



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT



CSH Affiliate

January 2012

## Our Pilgrimage To La Belle France

On Monday, January 16, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden, members Steve and Susan Boshi will tell us about their recent five-week adventure traveling through France, fulfilling their dream of a lifetime after months of enthusiastic planning. "Everywhere they went" they report finding traces and influences of the French Enlightenment, "the cradle of modern Humanism." Beginning with ten unforgettable days in and around Paris, they went next to Normandy, where they rented a car and then drove to a carefully researched list of destinations along a path that included the Loire River valley, Burgundy, Haute-Savoie, and Provence, ending on the Riviera. They'll share with us their vivid impressions of experiences all along the way, punctuated by a choice selection of a few favorite photographs among the thousands they brought back.

Refreshments start at 7:30 p.m. followed by the program at 8:00. Come, bring a friend, and vicariously relive this unique opportunity with the Boshis on Monday, January 16 at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

## Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at [meetup.com/cthumanist](http://meetup.com/cthumanist).

### JANUARY

- |          |  |                        |
|----------|--|------------------------|
| Mon., 9  | Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002   | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Mon., 16 | Monthly Meeting<br><b>Main program:</b> Steve and Susan Boshi on "Our Pilgrimage to La Belle France"                                   | 7:30 p.m.<br>8:00 p.m. |
| Sat., 21 | Book Discussion: <i>Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide</i> by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn | 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.      |
| Sun., 22 | Board meeting  | 2:30 p.m.              |
| Thu., 26 | Waterbury Area Dinner at Lisboa, 19 Lafayette St., Waterbury. (203) 754-0789   | 7:00 p.m.              |

### FEBRUARY

- |          |  |                        |
|----------|--|------------------------|
| Sat., 4  | <b>Humanist Conversations: "Hot Coffee"</b>  | 2:30 p.m.              |
| Mon., 6  | Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002 | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Mon., 20 | Monthly Meeting<br><b>Main program:</b> David Schafer on "Darwin"                    | 7:30 p.m.<br>8:00 p.m. |
| Thu., 23 | Hartford Area Dinner, Location TBA   | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Sun., 26 | Board meeting  | 2:30 p.m.              |

[WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG](http://WWW.CTHUMANIST.ORG)

## Business Meeting Recap

Thank you for coming to vote on Monday, December 19!

The proposal to join the Connecticut Chapter of the Secular Coalition for America was approved, and our two volunteer delegates accepted. Richard Siddall was nominated from the floor to continue as secretary. He accepted. The elected slate of officers was otherwise unchanged from that published in the last newsletter.

[www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org)

**Email List**

To join, send an email to:  
[hac-announce-request@cthumanist.org](mailto:hac-announce-request@cthumanist.org)  
with the subject **subscribe**.

To unsubscribe, send an email to:  
[hac-announce-request@cthumanist.org](mailto:hac-announce-request@cthumanist.org)  
with the subject **unsubscribe**.

**Officers**

- President June Schafer  
(203) 281-6232  
[president@cthumanist.org](mailto:president@cthumanist.org)
- Vice-President Douglas Peary
- Secretary Richard Siddall
- Treasurer Carol Podgwaite

**Committee Chairs**

- Program David Schafer
- Membership Halina Platt
- Development Manny Ratafia
- Publications Carol Siddall
- Publicity Dan Blinn
- Hospitality Randy Olear

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# Conversations: Hot Coffee

Everyone knows the McDonald’s coffee case. It has been routinely cited as an example of how citizens take advantage of our legal system. The 2011 film, “Hot Coffee,” reveals what really happened when Stella Liebeck spilled coffee on herself and sued McDonald’s, while exploring how and why the case garnered so much media attention, who funded the effort, and why.

Watch and discuss this film with us on Saturday, February 4, at 2:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

Refreshments will be served.

# Book Group: “Half The Sky”

Our next book discussion will be held Saturday, January 21 in Hamden at 3:00 pm. We will discuss *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* by NY Times columnist Nicholas Kristof and his wife, Sheryl WuDunn.

Many copies are available in Connecticut libraries as well as in book stores and online. (Find a library near you at this web address: [www.iconn.org/FindALibraryInConnecticut.aspx?cat=consortia](http://www.iconn.org/FindALibraryInConnecticut.aspx?cat=consortia))

Dan Blinn will be the moderator and refreshments will be served.

The reviews below are from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

“The most important book of the year ... *Half the Sky* is the kind of book that could change the course of history.”

- William Petrocelli, *The Huffington Post*

“How many books make a significant difference in matters that concern everyone who lives on earth? Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn have certainly written such a book. *Half the Sky* is the most important book that I have read since Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring*, published in 1962 ... *Half the Sky* is a groundbreaking, eye-opening book, stunning in every sense.”

- Charles R. Larson, *CounterPunch*

[editor@cthumanist.org](mailto:editor@cthumanist.org). We welcome letters, articles, photographs, poetry, comic strips, news items, cartoons and other illustrations related to humanism. Please include a SASE to have material

returned. 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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