

The Humanist Society of the Suncoast

A Socratic society dedicated to the proposition that the fully examined life is well worth living.
Member organization of the [Humanists of Florida](#), the [AHA](#), and [ASHS](#). Find us at www.metrodirect.net/humanist

Our Program for Saturday, December 6th

Humanism: an open philosophical approach to being in the World

This is an open session where we will share ideas, and criticisms about the nature and history of the Humanist movement in the west throughout its 3000 year history. This present moment is a new time in that history.

Notwithstanding our present economic crises, the intellectual, political, and social imperative of our time is toward a new and decidedly different approach to human problems. Barak Obama's signature of change and optimism presages a new openness toward innovation and skepticism toward the tired philosophy of tradition. We will examine a specimen of such an outlook for comparison.

Bring your own insights ideas, and especially curiosity. Mix well with critical thinking. Let it all ferment into a new synthesis. Be an ingredient!

JP



Celebrating
Humanity
Reason
&
Hope

December
21st

In a time of uncertainty and stress it is always important to ground our thinking and feeling in the natural world from which we sprang, and in each other.

Join us for another Humanlight celebration on the beach.

See page 2 for information.

Volume 17 No. 12

December, 2008

Renewal

This month starts our annual membership renewal period.

The board is happy to announce that for the 2009 period we are **reducing** dues to:

\$25 per individual
and **\$30 per couple**.
This will allow more members to continue, and new members to join in these difficult times.

Debate in Sarasota

TOPIC: "Science and the God Question"

film followed by discussion

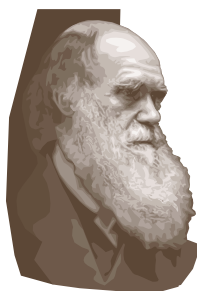
DATE: Sunday, December 7

TIME: 6:30 PM

PLACE: Church of the Redeemer's Gillespie Hall located at 222 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL

COST: FREE and open to the public

The Charles Darwin Bicentennial 1809 to 2009



Project

A steering committee has been formed to develop a program to honor the great scientist, Charles Darwin and to bring attention to the science of evolution and the great scientific project in general. Among the participants are the Center for Inquiry, the Humanist

Society of the Suncoast, and Atheists of Florida. CFI has undertaken a poster project to encourage children in Schools to create original posters showing the importance of Darwin and the scientific method. Other developments are anticipated for the **February 12th** event. A special web site is being created to coordinate our local events. Its address will be sent soon and will appear here in January. JP

Presentation on Post Carbon Issues

will be the subject of the December 27th meeting of the Tampabay Skeptics at the CFI Center on Kennedy Blvd. in Tampa at 11:00.



Don't Forget...

**Tampa
Bay
Harvest**

There are Large numbers of homeless and hungry people in the Tampa bay area who are dependent on socially conscious citizens like us for life sustaining nutrients. **Bring a can, box, or two.** It's the Humanist thing to do!

**Please join us
for this
free & open
discussion.**

**Saturday,
December 6th
2:00 PM**

**Clearwater East
Library
2251 Drew St.
Clearwater**

Following our meeting, we will dine together at the

**Farmer Boy
Restaurant**

at 2129 Drew St. just 2 blks west of Library.

[HOME](#)

Page:

[\[2\]](#)

[\[3\]](#)



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

What do Humanists Want?

1. To extend a human centered approach to the critical problems of life and society.
2. To encourage attitudes of kindness, compassion, tolerance and a loving generosity in human relationships, and in our treatment of all life. These attitudes help us to see ourselves in the lives of others and encourage appreciation for the remarkable diversity of human culture and experience.
3. To develop and popularize the skills of creative and critical thinking that empower people to challenge prejudice, superstition and irrationality in every area of life. Such empowerment enables the individual to reach the highest levels of achievement.
4. To exalt those artistic and imaginative expressions of life which have been the source of the greatest pleasure and enlightenment, and which reflect compelling human truths. Through music, literature, art, dance, and other expressions, we embrace the essence of the human spirit.
5. To explore the grounds of ethics and 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 Moveable Feast...

Our December social dinner will be the

Human Light Party ~ Solstice on the Beach ~

on **December 21st at 3 to 5:30 PM.**

This will be our usual Pot Luck at Bob Cummings beach house. Call Anita at: **(727) 381-3933** to help coordinate our food selection.

Bob's house is still at 13062 Gulf Blvd, behind the All Seasons Resort.

Please reserve with Glenn Paul at 727-595-3347 or glennkayp@juno.com by Saturday, December 19th.

Sick Bay

Mitch and Katherine Modisett are going through some difficult times with health problems, but would love to hear from you. Give them a call at **(813) 788-5516** or E-mail mmodis@3oaks.com

Call **(813) 531-8138** for changes to this list.

JP

Laugh Lines Over-60 Perks

01. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
02. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
03. No one expects you to run - - anywhere.
04. People call at 9 pm and ask, did I wake you?
05. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
06. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
07. Things you buy now won't wear out.
08. You can eat supper at 4 pm.
09. You can live without sex but not your glasses.
10. You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
11. You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
12. You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
13. You sing along with elevator music.
14. Your eyes won't get much worse.
15. Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
16. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
17. Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
18. Your supply of brain cells is finally down to manageable size.

Thanks to *Connie Purdum*

Our Humanist Society is actively looking for interesting speakers with novel and well thought out ideas on just about any subject of interest to a general audience. Let me know if you would like to recommend a person or organization. Call Jim at (813) 531-8138

HUMANIST SOCIETY OF THE SUNCOAST

A chapter of the American Humanist Assoc.
the Association of Secular Humanist Societies

Board of Directors

Meets Sept., December, April

Jim Butler
Robert Collette
Jerry Eckstein
Terry Eckstein
Anita Garcia
Open position, Secy.
Jerry Moore, Vice Pres.
Lucille Odeneal (Emeritus)
Glenn Paul Treasurer
Jim Peterson, President

~*~*~*~*~*~

Glenn Paul Publisher.
Jim Peterson, Editor

Have an Idea, opinion or essay you want to share?

E-Mail us at:
sunhum@metrodirect.net

Join us in our effort to ignite critical thinking, and embrace reason, & compassion in life.

~ **Join** ~

**The Humanist Society
of the Suncoast.**

- ☞ Trial -3 month- free news
- ☞ Regular -\$25. **New! 2009 only**
- ☞ Reg. Couple -\$30.
- ☞ Life -\$200.
- ☞ Life Couple -\$250.
- ☞ Limited income -\$10.

Name: _____

Address: _____

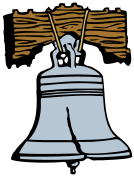
City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____

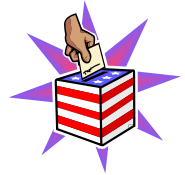
E-mail: _____

(Privacy respected)

Send to: Glenn Paul, Treasurer
Suncoast Humanist Society
2507 First St. #E
Indian Rocks Beach
33785-3010



The Pinellas County Chapter The American Civil Liberties Union



Cordially invites you to join us in celebration of the lives of two great advocates for civil liberty,

Bruce Howie & Otis Anthony

at our 17th Annual *Bill of Rights Awards Banquet*

Join us on Thursday Evening, **December 4th 2008**

at **Banquet Masters**

8100 Park Blvd. #201

Pinellas Park Fl. 33781

Phone: 727-541-1582 [directions only]

|| Our Program ||

RECEPTION & CASH BAR 6:15 - 8:15 PM

DINNER 7:15 PM

AWARD PRESENTATIONS 7:45 PM



❖ The Evening's Menu ❖

SALAD: Mixed garden greens with choice of ranch or Italian dressing.

ENTREES - Choose from: **Fish** [Catch of the Day, probably Mahi Mahi], or

Chicken Marsala, or **Vegetarian Pasta Primavera**

All served with: Rice Pilaf, Vegetable du Jour, Fresh baked rolls with butter.

DESSERT: Carrot Cake .

BEVERAGES: Iced tea, coffee: regular or decaf.



Please RSVP* by November 30th.

\$35 each person, \$30.00 prepaid (\$20 if limited income). Place your reservation by:

- **CHECK:** Send it with this filled-out coupon to: ACLU Dinner P. O. Box 12372 St. Petersburg, FL 33733
- **PHONE:** Call (727) 347-4266 (Leave message)
- **E-MAIL:** (To reserve and pay at the door*) mbuu@earthlink.net

*Your RSVP is a commitment on which our costs are based. Payment is therefore required for every reservation regardless of attendance.

Make your check out to: **ACLU Annual Dinner**

\$35.00 each at the door, \$30 if paid in advance before November 30, 2008, or limited income: \$20. *

(circle one for each name)

NAME _____	Fish	Chicken	Vegetarian	\$ _____
NAME _____	Fish	Chicken	Vegetarian	\$ _____
NAME _____	Fish	Chicken	Vegetarian	\$ _____
NAME _____	Fish	Chicken	Vegetarian	\$ _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____ TOTAL \$ _____