



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

November 2007



CSH Affiliate

Can Conservatives Find Happiness In The ACLU?

We take great pleasure in presenting Andrew Schneider, the new Executive Director of the Connecticut ACLU, as our featured speaker in November. To accommodate Andrew's schedule, we will meet Sunday, November 18, at 3:00 p.m.

As his title suggests, Andrew loves a challenge. His life was determined by the 1988 presidential campaign, when Gov. Dukakis was unable to mount an effective reply to George H. W. Bush's accusation that Dukakis was a "card-carrying member of the ACLU." He decided on the spot to enroll in the most conservative college he could find to hone his ACLU organizing skills. This turned out to be Washington and Lee University, where Gen. Robert E. Lee lies buried and most of the windows in the dormitory displayed the Confederate flag. As a result of his efforts, by Christmas vacation of his freshman year 20% of his classmates were card-carrying ACLU members.

On the strength of this performance, the ACLU national office hired Andrew to write a college recruiting manual. In 1998 he became state Development Director of the Connecticut ACLU and in 2001 he was chosen Executive Director for the West Virginia ACLU. This summer, after six years of record

Calendar of Events

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

NOVEMBER, 2007

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| Sat., 3 | Humanist Conversations: October 23 <i>Frontline</i> broadcast: "Showdown with Iran" | 2:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 12 | Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions. | 7:00 p.m. |
| Sun., 18 | Monthly meeting
Main program: Andrew Schneider, Executive Director of the Connecticut ACLU: <i>Can Conservatives Find Happiness In The ACLU?</i> | 3:00 p.m.
3:30 p.m. |
| Thu., 29 | Hartford-Area Dinner at Lemongrass, 7 South Main Street, West Hartford. (860) 233-4405. | 7:00 p.m. |

DECEMBER, 2007

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| Sat., 1 | Humanist Conversations: October 16 <i>Frontline</i> broadcast: "Cheney's Law" | 2:30 p.m. |
| Sun., 2 | Board meeting | 2:30 p.m. |
| Mon., 10 | Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions. | 7:00 p.m. |
| Mon., 17 | Annual meeting and potluck dinner
Main program: Elections and Solstice Party | 7:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m. |
| Tue., 25 | Annual brunch at Pacific Buffet & Grill, 20 Ives Road, Wallingford. (866) 462-1506. | 12:00 noon |

WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG

growth in that state, he has returned to Connecticut in a similar capacity. Andrew is uniquely equipped to lead the Connecticut ACLU during a time of great uncertainty and perceived danger. We invite all who are concerned about the future of civil liberties in Connecticut and the

United States to hear him and join in the discussion that will follow. You won't want to miss his inspiring talk!

Please join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Sunday, November 18 for refreshments at 3:00 and Andrew's talk 3:30. Come and bring a friend!

www.cthumanist.org

E-mail List

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

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Officers

- President June Schafer
(203) 281-6232
president@cthumanist.org
- Vice-President Douglas Peary
- Secretary Richard Siddall
- Treasurer Douglas Peary

Committee Chairs

- Program David Schafer
- Membership Carol Podgwaite
- Development Manny Ratafia
- Publications Carol Stone
- Publicity June Schafer
- Hospitality Randy Olear

Newsletter

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

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Conversations: Iran & Cheney

Humanist Conversations take place at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. Refreshments will be served.

On Saturday, November 3 at 2:30 p.m., we'll discuss the October 23rd *Frontline* episode:

"Showdown with Iran." A month later, on December 1st at 2:30 p.m., we'll discuss the October 16th *Frontline* episode: "Cheney's Law."

Each episode is an hour long, leaving an hour for discussion.

Nominations

We would like to extend a special thank-you to the members of the Nominating Committee: June Schafer, Carol Podgwaite, and Joan Rafford. The Committee presents the following nominations for the year 2008:

Officers

President: June Schafer • Vice-President: Douglas Peary
Secretary: Richard Siddall • Treasurer: Douglas Peary

Committee Chairs

Programs: David Schafer • Membership: Carol Podgwaite
Development: Manny Ratafia • Publications: Carol Stone
Publicity: June Schafer • Hospitality: Randy Olear

Members of the association will be able to vote on the slate of officers at the annual meeting preceding our winter solstice party in December. If you have any suggestions for alternative candidates, or would like to serve on the board or one of the standing committees, please contact June Schafer or any one of the officers or committee chairs.

January Book Discussion

The next book we will read is *Moral Politics: How Liberals and Conservatives Think* (or an earlier edition, *Moral Politics: What Conservatives Know that Liberals Don't*) by George Lakoff. This classic book is available from public libraries, bookstores and online.

We will meet to discuss this book on Saturday, January 12, 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

MEMBERSHIP

- i Adult \$35
- i Family \$50
- i Newsletter Only \$10

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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