



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

May 2019



UU Humanists Local Group

Special Celebration: HAC 30th Anniversary 1989 - 2019

Sunday May 19, 2 p.m.

NOTE: There is no monthly meeting this month. Instead, we are celebrating the 30th year of our organization on a Sunday afternoon.

Looking back:

In the spring of 1989 the Humanist Association of Central Connecticut held its organizational meeting at USNH. The speaker was Fred Edwards, then Executive Director of the American Humanist Association.

For our 10th Anniversary, May 1999, Jean Kotkin, then a leader at the New York Ethical Culture Society, spoke about the training of Humanist leaders throughout North America through the Humanist Institute.

In May of 2009, Fred Edwards returned and spoke to us about making Humanism relevant. He said about this topic, "Humanists have gotten good at critiquing traditional religion. But we didn't become humanists merely to make such debunking our focus. Humanism offers a larger view that takes us in positive new directions....Putting our values to work is a central part of our tradition."

Join us to celebrate thirty years of Humanism in Connecticut! Carol Siddall will give a brief overview of how humanism has evolved in the last thirty years and then we will reminisce together. Join members in sharing Why be a Humanist and what the Humanist

Calendar of Events

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

MAY 2019

Sat., 4	Explorations, "Welcome to Leith"	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon., 6	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebap House 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 18	Book Discussion: "How Democracies Die" by S. Levitsky and D. Ziblatt	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sun., 19	HAC 30 th Anniversary	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sun., 26	Board Meeting	3:30 p.m.
Mon., 27	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden Topic - 'Man Up'	7:00 p.m.

JUNE 2019

Sat., 1	Explorations, TBD	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon., 3	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebap House 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 15	Book Discussion: "Origin" by Dan Brown	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mon., 17	Monthly Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 23	Board Meeting	3:30 p.m.
Mon., 24	Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden Topic TBD	7:00 p.m.

Association of Connecticut has meant to them - and you! We will be gathering in the sanctuary. Refreshments will be served after the program in the social hall. We would like to thank Robert Rafford for putting together a slideshow of photos to be shown at the event.

Walk Against Hunger - May 18, 10 a.m.

Walk Against Hunger is Saturday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. (8:30 check-in) at Savin Rock Park in West Haven. See the [team page](#) for details and to help with the fundraiser:

<https://event.charitable.one/COFB/Humanist Association of Connecticut 2019>

www.cthumanist.org

www.meetup.com/cthumanist . www.facebook.com/cthumanist . www.twitter.com/cthumanist

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contributed to this issue.
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Please take a minute to send in
your 2019 dues to the address
above: \$35 individual -- \$50 family
-- \$10 postal newsletter only
Many thanks to those already paid!

Event Report -
Dining out for Life

Eight people attended the Dining
Out for Life fundraiser dinner at
Caffe Bravo tonight: 2 Yale
Humanists, 2 new attendees to
HAC events, and 3 HAC regulars
and a friend. Delicious food and
excellent conversation! - thanks
to all who participated.

Save the Date! - Annual Picnic - Saturday, June 22 - 4 p.m.

Gayle Walter and Gordon Daniell have once again kindly volunteered to hold our annual picnic at their home in New Haven. Gayle & Gordon will provide hot dogs and veggie burgers. Please bring a dish or dessert to share. In the event of rain, the picnic will be moved inside. The address will be listed in the June newsletter.

Explorations: Welcome to Leith - April 6, 2:30 p.m.

An American documentary film characterizes activities of white nationalist and supremacist groups in a small North Dakota town. In 2012, white supremacist Craig Cobb attempted to turn Leith into a community for white nationalists and neo Nazis. The story is chilling and a cautionary tale for our increasingly troubled times.

Book Discussion: How Democracies Die
May 18, 2:30 p.m.

Drawing on decades of research and a wide range of historical and global examples, from 1930s Europe to contemporary Hungary, Turkey, and Venezuela, to the American South during Jim Crow, Levitsky and Ziblatt show how democracies die—and how ours can be saved. ***Note the new meeting time - 2:30 p.m.***

Wood-n-Tap Dinner Discussion - Man Up
May 27, 7 p.m., Hamden

It's commonplace to talk about how gender stereotypes restrict women, but how often do we talk about how gender stereotypes restrict men? NPR's "Hidden Brain" podcast (October 18 episode) casts some unsettling light on this issue. Here's a gem from a very talented knitter: https://the-panopticon.blogspot.com/2009/03/strangers-on-train.html. Can you think of any experiences you've had or witnessed?

Sanctuary at UU Church of Meriden

Contact Gayle at development@cthumanist.org for details or if you are interested in contributing to or visiting with the sanctuary guests.

Week of Action - April 26 to May 2

The Secular Coalition for America, working with Foundation Beyond Belief and the Secular Student Alliance, is joining forces with member organizations for a national Week of Action in the lead-up to the National Day of Prayer. Read all about it at http://weekofaction.org

We need you! There are many opportunities available to support this group, such as:

- Kitchen help is always welcome at the monthly meeting! (see Carol S.)
• Shopping for coffee, snacks and supplies (see Carol S.)
• Submit ideas for activities or newsletter items to the editor.
• Visit a board meeting to see what goes on behind the scenes.