



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT



CSH Affiliate

October 2012

Supreme Court Review: What Is In Store?

The Supreme Court closed out last year's term with high drama, upholding most of the provisions of the Affordable Care Act on the last day. It is now October, when the Supreme Court begins its new term. Will the Court do away with racial preferences altogether when it considers the constitutionality of affirmative action in a case involving the University of Texas? Many court-watchers expect the Court to accept cases involving the Voting Rights Act, and there are a few cases involving gay marriage that appear headed for a decision this term. Other interesting cases involve drug-sniffing dogs. Do police need a warrant to use a drug-sniffing dog to identify a "grow house?" And, if a dog indicates that there is contraband in a car, does that give the police the right to search the car and its passengers? These are just some of the cases that will be decided by next summer.

Dan Blinn, an HAC member and an attorney admitted to practice before the Supreme Court, will discuss the current composition of the Supreme Court and will address recent and upcoming Supreme Court cases at our October monthly meeting.

Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at meetup.com/cthumanist.

OCTOBER

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| Sat., 6 | Humanist Conversations: The Uprising of '34 | 2:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 15 | Monthly Meeting | 7:30 p.m. |
| | Main program: Dan Blinn "Supreme Court Review: What Is In Store?" | 8:00 p.m. |
| Sat., 20 | Book Discussion: "Galápagos" by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. | 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. |
| Sun., 21 | Board meeting | 2:30 p.m. |
| Tue., 23 | Hartford Area Dinner at Hanafin's Pub, 21 Rankin Rd., Glastonbury. (860) 659-8599.
Guest Speaker: State Rep. Prasad Srinivasan | 6:30 p.m. |

NOVEMBER

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| Sat., 3 | United Coalition for Reason Workshop | |
| Mon., 5 | Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002 | 7:00 p.m. |
| Sun., 18 | Board meeting | 2:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 19 | Monthly Meeting | 7:30 p.m. |
| | Main program: Kimberley Hynes of Common Cause on Citizens United and elections | 8:00 p.m. |
| Tue., 27 | Hartford Area Dinner at Hanafin's Pub, 21 Rankin Rd., Glastonbury. (860) 659-8599.
Guest Speaker: TBA | 6:30 p.m. |

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As a special bonus, Dan (who practices primarily in the area of consumer protection) will discuss the importance of credit reports and give some tips on how to avoid credit reporting problems.

Join us Monday, October 15 at

700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. We will begin with refreshments and conversation at 7:30 p.m. The program will begin at 8:00 p.m., followed by plenty of time for discussion. Come and bring a friend!

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To join, send an email to:
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Officers

- President June Schafer
(203) 281-6232
president@cthumanist.org
- Vice-President Douglas Peary
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Committee Chairs

- Program David Schafer
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- Publicity Dan Blinn
- Hospitality Randy Olear

Newsletter

- Editor Carol Siddall
(203) 264-8546
editor@cthumanist.org
- Production: Richard Siddall
(203) 264-2182
webmaster@cthumanist.org

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Conversations: The Uprising of '34

Barely publicized and rarely acknowledged in history books, the General Textile Strike of 1934 remains a stirring yet amazingly forgotten chapter in Southern history. Famed documentarian George Stoney and independent filmmakers Judith Helfand and Susanne Rostock spent nearly six years tracking down and interviewing surviving strikers and their relatives in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and North and South Carolina. The result is the film, *The Uprising of '34*, which we will view at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 6 at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. Refreshments will be served.

Book Discussion: "Galápagos"

Kurt Vonnegut's "Galápagos" takes the reader back one million years, to A.D. 1986. A simple vacation cruise suddenly becomes an evolutionary journey. Thanks to an apocalypse, a small group of survivors stranded on the Galápagos Islands are about to become the progenitors of a brave, new, and totally different human race. In this inimitable novel, America's master satirist looks at our world and shows us all that is sadly, madly awry—and all that is worth saving. Join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, on Saturday, October 20, at 3:00 p.m. Copies of the novel are available in public libraries.

Hartford Area Dinner

Our guest speaker for the Hartford-area dinner will be State Representative Prasad Srinivasan. Rep. Srinivasan was involved in the founding of Connecticut's first Hindu Temple in Middletown, CT. He will share his experience as a state representative who does not follow an Abrahamic religion. Join us October 23 at Hanafin's Pub, 21 Rankin Road, Glastonbury, CT. We'll meet for drinks and socializing at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321. Submissions and requests for permission to reprint articles should be made to this address or to editor@cthumanist.org. We welcome humanist-themed letters, articles, poetry, news items, cartoons, and illustrations.

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MEMBERSHIP

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 Our membership year is 1/1-12/31.
 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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 Please add me to the e-mail Announce List (circle one): YES NO
 Please do not mail me a newsletter (circle one): YES NO
 Where did you hear about us? _____
 Comments: _____