

The Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason

Freethought News



Vol. 9 No. 2, February, 2020
Jim Peterson, Rick O'Keefe, Editors

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* TBCoR member	

Coming up for Darwin Day 2020...

Why are we Moral?

The science of morality is often thought of as some dry and musty set of Victorian rules and restrictions. In our era it is more like an operating manual for human relationships. But morality is just as amenable to scientific understating as any other aspect of social relations. We can live our lives more effectively and with more personal satisfaction if we take the time to grasp what it is. In all the universe we are the only known life form that has a culture and civilization built upon a system of morally defined relationships. Because morality is an artifact of human culture, it is continuously modified by the internal and external experiences of the society that shaped it. Did it arise on anything other than human history, such as divine intervention as the religions would have it? Can it ever be said to be endowed with any purpose not wholly defined by the particular culture that created it? Can there ever be such a thing as a scientifically described, completely objective basis for morality?



Dr. Douglas Mann says that when discussing ethics or morality, we need to refer to the body of Our Evolved Moral Wisdom which describes how evolutionary pressures created our concepts of morality. Morality touches everything that matters about our lives, as a people, and as individuals. He will offer insights into the evolutionary basis of his proposition. See page [2](#)



Another aspect of the issue will be presented by **Ms. Amanda Poppei** from her perspective as a leader of the Washington DC area chapter of the American Ethical Cultural Society. See more on page [4](#)

The Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason is presenting this program as part of its continuing program in bringing distinguished thinkers such as Daniel Dennett, Richard Dawkins, Herb Silverman, and many others to our Tampa Bay area.

Saturday, February 8th at 10 AM is the time and the UUC Octagon is the place. Now is the time to reserve your seat. Tickets are available for \$25. Head to www.tampabaycor.net or go direct to our ticket vendor [HERE](#) to get more information and buy a ticket online.

Doug Mann, PhD, is an experimental psychologist and former medical school professor. Research on empathy in the doctor-patient relationship led to his post-retirement interest in moral psychology and the evolution of morality.

Amanda Poppei has a Masters of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC and a BA in Religious Studies from Yale University. She served as a chaplain at the Washington Hospital Center, where she completed a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education. Amanda is a Unitarian Universalist minister as well as a certified Ethical Culture Leader. Amanda also serves as President of the Unitarian Universalist Humanist Association.

Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason

Calendar—Judy Adkins

Web site—Jim Peterson

Newsletter—**Jim Peterson & Rick O'Keefe**

Back & current issues online at:

<http://www.tampabaycor.net>

Special Projects—Mark Brandt & Bill Norsworthy

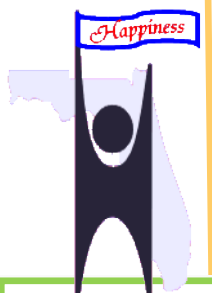
See our event websites at:

www.tampabaycor.net &

www.meetup.com/Tampa-Bay-Coalition-of-Reason

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Anywhere in this newsletter, CLICK on an image or blue text for a link.



The Humanist Society of the Suncoast

An Epicurean society dedicated to the proposition that only the fully examined life is worth living.
Associate organization of the the [AHA](#), [COR](#), & [ASHS](#). Find us at www.suncoasthumanist.com

Why are We Moral

The Science of the Evolution of Morality: How Recent Research Has Built Upon What Darwin Knew” **Doug Mann, PhD**

Is human morality a mysterious exception to evolution by natural selection, as many Americans seem to believe, or a beautiful demonstration of its central principles? How should morality be defined in light of recent scientific discoveries, and what does this imply for us today?

Doug will draw on a wide range of research to illuminate key events in the evolution of human morality, beginning with the traits of early mammals and tracing forward in time to the prosocial traits and cultural moral practices of our species, *homo sapiens*. Join us as we explore how modern science has fleshed out Darwin’s little-known ideas about the evolution of human morality.



PAUL, Kay Arline 83, died on December 29, 2019. She was born on February 24, 1936 in Dover, Ohio. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, **Glenn**; two daughters, Lenore and Jennifer; one son, Stephen and three grand-children. After retiring as an RN, she volunteered for 25 years with the Indian Rocks Beach Library and 10 years with the Florida International Museum. She was also a board member of the Humanist Society. She achieved her lifelong dream of being a Jeopardy contestant in 1991.

**Please
Join us in:**



**Saturday, February 8th
at 10:00 AM Doors Open at 9:30**

UUC Octagon 2470 Nursery Rd. in
Clearwater

Remember, at the door cost is \$25.
Members **only** will be compensated for \$6
when their receipt is presented at the next
regular HSOS meeting.

One of the main goals of the Humanist Society is to help create a community where members can come together and share our thoughts and feelings, ideas and experiences with somewhat like-minded individuals. We are here to learn of the world, and to give and receive in some small measure, the human kindness and compassion we need.



Tampa Bay Harvest



Bring food: the first kindness & the measure of our Hospitality.

Humanists aspire to true friendship with our fellow human beings. Money is more effective than cans and boxes to get the most benefit to the greatest number of people. But we can also use personal care toiletries.

Many thanks to **Jordan Williams**. **We need volunteers!** See jim@suncoasthumanist.com

Vol. XXXIII No. 2 February, 2020

**Please Join or renew
Now!**

**Humanist Society of the
Suncoast**

Annual Dues

Regular -\$25
Reg. Couple -\$30.
Supporter -\$35/40 (With pin above)
Life -\$200. (Pin)
Life Couple -\$250. (Pin)
Associate -\$10

Your membership helps keep Humanism alive & growing in the Tampa Bay area A small part of your dues allows us to participate fully as a member organization of the Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason & enables us to support larger & more exciting programs.

*If you have questions concerning your dues or status, contact our new treasurer,
Scott Wilson scott33761@yahoo.com*

If new, please fill out the form; if renewing just indicate your name & any changes from our previous information Thanks!

Name: _____

Address –if new : _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: * _____

E-mail: _____

(Privacy respected)

**Send check made out to:
“Jim Peterson”**

Memo line: “Humanist Society Dues”
(501c3, tax deductible)

Humanist Society of the Suncoast, AHA
6814 Charlotte Harbor Way
Tampa FL 33625

Piteous jocularly #739: Helvetica and Times New Roman walk into a bar.

“Get out of here!” shouts the bartender.
“We don’t serve your type.”



Humanists work to build a world in which happiness is the enduring criterion of all policy.

What is the Humanist Way?

- ♦ **To extend** a human centered approach to the critical problems of life & society.
- ♦ **To encourage** attitudes of kindness, compassion, tolerance & a loving generosity in human relationships, & in our treatment of all life. These attitudes help us to see ourselves in the lives of others, & encourage appreciation for the remarkable diversity of human culture & experience.
- ♦ **To develop** & popularize the skills of creative & critical thinking that empower people to challenge prejudice, superstition & irrationality in every area of life. Such empowerment enables the individual to reach the highest levels of achievement.
- ♦ **To exalt** those artistic & imaginative expressions of life which have been the source of the greatest pleasure & enlightenment, & which reflect compelling human truths. Through music, literature, art, dance, & other expressions, we embrace the essence of what it means to be human.
- ♦ **To explore** the grounds of ethics & morality within the unfolding history of our evolving culture. Such knowledge will enable us to become effective protagonists for the happiness of the individual person. JP

The Movable Feast

the Humanist Society's monthly social Dinner

Join us Feb. 16th at Applebee's at 5 O'clock for American style cuisine, and decidedly the best company:

Applebees

For [map](#) [Menu](#)

5110 E Bay Dr Clearwater, FL 33764

Kindly **RSVP** to: (727) 581-2146
Great Conversation and good food, reasonably priced.

Wry Eye with a Feminist View

He-ja-vu: When a white male leader is replaced by another white male leader followed by another white male leader, and so on

Hersuitism: False notion that women in agentic or leadership roles is somehow unnatural

Himpediment: Man who stands in the way of progress towards gender equity

Hystereotyping: Preconceived bias that women are accommodating and emotional (and thus lack the desire or temperament for leadership)

Jackhanded compliwoments: Gender stereotyped descriptions of women in evaluations or recommendations that can have a negative effect despite being ostensibly complimentary

Mantoring: A man who only mentors other men

Mapper: An academic journal article with no female authors and an uncomfortable number of male authors

Misteria: Irrational fear that advancing women means catastrophic lack of opportunity for men

Mo-man-tum: How men's career opportunities accelerate over time, while women's taper off

Moustaching: The act of filling senior leadership roles with men, and only men

Ova-looked: When a woman is bypassed for an opportunity even though she is eminently qualified

Perpetual brodemption: Cycle in which confirmed sexual harassers are sheltered from public view, shuffled around, and ultimately advanced, while experiencing only token (if any) disciplinary consequences

Repriwomand: When a woman is penalised for violating gender stereotyped expectations of behaviour

Humanist Society

of the **Suncoast**

A chapter of the American Humanist Assoc., Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason, & The Association of Secular Humanist Societies

Board of Directors.

Meets Sept., December, April

Jay Alexander,
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~*~*~*~*~*

Jim Peterson, Editor
E-Mail us at:
jim@suncoasthumanist.com

Need Psychological Counseling?

For a secular therapist, **click:**

[Secular Therapy Org.](#)
[Cognitive Neurosciences](#)

Or call:

Lynda Gurvitz,
<http://fampsy.org/member/lynda-gurvitz/>
(727) 725-8820

Or, Joel Schmidt
www.floatoncounseling.com
321-604-7637



"Pandas Are Too Cute to Go Extinct: How Our Own Meaning-Making Interacts with Science"

by *Rev. Amanda Poppei*.

Evolution is what it is, right? Species that are equipped to survive make it, and those that aren't...don't. After all, that's how we got to homo sapiens and let go of neanderthals. But homo sapiens means "wise man," after all, and one of our distinguishing characteristics is as thinkers and meaning-makers. How does that meaning-making affect our engagement with the world around us, and even with the course of evolution? What does it mean to care for the earth, of which we are a part, when the average person surely worries more about the butterflies than the cockroaches? And how can we use our natural bent toward beauty, meaning, and connection to foster an environmental ethic that embraces both science and wonder? Join Amanda to explore how homo sapiens is not only a product of evolution, but also one of the drivers.



Coming on August 6th to the 9th of this year **in Miami**

This year's theme is **Beyond Borders: Our Global Humanist Culture**. Come examine humanist perspectives on human rights, the importance of supporting apostates and ending blasphemy laws, the humanist role in issues of migration and the climate crisis, approaches to death and loss, the role of young humanists, humanist education, our role in mass media and much more.

Humanists from the UK, Nepal, the US, Australia, and every continent (possibly excepting Antarctica) will be represented at this wonderful festival of Humanism.

Celebrate our global humanist culture by attending off-site art events and visiting the humanist art gallery.

After you've **registered for the World Humanist Congress**, don't forget to book your hotel room at the **Hyatt Regency in Downtown Miami**!

Celebrate Black History Month in February by downloading and listening to one of our fascinating Florida Stories audio walking tours featuring noted African American communities in Florida. To learn more [download](#)



For 2020, we have each been assigned **525,600 minutes to fill**
What are you going to do with yours?

After we have slept, eaten, and voted, what will we do with the rest?

There is a world of possibility out there. Things have been left undone that vitally need doing, but no one has yet thought of them.

If you are reading this, (and I presume you are) then you are alive, an essential prerequisite for taking action and creating meaning.

So, what are you going to do about it?

Hmmm?

JP

Humanist Quotes

A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on sympathy, education, and social ties; no religious basis is necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained by fear and punishment and hope of reward after death.

Albert Einstein

The experience of humanism is that 'nothing human is alien to me'; that I carry within myself all of humanity; that nothing which exists in any human being does not exist in myself. I am the criminal and the saint. I am the child and the adult. I am the man who lived 100000 years ago and the man who will live 100000 years from now.

Erich Fromm

We humanists celebrate humanity. We want humanity to survive. We recognize that if humanity does survive it will be only by its own efforts. Never can we sit back and wait for miracles to save us. Miracles don't happen. Sweat happens. Effort happens. Thought happens. And it is up to us humanists to help to expend our sweat, our effort, and our thought. Then there will be hope for the world.

Isaac Asimov



An autonomous project of the Humanist Society.
Affiliate of the [Post Carbon Institute](#)

Here's News: We're All going to Die!

The CO₂ concentrations that scientists had previously modeled would bring a 3 degree Celsius increase in average global temperature will actually raise temperatures by 4 or 5 degrees. This is due to a new understanding in how warming will shift cloud cover, and how these changes will actually exacerbate, not inhibit, warming. (Specifically more “high clouds” will form in the bottom layer of Earth’s atmosphere, holding more of the sun’s heat; and fewer stratocumulus clouds will form on the west coasts of continents reflecting less of the sun’s rays and thus allowing more heat in.) This, according to lead author, Mark Zelinka, will make the Paris Agreement targets “harder to achieve” (which in scientistese is like saying “we’re all gonna die!”). But let’s strip off the exclamation point—and the panic—in this statement.

Even before we unleashed the looming climate catastrophe, our lives were going to end in exactly the same way. Blood would stop reaching our brains and we’d be dead ([as this funny animation makes clear](#)). Our species, too, would eventually die out, probably after human civilization did the same. Yes, of course, we’re accelerating the latter two and probably the first as well. That is, perhaps, where the fear really resides. That we have no control over reining in the climate crisis, which could shorten our lives, the lives of our loved ones, and even strangers, none of whom deserve any of this.

But every time I cross a street or get into a car, I worry about the same thing. A few days ago, as I drove 65 miles/hour on the highway to my mom’s house I watched a big SUV in front of me creep into the right shoulder only to lurch back suddenly when it hit the rumble strip. After the third time I witnessed this I had the chance to pass (on the left of course!) and saw—no surprise—a driver with the phone on the steering wheel, head down (gender pronouns intentionally omitted as this has nothing to do with gender). Later that same day, which was very windy, an 80-foot tree fell just a few hundred feet from a group of seven of us

including my son and me.

Every day, the odds of dying are higher than we might think. That’s not a statement to generate hysteria or anxiety, but to relieve some when thinking about the far off threat of climate catastrophe. Obviously, I’m not suggesting we therefore not worry about it. Just the opposite. I drive extremely defensively because I know people drive distracted (which could kill me). While driving, I also heard on the radio that there would be high winds that day, so that afternoon when the tree fell, I was actively keeping my head up and searching for deadfall (admittedly probably giving myself more a feeling of control than true safety but some protection nonetheless).

And with climate change, perhaps this new study can take away some of our false hope and replace it with true acceptance. The Paris Agreement was magical thinking even before this research came out—dependent on political will we don’t have and technologies that don’t exist that could sequester more carbon in the future (since we don’t have the political will now). Especially as an increasing share of resources go to disaster management (how much will dealing with the Australian fires cost?), where will we find the resources (or, again, the will) needed to shift consumer societies into ones that are centered on sustainability?

So instead, when it comes to climate change, we need to learn to drive defensively.

First that means not driving 20 miles over the speed limit, the climate equivalent of burning fossil fuels recklessly. Every fraction of a degree matters. A 3-degree world will be more livable than a 3.5-degree world. So don’t speed. The time you save speeding is certainly not worth the significantly heightened risk of injury or death. You can apply that to anything climate-wise: line drying clothes vs. in a dryer; commuting by bike vs. car or train vs. plane (when realistic); cooking vs. prepackaged meals, etc. Yes, you save some time with the latter options, but are they really worth it? (And I recognize sometimes the answer is yes—the same way we drive 8 or 9 miles/hour over the speed limit when we can get away with it—but especially if you can answer ‘no’ to the question, then shouldn’t you pick the slower, more sustainable option?)



 post carbon institute

Get Your Shingle Shots Now!

The Food and Drug administration in 2017 approved the much more effective, Shingrix as the preferred alternative to Zostavax, which was approved in 2006.

Both vaccines are approved for adults age 50 and older for the prevention of shingles and related complications, whether they've already had shingles or not. If you have already had the first vaccine, get the second.

Atheists of Florida Inc.



For our Atheists helping the Homeless project -

For all meetings: bring, if you can, small bars of unused soap, small bottles of shampoo, heavy duty socks, any kind of personal care items, or money (for bulk purchase of these items).

Ed Golly, Chair - Judy Adkins, Exec. Dir.
See AoF Meetup for details Website: <http://aof.ngo>

AoF is a comfortable & safe place in which to; find rewarding new friendships, discover hidden potentials, & make a positive contribution to your own humanity as well as that of others. We are pleased to offer legal assistance with church state separation issues as an important focus. For many people, atheism represents the most focused & powerful criticism of the philosophical world-view with which most of us were raised. It is liberating for the same reason it attracts the enmity of those who are committed to the closed & changeless narrative of unexamined traditional beliefs. JP



The broadcast is on hiatus for now. Previous programs are available **on the internet** www.youtube.com/atheistforum . Tune in!

Contact us: info@atheistsoffloridainc.org



Atheist
COMMUNITY
of Polk County

The Atheist Community of Polk County, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) Florida non-profit corporation dedicated to protecting the separation of church and state and promoting a positive atheist community.

We are a growing community of atheists, freethinkers, skeptics and humanists organizing in Polk County, Florida to network, socialize, work in the community, provide educational speakers and more. We are making efforts to expand our programming, with emphasis on scheduling events in various places around the county, at different days/times, etc. so more people can find something to enjoy that's convenient.

Feb. Events [Details—click here](#)

meetup

Feb 16 5 PM Join us for dinner with members of the Humanist Society. At Applebees See Page 3 details

Be sure to check for changes and RSVP!

Feb.
Register for our on-line meet below.

Reasons you should join our **new online real-time meeting**: Stay tuned for more details. Register at: <https://www.free2think.org/>

The Florida Legislature is in Session

and you know what that means...

The Florida Legislature started on January 14th. There are at least 28 bills we are tracking, some of which support state church separation and some do not. Please take a few minutes to review our list at <https://www.atheistsofflorida.org/florida-legislation-2020/> If you see a bill you support, let your representative know. Bills in green promote church-state separation, public schools, equality, or science. Not sure who your representatives are? Go to: <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/>

Always Vigilant

Public school prayer events are generally billed as being student-organized in order to *appear* constitutional.

But in reality, school staff are often actively involved, even to the extent that they're the ones organizing the event.

To stop this unconstitutional Christian proselytizing, someone needs to expose the adult organizers. That's where we come in!

Let us know of any church-state violation you may run across - restrictions, prayers, bible readings, etc. We'll take it from there. Thanks, www.aof.ngo

Letter to the Editor,

A religious group has issued a list of books in public school libraries they consider to be pornographic. They have begun an effort to get these books removed from the school system in Florida. They are encouraging people to contact their representatives to request their removal and a strengthening of anti-pornographic laws. While we personally may not like the content of some of these books, should they be banned for everyone? Because they are objected to on religious grounds, should they be banned for all?

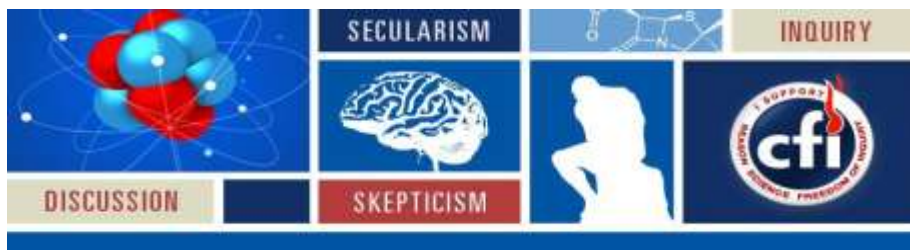
Here is what they say in their "review":

"Almost all of these pre K-12 novels violate Florida statutes with sexually explicit content or undermine the Florida Constitution that marriage is between a man and a woman. And they certainly violate common decency for age-appropriate material and undermine Judeo-Christian and traditional family values."

It is important to remember that almost every book of any significance that has won a world audience of appreciative readers and influenced generations of thinkers, has been banned.

No one wants to ban books (TV and films) that don't matter. Sexuality and gender have become volatile issues, but without the kind of discussion that can be creatively provoked by books, nothing will change. Perhaps it is not pornography but change that is truly feared by these people.

Judy Adkins Executive Director AoF



Incorporated in Florida on October 3, 2002.
Only with *your* support can we succeed.

What's coming up in February?

(Click this -> [blue link](#) for details & to RSVP)

1st Saturday/Sunday—CFI's Lecture Series

Feb 8, Clearwater UU—Darwin Day Special—[tickets](#)

Clearwater—Tampa Bay Tech. Ctr. (TBTC) Monthly Meeting

Brandon—CFI's Thank Goodness for Godless Friday Nights

E. Clearwater—Howard's Skeptic's Corner

Brandon—CFI's Sunday skeptics Brunch

N. Pinellas—CFI's Monthly Dinner

The Center for Inquiry is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable/educational organization that encourages evidence-based inquiry into science, pseudoscience, medicine and health, religion, ethics, and society. Through education, research, publishing, and social services, CFI seeks to present affirmative alternatives based on scientific naturalism.

You are invited to join our all-volunteer branch, and contribute your time, attendance, ideas, talents, civic participation, and money. With your support we can continue representing both secular humanism and skepticism in West Central Florida. Won't you help?

Cordially,

Rick O'Keefe

Rick O'Keefe, Branch Coordinator
Center for Inquiry Tampa Bay
Mail: 4011 S. Manhattan Ave., Box 139
Tampa, FL 33611-1265

Tampa@CenterForInquiry.net <http://CFITampaBay.org>

Membership: <http://bit.ly/2pTDfEj>

Donations: <http://bit.ly/2oIHId3>

Video: [What is Secular Humanism?](#) (long, by Paul Kurtz)

Video: [It's Time for Science & Reason!](#) (short, Dawkins, Kurtz, Dennett, Druyan, Krauss)

Meetup & RSVPs: <http://bit.ly/2r4eEh6>

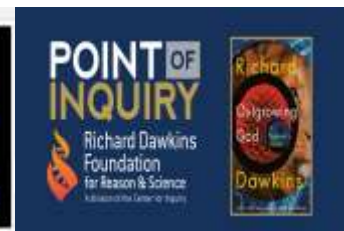
POLL: We would like hearing from you readers of this newsletter (pick one):

1. I always download the newsletter
2. I never download it
3. I print out the newsletter
4. I read it on screen
5. I skim it
6. I never pay attention to it

Please send us a note at tampa@centerforinquiry.net

Inaugural CFI Lecture Series in Brandon

We had an engrossing presentation from "Doc" Dockery on the state and future of technology, and what it portends for us. My take away is that, while we derive many benefits from the phenomenal advances in our machines, we might become unwitting tools as they increasingly run our lives. Example: you receive a text at work from your refrigerator. It says, "You are out of milk and bread, so stop at Sprouts on your way home. Oh, and get some chicken broth for the soup you can make from ingredients I've got. And your laundry is done, so pick that up too. Thelma says hi."



"It is not the courage to be that we must develop as much as the courage to become. We are responsible for our destiny. The meaning of life is not located in some hidden crevice in the womb of nature but is created by free persons, who are aware that they are responsible for their own futures and have the courage to take this project into their own hands." ~ Paul Kurtz



The [Center for Inquiry](#) (CFI) leads the charge on promoting science, reason, critical thinking, and humanist values.

CFI's vision is a world in which evidence, science, and compassion—rather than superstition, pseudoscience, or prejudice—guide [public policy](#).

Are we worrying about the right things?

By Rick O'Keefe

Do we fret over enough problems? Don't we already have more than enough to cope with in our daily lives? Sure, there are the usual, and the extraordinary complex political insults to the majority of our citizens, illness, poverty, hunger, homelessness, the daily commute, pollution, our kids and their kids, poor schools It seems endless.

Then there is the looming extinction emergency we all know about, Global Warming/Climate Change. Does it seem to you that human-caused destruction of the normal balance is already beyond repair? Politicians will choose getting reelected over forcing necessary and too-late changes in industry and society. "We can't disrupt peoples lives or our monied backers. People won't stand for that, so we'll just do our usual and let people suffer."

But what about the other elephant in the room—overpopulation? At the rate we industrialized folks use up rare resources and waste so much, there won't be enough to supply future generations. Never mind some miracle food production to supply everyone with delicious junk food, there won't be enough of many luxuries (what we consumers like to think as fun gadgets) to go around.

More than a hundred years ago, most Americans, the great majority of whom before WWI were dirt poor, could afford a home and could put food on the table. Nowadays? What of the future?

Corrupt politicians owned by quick-buck business people, devastating weather, too many people ... what will we do about it? "Send thoughts and prayers."

Have conservative Christians begun to change their battle plans?

I'm seeing more "sound the alarm" writings in conservative publications (<http://bit.ly/37jU24r> is one such). Recognizing that organized humanism is fading away because of the rise of nons (let alone nones) who are disinterested in organizing, there has been chosen a new enemy—Islam.

"As in 650, so today." Islam is seen as insidiously worming its way into society, just as conservative evangelicals have done for the last 70 years, with obvious success in local, state, and federal governments. Can you spell "displacement"?

Imagine a race between the uninvolved youth of tomorrow. Which organizations will become minuscule first? Now imagine another race between fanatics dying to spread "the true religion".

"A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you have become, and still, gently allows you to grow." ~ William Shakespeare

Origin and meaning of the term humanism

By [Robert Grudin](#) for Britannica

The ideal of *humanitas*

The history of the term *humanism* is complex but [enlightening](#). It was first employed (as *humanismus*) by 19th-century German scholars to designate the Renaissance emphasis on Classical studies in [education](#). These studies were pursued and [endorsed](#) by educators known, as early as the late 15th century, as *umanisti*—that is, professors or students of [Classical literature](#). The word *umanisti* derives from the *studia humanitatis*, a course of Classical studies that, in the early 15th century, consisted of [grammar](#), [poetry](#), [rhetoric](#), [history](#), and [moral philosophy](#). The *studia humanitatis* were held to be the equivalent of the Greek *paideia*. Their name was itself based on the Roman statesman [Marcus Tullius Cicero](#)'s concept of *humanitas*, an educational and political ideal that was the [intellectual](#) basis of the entire movement. Renaissance humanism in all its forms defined itself in its straining toward this ideal. No discussion of humanism, therefore, can have validity without an understanding of *humanitas*.

Humanitas meant the development of human virtue, in all its forms, to its fullest extent. The term thus implied not only such qualities as are associated with the modern word *humanity*—understanding, [benevolence](#), compassion, mercy—but also such more [assertive](#) characteristics as [fortitude](#), judgment, [prudence](#), eloquence, and even love of honour. Consequently, the possessor of *humanitas* could not be merely a sedentary and isolated philosopher or man of letters but was of necessity a participant in active life. Just as action without insight was held to be aimless and barbaric, insight without action was rejected as barren and imperfect. *Humanitas* called for a fine balance of action and contemplation, a balance born not of compromise but of complementarity.

The goal of such fulfilled and balanced virtue was political, in the broadest sense of the word. The [purview](#) of Renaissance humanism included not only the education of the young but also the guidance of adults (including rulers) via philosophical poetry and strategic [rhetoric](#). It included not only realistic social [criticism](#) but also [utopian hypotheses](#), not only painstaking reassessments of history but also bold reshapings of the future. In short, humanism called for the [comprehensive](#) reform of [culture](#), the transfiguration of what humanists termed the passive and ignorant society of the "dark" ages into a new order that would reflect and encourage the grandest human potentialities. Humanism had an evangelical dimension: it sought to project *humanitas* from the individual into the state at large.

Now you know a bit about the origins of modern civilization and humanism.

Click on the red
to join CFI

JOIN NOW



Founded in 1988 by **Gary P. Posner, M.D.**, **Tampa Bay Skeptics** is a nonprofit educational & scientific organization devoted to the critical examination of paranormal & fringe-science claims, & the dissemination of factual information about such claims. [Read More!](#)



In early March, TBS expects a visit from a person who claims the ability to summon "static" electricity and direct it with fair accuracy at a target. He is anxious to demonstrate this ability in a preliminary exhibition before he and TBS agree on a suitable public scientific test. He has been repeatedly admonished to save his money and to demonstrate his gift before a local college physics department. With his eye on the prize (our \$1,000) challenge, and others, should TBS deem him to have satisfied our requirements for success, he has opted to come to Tampa. If there is to be a test, we will broadcast an invitation.

A decade ago: **Don Addis**, a member of TBS since our first month of operations [31 years ago] in 1988, died of lung cancer on November 29. A uniquely gifted intellect and cartoonist, Don's contributions for two decades to the "Snippets" page were of incalculable value in helping *TBS Report* achieve whatever credibility it has enjoyed.

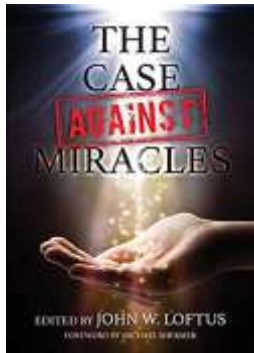
To read his *St. Petersburg Times* obituary, containing highlights of Don's remarkable career, [click here](#).

Following are but a few of the 'toons (as he called them) that Don graciously created for us over the years.



Recommended Reading

Click on the book's image for more info



For as long as the idea of "miracles" has been in the public sphere, the conversation about them has been shaped exclusively by religious apologists and Christian leaders. The definitions for what a miracle are have been forged by the same men who fought hard to promote their own beliefs as fitting under that umbrella. It's time for a change.

Enter **John W. Loftus**, an atheist author who has earned three master's degrees from Lincoln Christian Seminary and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Loftus, a former student of noted Christian apologist William Lane Craig, got some of the biggest names in the field to contribute to this book, which represents a critical analysis of the very idea of miracles.

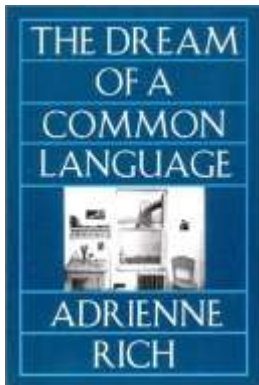
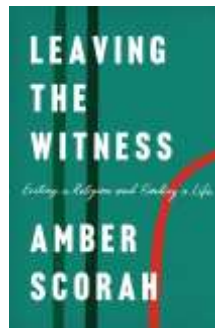
Incorporating his own thoughts along with those of noted academics, philosophers, and theologians, Loftus is able to properly define "miracle" and then show why there's no reason to believe such a thing even exists.

Addressing every single issue that touches on miracles in a thorough and academic manner, this compilation represents the most extensive look at the phenomenon ever displayed through the lens of an ardent non-believer.

If you've ever wondered exactly what a miracle is, or doubted whether they exist, then this book is for you.

A riveting memoir of losing faith and finding freedom while a covert missionary in one of the world's most restrictive countries.

A third-generation Jehovah's Witness, Amber Scoriah had devoted her life to sounding God's warning of impending Armageddon. She volunteered to take the message to China, where the preaching she did was illegal and could result in her expulsion or worse. Here, she had some distance from her community for the first time. Immersion in a foreign language and culture--and a whole new way of thinking--turned her world upside down, and eventually led her to lose all that she had been sure was true.



"Rich's poems do not demand the willing suspension of disbelief. They demand belief, and it is a measure of her success as a poet that most of the time they get it. . . . The affirmation and the occasional moments of pure joy in these poems are quiet but fully earned."--Margaret Atwood, *New York Times Book Review*

"The Dream of a Common Language explores the contours of a woman's heart and mind in language for everybody--language whose plainness, laughter, questions and nobility everyone can respond to. . . . No one is writing better or more needed verse than this."--Boston Evening Globe

Albertus Seba's Cabinet of Natural Curiosities is one of the 18th century's greatest natural history achievements and remains one of the most prized natural history books of all time. Though it was common for men of his profession to collect natural specimens for research purposes, Amsterdam based pharmacist Albertus Seba (1665?-1736) had a passion that led him far beyond the call of duty. His amazing, unprecedented collection of animals, plants and insects from all around the world gained international fame during his lifetime. In 1731, after decades of collecting, Seba commissioned illustrations of each and every specimen and arranged the publication of a four-volume catalog detailing his entire collection--from strange and exotic plants to snakes, frogs, crocodiles, shellfish, corals, insects, butterflies and more, as well as fantastic beasts, such as a hydra and a dragon. Seba's scenic illustrations, often mixing plants and animals in a single plate, were unusual even for the time. Many of the stranger and more peculiar creatures from Seba's collection, some of which are now extinct, were as curious to those in Seba's day as they are to us now. This reproduction is taken from a rare, hand-colored original. The introduction offers background information about the fascinating tradition of the cabinet of curiosities to which Seba's curiosities belonged.



The Matt Cooper

Humanist Lending Library

Humanist Society members can select the number of the book you wish to borrow, at any meeting. Then pick it up at the next meeting. **Be sure to return it!** Donations appreciated. **Brad Perryman** below is our new librarian.



TITLE AUTHOR

1. The Expanding Circle Peter Singer
2. In Gods we Trust Scott Atran
3. Why Evolution is True Jerry Coyne
4. The Second World Panag Khanna
5. Denialism Michael Specter
6. The Selfish Gene Richard Dawkins
7. Democracy Incorporated Sheldon Wolin
8. The Upside Irrationality Dan Ariely
9. The End of Growth Richard Heinberg
10. The God Delusion Richard Dawkins
11. All That We Share Jay Walljasper
12. Sex, Time, and Power Leonard Shlain
13. Sex at Dawn C. Ryan, & C. Jetha
14. What liberal Media Eric Alderman
15. The End of Faith Sam Harris
16. Plan B Lester Brown
17. The Portable Atheist Christopher Hitchens
18. Open Society George Soros
19. Non Believer Nation David Niose
20. God on Trial Peter Irons
21. Natural Experiments of History Diamond-Robinson
22. The Missionary Position Christopher Hitchens
23. Life Inc Douglas Rushkoff
24. A brief History of Time Stephen Hawking
25. Breaking the Spell Daniel Dennett
26. The Philosophy of Humanism Corliss Lamont
27. The Quotable Atheist Jack Huberman
28. 50 Reasons People Believe In G.G. Harrison
29. Mathematics and Politics Alan Taylor
30. Stealing Elections John Fund
31. The God Virus Darrel Ray
32. What Every American Should Know About World Rossi
33. Imagine There's no Heaven Editors of Free Inquiry
34. Hidden Order David Friedman
35. What the Dog Saw Malcolm Gladwell
36. Sway Ori, Rom Brafman
37. The Better Angels of our Nature Steven Pinker
38. Letter to a Young Contrarian Christopher Hitchens
39. Hot, Flat, and Crowded Thomas Friedman
40. Gaming the Vote William Poundstone
41. Subversion Fable Alexa KcKearing
42. Evolution and the Big Question David Stamos
43. Why People Believe Weird Things Michael Shermer
44. The World is Curved David Snick
45. The Snow Ball Warren Buffett
46. The Moral Landscape Sam Harris
47. How We Believe Michael Shermer
48. Full House Steven Jay Gould
49. The Origins of Political Order Francis Fukuyama
50. Asimov's Guide to the Bible Isaac Asimov
51. Autobiography of Mark Twain Ed. Harriet Elinor Smith
52. Science Friction Michael Shermer
53. Genius James Gleick
54. Inevitable Illusions Piatrelli & Palmarini
55. Demon Haunted World Carl Sagan
56. Being Right Is Not Enough Paul Waldman
57. Loser Takes All Mark Crispin Miller
58. Taking Back Politics Cathy Allen
59. Spiritual Common Sense Mark Lindquist (Gift by author)
60. Autobiography of Mark Twain Ed. Harriet Elinor Smith
61. The Skeptics Annotated Bible Various
62. 12 Vol Complete Works Robert Ingersoll
63. On Religious Liberty Roger Williams & Davis
64. The God Makers Baker & Hunt
65. Inevitable Illusions M. Piatrelli-Palmarini
66. Ain't Nobody's business If You Do Peter McWilliams
67. Bonk Mary Roach
68. What Money Can't Buy Michael J. Sandel
69. Financial Shenanigans Howard Shilit
70. Sex & God Darrel Ray, ED.D
71. Best American Non required Reading Dave Eagers
72. Reporting at Wit's End St. Clair McKelway
73. Corporations are not People Clements
74. Could I Vote Mormon for president? Cragun - Phillips
75. Culture of Honor Nisbett - Cohen
76. Rot on the Vine Stenes
77. Thoughts of a Freethinker New Kaye * Essential works
78. An Atheist Stranger by Herb Silverman
79. Candidate without a prayer- Herb Silverman

Christian Charity Gets in the Way of Genuine Economic Progress

By *Norm R. Allen Jr.*

Paul Kurtz Institute for Science and Human Values



Conservative Christians relentlessly brag about how much more they give to charity than other religious and secular groups. For purposes of this article, I am not primarily concerned with the findings that show that most of that charity does not find its way to the intended targets. Let's say for the sake of argument that all of the money goes to the intended recipients.

Conservative Christians are especially generous around Thanksgiving and Christmas. No surprise there. What better way to call attention to your faith than to give money during two of the most popular holidays in the U.S.? Sadly, though, after the holidays are over, conservative Christian giving goes way down and the causes they support fall from the proverbial radar.

Charity is important and it makes the world a better place. I have given to charity throughout most of my life and will continue to do so. But like religious progressives, I understand that charity is simply not enough.

It is all well and good to open soup kitchens, build clinics and hospitals, open shelters for the homeless, and so forth. But as nice as all of this is, it simply puts a band aid on a gushing wound.

Conservative Christian Dinesh D'Souza rarely engages in formal debates to defend Christianity without bragging about how much more money conservative Christians give to charity than everyone else. Moreover, when told about the genuine success that secular social democracies in Europe are having in combating poverty, homelessness, bad health, and so on, he implies that that is no big deal because the government is responsible for that success.

Duh! That's exactly the point and the point of this article. That is the only way to make widespread progress for suffering people. Charity has never done so and never will.

Conservative Christians seem to have a point when they claim that the Bible does not say that the government should intervene on behalf of its citizens in need. If they are correct, it just shows how sadly outdated the Bible truly is.

While Conservative Christians pat themselves on the back for feeding some of the hungry, they want to cut food stamps and other government programs that could feed far more people than they ever could.

For example, shortly before Christmas in 2019, President Donald Trump, the hero of White evangelicals, made plans to cut the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As many as 3.1 million people could lose benefits as a result. No matter how much they give and pray, conservative Christians would be unable and unwilling to help so many needy people on a regular basis. That is the government's job!

The law is proposed to go in effect in April 2020. It would deny

benefits to seniors, veterans, the disabled and hundreds of thousands of children, i.e., the most vulnerable members of society. It would even hurt many of Trump's poor White supporters.

Conservative Christians love to point to the clinics and hospitals that they have built all over the world. They have volunteered their time as well as put their money where their mouth is. However, they have routinely opposed good health care for the poor majority.

For example, in 2018, Judge Reed O'Connor ruled that the entire Affordable Care Act be dismissed. Later, on December 18, 2019, a federal appeals court found that the act's requirement that people have health insurance is unconstitutional.

If the law is dismissed, millions of people could lose health insurance, including many of Trump's poor White supporters. Fifty million people with pre-existing conditions could be without health insurance. What, pray tell, could charitable conservative Christians do to help all of these people?

Incidentally, this raises the question of why hospitals are needed in the first place. Why can't Christians and other theists just ask God to intervene on behalf of the sick and suffering? Perhaps the omnipotent and omniscient God could even bring people back from brain death and grow people new limbs.

There are many other areas of need in which government aid is paramount, such as disaster relief. However, conservative Christians have steadfastly opposed government aid for those suffering from the ill effects of "acts of God."

Not surprisingly, on August 27, 2019, President Trump declared that he would take \$155 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to detain asylum seekers and create locations for their court hearings.

There are several secular and religious charities that provide disaster relief. However, such efforts are simply too short. For example, they cannot pay for the Coast Guard during floods, and so on.

Again, though, we must ask why Christians and other theists cannot simply pray away hurricanes, earthquakes, and so on. To make matters worse, many self-righteous conservative Christians blame the victims. For example, that have blamed alleged sinners for the fires in California, a major earthquake in Haiti, Hurricane Katrina, and so on.

Last but not least, Trump has proposed massive cuts to affordable housing, to bipartisan disapproval. Despite conservative Christians building houses for the poor, providing homeless shelters, and so forth, this simply will not help most poor people in need of housing.

Conservative Christians are too obsessed with their own sense of moral superiority to be truly concerned with the elimination of widespread human misery. They can always pat themselves on the back for the charity they give to hospitals that will not be able to serve those poor people to whom conservative Christians have gleefully denied health insurance.

Humanist Families of Greater Tampa

Jennifer Hancock started this organization several years ago. It uniquely serves Humanist families with a variety of wonderful programs throughout the year. We strongly emphasize creative childrearing. You can connect with other families dealing with the same problems of living in a society that is still hostile to an explicitly humanist way of life.

Jennifer wrote three books: *The Humanist Handbook*, *The Humanist Approach to Happiness*, & *The Bully Vaccine*.

Humanist Families organizes social outings every month. Come and do something fun, socialize, enjoy each other's company. Sometimes we go to a park, a museum, go swimming, & sometimes we leave the kids at home. We organize Tampa & Manatee/Sarasota area outings every month.

Throughout the year we host parties like *Darwin Day* in February, *World Humanist Day* in June, *Freethought Day at Disney* in October, & *Carl Sagan Day* in November. Among our spin off groups is a *Parenting Beyond Belief* group which gets together to discuss the challenges of raising children without religion. Please join us on [Facebook](#).

Thanks, Jennifer Hancock

The Military Association of Atheists & Freethinkers

The **MacDill Atheists & Secular Humanists (MASH)** community was created for atheist & secular humanist military personnel stationed at MacDill Air Force Base, their families, & retired military residing in the Tampa Bay area.

MASH provides a valuable & much needed resource in which you will find common ground to socialize, discuss issues, & draw emotional support from like-minded freethinking members.

Local Contact: Chris (ChrisTBrown@yahoo.com) MSgt, USAF (Retired). On the web at: www.maaf.info

Tampa Bay Thinkers

We meet monthly to escape shallow, petty talk for a safe harbor to ponder broad, complex yet practical subjects. We expect members to support opinions and use logic in conclusions, but expect all present to keep the meeting FUN for all. We teach, and don't scold. We expect the conversation to move without getting stuck so sometimes, we are forced to "agree to disagree" and move on.

We arrive and parts friends. There are no personal attacks, but each IDEA goes under the microscope. Members agree, others disagree, often with enthusiasm! We have no gates, and no gatekeepers. All are welcome and we tolerate no personal attacks, sarcasm, or even indirect denigration. IDEAS RULE and stand on their own. Finally, we are "thinkers", not "doers". Go forth & take action. Come, join us, participate, learn, exercise your brain, but mostly HAVE FUN.

The Socrates Cafe

A monthly discussion since 2008.

Hosted by **Brent Hardaway**

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/38mveZH>



Join us for another fascinating discussion, then for dinner/drinks at The Independent (5016 N. Florida Avenue) afterwards! Join us every 2nd Monday Feb. 1st at 3 PM in the **Seminole Heights Branch Library**, 4711 N Central Ave, **Tampa, FL**, 33603 Be sure to RSVP [HERE!](#)



The Crafty Freethinker—A Yorkshire lass born & bred, currently living in the Sunshine State. Introspective, skeptical freethinker, full of wanderlust, slightly obsessive list maker & organizer. I have a weakness for rescuing fur babies & craving British galaxy chocolate bars. I spent some fantastic years working on cruise ships in the kids camp carnival & through that was lucky to have traveled half the world. I'm on a mission to see the other half. I've dared myself to bungee jump, parasail & sky dive at 10,000 feet. *Please click on the [images](#) above.*

Humanistic Jews of Tampa Bay welcomes all who are interested in Jewish history, culture, and tradition independent of supernatural explanations. We believe human beings are responsible for their own choices and making the world a better place through science and reason. Join us for discussions, lectures, cultural events, and holiday celebrations using a Humanistic lens.

Ethical Humanism, also called Ethical Culture, is an evolving body of ideas that inspires Ethical Societies. Humanism is a progressive philosophy of life that, without supernaturalism, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity (*Humanist Manifesto III*). For Ethical Humanists, the ultimate religious questions are not about the existence of gods or an afterlife, but rather, "How can we create meaningfulness in this life?" and "How should we treat each other?"

The American Ethical Union was founded in 1877 by Felix Adler in New York, and currently has over 30 member societies.

Organizer **Bart Worden** hopes to get a local Meetup group started soon.

UU St. Pete Thursday Citizens' Café

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

100 Mirror Lake Dr. N., St. Petersburg
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

UU Humanists of Clearwater

Usually every 3rd Sunday 12:30 to 1:30 pm,
after UU services,
2470 Nursery Rd., Clearwater. 727-531-7704

UU Humanists of Tampa

Public Discussion, 2nd Thursday eve from 7-9 PM.
11400 Morris Bridge Rd. Tampa



Next Lecture: Monday, March 2, 2020

Speaker: Tom Boeke, Professor, State College of Florida

Topic: The Future of the Middle East

For more details, information, news and activities, see: <https://www.husbay.org/index.htm>

Tampa Bay CoR

TAMPA BAY COALITION OF REASON

Promoting Action & Unity in the Tampa Bay Area

Join the Freethought Organizations of the Tampa Bay Area: groups that promote serious secular discussion & activity about important issues in our area & beyond.

Substantive & exciting new activities are now offered to the Tampa Bay area that were not possible for most organizations before.

Every year we sponsor events such as Darwin Day in February, Solstice day in December, and other activities all year long.

You may recall that UCoR was the major impetus to getting a large number of billboards erected in Tampa Bay & across the nation with such messages as "You can be good without God. Millions are!"

TBCoR is an alliance of West Central Florida groups identified with the secular / freethought / Humanist / Atheist movement.

As this momentum continues to grow, we will keep you informed of developments . JP

Contact: council@tampabaycor.net

Or see, <http://tampabaycor.net/>

**Hear a secular
point of view on
local radio.**

Listen to:
"The Voice of
Reason"

on WTAN Radio
Network from
Clearwater.
Thursdays at 10 AM



The St. Petersburg Astronomy Club, Inc.

(SPAC), has been meeting continuously since 1927. It was incorporated in 1979 as a nonprofit, tax deductible organization.

For almost 50 years SPAC has provided free educational programs for its members & the public. Questions? send an email to: spaceaminer@gmail.com.

Meetings are normally held on the fourth Friday of each month (except November & December when it is on the third Friday) at the St. Petersburg College/Gibbs Campus, 6605 5th Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33710, at 8:00 P.M. Meetings are open to the public. **Calendar**

M.A.R.S. – Tampa Astronomy Club at MOSI

Come to the **Museum Astronomical Resource Society**, also known as the M.A.R.S. astronomy club. M.A.R.S. is sponsored by the **Museum of Science & Industry (MOSI)**, in Tampa, Florida. We are also members of both the **Astronomical League & Night Sky Network**. This site provides club news & astronomical information to our membership & to the public. Whether you are new to astronomy & curious about how to experience it, or a seasoned veteran looking for an active club to spend observation time with. We invite you to attend a meetings as our honored guest.

Monthly meetings are normally held on the 3rd floor of MOSI in the Science Works Theater, & take place on the 2nd Friday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Meetings are free & open to the public.

Details & RSVP: <https://www.meetup.com/MARS-astronomy-club-at-MOSI/>

University of South Florida Humanities Institute



Get all the details of our many activities such as the Book Group, Books & Caffeine, lectures. Poetry, Humanities & Hops. *Always something to involve active minds!*



USF Freethinkers

Freethinkers@USF is a cosmopolitan collective of USF students promoting critical thinking & pluralism through dialogue & reasonable inquiry. Join the official group and vote on upcoming discussions: Contact: fadibitar@mail.usf

The mission of the **Secular Coalition for Florida** is to increase the visibility of, and respect for, non-theistic view-points in the State, and to protect and strengthen the secular character of our government as the best guarantee of freedom for all. **Bill Norsworthy**, is our Florida representative. Please join us [here](#). Volunteer activists are wanted, needed, & appreciated! Represent thousands of freethinkers in the halls of power. As our government undergoes its seemingly perpetual crises, the secular coalition is needed to remind citizens & officials alike that ours is indeed a secular society. But to preserve its character from the predations of zealots, *requires your involvement.*



TBCoR Leadership Team 2020

Judy Adkins

Bill Norsworthy,

Mark Brandt,

Chris Brown,

Jenn Hancock,

Rick O'Keefe,

David Vangsness

Jim Peterson -
CoR Facilitator
HSS, TBPCC

AoF

UUCH

UUCH

MAF

GTBHF

CFI,

TBS

Editorial E-Mail: tbcor@metrodirect.net CoR Facilitator

Evolve Fish is a source for freethought paraphernalia: <http://evolvefish.com/>



Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason – February, 2020 Calendar

This is produced from preliminary information. Check the individual Web sites to insure the event is being held, when & where We are not liable for changes, errors, or omissions.
Compiled by Rick O'Keefe & Jim Peterson. Your RSVP is requested, & often is required for admittance.
See our Meetup site for more: www.meetup.com/Tampa-Bay-Coalition-of-Reason



Various Sundays, 2 PM; & Friday nights	BRANDON–CFI Sunday Freethought Social & Godless Friday Nights	Skeptical interests with critical thinkers. Click to RSVP : http://bit.ly/2ljTe9I	
TBA – various activities	TRI-COUNTY – Atheists of Florida, Inc.	Details & RSVP : http://bit.ly/AOF-Meetup	
TBA – various activities	S TAMPA– Tampa Bay Skeptics, Inc..	Details & RSVP http://bit.ly/2ljTe9I	
2nd Saturday, 2 PM see Pg. 2 3rd Sunday -Dinner see Pg. 3.	DUNEDIN– Humanist Soc. of the Suncoast	Details & RSVP http://bit.ly/Suncoast-Humanists Now on the 2nd Saturday at 2 PM !	
3rd Sunday, 12:30 PM	E. CLEARWATER– UU Clearwater Humanists	Details: http://bit.ly/UUC-Humanists	
TBA – various astronomy activities at MOSI	E. TAMPA– Museum Astronomical Resource Society (MARS) at MOSI	Details & RSVP : http://bit.ly/1Psc2Pi Other events: http://bit.ly/MARS-home	
TBA - numerous events—this semester	E. TAMPA– Humanities Institute at USF	See Web site for full listing of many events & calendar. http://bit.ly/USF-Humanities Locations vary! Page 12.	
4th Monday, 6 PM	N. PINELLAS AREA– CFI Freethought Supper	RSVP is required. Seating is limited to 25! <i>For CFI & TBS paid members.</i> http://bit.ly/2ljTe9I	
3rd Saturday, 11 AM	N TAMPA – Tampa Humanist Assoc.	Details & RSVP : No program this month! http://bit.ly/TPA-Humanists	
Various Saturdays	NE CLEARWATER – CFI Readers Book Discussion	Limited to 10 paid-up CFI members. RSVP is required. Must have read the book under discussion to attend. http://bit.ly/2ljTe9I	
3rd Monday, 7 PM	NW HILLSBOROUGH– Tampa Bay Thinkers	Lively discussions. RSVP here: http://bit.ly/2DVtwCd	
4 th Friday, 8 PM general meeting. Many more events monthly.	ST. PETERSBURG– Astronomy Club	For several dates, locations, & details: http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Home http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Calendar	
Various Saturdays/Sundays plus various other times/venues	TAMPA BAY REGION– Center for Inquiry Tampa Bay	Details & RSVP http://bit.ly/2ljTe9I	
TBA – various activities	TAMPA BAY REGION– Humanist Families	RSVP here: Family outings & other activities. Details & RSVP : http://bit.ly/1Ps9MaN	

Read more on the web at: www.tampabaycor.net