

## The Tampa Bay Coalition of

# Freethought

Vol. 10 No. 10 October 2021

Jim Peterson, Rick O'Keefe, Editors

### What's Inside?

<u>2*</u>
<u>4</u>
<u>5*</u>
<u>6*</u>
<u>8*</u>
9
<u>12</u>
<u>10</u> *
<u>10</u> *
<u>10</u>
<u>10</u>
<u>10</u>
<u>10*</u>
<u>11</u>
<u>11</u>
11
<u>11</u>
12



# March 4, 5, & 6,

Hundreds of humanists, atheists, agnostics, freethinkers, and scientific skeptics will attend this three day event with stimulating presentations, networking opportunities, exhibitors, and entertainment from start to finish.

Proceeds support the Florida Humanist Association Scholarship Fund in coordination

with the Secular Student Alliance.

Info and Register **here** before Dec. 1st for the best discount!

Hold this date: 10-24-2021 For: *Hemant Mehta* 

#### Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason Web site-Jim Peterson Editors-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:
http://bit.ly/2vUJoE1
Opinions expressed in this
publication are those of the
authors. They do not purport to
reflect the opinions or views of
the editors, TBCoR, or its
member organizations.

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

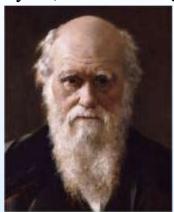


"Is Atheism Still Taboo in Politics?" At the AoF Zoom meeting 5 PM. See Page 7.

NB. Until further notice, following bestpractices and official medical recommendations, all group face to face gatherings are postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. We will let you know here when we're go for "Normal." It will be soon. (We hope)

### Don't forget Chucky D.\*

February 12, 2022 is the big day.



Coalition of Reason to have an announcement soon.

\* That's Charles Darwin's birthday, of course. Also, Lincoln's birthday!



# The Humanist Societ of the Suncoas

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

Yet another date to hold on to...

**Joe Reinhardt** will discourse on Oct. 10th 2021 at the AoF Zoom meeting

### Good Witch, Bad Witch, or Sandwich? You Decide.

A historical consideration of witchcraft and witches. Since the era of the most primitive religions many thousands of years ago, the innate power of women was much feared and often generated animus from the priestly class and the many gullible, fearful and ignorant followers drawn to the simplistic narratives of those who had learned to capitalize on the superstition, psychological and physical traumas that shaped their lives. That the burden of suffering fell upon women was influenced by among other things, the unique overt role they played in the reproductive process.



Joe Reinhardt

From biblical prophets through Thomas Aquinas, the pursuit of supposed witches was among the many factors restraining women from the achievements that could be

Joe will discuss this and other aspects of "witchcraft" that continue to our own time.



In 2014, the American Humanist Association and Foundation Beyond Belief announced the merger of their respective charitable programs Humanist Charities and Humanist Crisis Response to encourage humanist giving. <u>Humanist Disaster</u> Recovery, this new joint project of the AHA and FBB, exists to provide financial support to secular organizations working locally to meet the needs of recovering survivors.

Recent recovery giving campaigns have helped relief efforts with The Texas snow disaster, Hurricanes Harvey & Irma, famine in East Africa, flooding in Louisiana, earthquakes in Ecuador & Nepal, and much more.

BEYOND BELIEF Learn more at: foundationbeyondbelief.org/disasterrecovery



### **Looking for some** serious Intellectual action?

Have we got some brain-Zooms for you!

The Suncoast Humanists and the Tampa chapter of Atheists of Florida are cooperating to bring outstanding advocates for the great questions that are so meaningful for human life today. See page 7.

The United Nations Association of **Tampa Bay** (UNA-Tampa Bay) is a non -profit, membership organization that is part of the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA). The mission of the UNA-USA is to inform the American public of the principles and activities of the United Nations, to engage the public to support these principles, and to encourage the United States to take an active leadership role in the United Nations. UNA-Tampa Bay pursues the mission of the UNA-USA in a regional scope by interacting with Tampa Bay Communities through education, empowerment, and advocacy. https://unatampabay.org/

Vol. XXXIV No. 9 September, 2021



The Humanist Society has maintained an enlightened presence on the Florida Suncoast sine 1987.

### Please Join or renew Humanist Society of the

### Suncoast

**Annual Dues** Regular -\$25

Reg. Couple -\$30.

Supporter -\$35/40 (With pin above)

Life -\$200. (Inc. Pin)

Life Couple -\$250 (Pins)

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 treasurer, Scott Wilson scott33761@yahoo.com

If new, please give info below; 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: "Scott Wilson"

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

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





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

### **Puzzling Paradoxes**

How many PhD.'s are required to produce a paradox? One should be able to do it nicely, but two are better able to fulfill the need.

Let's start with Eubulides of Miletus, who is credited as the inventor of paradoxes. Eubulides came up with a number of these. The Heap (aka **The Sorites Paradox**) is the first of these classical paradoxes, and it's a question of degrees:

If a man has zero hairs on his head, we say he's bald. However, a man who has 10,000 hairs on his head is not considered to be bald. But what if we add a single hair to the head of the man with zero hairs? He would still clearly be bald.

Let's say that a man has 1,000 hairs only. But the strands are evenly spaced and really thin. Would this man be bald or not bald?

Would you consider a single grain of wheat a "heap of wheat?" Definitely not. How about two grains? Still, probably not. So when do a few grains or a few hairs end and a whole heap or baldness actually begin? The problem is one of vagueness. Where does one description end and another begin?

The **Paradox of Inquiry** (aka Meno's paradox) was featured in Plato's dialogues. Meno gets into a discussion about virtue with Socrates that leads to a peculiar question about how we learn. If we don't know what we don't know, how do we know what to look for?

In other words, if we want to find out something that we don't know, how do we know what to ask? Even if we happen to encounter what we don't know by chance, we wouldn't know it and wouldn't know to inquire. This would mean that we never actually learn anything by asking questions—which is obviously absurd. Questioning is the fundamental premise of science and the first step in the scientific method.

As Meno said, "And how will you inquire into a thing when you are wholly ignorant of what it is? Even if you happen to bump right into it, how will you know it is the thing you didn't know?" Socrates rephrased the paradox this way: "A man cannot search either for what he knows or for what he does not know. He cannot search for what he knows—since he knows it, there is no need to search—nor for what he does not know, for he does not know what to look for." If we know the answer to the question we ask, how do we learn anything from asking?

## 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, Lois Fries, Secretary Dave Kovar, Brad Perryman Vice Pres. Jim Peterson, President Scott Wilson, Treasurer Jordan Williams.

Emeritus members: Terry
Eckstein, Dr. Jon Green, Mark Kligman,
Dr. Jack Robinson, Dec. Jerry Moore,
Anita Garcia, Mark Winterbottom,
Sidney Goetz Dec. Bob Collette, Glenn
Paul, Kay Paul, Dec. Don Acenbrack
Dec., Rob Byrch, Dec. Jackie Jordan,
Brent Yaciw, Mike Hubbard, Matt
Cooper Dec, Jim Butler, Marios
Psomas, Dec, Steve Brown



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: Linda Falkner

www.allfloridaonline.com. 813-620-4900. Linda@cheercounseling.com

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

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





An autonomous project of the Humanist Society.

Affiliate of the Post Carbon Institute

# The IPCC Report Gives CONGRESS AND COP 26 AN EXISTENTIAL CHOICE

The world's climate scientists are sending Congress and world leaders a clear message: We are on the brink of catastrophe. What happens next is up to us.

The alarm bells really couldn't be any louder or clearer.

We are living through the last years still left to prevent a future of permanent and catastrophic climate change. The planet's future – humanity's future – is in our hands. That's the inescapable conclusion of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's "Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis" report, which was released on Monday, August 9.

The report - the consensus of hundreds of the world's top climate scientists from literally all around the world – details the latest and best available information on what we know about climate change.

No surprise to anyone who's been paying attention to what's been happening in <u>Germany</u>, <u>India</u>, or the <u>US West</u> this summer – or just looked out their window – the news isn't good.

"Global surface temperature has increased

faster since 1970 than in any other 50-year period over at least the last 2000 years," the report notes with a finding of "high confidence." (Which, coming from the extraordinarily cautious international scientific community, is essentially the same as saying the sun rises tomorrow.)

In other words, our world is warming faster than any point in recorded history. Over the following the pages, the report details the many and farreaching consequences — more drought, seas rising, greater extremes in temperatures, and on and on — already baked in and what we can expect in future years unless the world acts quickly to aggressively cut emissions and ultimately reach net zero by 2050.

The timing of the report matters. Greatly.

The same day the IPCC released the report, Senate Democrats in Congress released a budget resolution that could open the door to the kind of bold and non-negotiatiable measures — like a clean energy standard and tax incentives for clean energy and transit — we need if the world's largest economy is going to have any shot at meaningfully cutting emissions.

Plus in November, representatives of nearly 200 countries will meet in Glasgow for the UN's COP 26 climate conference to potentially hammer out a stronger version of the Paris Agreement, the international community's framework for global cooperation on climate action.

In this moment, the report amounts to an existential choice for policymakers and the rest of us. Act now in the last years we have left and we have a shot at actually holding warming to 1.5 degrees and averting the worst of climate change. Fail, and well, we could see seas rise beyond 1 to 2meters, oceans warm four to eight times what we've seen in recent decades, and even more extreme heatwaves, droughts, and hurricanes become ordinary affairs.





post carbon institute

# 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

Be sure to come on in for AoF's regular Sunday evening Zoom sessions starting at 5:00 PM. **See our listings below**, or on the TB-CoR Meetup for topics and times.

For linking information, see our notices on the Coalition of Reason Meetup page, or on <a href="www.aof.ngo">www.aof.ngo</a>. Please RSVP.

## AoF's Sunday Zoom

Date	Leader	Event
10/10/2021	Joe Reinhardt	Of Witches
10/24/2021	Hemant Mehta	Is Atheism still Taboo?
11/14/2021	David Tamayo	Hispanic American Freethinkers
11/21/2021	Dr Linda Elder	Foundation for Critical Thinking
11/28/2021	AoF	Annual member & board Meeting.

Help us make these programs possible - Join!

# Do you know what your legislature Is up to?

AOF submitted a short survey on **religious freedom** to candidates for the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Senate, and the US House of Representatives. We are posting the responses on our website as they are received. You can visit the information



at https://www.atheistsofflorida.org/2020-candidates. (NOTA BENE: We did this through email, so only those candidates for whom we could find an email address are included.) *JMA* 



### **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!

Now..

### www.Freethought.news

A new web service to the entire community providing an aggregate of events around the nation and world, significant to people who care deeply about freedom. It will be updated continuously. Let us know how you like it.

For over 27 years, Atheists of Florida Inc. has attempted to provide much needed information about religion and the alternatives to religion which have proved to be so liberating for so many of us.

We invite you to explore the many written and audio video presentations from our library.

The radio/TV broadcasts are on extended hiatus for now. However, previous programs, most with discussions of timeless interest, are available on the internet at: www.youtube.com/atheistforum.

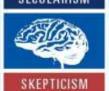


For now, tune in to **the Voice of Reason, Thursday at 10am on WTAN radio** See <u>page 13</u>! The voice is a private effort led by Ed Golly, who along with Joe Reinhardt and guests supply fresh insights on the world we face.

Contact us: info@atheistsoffloridainc.org











INQUIRY

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

## The big CFI news

is the announcement that the Richard Dawkins Award is going this year to Tim Minchin! He'll receive the award at a sold-out event in Oxford on October 10.

This Thursday at 7pm ET on Skeptical Inquirer
Presents, we've got Anna Reser and Leila McNeill talking
about the overlooked women of science whose
contributions and discoveries have gone STERNOW REGISTE
unrecognized. Register now!

Benjamin Radford looks at the <u>media coverage of the Gabrielle Petito case</u>, and more specifically, the reaction to the coverage. "One common mistake people make is assuming that the amount of coverage a given event gets is a valid gauge of how much the public cares about that event."

KVON radio's *Wine Country Live* <u>featured a conversation</u> <u>with Ben</u> talking about anti-vaxxers and the myth of forced vaccinations. (<u>See his article here</u>.)

Oh, and Ben also has a review of the documentary *The Lost Leonardo*, about the *Salvator Mundi* painting. "The Lost Leonardo is about art, but it's even moreso a human story of psychology, deception, greed, commerce, and—strangely—international finance and money laundering."

Dr. Joseph Ladapo of America's Frontline Doctors (COVID denial, demon sperm, etc.) <u>is now Florida's Surgeon</u>
<u>General</u>. Next we'll get a Flat-Earther running NASA.



October 2021 ↓

The Atlantic: Expect the Unexpected From the Delta Variant

The Verge: India's healthcare workers are busting misinformation on WhatsApp

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists: We've analyzed thousands of COVID-19 misinformation narratives. Here are six regional takeaways

Skeptical Raptor: COVID vaccine during pregnancy – uptake lagging in the USA

# ORGORY & PAUL NE COSTOOT OF SOOT ROLE WILL MINITION FREE INQUIRY America's discount of the sound of the sou

### Tom Flynn

Editor of Free Inquiry Died August 23rd, 2021

In every way, a brilliant Humanist.

"There are millions and millions and millions of atheists in America," said Robyn Blumner, *President and CEO*, *Center for Inquiry*. "But we are invisible. We have no political power. We can be dismissed by politicians with utter impunity. We can be insulted and we can be ignored and there is no political cost for it.

"And why is that? Because we are too quiet."

George Monbiot worries over how folks on the left are also being pulled into conspiracy theories. "I encounter hippies who once sought to build communities sharing the memes of extreme individualism. Something has gone badly wrong in parts of the alternative scene." Eoin Higgins at *The Atlantic* says, "crunchy anti-vaxxers are coalescing into a loose political group that is targeting COVID health measures ... They're also, predictably, falling down far-right rabbit holes."

CBSN has a new documentary: <u>Conspirituality: How Wellness Became a Gateway for Misinformation</u>.

Subscribe to "The Humanist Magazine You Can Trust". Enjoy print or online access to the latest *Free Inquiry* articles on your computer, phone, or tablet! https://bit.ly/30vOCRP

Subscribe to **Skeptical Inquirer** at Just \$2.80 an Issue! SI promotes scientific inquiry, critical thinking, science education, and the use of reason in examining









The Center for Inquiry (CFI) leads the charge on promoting science, reason, critical thi

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

# What is a CFI Secular Celebrant?

Secular Celebrants officiate at nonreligious marriage and commitment ceremonies, funerals/memorials, and other celebrations of life's milestones.

As many as 25% of Americans are unaffiliated with any religion, yet our celebrations and ceremonies are dominated by religious leaders and civil officials. CFI created our <u>Secular Celebrant Program</u> to address this problem.

In 2014 <u>CFI won a landmark ruling</u> allowing CFI Secular Celebrants to Solemnize marriages in Indiana. Since then CFI has continued the fight for secular marriage equality, winning a similar <u>lawsuit in Illinois</u> and helping <u>pass Secular Celebrant legislation in Oregon</u> in 2017. In early 2020 CFI's <u>lawsuit in Michigan was resolved</u> allowing Secular Celebrants to legally solemnize marriages in all of these states. CFI currently has an <u>ongoing lawsuit in Texas</u>, which has been appealed to the Circuit Court.

# How can I become a CFI Secular Celebrant?

Attending a <u>Secular Celebrant Training Workshop</u> is the first step to becoming a certified CFI Secular Celebrant.

See the CFI Secular Celebrant Certification requirements »

Learn more about the CFI Secular Celebrant Program»

Please Don't Delay - Get Your Covid 19, Shingle, Flu, & Pneumonia Shots - STAT!

Finally. The pandemic vaccine we've all been waiting on is flowing in. While rapidly becoming available at grocery and drug stores, you'll still need an appointment. For Shingles, the CDC and Food and Drug administrations have approved, Shingrix, also available at many of the same locations.

If you have already had the first vaccine in a series, be sure to get the second to complete your protection.

Also, don't forget your current Flu & Pneumonia shots available now.



# TIES Introduces Evolution Lessons in Spanish

The Teacher Institute for Evolutionary
Science (TIES), which gives middle school teachers the tools they need to effectively teach evolution and answer its critics, has helped to keep students and teachers connected during the pandemic by focusing on free online conferencing and offering free guided lessons in evolution for middle and high school classes.

Now TIES is opening up a whole new avenue of opportunity for science teachers to educate and inspire their students with <u>guided middle and high school</u> <u>units in Spanish</u>. These new materials include the core lessons, worksheets, answer keys, and exams as well as additional Spanish-language content.

¡Prepárate para enseñar la evolución de una forma interesante y eficaz! <u>Haga clic aquí para ver las nuevas lecciones de español de TIES</u>.

#### **Upcoming TIES webinar:**

October 8 at 8 pm ET: Brian Hare and Vanessa Woods present "Survival of the Friendliest." The authors of *The Genius of Dogs* explain how kindness and cooperation are evolutionary adaptations that help many species flourish. REGISTER NOW

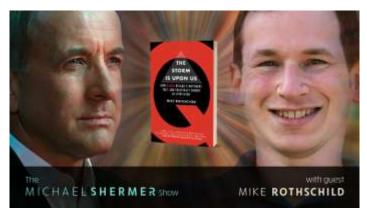
**Pensar**, revista iberoamericana para la ciencia y la razón, publicada por el Center For Inquiry para el público de habla hispana, es una invitación al librepensamiento y al pensamiento crítico. También, una vía para conocer todo acerca de las pseudociencias (falsas ciencias) y el mundo esotérico, analizando las evidencias disponibles mediante la razón y el método científico. Si piensas que éstos últimos son más eficaces que la creencia a ciegas, entonces ¡suscríbete!

Sociologists Penny Edgell and Wendy Cadge: "In U.S. society, <u>humanism is increasingly accepted</u> as a positive, and moral, belief system, which some react to more favorably than to atheism, which is perceived as a rejection of religion."



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!





# A conversation with Mike Rothschild on how QAnon became a movement, cult, and conspiracy theory of everything, based on his book *The Storm Is Upon Us*

On October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, President Trump made a cryptic remark in the State Dining Room at a gathering of military officials. He said it felt like "the calm before the storm" — then refused to elaborate as puzzled journalists asked him to explain. But on the infamous message boards of 4chan, a mysterious poster going by "Q Clearance Patriot," who claimed to be in "military intelligence," began the elaboration on their own. In the days that followed, Q's wild yarn explaining Trump's remarks began to rival the sinister intricacies of a Tom Clancy novel, while satisfying the deepest desires of MAGA-America. But did any of what Q predicted come to pass? No. Did that stop people from clinging to every word they were reading, expanding its mythology, and promoting it wider and wider? No. Why not? Michael Shermer speaks with Mike Rothschild, a journalist specializing in conspiracy theories, about QAnon and its followers.

**LISTEN NOW** 

# THE MICHAEL SHERMER SHOW

A series of conversations between Dr. Michael Shermer and leading scientists, philosophers, historians, scholars, writers and thinkers about the most important issues of our time.

Watch or listen here or on <u>Spotify</u>, <u>Apple</u> <u>Podcasts</u>, <u>Amazon Music</u>, <u>Google</u>

# TBS "\$1,000 Challenge" Poker-Card Player Folds

By Gary P. Posner

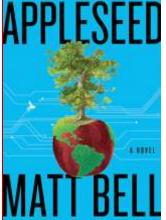
On July 8, I fielded an unsigned e-mail from someone claiming the ability to name correctly "a full deck of poker playing cards" and wishing to take the Tampa Bay Skeptics "\$1,000 Challenge" online. I instead offered him, on the "honor system," six practice attempts to name merely the top four cards of a face-down and freshly shuffled (for each attempt) deck, thus easing his odds to roughly 1:1,000,000 by chance guesswork. A properly controlled and witnessed "\$1,000 Challenge" would be conducted by TBS at a later date should he succeed with me.

Informed that my deck was shuffled and ready for trial #1, he provided two predictions: (1) King of spades, 7 of clubs, 4 of hearts, Jack of clubs. (2) King of spades, 7 of clubs, 4 of hearts, Joker. He was obviously uncertain about card #4, though as I replied to him, "Joker" was a poor choice for a "52-card" deck. But no matter, since the actual cards were: 2 of clubs, Jack of diamonds, 3 of spades, 5 of clubs. And his next four trials were,

Tampa Bay Skeptics is reactivated, so take part and rejoin: <a href="http://bit.ly/1SkFjri">http://bit.ly/1SkFjri</a>

### Reading for the Thoughtful Freethinker

Click on the book's image for more info



### **Appleseed: A Novel** By Mark Bell

Custom House, 2021, 480 pages

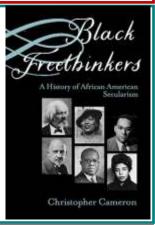


If literary "cli-fi" (science fiction on climate change) sounds like an exciting beach read, you won't want to miss Appleseed. This genre-bending mix of myth, history, and future-tech recalls the work of Neal Stephenson in its epic scope and apocalyptic premise, stretching from early 19th century America to late 21stcentury global hypercapitalism and beyond. The three stories of a pair of orchard-planting brothers, an ecoactivist, and the mysterious chimera named C-433 are masterfully interwoven, blending the folklore of Johnny Appleseed with Greek myth, a sci-fi thriller, and a powerful warning about the climate catastrophe already underway.

#### Black Freethinkers: A History of African American Secularism By Christopher Cameron

Northwestern University Press, 2019, 257 pages

Christopher Cameron, author and history professor, explores the religious skepticism abundant in African American communities throughout US history, espoused by slaves and political and cultural figures alike who were unable to accept that a loving god would allow the kind of injustice they witnessed. The book explains how central freethought was to the Harlem Renaissance, the growth of Black socialism and communism, the civil rights movement, and the Black Power Movement. Cameron includes a wealth of sources including slave narratives, memoirs, letters, novels, and the contributions of Black thinkers.





#### The Little Book of Humanism: Universal Lessons on Finding Purpose, Meaning and Joy

By Alice Roberts and Andrew Copson

Piatkus, 2020, 278 pages

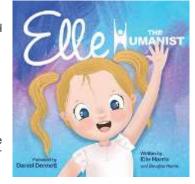
This book is a wonderful compilation of stories, quotes, and meditations that share over two thousand years of humanist wisdom about how to live an ethical and fulfilling life, grounded in reason and humanity. Written by Andrew Copson (Chief Executive of Humanists UK and President of Humanists International) and Alice Roberts (President of Humanists UK and an evolutionary biologist, author, and broadcaster), the book offers a wonderful introduction to humanism along with beautiful illustrations.

#### Elle the Humanist

By Elle Harris and Douglas Harris, with a □foreword by Daniel

Label Free Publishing, 2020, 24 pages

Do you want to teach your young children about humanism? This is a beautifully illustrated children's book presenting humanist ideas and ethics in a way that's warm, welcoming, and accessible for young readers. Also, check out the Stardust series of children's books by Elle's older sister Bailev.



### The Matt Cooper Memorial

**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 is our new librarian.

#### **AUTHOR** TITLE

- 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 Wallgasper
- 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 Malcom 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
- 43 Evolution and the Big Question David Stamos
- 44 Why People Believe Weird Things Michael Shermer
- 45 The World is Curved David Snick
- 46 The Snow Ball Warren Buffett
- 47 The Moral Landscape Sam Harris
- 48 How We Believe Michael Shermer
- 49 Full House Steven Jay Gould
- 50 The Origins of Political Order Francis Fukuyama
- 51 Asimov's Guide to the Bible Isaac Asimov
- 52 Autobiography of Mark Twain Harriet Smith, Editor
- 53 Science Friction Michael Shermer
- 54 Genius James Gleick
- 55 Inevitable Illusions Piatrelli & Palmarini
- 56 Demon Haunted World Carl Sagan
- 57 Being Right Is Not Enough Paul Waldman
- 58 Loser Takes All Mark Crispin Miller
- 59 Taking Back Politics Cathy Allen
- 60 Spiritual Common Sense Mark Lindquist (Gift by author)
- 61 Autobiography of Mark Twain Ed. Harriet Elinor Smith
- 62 The Skeptics Annotated Bible Various
- 63 12 Vol Complete Works Robert Ingersoll
- 64 On Religious Liberty Roger Williams & Davis
- 65 The God Makers Baker & Hunt
- 66 Inevitable Illusions M. Piattelli-Palmarini
- 67 Ain't Nobody's business If You Do Peter McWilliams
- 69 Bonk Mary Roach
- 70 What Money Can't Buy Michael J. Sandel
- 71 Financial Shenanigans Howard Shilit
- 72 Sex & God Darrel Ray, ED.D
- 73 Best American Non required Reading Dave Eagers
- 74 Reporting at Wit's End St. Clair McKelway
- 75 Corporations are not People Clements
- 76 Could I Vote Mormon for president? Cragun Phillips

### **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**.

### The Military Association of Atheists & Freethinkers (MAAF)

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. Learn more HERE.

### **Tampa Bay Thinkers**

Be part of the conversation on Monday **October 11** online at 7 PM



Topic: TBA

See our Meetup page for meeting link

We meet monthly to escape shallow, petty talk and to ponder broad, complex yet practical subjects. We expect members to proffer evidence 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 part as 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". Come, join us, participate, learn, exercise your brain, but mostly HAVE FUN. Learn more here.

### **The Socrates Cafe**

A monthly discussion since 2008. Hosted by **Brent Hardaway** Facebook: http://bit.ly/38mveZH

Join us for a Socratic discussion...

of What makes you, you.

Saturday, Oct 16, 2021 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM ET on Zoom. See our **Meetup** page for the RSVP and link.

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.

**UU St. Pete** *Thursday Citizens' Café* 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm 100 Mirror Lake Dr. N., St. Petersburg



**UU Humanists of Clearwater** *Usually every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 12:30* to 1:30 pm, after UU services.



#### **UU Humanists of Tampa**

Public Discussion, 2nd Thursday eve from 7-9 PM.





### Humanists of Sarasota Bay, Inc. Sarasota, Florida

HUSBAY is only holding meetings on Wednesdays via Zoom. We don't plan the topics much in advance. People interested in joining us can contact

**dbhelgager@comcast.net** or text to 941-350-0927.



### 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

Hear a secular point of view on local radio.

Listen to:

The Voice of Reason

on WTAN Radio Network AM 1340 from Clearwater. Thursdays at 10 AM



### **University of South Florida Humanities Institute!**



THURSDAY, OCT. 28, 2021 // 7PM (Eastern)

**ONLINE Click Here** 

### 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: spacexaminer@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

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



# **USF** Freethinkers

A Preeminent Research University

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: https://orgsync.com/87429/chapter

















### TBCoR Leadership Team 2021

Eileen Stafford, Bill Norsworthy, AoF UUCH TBPCC. Mark Brandt, UUCH Chris Brown, MASH Jenn Hancock, GTBHF

Rick O'Keefe,

, David Vangsness,

Jim Peterson,



### Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason - October, 2021 Calendar

Prevailing conditions warrant that <u>all</u> gatherings in-person are cancelled pending further notice.

See our Meetup site or the organization for more ONLINE:



CFI in BRANDON -	Skeptical interests with critical thinkers. Details & RSVP: http://bit.ly/2ljTe9l
Sunday Freethought Social	
& Godless Friday Nights	
Statewide – Tampa Based	Details & RSVP: http://bit.ly/AOF-Meetup
Atheists of Florida, Inc.	
West Central Florida &	Details & RSVP: http://bit.ly/2ljTe9l
beyond -	
Tampa Bay Skeptics, Inc.	
DUNEDIN - <b>Humanist</b>	Details & RSVP http://bit.ly/Suncoast-Humanists
<b>Soc. of the Suncoast</b> , see Pg. 2	Zoom usually on the 2nd Saturday at 2 PM!
E. CLEARWATER-	Details: http://bit.ly/UUC-Humanists
UU Clearwater Humanists	Detailed Helpfy Stally 6 0 0 Hallians
E. TAMPA- <b>Museum</b>	Details & RSVP: http://bit.ly/1Psc2Pi
Astronomical Resource	Other events: http://bit.ly/MARS-home
Society (MARS) at MOSI	
E. TAMPA-	See Web site for full listing of many events & calendar. http://bit.ly/USF-
Humanities Institute at	Humanities Locations vary! Page 12.
USF	
N. PINELLAS AREA –	Not meeting pending resumption of "normal life", Seating is limited to 25! For CFI
CFI Freethought Supper	& TBS paid members only + one time guest. http://bit.ly/2ljTe9l
New TAMPA -	Details & RSVP: No program until life resumes!
Tampa Humanist Assoc.	http://bit.ly/TPA-Humanists
ZOOM -	Limited to 10 paid-up CFI members. RSVP is required. Must have read the book
CFI Readers Book	under discussion to attend. http://bit.ly/2ljTe9l
Discussion	
ZOOM -	Lively monthly discussions. Know the topic or get laughed at. RSVP here: http://
Tampa Bay Thinkers	bit.ly/2DVtwCd
ST. PETERSBURG-	For several dates monthly, locations, & details:
Astronomy Club	http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Home
	http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Calendar
TAMPA BAY REGION-	Local & national Zooms until Covid is dealt with. Details & RSVP: http://
Center for Inquiry Tampa Bay	bit.ly/2ljTe9l
TAMPA BAY REGION-	For families only! Family outings & other monthly activities.
Humanist Families	Details & RSVP: http://bit.ly/1Ps9MaN

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