



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

November 2010



CSH Affiliate

“Humanism as a Source of Inspiration and Meaning”

It is our great pleasure to present Dr. Lawrence Rifkin as our featured speaker for the monthly meeting to be held Monday, November 15 at 7:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

Can the humanist world view be inspirational? Can humanism appeal to our emotions, as well as our intellects? Can a deep understanding of the human within an evolutionary naturalistic world fill us with profound wonder and provide a deep sense of meaning? This talk will assert that the answer is “yes” to these questions.

Humanism has made impressive and worthy progress in its focus on social action, political justice, and critical analysis. Still, there are literally millions of people who label themselves “non-religious” who do not identify as humanists. Why? For those who need or want a deeper sense of meaning and understanding, humanism can provide a psychologically satisfying alternative to theological cosmologies, an alternative that is both satisfying to our intellects and full of emotional grandeur.

Come join us to hear and discuss how humanism and the

Calendar of Events

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

NOVEMBER, 2010

Sat., 6	Humanist Conversations: PBS <i>American Experience</i> series episode: “Trail of Tears”	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 15	Monthly Meeting	7:30 p.m.
	Main program: Dr. Lawrence Rifkin: “Humanism as a Source of Inspiration and Meaning”	8:00 p.m.
Sat., 20	Book discussion: <i>The Naked Ape</i> by Desmond Morris	3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Sun., 21	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Tue., 23	Pot-luck Thanksgiving dinner.	6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER, 2010

Thu., 2	Social dinner: Avon Indian Grill, 320 W Main St. (Route 44), Avon, CT (860) 284-4466	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 4	Humanist Conversations: TBA	2:30 p.m.
Mon., 6	Social Dinner at Equinox Diner, 285 Boston Post Rd, Orange. (203) 298-4100	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 20	Annual Meeting, Elections & Solstice Party	7:30 p.m.
	Main program:	8:00 p.m.
Sat., 25	Annual brunch at Pacific Buffet & Grill, 20 Ives Road, Wallingford. (866) 462-1506.	12:00 noon

WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG

scientific world view can provide a positive, inspiring vision of our place in a naturalistic universe.

Lawrence Rifkin, a physician and writer, has been published by the National Academy of Science, the Humanist, Contemporary Pediatrics, and Medical Economics magazine, in which he was named the Grand Prize

winner of the Doctors’ Writing Contest. He has written multiple essays for Free Inquiry magazine exploring humanism and science as a source of meaning.

Join us on Monday, November 15, at 7:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden for refreshments and conversation followed by Larry’s presentation at 8:00.

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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“Trail of Tears”

At our Humanist Conversations at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 6 at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, we’ll view and discuss “Trail of Tears,” an episode of the PBS series *American Experience*. This episode deals with the accomplishments of the Cherokee in developing a true nation in the hundred years before The Removal in the 1830s from the entire southeast to land in Oklahoma.

“The Naked Ape”

The next book discussion will be on Saturday, November 20, from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. The book we will be reading is “The Naked Ape,” by Desmond Morris. Lots of copies of the book are available in Connecticut public libraries <<http://iconn.org/FindALibraryInConnecticut.aspx?cat=consortia>> as well as in book stores and online. Doug Peary will be leading this discussion. Refreshments will be served.

“He minces no words,” said Harper’s. “He lets off nothing in our basic relation to the animal kingdom to which we belong... He is always specific, startling, but logical.” - *From the publisher via Amazon.*

Thanksgiving Pot-luck Dinner

We will have a pot-luck dinner at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 23 as a chance to get together before Thanksgiving. Since the Unitarian Society will be busy with other programs that evening, we have only been able to secure a small room for the event, so it should be cosy.

To make sure we don’t all bring pumpkin pies, please RSVP to June Schafer at (203) 281-6232 and let her know what you plan to bring. If you haven’t RSVP’d but find you can still attend, please do.

06517-1321. Submissions and requests for permission to reprint articles should be made to this address or to editor@cthumanist.org.

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.

Approximate circulation: 180 copies. Annual subscription price \$10.00, included in membership.

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

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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