THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CENTRAL CONNECTICUT

AHA Chapter

February 2003

ASHS Affiliate

Walter Kaufmann, Humanist Hero

Join us at the Unitarian Society of New Haven, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden, on Monday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m. when Douglas Peary will introduce us to his latest Humanist Hero, Walter Kaufmann. Doug says of Kaufmann, "He wrote some of the finest books I have ever had the privilege to read."

Walter Kaufmann was a professor of philosophy at Princeton. Raised as a Christian in Germany where he was born in 1920, he converted to Judaism on his own at age 12 because he could not believe in the trinity. Imagine his surprise to learn that he was already a Jew and his grandmother had converted to Christianity. In 1938 he came to the United States and attended Williams college where he became a skeptic and unbeliever. He died at the early age of 60 in 1980.

As is our custom, we'll start off with twenty minutes of informal conversation and refreshments at 7:30 p.m. At 7:50 June Schafer will speak briefly on the popular topic "Why I Am a Humanist." Doug Peary's talk will begin promptly at 8:00. Bring a friend and join us this Presidents' Day, Monday, February 17!

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY, 2003		
Sat., 8	Conversations, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike *What are we for?*	**3:30 p.m.**
Mon., 10	Dinner at Gabriele Restaurant, 326 Boston Post Road, Orange	**7:00 p.m.**
Mon., 17	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Tnpk.	**7:30 p.m.**
	Coffee and conversation	**7:30 p.m.**
	June Schafer — *Why I am a Humanist*	**7:50 p.m.**
	Main program. Doug Peary — *Walter Kaufmann, Humanist Hero*	**8:00 p.m.**
Sat., 22	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike	**2:00 p.m.**
Wed., 26	Dinner at Connecticut's oldest inn, the Curtis House, Main Street South, Woodbury	**7:00 p.m.**
MARCH, 2003		
Sat., 1	Conversations, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike Bring a book to share.	**3:30 p.m.**
Mon., 10	Dinner at Gabriele Restaurant, 326 Boston Post Road, Orange	**7:00 p.m.**
Mon., 17	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Tnpk.	**7:30 p.m.**
	Coffee and conversation	**7:30 p.m.**
	TBD — *Why I am a Humanist*	**7:50 p.m.**
	Main program. Jon Miseler, adventurer, entrepreneur, and environmentalist: *Saving Threatened Species and Creating Third-World Jobs*	**8:00 p.m.**
Sun., 23	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike	**2:00 p.m.**
Wed., 26	Dinner at Connecticut's oldest inn, the Curtis House, Main Street South, Woodbury	**7:00 p.m.**

Mystic/Noank on Utilitarianism

The Mystic/Noank group is meeting Saturday, February 15 at the Mystic Noank Library at 10:15 a.m. Relevant background information on the topic, which is Utilitarianism, is available on the internet at http://ethics.acusd.edu/resources/cases/HomeOverview.asp and at http://www.utilitarianism.com/index.htm.

If you need directions call George at (860) 449-0800.

www.cthumanist.org

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The editor would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

Sad News

I am sorry to report that member Joan Martens of Woodbury succumbed to cancer on Sunday, February 2.

Conversations

Our winter meetings have been scheduled in the afternoon both to avoid icy nights and to provide a time more congenial to folks who don't want to drive at night. We may continue this schedule because of availability of space at the Center. Cynthia would like to know whether evening or afternoon makes a difference to your attendance.

This Saturday, February 8 at 3:30 p.m. in the USNH library we will ask, "What are we, Humanists, *for*?" What we may be against may be voiced more frequently but what we are for and perhaps more important why. How do we express the guidelines of our lives?

Bring a book to tell us about on Saturday, March 1 at 3:30 p.m. We enjoyed doing this before so much that we're doing it again. Fact or fiction there is no restriction on subject.

Secular Congress, Washington D.C.

A congress, hosted by the Council for Secular Humanism, will be held in Washington, D.C. during April 11-13, 2003. The conference will be on the topic "One Nation Without God: Secularism, Society and Justice." Among the speakers will be Christopher Hitchens, Michael Newdow, Peter Beinart (Editor of The New Republic), Julia Sweeney (of Saturday Night Live), Ibn Warraq, Eugenie Scott, Rob Tielman (Commissioner of Education of the Netherlands), Eddie Tabash, and others. For details, see www.secularhumanism.org or contact info@SecularHumanism.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Adult $35
Family $50
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In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. Please mail checks for annual membership payable to Humanist Association of Central Connecticut to: **Humanist Association of Central Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321.**

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