



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT



CSH Affiliate

January 2007

“Inheriting the Holy Land”

At 3:00 p.m. on the afternoon of Sunday, January 21, the Humanist Association of Connecticut and the USNH Adult Programs Committee will jointly sponsor a reception (at 3:00 p.m.) and talk (at 3:30 p.m.) by Jennifer Miller, author of *Inheriting the Holy Land*, a book which she calls the story of her personal “search for hope” in the Middle East. As a young Jewish girl, the daughter of Aaron Miller, one of four U.S. diplomats deeply involved with Arab-Israeli negotiations at the State Department, she grew up in close contact with many people whose daily lives were saturated with concerns for conflict resolution in the Middle East.

At thirteen, just after her bat mitzvah, she joined her family for her first trip to Israel. That same year she and her family were present at the famous handshake between Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin on the White House lawn. Also that year, Seeds of Peace, an organization to bring young Israelis, Palestinians, and Egyptians together in a camp for several weeks, was founded by a family friend. Jennifer’s mother was heavily involved in its success, and Jennifer was gradually drawn

Calendar of Events

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

JANUARY, 2007

Sat., 6	Humanist Conversations: <i>Iraq for Sale</i>	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 8	Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. RSVP at humanism.meetup.com . (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 21	Monthly meeting	3:00 p.m.
	Main program: Jennifer Miller, “Inheriting the Holy Land” — Snow Date Sun. 28	3:30 p.m.
Sun., 28	Board meeting (alternate date: Sun. Feb. 4)	2:30 p.m.
Wed., 31	Dinner at Black-eyed Sally’s, 350 Asylum Street, Hartford. (860) 278-7427 for directions.	7:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY, 2007

Sat., 3	Humanist Conversations: TBA	2:30 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 humanism.meetup.com .	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 19	Monthly meeting	7:30 p.m.
	Main program: Douglas Peary, “Julian Huxley, Humanist Hero”	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.

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into it, attending the camp at the age of sixteen, and later becoming a counselor.

Eventually, because of her unique situation, she had unparalleled opportunities to meet and

interview some of the world’s most influential politicians, including Ehud Olmert, Shimon Peres, Yasir Arafat, James Baker,

Continued overleaf

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Inheriting the Holy Land, continued from front page

Benjamin Netanyahu, Colin Powell, Ehud Barak, and Mahmoud Abbas. In addition she recorded numerous interviews with Jewish and Muslim young people both during and after their experiences with Seeds of Peace. Her book is a treasury of these memorable encounters.

With Jennifer Miller’s visit to Hamden we are breaking new ground for this organization. We hope that this will be the first of an occasional series of programs on the general topic, “Practical Paths to Peace.” This is also the first time we have invited an author from outside Connecticut to speak to a community-wide audience on a topic of such special interest and importance. Please help us spread the word of this event among your friends, and join us when Jennifer Miller comes to speak to us on January 21!

Book Group: Galileo’s Daughter

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. Hardcover, softcover and audiobook copies are available in Connecticut public libraries as well as in book stores and online. This book was also adapted into a two-hour Nova presentation available on DVD entitled, “Nova - Galileo’s Battle For the Heavens.”

Did you know that Galileo was often sickly, had three illegitimate daughters and was a deeply religious man? Dava Sobel based her award-winning *New York Times* bestseller on the 124 surviving letters to Galileo from his eldest daughter. She also released her translations of those letters in a later book, *Letters to Father*.

Meet Galileo through his daughter’s eyes and join our discussion on February 11!

Conversations: Iraq for Sale

Join us for Humanist Conversations on January 6 at 2:30 p.m. in the library at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden when we will watch and discuss the short version of the Robert Greenwald movie, *Iraq for Sale*, an exposé about profiteering from the current Iraq war.

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