



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

February 2007



CSH Affiliate

## “Julian Huxley, Humanist Hero”

Join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday, February 19, when Rev. Douglas Peary will present the life and beliefs of Sir Julian Huxley, the latest chapter in his Humanist Heroes series.

Sir Julian Huxley was born in 1887 and died in 1975. He was the grandson of Thomas Huxley, Darwin’s Bulldog. Julian Huxley may have been the greatest promoter of evolution of his generation. He was a biologist, zoologist, and religious Humanist, promoting the concept of natural, evolutionary religion in this world where there is no God, where science and reason reveal the evolutionary world in which we live.

Huxley is so famous today among evolutionary religious writers that he is mentioned repeatedly in their writing, along with Darwin, Thomas Huxley, Richard Dawkins, Stephen Jay Gould, and Edward O. Wilson. Some of these writers are Wendell Berry, Brian Swimme, and Loyal Rue. Unitarian Universalist Evangelists of evolution, husband and wife team, Rev. Michael Dowd and biologist Connie Barlow, refer to Huxley repeatedly on their web site, <http://www.thegreatstory.org/>.

Rev. Douglas Peary was a charter member of and is the

## Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT

### FEBRUARY, 2007

Sat., 3	Humanist Conversations: “The New Atheists”	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 5	PBS Nova video: “Galileo’s Battle for the Heavens” based on the book by Dava Sobel	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 11	Book Group: “Galileo’s Daughter” by Dava Sobel	3:30 p.m.
Mon., 12	Darwin Day Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions. RSVP at <a href="http://humanism.meetup.com">humanism.meetup.com</a> .	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 19	Monthly meeting <b>Main program:</b> Douglas Peary, “Julian Huxley, Humanist Hero”	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Sun., 25	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Wed., 28	Dinner at Mayor Mike’s Restaurant, 283 Asylum Street, Hartford. (860) 522-6453 for directions.	7:00 p.m.

### MARCH, 2007

Sun., 4	Lori Lipman Brown, lobbyist for the Secular Coalition for America.	3:00 p.m.
Mon., 12	Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions. RSVP at <a href="http://humanism.meetup.com">humanism.meetup.com</a> .	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 19	Monthly meeting <b>Main program:</b> Ken Feder	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Sun., 25	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Wed., 28	Dinner at Mayor Mike’s Restaurant, 283 Asylum Street, Hartford. (860) 522-6453 for directions.	7:00 p.m.

[WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG](http://WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG)

Vice-President of this organization. He attends the Meriden Unitarian Universalist Society, is an ordained UU minister and certified Humanist

minister. Bring a friend to 700 Hartford Turnpike at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 19, for coffee and conversation followed by Doug’s presentation!

[www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org)

**E-mail List**

To join, send an e-mail addressed to [majordomo@cthumanist.org](mailto:majordomo@cthumanist.org) with **subscribe announce** in the body of the message.

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# Conversations: The New Atheists

Join us for Humanist Conversations on February 3 at 2:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden when we will watch and discuss a section from the January 5, 2007 PBS *Religion and Ethics NewsWeekly* on the New Atheists, featuring Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, Julia Sweeney, and Paul Kurtz.

# Book Group: Galileo's Daughter

There is still time to get the book "Galileo's Daughter" by Dava Sobel and read it prior to our discussion on February 11.

There will also be an optional viewing of "Galileo's Battle for the Heavens," a NOVA documentary based on Dava Sobel's book. We will meet at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday Feb. 5 at 7:00 p.m. The video (120 minutes) will start at 7:15 p.m.

Join us on Sunday, February 11, from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden to discuss *Galileo's Daughter: A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith, and Love* by Dava Sobel. This is a fascinating story about freedom of thought, persecution by the Church for saying what one believes, and about the person considered to be the founder of modern science. There are lots of copies in Connecticut public libraries as well as in bookstores and on-line. There are even several copies of an excellent unabridged reading of the book (read by George Guidall) in Connecticut libraries.

Galileo died on January 8, 1642 and he was born on February 15, 1564 (or within a few days of that date) so we will meet at a good time to commemorate his birthday. Either reading the book or watching the video will be considered adequate preparation for this discussion. So join us on February 5 to watch the video and February 11 to discuss this timely story!

"Sobel is a master storyteller.... What she has done, with her choice of excerpts and her strong sense of story, is bring a great scientist to life." *The New York Times Book Review*, Alan Lightman

"Gripping." *Los Angeles Times*

"Innovative history and a wonderfully told tale." *Newsweek*

"Galileo's Daughter" was named a Notable Book of the Year by the New York Times, Entertainment Weekly, Esquire, and the American Library Association.

**MEMBERSHIP**

- i Adult . . . . . \$35
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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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