



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
**The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION**  
of CONNECTICUT



AHA Chapter

April 2018

UU Humanists Local Group

## Connecticut Food Bank

In May, 2009, the Humanist Association of Connecticut fielded its first team for the Connecticut Food Bank's Walk Against Hunger. We've participated almost every year since then, including this year. But have you ever wondered how this walk fits into the big picture of addressing hunger in Connecticut?

Bring a dish to our potluck Anniversary Meeting on Monday, April 16, when we welcome Mia Freedenfeld, the Special Events Manager for the Connecticut Food Bank. We'll find out the reality of who's hungry in Connecticut today, what resources are available to help hungry people, and how the Connecticut Food Bank fits into the mix of resources. We'll learn how the walk helps, and how we can help beyond the walk.

Mia joined the Connecticut Food Bank in February of 2017, just in time to take over planning for last year's walk. She has been involved in events for the not-for-profit world for thirteen years and especially enjoys being able to engage the community in the mission of the food bank.

Our anniversary meeting is a potluck, so please bring a dish to share, and remember we'll have anniversary cake! We're planning on giving the night's collection to the Connecticut Food Bank, but Mia has agreed to bring a collection box, so if you remember, please bring a non-perishable food item.

Join us for this special presentation on our 29th anniversary on Monday, April 16, at 7:00 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike!

We will start with a potluck dinner at 7:00 p.m. with our main presentation after brief announcements at 7:30 p.m.

## Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at [meetup.com/cthumanist](http://meetup.com/cthumanist).

### APRIL 2018

Mon., 2	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 7	Explorations: The Gilded Age	2:00 p.m
Sat., 14	Book Discussion: "The Blithedale Romance" by Nathaniel Hawthorne	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Mon., 16	Anniversary Meeting & Potluck Dinner Main program: Connecticut Food Bank	7:00 p.m 7:30 p.m
Sun., 22	Board meeting	3:30 p.m
Mon., 23	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. (203) 248-9663. Topic: Bitcoin and Blockchain	7:00 p.m
Thu., 26	Dining Out for Life at Caffe Bravo, 794 Orange Street, New Haven	6:00 p.m
Sun., 29	Connecticut Food Bank Walk Against Hunger, Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven	1:00 p.m

### MAY 2018

Sat., 5	Explorations: Virginia Lee Burton; A Sense of Place	2:30 p.m
Mon., 7	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 19	Book Discussion: TBA	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Mon., 21	Monthly Meeting Main program: Ken Feder	7:00 p.m 7:30 p.m
Sun., 27	Board meeting	3:30 p.m
Mon., 28	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. (203) 248-9663. Topic: TBA	7:00 p.m

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

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## Explorations: Virginia Lee Burton; A Sense of Place

Born in 1909, Virginia Lee Burton was a leading author of children's literature and understood how to invoke the curiosity in young minds with the goal of making learning an inherent component of their adult lives. Her books and illustrations are classics of children's literature. A staunch feminist, she was the founder of The Folly Cove Designers in Gloucester, Massachusetts, the work of which is on display at MFA in Boston, and the Metropolitan in NY. Join us for this moving PBS visual essay about this gentle and charming woman at the usual time of 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 5, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

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

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

## Hunger Walk

Join us at Lighthouse Park in New Haven at 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 29, 2018 for the annual Connecticut Food Bank Walk Against Hunger! Donate at: [www.cthumanist.org/walk](http://www.cthumanist.org/walk).

## Discussion: Bitcoin/Blockchain/So What?

Blockchain is the new technology that makes Bitcoin and other crypto-currencies possible. But did you know that blockchain has the potential to be as revolutionary as double-entry bookkeeping? Find out why in this article from MIT's Technology Review ([www.technologyreview.com/s/610781/in-blockchain-we-trust](http://www.technologyreview.com/s/610781/in-blockchain-we-trust)), and bring your dreams about the future blockchain could make possible to dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 23, at Wood 'n' Tap in Hamden.

## Dining Out for Life - April 26

For the 12th year, AIDS Project New Haven (APNH) has been part of an annual international fundraising event benefitting AIDS-related organizations called Dining Out for Life.

This year, the event will take place in Connecticut on Thursday, April 26. Participating restaurants will donate 25% (or more) of their proceeds for the night to APNH.

Members and friends of HAC and Yale Humanists will be gathering at 6:00 p.m. on April 26 at Caffè Bravo at 794 Orange Street in New Haven: [caffebravo.com](http://caffebravo.com)

Please reserve a seat at one of our tables there by signing up on our Meetup, at the HAC April 16 meeting, or by contacting Gayle Walter directly at [development@cthumanist.org](mailto:development@cthumanist.org), or 203-640-3694.

We hope you can join us to support this important fundraising event!

## Book Discussion: "The Blithedale Romance"

Our book for April is "The Blithedale Romance" by Nathaniel Hawthorne. The discussion will take place Saturday, April 14, 2018, at 2 p.m. in the library of the Unitarian Society of New Haven at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden. Note: The April Book Discussion will occur on the 2nd Saturday, April 14, instead of the 21st.

From Wikipedia: The Blithedale Romance is a work of fiction based on Hawthorne's recollections of Brook Farm, a short-lived agricultural and educational commune... The commune, an attempt at an intellectual utopian society, interested many famous Transcendentalists such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Margaret Fuller...

From Amazon: [The novel is a] superb depiction of a utopian community that cannot survive the individual passions of its members. In language that is suggestive and often erotic, Hawthorne tells a tale of failed possibilities and multiple personal betrayals as he explores the contrasts between what his characters espouse and what they actually experience in an 'ideal' community. A theme of unrealized sexual possibilities serves as a counterpoint to the other failures at Blithedale: class and sex distinctions are not eradicated, and communal work on the farm proves personally unrewarding and economically disastrous.

<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
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	
i 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	
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As a chapter of the American Humanist Association we share your information with AHA. Please check this box if you do <u>not</u> want to be contacted by the Secular Coalition for Connecticut about legislative action <input type="checkbox"/>	