times Opinion by Katherine Stewart Published May 26, 2018

America's Christian nationalists have a new plan for advancing their legislative goals in state capitols across the country. Its stated aim is to promote "religious freedom." Not shy, they call it "Project Blitz."

"Blitz" accurately describes the spirit of the enterprise, but the mission has little to do with what most Americans would call religious freedom. This is just the latest attempt by religious extremists to use the coercive powers of government to secure a privileged position in society for their version of Christianity.

The idea behind Project Blitz is to overwhelm state legislatures with bills based on centrally manufactured legislation. "It's kind of like whack-a-mole for the other side; it'll drive 'em crazy that they'll have to divide their resources out in opposing this," David Barton, the Christian nationalist historian and one of four members of Project Blitz's "steering team," said in a conference call with state legislators from around the country that was later made public.

According to research provided by Americans United for Separation of Church and State, more than 70 bills before state legislatures appear to be based on Project Blitz templates or have similar objectives. Some of the bills are progressing rapidly. An Oklahoma measure, which has passed the legislature and is awaiting the governor's signature, allows and foster care adoption agencies discriminate on the basis of their own religious beliefs. Others, such as a Minnesota bill that would allow public schools to post "In God We Trust" signs on their walls, have provoked hostile debates in local and national media, which is in many cases the point of the exercise. "Project Blitz' Seeks to Do for Christian Nationalism What ALEC Does for Big Business," reads the headline of a recent piece Frederick Clarkson wrote for Religion Dispatches that highlighted the danger. ALEC, of course, is the corporate lobbying group that crafts and promotes model legislation advancing business interests.

In their guidebook for state legislators and other allies, the authors of the Project Blitz program have grouped their model legislation into three categories, according to anticipated difficulty of passage. The first category consists of symbolic gestures, like resolutions to emblazon the motto "In God We Trust" on as many moving objects as possible (like, say, police cars).

Critics of such symbolic gestures often argue that they act as gateways to more extensive forms of state involvement in religion. It turns out that the Christian right agrees with them.

"They're going to be things that people yell at, but they will help move the ball down the court," Mr. Barton said in the conference call.

The second, more difficult category for Project Blitz consists of bills intended to promote the teaching and celebration of Christianity in public schools and elsewhere. These bills are a means of spreading the message that Christian conservatives are the real Americans, and everybody else is here by invitation only.

The sponsors of Project Blitz have pinned their deepest hopes on the third and most contentious category of model legislation. The dream here is something that participants in the conference call referred to in awed tones as "the Mississippi missile." The "missile" in question is Mississippi's HB 1523, a 2016 law that allows private businesses and government employees to discriminate, against L.G.B.T. people for example, provided that they do so in

accordance with "sincerely held religious beliefs." The bill offers extraordinary protections, not to all religious beliefs per se, but to a very narrow set of beliefs associated mostly with conservative religion. If you hold a different set of religious beliefs, like, say, a commitment to gender and L.G.B.T. equality, there is no liberty in this bill for you.

In another piece of model legislation, the blitzers' goal is to get state legislatures to resolve that, notwithstanding the Supreme Court's recent decision on same-sex marriage, "This state supports and encourages marriage between one man and one woman and the desirability that intimate sexual relations only take place between such couples." We have known for a long time that Christian nationalists seek to control what goes on in other people's bedrooms. The striking thing about this model bill is the cruelty with which it advances the argument. The bill claims that people in same-sex relationships have a "higher instance of serious disease."

It would be touching to think that the sponsors of Project Blitz have at last turned their attention to health care, but, no — their concern here, according to the guidebook, is that all of this gay sex is costing taxpayers lots of money — "estimated to be in the billions of dollars annually," according to the bill template.

If you examine the roster of people and organizations behind Project Blitz, it becomes clear that demeaning whole groups of people in society is really just a means to an end. The aim is political power. In their language, it's sometimes called "dominion" — meaning, specifically, the domination by those with the correct "biblical" worldview over all aspects of politics, culture and society.

David Barton is the founder of WallBuilders, an organization that promotes the view that America is a nation of, by and for Christians of a very specific variety. Buddy Pilgrim, another

member of the Project Blitz steering team, is a businessman who founded Integrity Leadership, a ministry focused on "equipping Christians with biblical principles for the workplace." According to Mr. Pilgrim's website, "Dominion in earthly realms of authority (business & politics) is a biblical mandate."

A third steering team member is Bill Dallas, a convicted embezzler who later founded United in Purpose, a data-collection operation that aims, among other things, to increase turnout of conservative evangelical voters in local, state and national elections. "We have about 200 million files, so we have pretty much the whole voting population in our database," Mr. Dallas said in a Sept. 5, 2016, interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network. "What we do is track to see what's going to make somebody either vote one way, or not vote at all." In October 2016, Mr. Dallas offered a neat summary of his political philosophy, one built on an idea by Abraham Kuyper, "There is not a place in the universe where Christ does not shout out, 'Mine!' "

One of the most remarkable features about Project Blitz has to do with the mood of its organizers. This is a very upbeat crowd. "We have this window of opportunity now; I think we're all feeling it," said Lea Carawan on the conference call. Ms. Carawan is a co-founder and the executive director of the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation, which supports Project Blitz, and she is the fourth member of Project Blitz's steering team. "We believe this is just the beginning," she said.

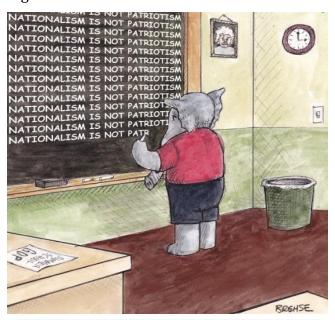
There is a story going around, on both the left and the right, that America's "true believers" are a declining force and are now conducting desperate, defensive maneuvers in a secularizing society. But that is not how the leaders of the Christian Nationalist movement see it — because it is not true. They played a key role in putting President Trump in power. They are protecting him now, as they giddily

collect their winnings in legislatures and in the courts. Why should they doubt that they can pull off the same trick again?

What Christian nationalists know — and many of us have yet to learn — is that you don't need a majority to hijack a modern democracy. You just need a sizable minority, marinating in its grievances, willing to act as a bloc, and impervious to correction by fact or argument. Make this group feel good about itself by making other people feel bad about themselves, and dominion may well be in reach.

As with most of what Christian nationalists do these days, Project Blitz and its form of religious freedom is as bad for religion as it is for freedom. Religion, as most Americans understand it, has something to do with care of the soul — not ramming bills through gerrymandered legislatures. And faith has something to do with showing love for other people, not writing contempt for them into the law.

Katherine Stewart (@kathsstewart) is the author of "The Good News Club: The Christian Right's Stealth Assault on America's Children."



Joshua Brehse @JBrehse May 26 More Replying to @nytimes on Twitter

Follow The New York Times Opinion section on Facebook and Twitter (@NYTopinion), and sign up for the Opinion Today newsletter.

A version of this article appears in print on May 26, 2018, on Page SR6 of the New York edition with the headline: A Christian Nationalist Blitz.

Our October Speaker: Lois Capps

By Robert Bernstein

At our October 20, 2018 meeting, HSSB President Roger Schlueter introduced former Congressional Representative Lois Capps with a story. He had seen her taking questions from constituents at Albertson's with people in line to talk to her.



Cool Space Alien binder available at Zazzle.com

One man had a thick binder on alien spacecraft and space aliens. Roger realized how hard her job must be, dealing with such "weird" people. He made a note to bring her to speak when she was retired and had more time.

Representative Capps said we could address her simply as "Lois"; which worked well for those of us who have known her for many years. She said that she had been to Valle Verde for candidate debates, but she had been unaware of HSSB until Marian Shapiro approached her to tell her about us. She was glad to see some familiar faces in our crowd.

Lois said that she held regular sidewalk office hours to stay in touch with constituents. She preferred not to use the word "weird" to describe constituents. Sidewalk office hours were certainly never boring! She said a surprising number of constituents are interested in space and related phenomena such as "contrails" in the sky. She said it was

important to learn what people's concerns are.

At these outreach sessions people could sign up for email or newsletter mailing lists.

She showed us her memoir *Keeping Faith in Congress: Why Persistence, Compassion, and Teamwork Will Save Our Democracy.* Fortress Press had asked her to write about being a person of faith in Congress.

Some think it is such an evil place you would lose faith. That did not happen to her. In fact, working in Congress can strengthen your faith. "Democracy is compatible with all faiths or none at all."

She served nine terms, for a total of 18 years. Her husband, Walter Capps was elected in 1996. He died less than a year into his first term. Due to the unfortunate timing, Lois Capps had to run for that seat twice: first to win it and then to maintain it.



HSSB President Roger Schlueter & Lois Capps. *Photo by Robert Bernstein*

Each week she would head to work with a binder full of background information for the week ahead.

She held up a binder of press clippings related to her service. The UCSB Library asked her to donate her papers and those of Walter Capps. They are there for public perusal. She said, "This is a public job. You do it in public. If you are a private person this is not the job for you. It seems fair for the public to know how you conduct business."



Binder of press clippings: Roger Schlueter & Lois Capps. *Photo by Robert Bernstein*

A lot of time is spent campaigning to stay in office. The Founders wanted the Senate to be a deliberative body; the House was intended to be closer to the people. The U.S. was much smaller when the Constitution was framed. It takes a long time to get home now, even by air. House members in competitive districts deal with a long commute home each weekend. She said it is nice to be in your own house and constituents want to see you.

There are many different constituencies. The local district office had her time scheduled when she was home. She spent little time at the district offices to maximize her time being accessible and out in public.

Salud Carbajal is her successor. He is home now campaigning for reelection. He makes sure people fill in their absentee ballots and send them in. He wants to keep his job. It takes time to learn the job.

The Supreme Court decisions that equate money with free speech have made the situation much more challenging. It is a constant job to raise money. In California some seats can be won by either party just based on who raises the most money. She would support a Constitutional amendment to set campaign time and spending limits and to change the Supreme Court interpretation that money equals speech. It is so

labor intensive to change the Constitution.

"We are way past due for campaign finance reform," Lois said. She signed on to the House version of McCain-Feingold bill (Shavs-Meehan) that was supposed to help. It did help and it was bipartisan. However, the Supreme Court overturned kev parts, notably in the Citizens United case.



Lois Capps speaks to HSSB. *Photo by Robert Bernstein*

As a result, our representatives spend way too much time "dialing for dollars."

Lois Capps was a team player, "One person can't do such a big job." She had legislative assistants and other staff. When she was first elected she walked onto the House floor and sat down next to Representative Diana DeGette. DeGette was speaking about a Patients Bill of Rights. That

was language Lois knew and cared about. She wanted to be a part of that issue. DeGette told her to get onto the prestigious Energy and Commerce Committee. It is the oldest Congressional committee. How? By campaigning for it!

She went to Representative John Dingle who was the longest serving member of Congress. He loved nurses. Lois was one of only three nurses in Congress at the time. He made her the first

nurse on that committee (She had been a

school nurse). Health policy is very important to most people.

Energy is also a hot topic here as in most places. In particular: oil vs. renewable energy.

Who runs the House is a vital issue. It is a oneparty town now. This election can change that. Even a divided Congress can be healthy and can get things done.

Of her 18 years of service, only four were in the majority. Those four years were very productive. They passed the Affordable Care Act, energy reform, and a student loan package. "It was the most productive session ever," she said.

But some believe the less Congress functions, the better. Her brother-in-law is such a person. "Democracy is messy." In the words of Winston Churchill, "...democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried..."

Sometimes it seems that nothing is getting done in this oldest democracy in the world. Lois thinks it will survive. The biggest threat is apath: getting people to vote is a top priority. That means walking precincts, calling, turning in ballots. People say, "Stop pestering me!" She tells them to vote and she will stop!

Getting young people to vote is especially important. Walter Capps barely lost in 1994. In 1996 he campaigned hard at UCSB and barely won. In a national competition, UCSB had the



HSSB Members listening to Lois Capps. *Photo by Robert Bernstein*

highest campus voting percentage in the U.S. At this point Lois opened up the floor for questions.

Roger raised a most important question: How did she process constituent views and come to a decision?

Her staff gave a daily summary of views on a range of issues. Based on emails, letters and calls. Most votes are not black and white but involve shades of gray. She very much considered constituent views. But on some matters of ethics, her conscience was paramount.

Two examples: The vote to impeach President Clinton and the vote to wage war in Iraq. She voted no on both.

Wayne wanted to know about staff. Her budget was \$2 million for two years for all purposes. She prioritized the money for staff: "They were my hands, eyes and ears."

She had three district offices, plus the D.C. office. "D.C. runs on the energy and brains of 25 year olds!" They are idealistic and hard working." They did not get much pay and some move on.

Marian asked about compromise. Lois said the Tea Party did great damage to the possibility of compromise. She wanted a bill to increase women as subjects in health studies, especially for heart disease. In the past that would have been an easy bipartisan issue. As it was, she had to wait for the Affordable Care Act to get it passed.

She is a fan of non-partisan drawing of districts to reduce partisan divides.

I raised this point: Bernie Sanders ran on a twelve point agenda that some have called "far left". He stressed issues like true universal health care, reversing climate change, and affordable college for all. Bernie claimed these polled at 65%+ even among Republicans, which suggested that on issues that really matter we really are not so divided. I also suggested that the Democratic Party would do better to take a stronger stand and not try to appear so "centrist". Lois questioned the accuracy of such polls. This surprised me.

I also asked if big money donors have too much influence on such matters. She agreed that this is a real problem. She said in her case the gun and tobacco lobbies didn't even try to sway her with money, butt Big Pharma "was a tough one". She said money is a big factor in environmental issues, as well.

The Democratic Party helped get her elected. As a result, she felt a responsibility to raise money for them to help other candidates who share her values.

The biggest surprise coming to Congress? The personal support of her colleagues. On both sides of the aisle. She really felt the support when she lost her husband and then her daughter two years later.

She said it is important to have a strong core of principles when you come to Washington and to hold on to them.

Regarding personal security, local law enforcement takes care of that. Her greatest concern was for the interns who are out in front.

Asked about immigration, she said that she worked on comprehensive immigration reform. It used to be a bipartisan issue. As for the stream of refugees coming from Central America, Lois favors true development and humanitarian aid for Central America as most people would prefer to stay in their home country if they had work and were not being threatened with torture, rape or death.

I will note that the violence in Central America

is largely a legacy of Reagan's wars in the 1980s. I spent many years of my life dealing with the horrors that Reagan inflicted on the people of Central America. I worked on a volunteer engineering project in Nicaragua in 1986. It is a matter of great knowledge and passion for me.

One of my friends from that era is still working in Honduras which may be more dangerous now than it was in the war zones of the 1980s. Another "gift" from Reagan that keeps on giving, generating many of the refugees.

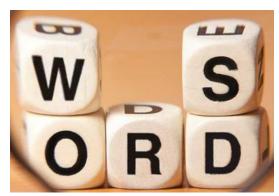
Lois Capps is officially retired. However, she is clearly very much engaged in working for a better world and for a better community.

After this event we went to a Community Arts Workshop project called "Creative Democracy" which brings people together across the political spectrum around the arts and music. Guess who sponsored it? The Capps Center. And there was Lois Capps, once again mingling and talking with everyone!

New Vocabulary Acquired at CSI Con Las Vegas 2018

By Judy Flattery

I learned some new words and interesting terminology at CSI Con in Las Vegas last month.



How many of these do you know?

Astroturfing: is the practice of masking the sponsors of a message or organization (e.g., political, advertising, religious or public relations) to make it appear as though it

originates from and is supported by grassroots participants. (Definition from en.Wikipedia.org)

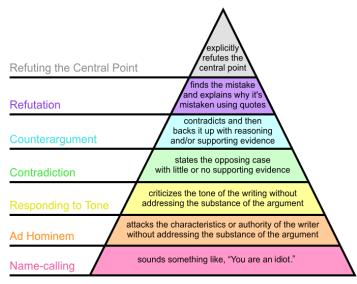
Illusory Truth Effect: (also known as the "validity effect," "truth effect," or the "reiteration effect") is the tendency to believe information to be correct after repeated exposure. (Definition from en.Wikipedia.org)



Continued Influence Effect: Once a false statement is "out there" retracting it does not undo hearing it nor reset belief. The misinformation continues to have an influence as if it were true.

Ad hominem: (Latin for "to the person") short for "argumentum ad hominem", is a fallacious argumentative strategy whereby genuine discussion of the topic at hand is avoided by instead attacking the character, motive, or other attribute of the person making the argument, or persons associated with the argument, rather than attacking the substance of the argument itself. (Definition from en. Wikipedia.org)

The following chart lists a hierarchy of methods of arguing. Ad hominem is listed as the second lowest type... just above name-calling. *Solution Aversion:* Denying a problem when you



Paul Graham's Hierarchy of Disagreement (Wikipedia.org)

do not like the solution (Definition from onthinktanks.org)



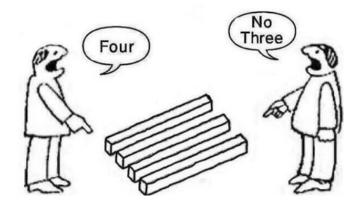
Michael Palin & John Cleese in Monty Python's famous sketch "The Argument Clinic". In the sketch Cleese frustrates Palin, (who paid to have a lively 5 minute argument), by only using contradiction.

(Wikipedia.org)

Apotrapaeic: designed to avert evil, e.g. an apotropaic ritual (definition from Mirriam-Webster.com)

Availability Heuristic: a mental shortcut that relies on immediate examples that come to a given person's mind when evaluating a specific topic, concept, method or decision. (Definition from Wikipedia.com). For example, if a person decides to take the train rather than fly after seeing a news story on a plane crash instead of deciding based on travel safety data they are influenced by the availability heuristic.

Psychophysicist:- one who quantitatively investigates the relationship between physical stimuli and the sensations and perceptions they produce. Optical illusions are studied by pyschophysicists.



Scientism: exaggerated trust in science; using science inappropriately including misapplication of methods and over-promising results. An ideology that promotes science as the purportedly objective means by which society should determine normative and epistemological values. (Summarized from my notes & Wikipedia.org)

SJW: Social Justice Warrior. Originally applied to true leaders of social justice (e.g. MLK, Gandhi), now is more commonly a pejorative term for an individual who repeatedly and vehemently engages in arguments on social

justice on the Internet, often in a shallow or not well-thought-out way, for the purpose of raising their own personal reputation. (Definition from Urban Dictionary).

SQW: Status Quo Warrior. The opposite of a Social Justice Warrior (SJW). SQW is a perjorative term for an individual who criticizes, calls out, or opposes SJWs on-line either because they find the SJW to be shallow, self-serving, and insincere or because they themselves defend the status quo without critical thought.

Eschatology: is a part of theology concerned with the final events of history, or the ultimate destiny of humanity. This concept is commonly referred to as the "end of the world" or "end times". (Definition from Wikipedia.org)

Finally, Dr. Jim Alcock from Toronto University advised CSI Con participants to be careful with the words they use when speaking science with non-science people. He shared a version of the

Terms that have different meanings for		
scientists and the public		
Scientific Term	Public	A Better Choice
	Meaning	
enhance	improve	intensify,
		increase
aerosol	spray can	tiny
		atmospheric
		particle
positive trend	good trend	upward trend
positive	good response,	vicious cycle,
feedback	praise	self-reinforcing
		cycle
theory	hunch,	scientific
	speculation	understanding
uncertainty	ignorance	range
error	mistake, wrong,	difference from
	incorrect	exact true
		number
bias	distortion,	offset from an
	political motive	observation
sign	indication,	plus or minus
	astrological sign	sign
values	ethics,	numbers,
	monetary value	quantity
manipulation	illicit tampering	scientific data
		processing
scheme	devious plot	systematic plan
anomaly	abnormal	change from
	occurrence	long term
		average

chart below which suggests better word choice to communicate more effectively with nonscience trained people.

Presidential Notes

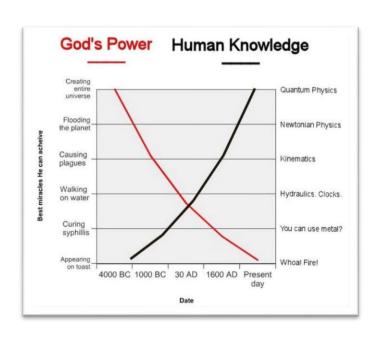
By Roger Schlueter

First, let me apologize for the newsletter being so late this month. Our usual, esteemed Editor, Judy Flattery, is on vacation in Australia and I wanted to hold publication until our program was finalized. But since you're reading this, you know that all's well that ends well.

Speaking of programs, next month we'll be having our usual Winter Solstice Party. Those who have attended in the past know that we always have a jolly good time with great food and friendship aplenty. As usual, reservations will be required and seating is limited, so get all the details in the December issue of the *Secular Circular* and make your reservations right away.

Have a happy Thanksgiving!

Roger



Non HSSB Events of Interest Upcoming Events in California:

- November 2-4: Freedom From Religion Foundation National Convention. Speakers include Cecile Richards, Salman Rushdie, Adam Savage, Julia Sweeney, and many others. San Francisco.
 - https://ffrf.org/outreach/convention
- November 8: Jennifer Doudna: Rewriting the Code of Life: CRISPR Biology and the Future of Genome Editing. UCSB, Campbell Hall. https://artsandlectures.ucsb.edu/Details.aspx?PerfNum=4038
- December 2: Jeh Johnson: National Security: Challenges and Opportunities. UCSB, Campbell Hall. https://artsandlectures.ucsb.edu/Details.aspx?PerfNum=4040

Answers to the Last Month's Frobenius Chicken McNugget Problem:

43 for boxes of 6, 9, and 20 McNuggets 11 for boxes of 4, 6, 9, and 20 McNuggets

HSSB Contact Information

Officers:

President: Roger Schlueter, drogers@cox.net
Secretary: Diane Krohn, djkrohn@cox.net
Treasurer: Neal Faught, nfaught@verizon.net

Board Members at Large:

Wayne Beckman, David Echols, Judy Flattery, Mary Wilk, Nan Cisney, Clover Brodhead Gowing, Colin Gordon

Newsletter Editor & Submission Deadline

Judy Flattery sbhumanisteditor@gmail.com
Deadline for submissions to the Secular Circular is midnight, the last day of each month.

HSSB Speaker meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 3:00 pm, in the Theater Room at Valle Verde, 900 Calle De Los Amigos, Santa Barbara. June and December social events are held elsewhere.

Speaker Meeting Parking (with free shuttle service 805.679.3660) is at Veronica Springs Church, 949 Veronica Springs Rd., Santa Barbara. *No parking at Valle Verde unless you have a handicapped parking placard.*

Check our web site: www.SantaBarbaraHumanists.org for past issues of *SC* At meetings, a donation of \$2 from members and \$5 from non-members is appreciated. First-time visitors and students with ID are welcome on a complimentary basis.

Annual HSSB membership dues are \$36 for a single person, \$60 for a couple, \$100 for a Society Supporter, and \$300 (or more) for a Society Patron. Non-members may subscribe to hardcopy of this newsletter for an annual fee of \$20. E-mail copies provided at no charge.

To join HSSB: Send your contact information and a check for your membership dues to HSSB, P.O. Box 30232, Santa Barbara, CA 93130, Attn: Mary Wilk. For membership information contact Mary Wilk at mwilk@cox.net.

For any information about HSSB, call 805-769-4772. Copies of this and past newsletter are posted on the HSSB website.

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Humanist Society of Santa Barbara PO Box 30232 Santa Barbara, CA 93130

HSSB Calendar

Tuesday Nov 13: Board Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Home of **Mary Wilk**. Members are invited to attend.

Saturday Nov 17: Monthly Meeting 3:00 pm. Speaker: TBD. Location: Valle Verde Theater, 900 Calle De Los Amigos, Santa Barbara.

Tuesday December 11: Board Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Home of **Mary Wilk**. Members are invited to attend.

Saturday December 15: Solstice Celebration; 5pm Cody's Café, Hollister Ave, Goleta, CA

Tuesday January 15: Board Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Home of **Mary Wilk**. Members are invited to attend.

Saturday January 19: Monthly Meeting 3:00 pm. Speaker: TBD. Location: Valle Verde Theater, 900 Calle De Los Amigos, Santa Barbara.