



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

April 2006



CSH Affiliate

Complicity:

How the North Promoted, Prolonged, and Profited from Slavery

Join us on Monday, April 17, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden when Joel Lang will talk about slavery in Connecticut and the Northeast.

Joel Lang has been with the *Hartford Courant* since 1968 and since 1981 has been a staff writer for its Sunday magazine, formerly *Northeast*, now *NE*. Joel was the lead writer on a special 80-page issue of *Northeast* titled "Complicity", published September 29, 2002, which focused on Connecticut's involvement in slavery. Co-authored by Anne Farrow, Joel Lang, and Jenifer Frank, *Complicity* the book expands this idea to the North.

Noted slavery historian Ira Berlin recently reviewed the book in the *Washington Post*. He said, "This tough-minded book reveals Northern slavery to have been neither a marginal nor short-lived institution but a central element of the region's economy and society."

Bring a friend to 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday, April 17. Coffee and conversation will begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by the main presentation at 8:00 p.m.

Calendar of Events

APRIL, 2006

Sat., 1	Humanist Conversations: Planning Meeting	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 3	Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. RSVP at humanism.meetup.com . (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 17	Monthly meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden Coffee and conversation	7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
	Main program: <i>Complicity</i> by <i>Hartford Courant</i> staff writer Joel Lang	8:00 p.m.
Wed. 19	Lecture: Dr. Niles Eldredge, "What Darwin Saw" at Luce Hall Auditorium, 34 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, followed by dinner at Indochine Pavilion, 1180 Chapel St., New Haven	4:00 p.m.
Wed., 26	Dinner at Lisboa, 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 30	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:30 p.m.

MAY, 2006

Mon., 1	Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. RSVP at humanism.meetup.com . (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
TBA	Humanist Conversations: TBA	TBA
Sun., 7	Anniversary meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden Coffee and conversation	2:30 p.m. 2:30 p.m.
	Main program: Ellery Schempp	3:00 p.m.
Sun., 21	Book discussion, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden: <i>The Da Vinci Code</i> by Dan Brown.	3:30 p.m.
Sun., 28	Board meeting, USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden	2:30 p.m.
Wed., 31	Dinner at Lisboa, 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789 for directions.	7:00 p.m.

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Our Next Topic of Conversation...

Join us on April 1 at 2:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike to brainstorm what we want to talk about in future conversations. Previously suggested general areas to consider include (but should not be limited to) education, energy, humanism, international issues, science, secularism, social issues and social justice. What rocks your humanism? As usual, refreshments will be served.

Book Group: The Da Vinci Code

We'll discuss Dan Brown's immensely popular and highly controversial novel, *The Da Vinci Code*, on Sunday, May 21 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. We plan to schedule a follow-up meeting for which we will read selected articles critiquing various claims in the book. For this first discussion, your mission is to read the book or listen to it on tape. There are many copies of both the book and the unabridged recording in local public libraries. You may also want to watch the movie which is expected to be released on May 19. We'll discuss the story on May 21 and we'll go into depth on the claims of the book at a later date. As usual, refreshments will be served.

"What Darwin Saw" and Dinner

Come to the Luce Hall Auditorium at 34 Hillhouse Avenue in New Haven on Wednesday, April 19 at 4:00 p.m. and attend a free public lecture, "What Darwin Saw", by Dr. Niles Eldredge, noted paleontologist and curator of the Darwin Exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

Join us for dinner after the lecture at Indochine Pavilion, a Vietnamese restaurant, at 1180 Chapel St., New Haven.

Anniversary Speaker Announced

Join us at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 7, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden when our anniversary speaker will be Ellery Schempp, the primary student involved in the 1963 United States Supreme Court case of Abington School District v. Schempp which declared that public school-sanctioned Bible readings were unconstitutional.

MEMBERSHIP

- i Adult \$35
- i Family \$50
- i Newsletter Only \$10

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

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