



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

September 2010



CSH Affiliate

“The Colors of our Skin”

We are pleased to announce John Pawelek, PhD, will join us with a second fascinating talk on Monday, September 20 at 7:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. This time he will discuss the mechanisms by which we make melanin in our skin and the health and social issues surrounding skin pigmentation.

A long-time cancer researcher at the Yale School of Medicine, Department of Dermatology and the Yale Cancer Center, Dr. Pawelek is a world-renowned expert on both normal and abnormal conditions related to cells that produce melanins. He has published over 200 peer-reviewed articles and has won numerous awards for his work.

Melanins are pigments in the skin that play many roles in biology including camouflage, species and gender recognition, heat exchange, and protection from ultraviolet light. The more melanin you have in your skin, the less sun damage. While there are many beneficial roles for melanin, unfortunately the amount and distribution of skin melanin can cause some people to be perceived as “different” from the rest of society, evoking negative discrimination against them.

We will begin our evening on Monday, September 20, at 7:30 p.m. 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 Q&A and discussion. Come and bring a friend!

Julia Sweeney’s “Letting Go of God”

Julia Sweeney says she was a “happy Catholic girl” when, one day, she walked into church and signed up for a Bible-study course. “What an eye opener that was!” she says. “Next thing you know, I was on a quest for something I could really believe in.” In “Letting go of God,” she shares her journey from faith with humor and honesty. Maybe you’ll finally feel someone understands you, or gain an opportunity to ask someone, “Did you really experience that?” Come watch this wonderful film on Sunday, October 10 at 3:00 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. Refreshments will be served.

Calendar of Events

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

SEPTEMBER, 2010

Sat., 4	Humanist Conversations: Greg Mortenson	2:30 p.m.
Sun., 5	Cookout at Crystal Lake, 100 Livingston Road in Middletown	Noon to 4:00p.m.
Mon., 13	Social Dinner at Circle Diner Restaurant, 441 Post Rd, Fairfield. (203) 255-9177	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 20	Monthly Meeting	7:30 p.m.
	Main program: John Pawelek, “The Colors of our Skin”	8:00 p.m.
Sat., 25	Movie: “The Good Earth”	3:00 p.m.
Sun., 26	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Thu., 30	Social dinner, Michel Angelo’s Pizzeria, 825 Cromwell Ave., Rocky Hill. (860) 257-3136	7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER, 2010

Sat., 2	Humanist Conversations: TBA	2:30 p.m.
Sun., 3	Book Discussion: <i>The Good Earth</i> by Pearl S. Buck	3:00 to 5:00p.m.
Mon., 4	Social Dinner at Circle Diner Restaurant, 441 Post Rd, Fairfield. (203) 255-9177	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 10	Movie: “Letting Go of God” by Julia Sweeney	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Sat., 16	David Schafer: “The Historicity of Jesus and Early Christianity: A Historical, Scientific, Scholarly, and Critical Examination” (finale)	2:00 to 5:00p.m.
Mon., 18	Monthly Meeting	7:30 p.m.
	Main program: Andrew Schneider, Executive Director, ACLU of Connecticut	8:00 p.m.
Sun., 24	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Thu., 28	Social dinner: Avon Indian Grill, 320 W Main St. (Route 44), Avon, CT (860) 284-4466	7:00 p.m.

WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG

Conversations: Greg Mortenson

Greg Mortenson has recently followed up his first best-seller, *Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace... One School At A Time*, with another best-seller, *Stones into Schools: Promoting Peace with Books, Not Bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan*. His not-for-profit builds schools with the goal of educating girls.

Come watch the Charlie Rose July 27, 2010, interview and learn more about this man’s extraordinary mission at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Saturday, September 4 at 2:30 p.m.

www.cthumanist.org

Email List

To join, send an email addressed to hac-announce-request@cthumanist.org with the subject **subscribe**.

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Please include a SASE to have material returned. We welcome letters, articles, photographs, poetry, comic strips, news items, cartoons and other illustrations related to humanism.

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

Historical Jesus Series Finale

Join us at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 16 at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden!

Labor Day Cookout

Brian Ditter and Tara McLaughlin invite HAC to a cookout and pot luck on Sunday, September 5, from noon to 4:00 pm at Crystal Lake Park, 100 Livingston Rd., Middletown.

Please RSVP by phone: Brian Ditter: (860) xxx-xxxx, (860) 704-0439 or Tara McLaughlin: (860) 545-5065.

Brian and Tara will provide burgers/steaks, beverages, chips, and fixings. Please bring a dish to share. Tell the attendant you're there for Brian and Tara's cookout to avoid paying the entrance fee.

From New Haven: take I-91 N to exit 15 for CT-68 toward Yalesville/Durham. In 0.3 mi turn right onto CT-68. In 0.9 mi route 68 takes a left. Follow 68 for 4.2 mi, when you will turn left onto CT-17 (Main St.) Take your 2nd right (0.5 mi.) onto Haddam Quarter Rd. In 1.7 mi. turn left at Arbutus St. In 1.4 mi. bear right onto Livingston Rd. The entrance to the park

will be on your left in 0.6 mi.

From Hartford: Take I-91 S and take exit 22S on the left to merge onto CT-9 S toward Middletown. Take exit 11. At the end of the exit turn left onto CT-155 (Randolph Rd.) toward CT-17/Durham. In 0.7 mi. turn left at Millbrook Rd. (there's a traffic light and a fire station on your left). In 1.4 mi turn right onto Livingston Rd. and then turn right into the park.

From 84: Take I-691 E toward Meriden and continue onto CT-66 (eastbound). In 2.0 miles turn right onto CT-147 S. In 2.3 miles turn right and continue on CT-147 and CT-157. In 2.5 miles the road takes a sharp left (Middlefield Rd.). At the end of the road, turn right onto CT-17 (Main St.) and then take your first left onto Haddam Quarter Rd. In 1.7 mi. turn left at Arbutus St. In 1.4 mi. bear right onto Livingston Rd. The entrance to the park will be on your left in 0.6 mi.

"The Good Earth" — Book Discussion and Film Viewing

The next book discussion will be on Sunday, October 3, from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. The book we will be reading is Pearl S. Buck's 1934 Pulitzer Prize-winning classic novel, "The Good Earth." Lots of copies in lots of editions of both the printed book and of unabridged audio recordings are available in Connecticut public libraries <<http://www.iconn.org/FindALibraryInConnecticut.aspx?cat=consortia>> as well as in book stores and online.

On Saturday, September 25,

we will view the 1937 film, "The Good Earth," based on Pearl Buck's novel. We'll hold this event at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden starting at 3:00 p.m. The film runs 138 minutes. A New York Times review said "The performances, direction, and photography are of uniform excellence, and have been fused perfectly into a dignified, beautiful, and soberly dramatic production...The performances...are collectively splendid...The picture does full justice to the novel, and that is the highest praise one can give it."

MEMBERSHIP	
Adult	\$35
Family	\$50
Newsletter Only	\$10
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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