



The Secular Circular

Newsletter of the Humanist Society of Santa Barbara

www.SBHumanists.org

JUNE 2026

Two Live Events in June!

HSSB's Summer Solstice Picnic

When: Sunday June 21, noon – 3pm

Where: Tuckers Grove Park, Group Area 4. Tucker's Grove Park is at the intersection of Turnpike and Cathedral Oaks. Group Area 4 is very near the park entrance.

Cost: \$10 for HSSB Members; \$15 for non-members. We will provide:

- main courses (barbequed tri tip, chicken, veggie burgers, and fixins')
- beverages and interesting 'tax your brain games'

Please bring a dish to share, such as a salad, a side dish, or a dessert.

RSVP for the picnic to judithannfontana@yahoo.com or call/text 805-280-9175



Nick Fish, President of American Atheists: Reimagining American Democracy



Nick Fish

President of American Atheists

Fresh from his key speaker role at the [Reimagining America Summit](#), Nick Fish, President of American Atheists and a seasoned civil rights and civil liberties activist, will share his perspective, particularly salient during these weeks between Juneteenth and the 250th anniversary of American independence. He will invite us to reflect on the nation's founding promises as well as the ongoing work of ensuring true liberty for all. How do we strengthen institutions, deepen participation, and build a more just and inclusive society?

When: Sunday June 28 at 3- 4:30pm

Where: **LIVE!!** at Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 820 North Fairview Road, Goleta CA

AND online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88193881833>.

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

Humanity's Debt to Africa: Evolution, Humanism, and the Legacy of 8 Million Years of African Descent

Dr. David Orenstein – 5-17-26

By Robert Bernstein

The Humanist Society of Santa Barbara and the Freethought Society co-sponsored this presentation by Dr. David Orenstein, Department Chair and a tenured full professor of anthropology at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York. He has taught human evolution, primatology, science history, and science advocacy. He serves on the Board of the American Humanist Association and served as the AHA representative to the United Nations for five years. He also serves on the Smithsonian Institute, Hall of Human Origins Broader Social Impacts

Committee Board. He has authored three books. He describes himself as a happy freethinker and humanist who believes life is best lived with reason and joy for the human condition.



Dr. Orenstein gave an overview of his wide-ranging talk that clearly had a Humanist theme. The talk was organized into four parts.

PART 1: The Elegance of Evolution.

Orenstein explained that evolution is a holistic science. It is all inclusive. What operates naturally in the material world can be studied with the methods of science. Evolutionary biology places all species, living and extinct, into an operational and historical timeline based on fossil, biological, geological, and physical evidence. It is a reasoned, unbiased and humanistic approach to understanding life on earth and in the cosmos. There is always new evidence so “there is never a period at the end of

the sentence.” The field aims to understand how humans fit into evolution.

He offered Six Tenets:

1. The Universe is at least 13.5 billion years old
2. Earth is at least 4.5 billion years old
3. Evolution has proceeded for billions of years with a diverse list of extinct, speciated, and adapted species and ancestors
4. Biological and fossil evidence shows our own species, Homo Sapiens, emerged within Africa about 300,000 years ago
5. About 90,000 years ago, since leaving Africa, we became wanderers, gaining and losing mutations that led to the diversity we see today
6. We have not stopped evolving! We are, at best, a transitional species. We have vestigial structures of earlier versions e.g. our jaws are too thin such that we need to have molars removed. Our coccyx is a remnant of a tail that our ancestors had. Our brain is getting denser and smaller. In contrast, the Star Trek aliens (such as these Talosians) had huge heads and big brains.



Traits that support survival and reproduction will drive change. Each species will be adapted to its environment. This is the essence of Darwin's *Origin of Species*.

Orenstein contrasted evolution theory with the principles of ‘Intelligent Design’ and Creationism:

1. The Bible is a science textbook
2. The Earth is 6,000-10,000 years old
3. There is a Divine Purpose and Cause
4. Evolution is devil-inspired and a lie
5. Noah's Flood explains geology and dinosaurs
6. The Universe and humans were created through a magical act by God. We have not and will not change over time.

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

Orenstein paused on #3 for commentary by Carl Sagan: Where is this deity? He compared it to an imaginary garage fairy that is invisible and cannot be detected. If God designed everything so divinely, why cancer, heart problems, and choking?

There are many design flaws that make perfect sense from an evolutionary perspective, and no sense from a divine design perspective. [For a more detailed discussion of these biological design flaws, watch the video, [Seth Andrews vs. God: Who Is The Better Intelligent Designer?](#) on our HSSB YouTube channeled.]

PART 2: Mr. Darwin, His Life and Times

Time Magazine placed Darwin #12 in its list of top 100 people in history. He would be #6 if you removed the religious figures, fascists, and conquerors!

Darwin's ideas didn't come out of nowhere. Orenstein enumerated a long list of Western and Eastern thinkers who had related ideas going back thousands of years.

Evolutionary Thought Before the Enlightenment	
- Anaximander (610-546 BCE) – Life began in water; Humans arose from different types	Zhuang Zhou (369-286 BCE) – No fixity of species/Taoist Philosophy everything is in transformation
- Empedocles (495-435 BCE) – Intermingling of life; transformation equals change	Al-Jahaz (776-869 CE) – Struggle for existence is often violent in nature; survival of the fittest
- Aristotle (335-322 BCE) – “Scala Naturea” or Ladder of life	Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406 CE) – “Humans developed from the world of monkeys”
- Lucretius (99-55 BCE) – The world arose from the mechanics of nature, no supernatural involvement	
- Gregory of Nyssa (335-394 CE) – Change over time, gradation and gradualization	
- Andreas Verselius (1514-1566) – Anatomy shows humans are neither unique or special	

Evolution itself evolved in the minds of 18th century thinkers, including Darwin's grandfather, Erasmus Darwin. All these thinkers were religious and forced evolution to fit their religious beliefs.

Two geologists impacted Darwin: Adam Sedgwick and Charles Lyell. Sedgwick believed humans were divinely created. He worked on

geological stratigraphy and believed in an ancient Earth. He labeled the Cambrian epoch when there was an early explosion of species. He later opposed Darwin.

Darwin was respected but also belittled. He was sometimes mocked as an ape. Victorian England was steeped in mysticism and the occult. Seances and tarot card readings were common.

Darwin was seen as a lost soul. Darwin was from a wealthy family, but they were not aristocracy. Darwin started in medicine, but he couldn't stand the sight of blood. He left college with a theology degree!

Darwin published *The Voyage of the Beagle*, his book that documented his biology research travels on the Beagle which began in 1832.

Darwin was not a public speaker, and he didn't want to create conflict. His wife Emma Wedgwood (his first cousin) was very religious. She feared he wouldn't get into heaven with his ideas.

It took 20 years for him to publish *On the Origin of Species* because he didn't want to face criticism. He had the support of five important men: T.H. Huxley, A.W. Wallace, J.W. Draper, J.D. Hooker, and Asa Gray.

Wallace had the same ideas as Darwin, after Darwin. But Wallace had written a 20-page piece that pretty much covered what Darwin had taken 400 pages to cover. And Darwin was still sitting on his work. What was to be done?

Fortunately, Wallace was a man of integrity, and they agreed to present jointly on June 30, 1858 to the Linnean Society.

Origin of Species was published in 1859, and it sold out in one day. Huxley debated Bishop Wilberforce on natural selection at Oxford on June 30, 1860. Huxley “wiped the floor” with Wilberforce.

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

This was an age of reform: Women’s rights, anti-slavery, labor rights, anti-child labor, democratization of information access, penal reform. Natural selection fit into this world.

Biologist Theodosius Dobzhansky said: “Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution.”

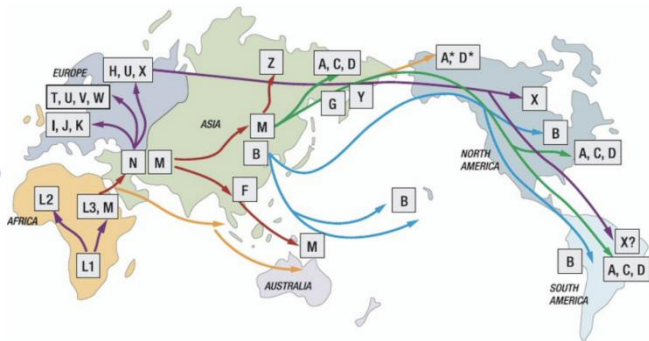
Sir David Attenborough said that *Origin of Species* is the book that most influenced him.

Friedrich Nietzsche famously wrote in his 1882 book, *The Gay Science*, “God is Dead.” He was speaking of the shift of culture at that time. It was said by some that Darwin had killed God. We no longer needed God. We have only ourselves to depend on to understand the world.

This was a very humanistic view. Morality, science, nature and how to treat each other are human concepts, not divine concepts.

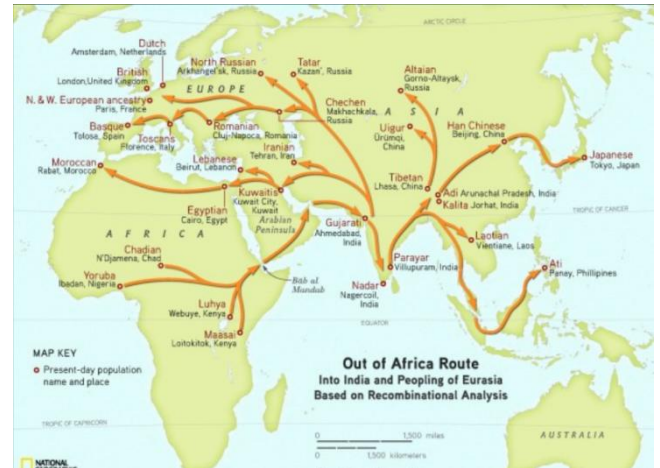
PART 3: The Evolutionary Record for the Record

We have biological as well as fossil evidence for evolution. Orenstein presented two maps showing the route of humans out of Africa. The first is based on Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA).



The second, from National Geographic, is based on fossil evidence.

It is striking how well these maps align! We don’t have many fossils. Fossil formation requires unusual circumstances. Orenstein noted that the rate of fossilization is only about 1/10% of 1% of all living things, and that rarely



is a specimen a complete skeleton. We may only find a jaw or a long bone, a rib, part of a skull or a tooth.

Genus	Dates	Est. Pop.	#Fossil Specimens*
Australopithecine	4.2-1.2MYA	+/- 3000	+/- 300
H. Habilis	2.4 – 1.6 MYA	< 1000	<10
H. Erectus	1.9 MYA – 100 BCE	<55k	<400
H. Neanderthal	130k – 40k BCE	<10k	+/- 200
H. All – Alt (non HSS)	500k – 40k BCE	<1000	<300
Archaic – Modern HSS	750-350 BCE to Present	Thousands to 8 billion	Few to Many Depends on Date

Perhaps the most interesting parts of Orenstein’s talk involved him holding up different skulls for comparison. He started by comparing an early human skull and a chimp skull. Two characteristics were noteworthy: The chimp had fangs and the human did not, and the hole where the spine attaches to the brainstem was almost at the base of the human skull, indicating bipedal walking.

He told an amusing story of walking with a box of skulls through a rough Brooklyn neighborhood where he teaches. He was stopped by police, concerned he might be a serial killer. He showed them that the skulls were casts, not actual skulls. Then he showed his ID and they let him go.

At an airport security screening TSA was not concerned about the collection of skulls, “This is the least of our problems,” the agent told him.

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

He held up the skull of an Australopithecine. He said this was an evolutionary dead end. He said there were many such dead ends that did not lead to modern humans.

One of the most famous human fossils is 'Lucy' who was discovered on November 24, 1974. The Beatles song, *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*, had been playing in the camp at the time. Lucy is *Australopithecus afarensis*. Lucy dates from 4 to 3 million years ago (MYA). She had a very small braincase, but distinctly human features, including a bipedal structure.

Australopithecus Africanus (3-2 MYA) was anatomically more modern than Lucy. Slightly larger brain and had more human facial features.

Representative fossils include the important child fossil called the 'Taung Child' found by anthropologist Raymond Dart in 1924.

Paranthropus Robustus (2-1 MYA) had a gorilla type face. It had teeth like a nutcracker, and a sagittal crest for the attachment of powerful jaw muscles. This indicates a diet of thick tubers and nuts; this early human did not have fangs like a gorilla.

Orenstein noted that nature often solves the same problem in many different ways.

There were other robust Australopithecines. 'Handy Man' *Homo habilis* is one of the earliest members of our genus homo. First discovered by Mary Leakey, possibly a direct ancestor to modern humans, but more likely a transitional species to perhaps *Homo Erectus*. Notably, Oldowan tools were found in this area. These were first discovered in Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania.

Orenstein noted that bipedalism preceded big brains by millions of years.

Homo erectus was the first human species to leave Africa. Its fossils have been found in Europe, Asia, Israel and Palestine. The Asian version is called 'Peking Man'.

There is evidence that they used fire, evidence of rudimentary building of stones to block the wind, and fine tool making. They probably had language.

Neandertals were adapted to the cold. They did not live in Africa. Their front teeth are extremely large and show evidence of wear. They were stocky with large trunks relative to their limb length.

Later Neandertals had less robust front teeth, indicating the use of tools. Their body shape conserved heat as seen in modern arctic humans like the Inuit.

Orenstein went on to quickly mention some other human lines, including the 'hobbit people' of Flores Indonesia, *Homo Florensis*, who were still around as recently as 35,000-50,000 years ago. The Denisovans were anatomically modern humans who lived in Africa almost exclusively until 90,000 to 125,000 years ago. This has been pushed back with new evidence.

Homo Sapiens seems to be the last *Homo* standing. We are one human species. Our current diversity is good for our survival and protects us from extinction.

PART 4: Secular Humanism, Science, and Democracy. Why is this important? Orenstein explained that science and democracy go together in a functioning society.

He listed five Pillars of Humanism:

1. Accept science instead of superstition.
2. Show and share empathy instead of intolerance
3. Favor expertise above innuendo and ignorance
4. Demand truth above lies

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

5. Debate facts and not opinions

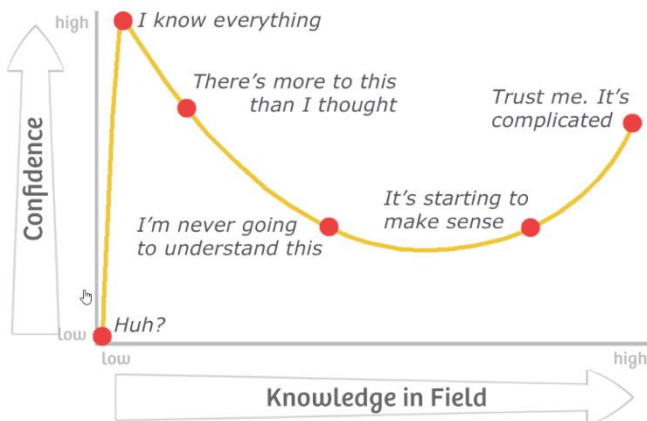


Five Pillars of Humanism

Orenstein mentioned that he does not debate creationists. He doesn't want to give their views more oxygen.

Bertrand Russell wrote, "Without science, democracy is impossible," in his 1926 book, *Education and the Good Life*.

Orenstein spoke of elected officials from Lauren Boebert to Eric Adams, who say religion should direct government. He talked of the 'Dunning-Krugerization' of U.S. and global politics. "We have to be the guardrails."



Dunning Kruger Effect. Source: Agile Coffee

Creationists are similar to the tobacco industry: they push 'the controversy' as if there is a controversy. He said the Creation Museum is basically The Flintstones, which was basically

The Honeymooners. You can love it for what it is: humorous.

He offered this Carl Sagan quote from *The Demon-Haunted World: Science as a Candle in the Dark*: "If we can't think for ourselves, if we're unwilling to question authority, then we're just putty in the hands of those in power. But, if the citizens are educated and form their own opinions, then those in power work for us. In every country, we should be teaching our children the scientific method and the reasons for a Bill of Rights. With it comes a certain decency, humility, and community spirit."

And this quote from Christopher Hitchens: "What can be asserted without evidence can also be dismissed without evidence."

Orenstein offered these Final Thoughts on Making and Taking a Stand:

- It's not what we've done in the movement that matters most. It is what we do next that defines us within the movement.
- We don't rest on our laurels.
- We don't opine for the Halcyon Days.
- We speak and resist.
- We lead through dignity, compassion, and rational free thought.
- We add our own 'flavor' to the movement.

Orenstein then took questions and comments.

Q: What do big teeth on a fossil skull indicate?
A. He explained that big teeth don't necessarily mean flesh-eating. Gorillas have fangs/large canines and are primarily herbivores. Their large teeth are for defense, to intimidate rivals, and to establish dominance within their group.

Q. What is so special about Africa? Is it possible that humans didn't just arise in Africa?

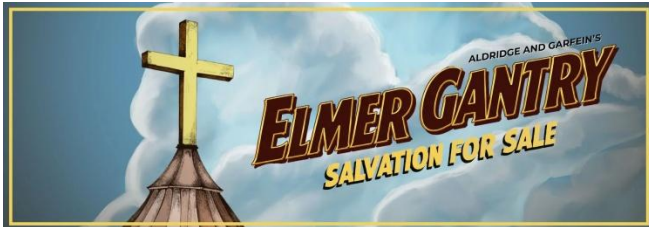
A. He said that humans only arose in Africa and spread from there. He said that Africa went through dramatic changes and offered diverse

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

environments, from deciduous forests to deserts, providing an opportunity for rich evolutionary diversity.

Opera Santa Barbara: Elmer Gantry

Five HSSB members took advantage of the opportunity to see the Opera Santa Barbara production of *Elmer Gantry*, at the Lobero Theater on May 3. The opera is based on the 1927 novel by Sinclair Lewis about an unprincipled man with a talent for enrolling people to follow him, and to believe in whatever it is he's selling. He becomes a 'revivalist tent' type of preacher.



We enjoyed the performance. Perhaps we were most struck by the excellent essay written by the play's director and published in the program.



The Elmer Gantry Excursion Group: Maxyne, Nan, Meredith, Judy F. (missing: the 'other Judy F')

Please take a moment to read and reflect on what director Tara Faircloth had to say about *Elmer Gantry*:

"There is a particular kind of American hunger... restless, outsized, dressed up in borrowed righteousness... that is almost perfectly captured in Sinclair Lewis' novel of 1927: *Elmer Gantry*. A man of tremendous appetite but very little moral center, Elmer is a character all too familiar to a modern audience: a man who stumbles from one success to another, with little regard for the human wreckage he leaves behind.

"When we first encounter Elmer, he is gloriously free. He drinks too much, wants too much, and possesses the one gift most dangerous in the hands of an unprincipled man: the ability to make others believe. It is this gift, not faith, certainly not goodness, that draws him into the orbit of the revivalist tent, into a world that rewards exactly the talents he was born with.

"And then there is Sharon Falconer, the moral and dramatic heart of this opera. Sharon believes with her whole being: in God, in her mission, in the transformative power of revival. That belief is genuine, entrancing, and it eventually kills her. Elmer Gantry believes in almost nothing beyond himself, and he survives. The opera refuses to punish him satisfyingly or redeem him meaningfully. He simply... continues.

"This opera does not offer a tidy moral. Instead, it reflects a deeply upsetting truth: American public life rewards performance over substance. The revival tent, the political rally, the sales pitch... they are all the same mechanism.



Director: Tara Faircloth

What the crowd responds to is not truth but the *feeling of truth*, and they will follow whomever can give it to them. The society that turns spiritual hunger into entertainment and

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

commerce deserves the Elmer Gantry it produces. He is the logical endpoint of a culture that cannot distinguish between genuine faith and manufactured charisma, between a prophet and a pitchman.

“Which brings us to the painful question: if the righteous burn and the opportunists endure... and if we have cheered for each of them... what does that say about us?”

HSSB Participates in 40th Annual I Madonnari Street Painting Festival

The 40th annual I Madonnari Street painting festival took place over Memorial Day weekend (May 23-25). HSSB participated for the first time by sponsoring a magnificent 7' x 7' square highlighting the wonders of science.

HSSB member, Merlie Samonte created this masterpiece, with emotional support provided by her friend, Deeta. HSSB scored a great location between the entrance and the Mission steps and had good foot traffic throughout the festival weekend.

at Santa Barbara County schools. This event is their annual primary fundraiser.



Merlie Samonte and her friend, Deeta.
Photo Credit: Robert Bernstein



Merlie Samonte with her beautiful chalk painting.
Photo Credit: Robert Bernstein

The festival is organized by the Children's Creative Project which supports Art Education

On behalf of HSSB, thank you, Merlie, for creating this beautiful, positive pro-Science message and sharing it with the estimated 35,000 visitors to I Madonnari this year.

HSSB Hosts American Atheists Allies

Samantha McGuire, Director of Grassroots Organizing & Advocacy at American Atheists, and her spouse, Jay Ball, visited Santa Barbara on May 17 to connect with members of HSSB. Several of us are members of both organizations. We enjoyed dinner together at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.

American Atheists was founded in 1963 by Madalyn Murray O'Hair following the landmark Supreme Court case that ruled mandatory school prayer unconstitutional. We value and

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

appreciate the work they do on behalf of atheists, humanists, skeptics, freethinkers, and religious people who value civil rights for all and the separation of religion and government.



Dinner at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.
Robert & Merlie, Judy & Phil, Wendy, Ann, Gary,
Jay Ball, Sam McGuire, Judy, Dave

Note that the current president of American Atheists, Nick Fish, will be visiting Santa Barbara later this month and speaking live to HSSB and Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation at the Live Oak Fairview Road campus. Hope to see you there!

Excursion to See *Eleanor* at The Rubicon Theater in Ventura



Eleanor dinner attendees. Standing: Marian, Judy, Judy, Dave, Margaret, Tom, Wendy, Paul.
Seated: Nan, Anabel, Bruce, Lynn, Phil, Mikayla.

HSSB organized an excursion to see the 1-woman play, *Eleanor*, at the Rubicon Theater in Ventura on Sunday May 31.

The play starring Kandis Chappell recounts private and public moments in the life of Eleanor Roosevelt. We were amazed that Kandis Chappell (age 78!) was able to memorize and deliver her lines in the distinctive voice of Eleanor Roosevelt for about 95 minutes without a break! An incredible performance poignantly bringing the essence of Eleanor Roosevelt to life. There was so much we learned about the humanity, grit, and courage of this incredible First Lady.

J. Scott Lapp, the artistic director, sums up the play this way, "*Eleanor* by Mark St. Germain is a stunning portrait of Eleanor Roosevelt, one of the most influential women in American history. As the narrator, First Lady Eleanor spins a tale of politicians, society, and the small moments between historical giants, taking us from her childhood through the presidency, and from affairs of the heart to affairs of the state. This tour-de-force solo show of the first lady we think we know explores quiet, private memories that made Eleanor who she was: an advocate for the

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

underdogs, a paragon of fairness, and, above all, the heart of the country. As she weaves the tale of her public and private lives, we see her at times as both strong and vulnerable. The impact of the passionate and unforgettable woman at the heart of her husband’s presidency cannot be overstated.”

We all learned so much about Eleanor Roosevelt, her values, and her impact.

After the show, we had dinner together at Café Fiore restaurant. We had a very interesting and accomplished group of attendees including leaders of allied organizations and HSSB members. Margaret Downey, the founder and president of the Freethought Society and of the Thomas Paine Memorial Association joined us, along with Bruce Gleason, the founder of Backyard Skeptics who produced the LogiCal LA conferences. Paul Schmeer was there. He previously led a group of Humanists in Ventura County and also provided instrumental support to the Secular Student Alliance. Paul played a pivotal role in the removal of the statue of Padre Junipero Serra from in front of Ventura City Hall and from the Ventura County seal. Archeologist Anabel Ford, who spoke to HSSB about her work in El Pilar, was there too, in addition to our own interesting and accomplished HSSB members.

In Memoriam: Richard Martin



Richard Martin, 1936-2026
Source: SB Independent

Richard Martin died on Sunday May 10. He was a member of HSSB for many years. He served on the Board and held the offices of both Treasurer and later President of our Society.

Richard was a chemist and a scholar, earning a Ph.D. in physical chemistry and a post

doc fellowship at Harvard. He was a tenured professor of chemistry, later a Professor Emeritus, at UCSB. He published over 80 scientific papers and was a visiting professor at several universities overseas.

He loved traveling the world, reading, writing, building, improving, and fixing things in his shop. He was physically active and loved the outdoors. Richard was a brilliant and passionate man, who believed in science, rational thought, and humanism. Details of his extraordinary life can be found [here](#).

In Memoriam: Loretta Redd

Loretta Redd died last month. She was an extraordinary human being and a member of HSSB for many years. She was a panelist at the HSSB meeting in March 2004 discussing the movie, *The Passion of the Christ*. Loretta wrote an article for this newsletter in July 2004 called *Redd's Rants* about the Bush-Cheney re-election campaign and their efforts to recruit religious



Loretta Redd with Lois Capps
9/9/2018

Photo Credit: Marian Shapiro

volunteers to the campaign. She was very active in civil rights, particularly in providing a voice and support for AIDS patients and their families. She was an Air Force captain later earning a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology. She was a wedding officiant who married at least one of our HSSB couples. She was also the author of two books. Loretta was deeply engaged in community through her work with the Alzheimer’s Association, Indivisible Santa Barbara and other organizations. You can read more about her extraordinary life [here](#).

The HSSB Secular Circular – June 2026

HSSB member, Nancy Wahl shares her memory of Loretta: “I first met Loretta when she spoke at a HSSB event at Vista del Monte 2+ decades ago as head of the local Alzheimer’s chapter. We became friends soon after. I especially enjoyed summer dinners on our patio where we would discuss all sorts of politically incorrect topics without concern of offending anyone. She was always very informed – and very strong minded – which made for some lively discussions.

“Fourteen years ago, I asked if she would like to be the wedding officiant for Melinda and me. She said yes. Loved the idea and went on to do that as a side gig for many years.

“Loretta was a solid progressive but never bought into the entire slate. She was a fiercely independent thinker with a big, generous heart. I’ll always remember her southern charm, impeccable wardrobe, quirky glasses and the fact that she always brought treats for our dogs.”

A celebration of life service for Loretta Redd will be held June 20 at 5 p.m. at the Mural Room of the Santa Barbara Courthouse.



Loretta Redd officiates at the wedding of Melinda Mettler and HSSB member Nancy Wahl, October 2014

Upcoming Events of Interest to Humanists

Submitted by Diane Krohn

June 11-14: *CSIcon 2026*, Buffalo, NY. 50th Anniversary of the Center for Skeptical Inquiry. Speakers include Mary Roach, Bill Nye, Stuart Vyse, Benjamin Radford, Banachek, Eugenie Scott, and many others. [CSIcon 2026](#)

June 20: *Reimagining America Summit*. This is a gathering to bring together leaders, activists, scholars, and community members of all ages for thoughtful conversations about the future of our shared civic life. Hosted by Atheists United. This is a live event at Rancho Palos Verde, CA. [Reimagining America Summit](#)

HSSB Contact Information

Officers: *President & Editor:* Judy Flattery, sbhumanisteditor@gmail.com

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Board Members at Large:

Wayne Beckman, Robert Bernstein, Judith Fontana, Gary Noreen, Mary Wilk

To Join or Donate to HSSB: Annual Membership dues \$36 for an individual, \$60 for a couple, \$100 for a Society Supporter and \$300 (or more) for a Society Patron. Dues payments and other donations can be made via

- PayPal (Paypal.me/SBHumanists or QR code below). At the PayPal site, select ‘Send’ then log into your PayPal account to complete the transaction. Or
- Zelle (HSSBpayments@gmail.com) or
- Checks made out to *Humanist Society of Santa Barbara* and mailed to Mary Taylor, HSSB, P.O. Box 30232, Santa Barbara, CA 93130.
- Please include your name and contact information when submitting payments.
- Membership questions? Contact Mary Taylor at HSSB.Membership777@gmail.com

Watch our speaker videos on [YouTube](#). Subscribe to our [Meetup](#) page to be notified of upcoming events.



meetup  YouTube



Humanist Society of Santa Barbara
P.O. Box 30232
Santa Barbara, CA 93130

HSSB Calendar

Tuesday June 16, 5:00 pm Pacific. HSSB Board Meeting. Members always welcome to attend.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83592300667>.

Sunday June 21, Noon - 3:00 pm Pacific. HSSB Summer Solstice Picnic at Tuckers Grove Park. Area 4. RSVP to Judy Fontana judithannfontana@yahoo.com or 805 280-9175

Sunday June 28: Nick Fish, President of American Atheists, *Reimagining American Democracy*. Co-sponsored by Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation (LOUUC) in Goleta. **In person at LOUUC** (820 North Fairview Road, Goleta) and on Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88193881833>.

Tuesday July 14. 5:00 pm Pacific. HSSB Board Meeting. Members always welcome to attend.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83592300667>.

Saturday July 18, 3:00 pm Pacific. Abe Bonowitz: *Why I Support Abolishing the Death Penalty*. On Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88193881833>.

Tuesday August 18. 5:00 pm Pacific, HSSB Board Meeting. Members always welcome to attend.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83592300667>.

Saturday August 22. 3:00pm Pacific. Bee Bloeser: *Fighting Smallpox in Africa Amid Tribalism, Terror, and the Cold War*. Co-sponsored by Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation (LOUUC) in Goleta. **In person at LOUUC** (820 North Fairview Road, Goleta) and on Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88193881833>.