



THE NEWSLETTER OF
The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION
 of CONNECTICUT



AHA Chapter

August 2016

UU Humanists Local Group

Political Action for Secular Connecticut

Help us welcome Pat McCann on Monday, August 15 at 7:00 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden!

Pat will introduce the Secular Coalition for Connecticut, a local affiliate of the Secular Coalition for America, and relay the types of political actions being engaged in on behalf of the secular community in Connecticut. Additionally, he will compare and contrast the Secular Coalition for Connecticut and the Connecticut Coalition of Reason. Finally, he will provide some details of activities planned in 2016/17 with a focus on legislative imperatives planned for 2017 and an emphasis on how people can help and/or participate.

Pat McCann has been an atheist and practicing humanist for 40 years but officially discovered humanism only 10 years ago. He began his activism for the secular community of Connecticut in 2012 after attending the first Reason Rally. Currently Pat is President of the Hartford Area Humanists, chair of the Secular Coalition for Connecticut, and, along with Richard Siddall, co-chair of the Connecticut Coalition of Reason.

Calendar of Events

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

AUGUST 2016

Mon., 1	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 6	Explorations: <i>The Mystery of the Master Builders</i>	2:30 p.m
Mon., 15	Monthly Meeting	7:00 p.m
	Main program: Pat McCann (Secular Coalition for Connecticut) — <i>Political Action for Secular Connecticut</i>	7:30 p.m
Sat., 20	Book Discussion: <i>Good Omens</i> by Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Sun., 28	Board meeting	2:00 p.m

SEPTEMBER 2016

Sat., 3	Explorations: TBA	2:30 p.m
Mon., 5	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 17	Book Discussion: <i>The World Beyond Your Head: Becoming an Individual in an Age of Distraction</i> by Matthew Crawford	2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m
Mon., 19	Monthly Meeting	7:00 p.m
	Main program: TBA	7:30 p.m
Sun., 25	Board meeting	2:00 p.m

www.cthumanist.org

www.meetup.com/cthumanist

www.facebook.com/cthumanist

www.twitter.com/cthumanist

Pat earned a BS in Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University, an MS in Molecular Biology from Rutgers University, and an MBA in Marketing from UConn. He holds a 3rd degree black belt in Washin-ryu

Karate-do.

We'll start with half an hour of coffee and conversation at 7:00 p.m. Learn about the Secular Coalition for Connecticut right after some brief announcements at 7:30 p.m.!

www.cthumanist.org

www.facebook.com/cthumanist • www.meetup.com/cthumanist • www.twitter.com/cthumanist

Email List

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

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

Officers

- President Carol Siddall
(203) 264-8546
president@cthumanist.org
- Vice-President June Schafer
- Secretary Richard Siddall
- Treasurer Carol Podgwaite

Committee Chairs

- Program David Schafer
- Membership Lisa Candido
- Development Rebecca Williams
- Publications Richard Siddall
- Publicity Rebecca Williams
- Hospitality Randy Olear

Newsletter

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

Copyright ©, 2016 Humanist Association of Connecticut.
 Articles may be reproduced without written permission, providing attribution is given.
 Published monthly by the Humanist Association of Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321. Submissions and requests for permission to reprint articles should be made to this address or to editor@cthumanist.org We welcome

Book Discussion: "Good Omens"

On August 20 at 2:00 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden we will be discussing the 1990 comic novel *Good Omens: The Nice & Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter, Witch* by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett.

From *GoodReads*: "According to The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter, Witch (the world's only completely accurate book of prophecies, written in 1655, before she exploded), the world will end on a Saturday. Next Saturday, in fact. Just before dinner.

So the armies of Good and Evil are amassing, Atlantis is rising, frogs are falling, tempers are flaring. Everything appears to be going according to Divine Plan. Except a somewhat fussy angel and a fast-living demon—both of whom have lived amongst Earth's mortals since The Beginning and have grown rather fond of the life-style—are not actually looking forward to the coming Rapture.

And someone seems to have misplaced the Antichrist ..."

The book is readily available in numerous libraries around the state.

For our book discussion on September 17 we will be reading Matthew Crawford's *The World Beyond Your Head: Becoming an Individual in an Age of Distraction*.

Refreshments will be served at all of the book discussions.

Humanist Explorations: The Mystery of the Master Builders

Eight hundred years ago, architects began to construct massive cathedrals that broke all the rules of building technology of the time. Instead of thick-walled, dark, and confining structures, they started to build much higher and lighter structures capable of allowing light to flow into the interior. How this was achieved without the benefit of modern materials like steel is the subject of this documentary by Robert Mark, professor emeritus of civil engineering and architecture at Princeton. Join us at 2:30 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Saturday, August 6 for this fascinating perspective on the medieval ancestors of modern glass and steel skyscrapers.

MEMBERSHIP	Name(s): _____
! Adult \$35	Address: _____
! Family \$50	_____
! Newsletter Only \$10	Telephone: _____
! Our membership year is 1/1-12/31.	E-Mail Address: _____
! In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. Please mail checks for annual membership payable to	Please add me to the e-mail Announce List (circle one): YES NO
! Humanist Association of Connecticut to: Humanist Association of Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321.	I want my newsletter electronically <u>only</u> (circle one): YES NO
	Where did you hear about us? _____
	Comments: _____