



Vol. 6 No. 5, May 2017 Jim Peterson, Rick O'Keefe, Editors

The Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason

Freethought

News



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\* TB-CoR Org.

# Resistance is not Futile!

Many losses anticipate many gains. The deepest valleys embrace the tallest mountains. As a consequence of many recent changes in the political life of the country, a surprising enthusiasm for action has begun to emerge from the people.

## Local Meetups Provide Opportunities

Besides the Meetup pages provided by nearly all of our member organizations, there are a tremendous variety of other groups providing similar life enriching experiences.

### Suncoast Skeptics

Since 2009 a bastion of alternative thinking in the Sarasota Bradenton area, and incorporating a larger presence in the Humanist community. Find them at:

<https://www.meetup.com/SuncoastSkeptics/>

### Resist Tampa

An excellent new way to keep track of opportunities to show your resistance to the current reactionary regime: click on the link to learn about the Climate march:

<https://www.meetup.com/Resist-Tampa/events/238958668/>

### Sierra Club

A group dedicated to explore, enjoy and protect the planet and its local environment; the club has been a leader in environmental issues: <https://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Groups-of-the-Greater-Tampa-Bay-Florida-Area/>

**Muslimish** A unique meetup where current and former Muslims can freely discuss issues of great importance to the ever larger Muslim community throughout the world.

<https://www.meetup.com/Muslimish-Tampa/>

**New pages and groups** keep popping up all the time. Explore, satisfy your curiosity, and broaden your horizons. You can also learn new skills and interests.

Two national freethought conventions are being held close by in Charleston, South Carolina this year; AHA and AA (see pg. 12).

## Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason

### Calendar

[Rick O'Keefe](#)

### Web site

[Jim Peterson](#)

### Newsletter

[Jim Peterson](#)

### Special Projects

Mark Brandt  
& Bill Norsworthy

See our event website at:

[www.evolutetampa.com](http://www.evolutetampa.com)

See the full roster of the Leadership board on Page 5.

This publication online at:

[www.tampabaycor.net](http://www.tampabaycor.net)



Happiness

Our  
30th  
Year

# The Humanist Society of the Suncoast News

An Epicurean society dedicated to the proposition that the fully examined life is worth living well.

Associate organization of the [Humanists of Florida](#), the [AHA](#), [COR](#), & [CSH](#) Find us at [www.suncoasthumanist.com](http://www.suncoasthumanist.com)

**Dunedin Public Library** 223 Douglas Ave, Dunedin, FL

## How to be a "Good" Humanist

Humanism offers the non-religious seeker all the wisdom, insight, solace, inspiration, and perspective of secular humanist traditions that are older, far richer, and more various than religion. But the entire purpose of the Humanist enterprise is to serve our species. The object of our attention, and indeed, our love is simply humanity.

As William Shakespeare put it so eloquently described the human more than 500 hundred years ago, "How noble in reason, how infinite in faculty! In form and moving how express and admirable! In action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god! The beauty of the world. The paragon of animals."

If as Humanists, advocates for the success of our species, are to be true to their ambition, how do we go about the task? In a disparate world of competing and often confusing assertions, claims, and plans, how do we sort out the most effective way to help?

There is much evidence to show that on the purely practical sense, the future is not merely in question philosophically, but more concretely, in terms of survival, and not in millennia, but in decades.

**You are invited** to help us sort this out, and add your ideas to this most important of questions engaging thoughtful people at this moment in history.

Celebrating

30 Years  
of  
Humanism

In west central Florida

## Suncoast Board Elections

### Won't you be a part?

If you are a paid up member of the society in good standing for more than 1 year, please consider occupying a chair on the board. The group meets for a couple of hours every 4 months or so to look after the group's business and plan future events. Every director serves a 1 year term. Officers are elected by the directors and serve at their pleasure. You can make Humanism live!



Volume 30 No. 5 May, 2017

**Join or renew  
Humanist Society of the Suncoast**

## Annual Dues

- E-mail news -Free
- Regular -\$25
- Reg. Couple -\$30.
- Supporter -\$35/40 (With pin above)
- Life -\$200.
- Life Couple -\$250.
- 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,  
[marios\\_psomas@hotmail.com](mailto:marios_psomas@hotmail.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 tax deductible (501c3) check made out to:

**"Marios Psomas"**

Memo line: "Humanist Society Dues"

Humanist Society of the Suncoast, AHA

1013 Connecticut Rd

Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

\*= optional



## Wedding, Child naming, Memorial?

Florida has a large number of celebrants who are specially trained to solemnize the important life transitions in the Humanist way. <http://thehumanistsociety.org/celebrants/map/#FL>



## Tampa Bay Harvest

**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 to get the most benefit to the greatest number of people. Thanks to **Glenn Paul**, chair & Jordan Williams. Ed Note: Glenn needs assistance. **We need volunteers!** Write to [jim@suncoasthumanist.com](mailto:jim@suncoasthumanist.com) Thanx.

## Be with us at

([map](#)) The Dunedin Public Library at 223 Douglas Ave. in Dunedin.

**Saturday, May 6th  
at 2:00 PM**

Many of us go to dinner afterwards at: [Marguerites Cafe](#) directly across from the Library.



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

## What is the Humanist Way?

1. To extend a human centered approach to the critical problems of life & society.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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  
is on hiatus!

### Laugh Lines *Blonde Jokes* 05-17

A blonde man is in the bathroom and his wife shouts: "Did you find the shampoo?" He answers, "Yes, but I'm not sure what to do... it's for dry hair, and I've just wet mine."

A blonde man spies a letter lying on his doormat. It says on the envelope "DO NOT BEND ." He spends the next 2 hours trying to figure out how to pick it up.

A blonde man shouts frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!" "Is this her first child?" asks the Doctor. "No!" he shouts, "this is her husband!"

A blonde man is in jail, the guard looks in his cell and sees him hanging by his feet. "Just WHAT are you doing?" he asks. "Hanging myself," the blonde replies. "The rope should be around your neck" says the guard. "I tried that," he replies, "but then I couldn't breathe."

An Italian tourist asks a blonde man: "Why do scuba divers always fall backwards off their boats?" To which the blonde man replies: "If they fell forward, they'd still be in the boat."

A friend told the blonde man: "Christmas is on a Friday this year." The blonde man then said, "Let's hope it's not the 13th."

Two blonde men find three grenades, and they decide to take them to a police station. One asked: "What if one explodes before we get there?" The other says: "We'll lie and say we only found two."

A woman phoned her blonde neighbor man and said: "Close your curtains the next time you and your wife are having sex. The whole street was watching and laughing at you yesterday." To which the blonde man replied: "Well the joke's on all of you because I wasn't even at home yesterday!"

## 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

**Jay Alexander,**  
**Steve Brown,**  
**Lois Fries,** Secretary  
**Dave Kovar,** Vice President  
**Jim Peterson,** President  
**Frank Prahl,**  
**Marios Psomas,** Treasurer  
**Jordan Williams.**

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

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

Jordan Williams, mail Publisher

**Jim Peterson, Editor**  
E-Mail us at:  
[jim@suncoasthumanist.com](mailto:jim@suncoasthumanist.com)

### Need Psychological Counseling?

For a secular therapist,  
**click:**  
[Secular Therapy Org.](#)

[Cognitive Neurosciences Inc.](#)

**Or call:**

Lynda Gurvitz,  
(727) 725-8820

Patricia Walters,  
(813) 452-6547



## Tampa Humanist Association

Meets every third Saturday at, 11:00 AM

### North Tampa Public Library

8916 North Blvd. Tampa, FL 33604 [Map](#)

May 20th, 11 AM

Discussion Leader: **Lucas Hopegood**

As Humanists it is our task to discover the secret world above & within the level of conscious recognition. Using the instruments of reason, & critical thinking, we strive to be at one in understanding both the world that made us, & the one we are inventing.

Each month a new investigation thoughtfully & critically dissects a new intersection of mind & matter. Be part of it.

JP

Learn more about the association at: <http://tampahumanist.com/>



Member, TBCoR,  
Hum Society, & AHA  
affiliate.

## USF Freethinkers

Join Freethinkers@USF for genuine, conversational discourse & a communal atmosphere.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FreethinkersUSF/>

For more information contact:

[fadibitar@mail.usf](mailto:fadibitar@mail.usf)

## Humanistic Judaism of Tampa Bay

Visit their [Meetup](#) or [email to Jeff Lipkes](#)

## Western civilization is not a lost cause.

Using reason and science to guide decisions, paired with extraordinary leadership and exceptional good will, and with friendship the goal and constant facilitator, human society can progress to higher and higher levels of well-being and development. Even as we weather the coming stresses of climate change, population growth and declining energy resources, we can maintain our societies and better them. But that requires resisting the very natural urge, when confronted with such overwhelming pressures, to become less cooperative, less generous and less open to reason. "The question is, how can we manage to preserve some kind of humane world as we make our way through these changes?"

This is the reason why the Humanist approach remains the one most urgent avenue that can make the human future possible.

JP



**Tampa Bay CoR**  
Tampa, FL 33626  
E-mail:  
[tbcor@metrodirect.net](mailto:tbcor@metrodirect.net)

## Promoting Action & Unity in the Tampa Bay Area

Join the Freethought Organizations of the Tampa Bay Area: Center for Inquiry—Tampa Bay, Humanist Society of the Suncoast, Tampa Humanist Association, Institute for Science & Human Values, Freethinkers@USF,\* UU Humanists Clearwater, Atheists of Florida, UU Humanists Tampa,\* plus numerous Meetup organizations that promote serious secular discussion & activity about important issues in our area & beyond.

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

We are especially grateful to the national office of the United Coalition of Reason & its director, Jason Heap. 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 groups identified with the secular / freethought / Humanist / Atheist movement.*

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

Contact: [tbcor@metrodirect.net](mailto:tbcor@metrodirect.net) <http://tampabaycor.net/>

## Humanist Quotes

*"Wear a smile and have friends; wear a scowl and have wrinkles. What do we live for if not to make the world less difficult for each other?"*

– Attributed to George Eliot

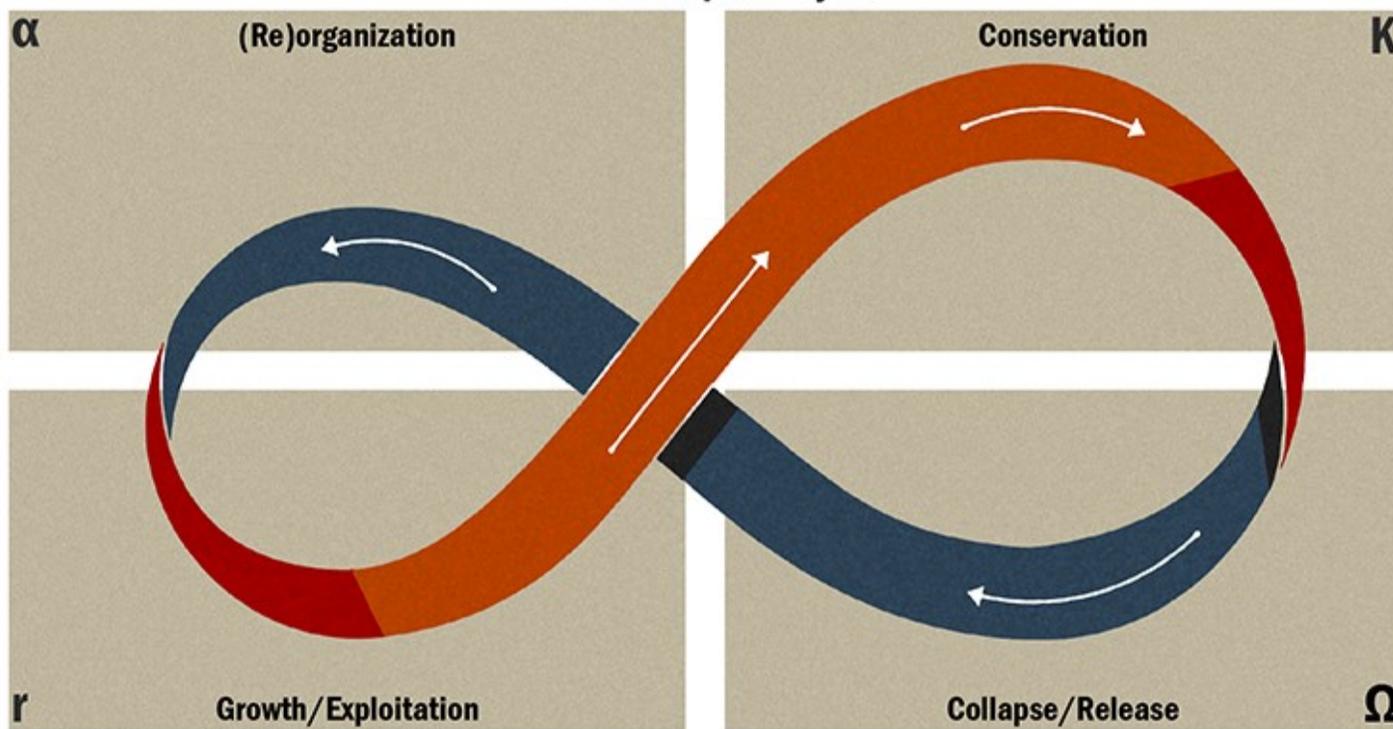


An autonomous project of the Humanist Society. Affiliate of [PCI](#)

## What is Resilience?

Resilience is a rich and complex concept. It has roots in [systems theory](#), and it has a variety of interpretations and applications including for ecosystems management, disaster preparedness, and even community planning. Our interpretation is based on the work of the [Resilience Alliance](#), the leading scholarly body working on the resilience of social-ecological systems. In that field, resilience is commonly [defined](#) as *the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and re-organize while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, identity, and feedbacks.*

### The Adaptive Cycle



source: Holling, Gunderson and Lutzig, In Quest of a Theory of Adaptive Change, 2002

**Resilience.org** is a program of [Post Carbon Institute](#) (PCI). From 2004 to 2012 the site was known as “Energy Bulletin.” Over the years Energy Bulletin broadened its coverage from peak oil and energy to include other resource depletion, related issues, and articles which describe, encourage or educate on meaningful responses — in essence, the task of building resilience. From this came the inspiration to create **resilience.org**, which combines the best of the Energy Bulletin with the addition of sections for Groups engaged in building resilience, and Resources — a combination of user-generated and Post Carbon Institute media and reports. In January 2009, Energy Bulletin was adopted as a core program by the [Post Carbon Institute](#) and in 2012 relaunched as resilience.org. Except for PCI, resilience.org is unaffiliated with any private, government, or institutional body.

Post Carbon Institute, 613 4th Street, Ste 208, Santa Rosa, California 95404  
See the Humanist Society’s environmental website at: [www.tampabaypostcarbon.com](http://www.tampabaypostcarbon.com)  
**It’s Time to Stand Up for the Climate—and for Civilization!**



# CENTER FOR INQUIRY

Tampa Bay

The mission of the Center for Inquiry is to foster a secular society based on science, reason, freedom of inquiry, and humanist values.



Rick O'Keefe

## Planning ahead

Generally, our monthly schedule is ...

- ◆ General presentation: 2nd Saturday
- ◆ Brandon Skeptical Brunch: 2nd Sunday
- ◆ CFI book club: 4th Saturday
- ◆ Freethinkers Dinner: 4th Monday (or Tuesday)
- ~ & with others ~
- ◆ Free computer repair: every Wednesday & Friday
- ◆ Tampa Bay Thinkers: 2nd Monday
- ◆ Tampa Bay Computer Society: 2nd Tuesday
- ◆ USF Humanities Institute: Varies, evenings

Calendar: [http://bit.ly/CFI-Tampa\\_Bay](http://bit.ly/CFI-Tampa_Bay)

And of course, you can keep up with news relevant to skeptics & seculars every weekday with *The Morning Heresy*.

- ◆ The Degree To Which We Are All Screwed
- ◆ There Are No Historical Facts
- ◆ The Gullible Tool of Liars

Susan Gerbic interviews Hemant Mehta about his work as the “friendly atheist,” reflecting on how he got to where he is & what we can learn from it.



Cause & Effect is the biweekly newsletter of the Center for Inquiry community, covering the wide range of work that you help make possible. (Now on its new schedule, every other Wednesday.)

[Become a member today!](#)

## Free Speech & Checked Privilege: Tough Topics Tackled on *Reasonable Talk* & *Point of Inquiry*

**Reasonable Talk**, CFI’s web video series of great presentations from Center for Inquiry events, has two new episodes from 2016’s Women in Secularism 4, & both focus on the very contentious topic of free speech.



First, writer & activist **Soraya Chemaly** **explodes the myth** of the Internet as a great equalizer, an unbiased marketplace of ideas. Instead, Chemaly says that the online space reflects the values of those who designed it: largely white males.

When women face such hostility online simply for making their concerns heard, the Internet looks to Chemaly like a “safe space” for the denizens of Reddit.

**Next is Wendy Kaminer**, a veteran writer & social critic within the freethought movement, whose talk argues for a more purist approach to free speech in the public sphere. She is critical of the goals of social justice advocates on speech & “safe spaces,” contrasting their “goal-oriented” approach to that of civil libertarians, who she says are “process-oriented.”

Also, on CFI’s podcast *Point of Inquiry*, **Lindsay Beyerstein is joined by Phoebe Maltz Bovy** to tackle the equally thorny issue of “privilege,” the systemic advantages some groups of people have over others. Bovy discusses the necessity of being aware of one’s own blind spots due to privilege but cautions that constantly being advised to “check one’s privilege” can backfire & cause confusion & insult.

The **latest update** on the Teacher Institute for Evolutionary Science (TIES) features this report from a North Dakota workshop leader who said, “I saw genuine relief for the support offered in this unit-based presentation you prepared.”



Science & journalism don't always see eye to eye. Scientific accuracy is often sacrificed in the quest for an enticing headline, but at a time when [fake news](#) is on the rise, high quality scientific reporting has never been more essential.

As the House of Commons science & technology select committee, which I chair, [argues in its latest report](#), if the press is to maintain the public's trust, journalists must demonstrate their commitment to clear & unbiased reporting of scientific facts – & be given the necessary support by policymakers to do so.

The idea that 'science sells' is not part of the average journalist's lexicon. Add a sensationalist headline, & a political angle, however, & you can produce a trending & controversial piece of journalism that sparks debate – a result both for the media outlet & the journalist.

But while selling papers & driving online traffic is a media priority, it rarely aligns with the scientific endeavour behind the headlines. More often than not, scientists are looking to provide the public with greater clarity, rather than confuse or further mystify the topic of their research.

This phenomenon is nothing new. While the row over the [MMR vaccine](#) was making front-page news, such large numbers of parents decided to avoid vaccinations that the UK's child immunisation programme was put at risk. Genetically-modified crops were long ago classed by the tabloids as '[Frankenstein](#)' foods to be avoided at all costs, rather than a potential solution to sporadic famine & food poverty. We may never know if [the burger fed to four year-old Cordelia Gummer](#) during the mad cow disease crisis in 1990 was really safe to eat. What we do know is that there was a political & media motivation for it to be consumed.

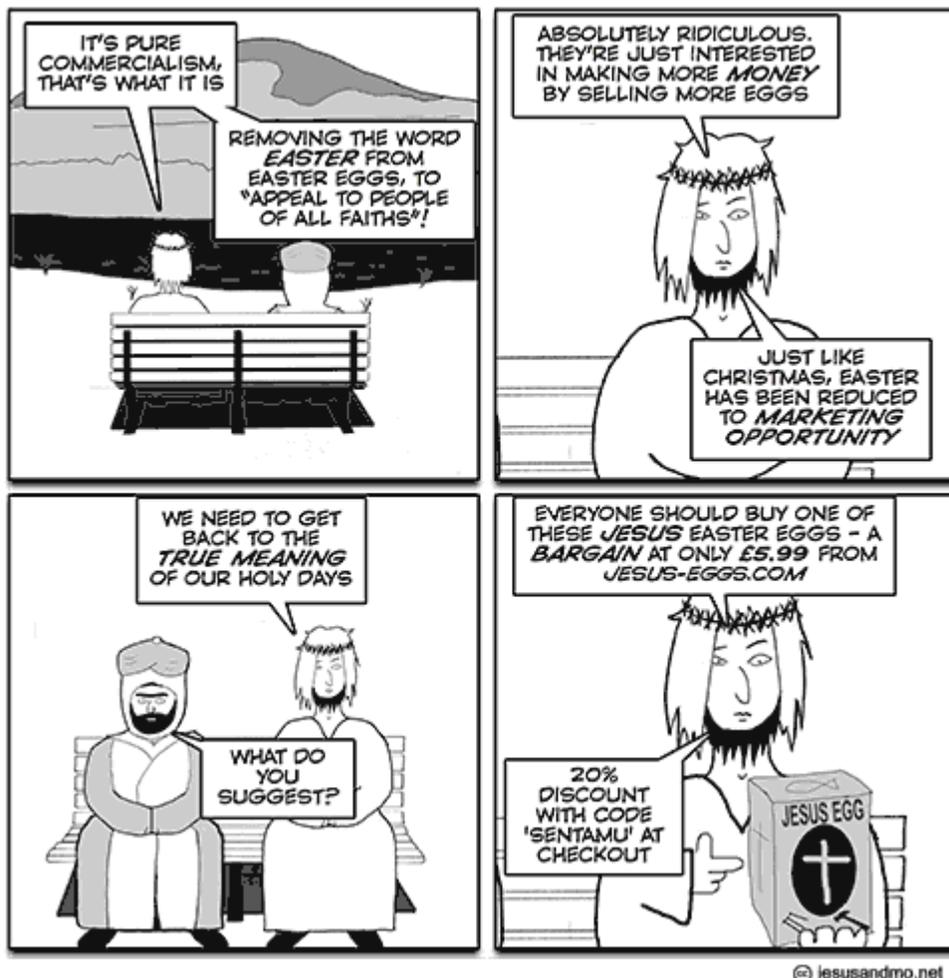
Climate change has not escaped this treatment either. Media coverage of climate often gives [equal prominence to opposing viewpoints](#), leading an uninformed public to believe that the evidence for & against has equal weight. A distinction must be made between impartiality & neutrality; between taking sides based on the evidence, & refusing to take sides at all.

Perhaps the most acute example is the number of everyday items claimed – rightly or wrongly – to have carcinogenic properties. [Deodorant](#), [vitamin E](#), [chips](#), [tomatoes](#) & even [Facebook](#) have been reported in the UK media to increase your chances of developing cancer. Compare this to the number of reports on cigarettes & UV exposure – both well-known & proven causes – & you might be surprised.

As the ability to proliferate & share news increases, & our reliance on traditional media declines, we run the risk that a plurality of perspectives takes precedence over accuracy. This is a dangerous environment to exist in.

It would also be wrong to scapegoat the public for a lack of interest in science, or for not being able to understand the often complex concepts involved. The overwhelming majority of people in the UK have a strong desire to know how science affects their daily lives, but seventy-one per cent believe the media sensationalises science, & sixty-seven per cent say they have no option but to trust those governing scientific information. Tellingly, just twenty-eight per cent believe that journalists check their facts when reporting scientific matters. *READ the rest here:* <http://bit.ly/2njKezO>

"How to safeguard science in an era of fake news" by Stephen Metcalfe ([@Metcalfe\\_SBT](#)), MP for South Basildon & East Thurrock & chairman of the [House of Commons science & technology select committee](#). The committee's new report on 'Science communication & engagement' can be read [here](#).



May I suggest that you subscribe (it's free) to this extolled cartoon, *Jesus & Mo*, by clicking on the 'toon.



Reform activist **Mary Edwards Walker** (statue pictured), a physician who was also America's only female Medal of Honor winner

### Major New Avenues for the Freethought Trail

The **Freethought Trail** is a series of historic sites in West-Central New York (and a deeply researched website) that tell the story of the progressive & radical movements of the nineteenth century, such as secularism & freethought, abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, & more. A project of CFI's **Council for Secular Humanism**, Freethought Trail has just completed its largest-ever expansion, now featuring 108 sites across 26 cities & towns!

This expansion includes a great deal of additional coverage of the **abolitionist movement**, as well as the inclusion of two new reform causes: **dress reform** & **Fourierist utopianism** (a movement of communities that rejected private property & embraced labor pursuits based on one's "proclivities"). There is new material on dress reform activist **Mary Edwards Walker** (statue pictured), a physician who was also America's only female Medal of Honor winner; philanthropist **William Smith**, founder of the William Smith College for Women, freethinker, & champion of women's rights; suffragist **Harriet May Mills**, the first woman to seek major statewide office as a candidate of a major political party; & much more.

There is a wealth of material to explore online & on the trail, & you can start by heading to [freethought-trail.org](http://freethought-trail.org).

## CFI Calls Out America's Lapse in Leadership at UN Human Rights Council

In 2014, the United States' representative to the Council was among those who spoke up strongly in defense of CFI's representative **Josephine Macintosh** when **Saudi Arabia attempted to silence her** as she spoke out against Saudis' human rights abuses (the Saudi representative shouting, "I ask you to shut her up!"). But now in 2017, Michael warned that **the U.S. is abdicating its leadership role** in the defense of human rights. "We have been disturbed by the recent rise in baseless, xenophobic rhetoric & actions by political leaders, & heightened social hostilities, in many states—including our home country," said Michael. "Across the country, there has also been a wave of proposals to criminalize protests, & an increase in threats & attacks—some deadly—on religious minorities." [See video of his statement here.](#)

Lighting the way through the darkness of misinformation, the **May/June 2017** issue of *Skeptical Inquirer* also includes "SkepDoc" **Harriet Hall** on the fabricated alarmism over statins; **Bertha Vazquez** on the important work of the Center for Inquiry's **Teacher Institute for Evolutionary Science (TIES)**; **Prof. Craig A. Foster** & **Second Lieutenant Sarena Ortiz** of the U.S. Air Force Academy on the pernicious & false claims about vaccines & autism; & much more.

### New Women in Secularism 4 Episodes on Reasonable Talk

**Reasonable Talk**, CFI's video series featuring some of the best talks & presentations from Center for Inquiry events, is now in its third season with three new episodes from last year's excellent **Women in Secularism 4** conference.



Never let the future disturb you. You will meet it, if you have to, with the same weapons of reason which today arm you against the present.

~ Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, Meditations, 200 A.D.

**Feel better! Please Support CFI-Tampa Bay**

Ready to put your humanism into action? Join now to keep informed about our activities, participate in our programs, & become a member!

Click below

**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!](#)



## The Full Facts on Cold Reading

By [Terry A. Smiljanich](#)

A recent article in *The New Yorker* magazine related the history of "criminal profiling" in reviewing a new book by famous FBI profiler **John Douglas**. "Profiling" is the use of behavioral analysis in attempting to create a psychological portrait of a serial killer based on the pattern of his acts & the nature of his victims. The reviewer compared criminal profiling to the art of cold reading, a process used by many psychics & seers in making seemingly incredible observations about their subjects/victims. "How did she know that about me?" "How could she possibly have known that I had a one-armed uncle named Rudy?"

The difference between criminal profiling & psychic readings, however, is that FBI profilers are not consciously trying to fool their audiences, whereas many (if not most) psychics are. This newsletter has mentioned on several occasions the art of cold reading by fortunetellers, who use tricks & "hot & cold" strategies in getting clients to believe that the psychics are able, through paranormal means, to discern personal attributes & past histories about them. What caught my attention in this review, however, was a reference to a book by the British magician & mentalist Ian Rowland called *The Full Facts Book of Cold Reading*. Self-published by him & available through [his website](#), the book is a comprehensive treasure trove of information about the entire subject. Since skeptics are often faced with allegations that psychics (John Edward, Sylvia Browne, etc.) can perform paranormal feats of fortune telling, I highly recommend that TBS members go online & order this fascinating book.

What struck me most in reading this book was the depth of knowledge & training needed to become a really good cold reader. We all know that a cold reader uses vague statements & guesses to get the subject of the reading to provide feedback & allow the psychic to zero in on specific facts. I had no idea, however, of the many techniques that a good reader must have

...

[Read the rest here.](#)

## Committee for Skeptical Inquiry

The mission of the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry is to promote scientific inquiry, critical investigation, & the use of reason in examining controversial & extraordinary claims. To carry out these objectives the Committee:

1. Maintains a network of people interested in critically examining paranormal, fringe science, & other claims, & in contributing to consumer education
2. Prepares bibliographies of published materials that carefully examine such claims
3. Encourages research by objective & impartial inquiry in areas where it is needed
4. Convenes conferences & meetings
5. Publishes articles that examine claims of the paranormal

6. Does not reject claims on a priori grounds, antecedent to inquiry, but examines them objectively & carefully

The Committee is a program of the Center for Inquiry, a nonprofit educational organization. The Committee was launched in 1976. The *Skeptical Inquirer* is its official journal.

Some of the founding members of CSI include scientists, academics, & science writers such as [Carl Sagan](#), Isaac Asimov, Philip Klass, [Paul Kurtz](#), [Ray Hyman](#), [James Randi](#), [Martin Gardner](#), Sidney Hook, & others. A list of [CSI fellows](#) is published in every issue of [Skeptical Inquirer](#) magazine.

CSI encourages careful, rational, critical examination of unusual claims. One of the best guides is a short piece by [Ray Hyman](#), a professor of psychology at the University of Oregon, titled "[Proper Criticism](#)".

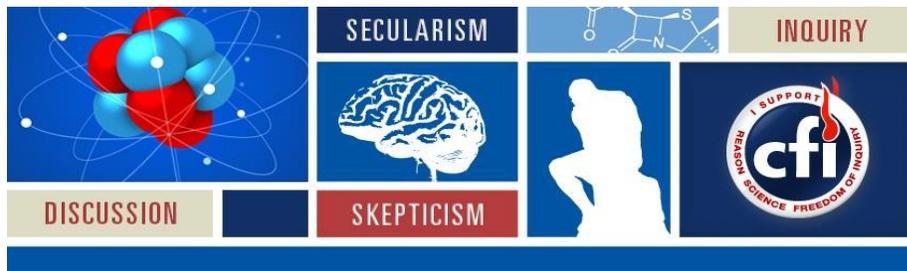
**Skeptical Briefs newsletter** You are invited to subscribe to the Committee's quarterly newsletter, *Skeptical Briefs*. Subscriptions to *Skeptical Briefs* are independent of your *Skeptical Inquirer* subscription. [Subscribe today!](#)

**Contacting CSI** You can [contact CSI](#) for more information.

**Financial Information** The Committee for Skeptical Inquiry's latest [IRS Form 990](#)

**Name Change** In 2006, CSICOP changed its name to CSI. Read editor [Kendrick Frazier's comments](#) on the change.

**PUBLICATIONS:** <http://bit.ly/2nWC2Qv>



## Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason & Science

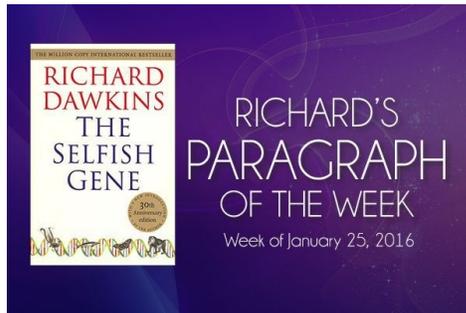
## University of South Florida Humanities Institute



For engaging speakers & socials, check the calendar: <http://bit.ly/USF-Humanities>

Select lectures are available on YouTube.

*Can one truly claim to be educated without a broad knowledge of the Humanities? No!*



Genes work by controlling protein synthesis. This is a powerful way of manipulating the world, but it is slow. It takes months of patiently pulling protein strings to build an embryo. The whole point about behaviour, on the other hand, is that it is fast. It works on a time-scale not of months but of seconds & fractions of seconds. Something happens in the world, an owl flashes overhead, a rustle in the long grass betrays prey, & in milliseconds nervous systems crackle into action, muscles leap, & someone's life is saved—or lost. Genes don't have reaction-times like that. Like the &romedans, the genes can only do their best *in advance* by building a fast executive computer for themselves, & programming it in advance with rules & 'advice' to cope with as many eventualities as they can 'anticipate'. But life, like the game of chess, offers too many different possible eventualities for all of them to be anticipated. Like the chess programmer, the genes have to 'instruct' their survival machines not in specifics, but in the general strategies & tricks of the living trade.

Click the **graphic** above for the rest of the quotation.



LEIGH ERIC SCHMIDT ON AMERICA'S VILLAGE ATHEISTS

## FREE INQUIRY

CELEBRATING REASON AND HUMANITY



### WHAT REALLY MATTERS

REBECCA GOLDSTEIN and ANDY NORMAN explore the theory of mattering ... and maybe solve the Is-Ought Problem

TRUMP'S ELECTION: Responses by Tom Flynn | Greta Christina | James A. Haught

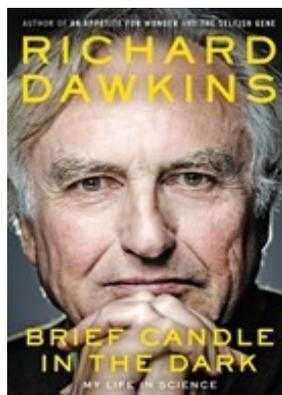
GEORGE ZEBROWSKI:  
New findings on the (im)morality of A-bombing Japan



FAISAL SAEED AL MUTAR:  
Why not say "Islamic terrorist"?

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**Richard Dawkins'**  
**NEWEST book!**  
*Exclusive* autographed copy for only \$36.95 plus S&H. Few are left. Go to:  
[www.evolvetampa.com](http://www.evolvetampa.com)



CFI's local [Meetup](#) makes it easy to view & RSVP to our activities & some affiliated events. The value to us of your joining our Meetup is that we need to know how many folks expect to attend an activity. Some programs are limited in seating; some require ordering books, etc.; some are open only to paid-up CFI members; & some require prepayment.

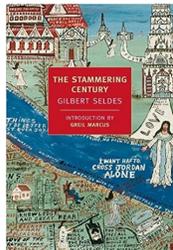
## Recommended Reading

Click on the [image](#) for more info

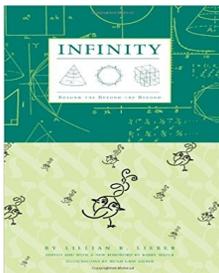


Provoked by the cultural shift that gave us kids with shelves of participation trophies, unfounded expectations of success, & suppressed potential, Sarah Robb O'Hagan has created a manifesto for change. Her book, *Extreme YOU: Step Up. Stand Out. Kick Ass. Repeat* provides people of all ages with the tools & support to discover their most exploitable traits, take big risks, deal with big failures & kick ass all the way to success. It is an inspiring & fiercely practical roadmap for individuals, teams & businesses who want to get the most out of their own unique capabilities.

The subject is as timely at the beginning of the 21st century as when the book first appeared in 1928. Seldes's fascinated & often sympathetic accounts of dreamers, rogues, frauds, sectarians, madmen, & geniuses from Jonathan Edwards to the messianic murderer Matthias have established *The Stammering Century* not only as a lasting contribution to American history but as a classic in its own right.



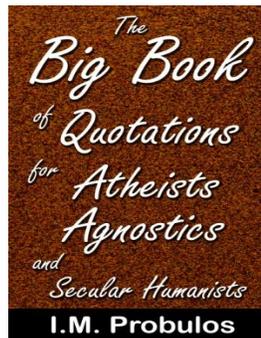
"Another excellent book for the lay reader of mathematics... In explaining [infinity], the author introduces the reader to a good many other mathematical terms & concepts that seem unintelligible in a formal text but are much less formidable when presented in the author's individual & very readable style."—*Library Journal*



This Big Book of Quotes is an updated version of my three quote books:

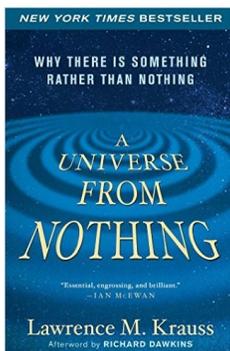
1. Over 365 Quotations for Atheists Agnostics and Secular Humanists
2. 365 Additional Quotations for Atheists Agnostics and Secular Humanists
3. Humorous Quotations and Jokes for Atheists Agnostics and Secular Humanists

FREE on Kindle Unlimited



*A Universe from Nothing* uses Krauss's characteristic wry humor and wonderfully clear explanations to take us back to the beginning of the beginning, presenting the most recent evidence for how our universe evolved—and the implications for how it's going to end.

Provocative, challenging, and delightfully readable, this is a game-changing look at the most basic underpinning of existence and a powerful antidote to outmoded philosophical, religious, and scientific thinking.



## The Matt Cooper

### Memorial Humanist Lending Library

Humanist Society members (only) can select the number of the book you wish to borrow, and send it to Marios Psomas at: [marios\\_psomas@hotmail.com](mailto:marios_psomas@hotmail.com) Then pick it up at the next meeting. **Be sure to return it!** Donations appreciated.

#### # 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 God. 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 Piattelli & 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. What Happened in Ohio? Fitrakis, Rosenfeld & Wasserman
61. Autobiography of Mark Twain Ed. Harriet Elinor Smith
62. The Skeptics Annotated Bible Various
63. **12 Vol Complete Works** **Robert Ingersoll (Thks, J. Rhinehardt)**
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
77. Culture of Honor Nisbett – Cohen
78. Rot on the Vine Stenesh
79. **Thoughts of a Freethinker** **New Kaye** \* Essential works

**Evolve Fish is a good source for freethought goodies:**  
Pins, jewelry, posters, buttons, bumper stickers, t-shirts, etc  
<http://evolvefish.com/>

For even more access to Freethought history & perspectives, you may wish to check out Frank Prah's Freethought Library. Contact [fprah@verizon.net](mailto:fprah@verizon.net)

# Atheists of Florida, Inc.



## Tracy Thomas, Chair - Al Hann, President

Join members of our Tampa chapter at our headquarters / Studio Building on So. Westshore.

See [AoF Meetup](#) for details Website: <http://aof.ngo>

AoF is a comfortable & safe place in which to find rewarding new friendships, to 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 worldview 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

For information on current activities for this month, see our comprehensive web site:

<http://aof.ngo>

## St Pete Atheists // Freethought Group

Moderated by: Gary Thompson

Contact: [easy8@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:easy8@tampabay.rr.com)

On the web: <http://atheists.meetup.com/209>

- \* Provide intellectual & emotional support to each other & to others in our community who share our philosophy.
- \* Foster humanistic moral values & ethical behaviors.
- \* Promote a naturalistic worldview wherein beliefs must be verified by a scientific examination of evidence.
- \* Defend the separation of church & state at all levels of government as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America.
- \* "To Smell the Roses Along the Way"

Ever wonder what Florida Freethought groups are doing?



Now you can easily know. Atheists of Florida have a new freethought Calendar:

<http://AtheistsOfFloridaInc.org/calendar/>

## 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 tree educational programs for its members & the public. For additional information send your emails to:

[spaceaminer@gmail.com](mailto: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 Science Center of Pinellas County, 7701 22nd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL., at 8:00 P.M. Meetings are open to the public. [Calendar](#)



## M.A.R.S. – Tampa Astronomy Club

Welcome 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.

There's only one thing the people of M.A.R.S. enjoy more than observing the heavens... that's sharing it with others! 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 7:00PM to 9:00PM. Meetings are free & open to the public.

Details & RSVP:

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



Convention in Charleston, South Carolina  
August 19th to the 21st. 2017

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

Bonus! Total eclipse of the sun.  
Watch it with friends.

## Tampa Bay Thinkers



Discussing serious matters since 2008. Carrollwood Cultural Center, Tampa, every 2nd Monday, monthly at 7 PM. **May 8th.**

**Topic:** Do We Have Free Will? Or Are All Our Decisions Guided by Determinism? See our Meetup site: [www.meetup.com/tampa-bay-thinkers/](http://www.meetup.com/tampa-bay-thinkers/)

## Humanist Families of Greater Tampa

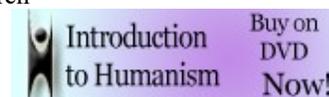
**Jennifer Hancock** started this organization several years ago. It uniquely serves Humanist families with a variety of wonderful programs throughout the year. There is a strong emphasis on creative childrearing. Here, you can make connection with other families dealing with the problems of living in a society that is still hostile to an explicitly Humanist Way of life. Jennifer is author of several books including: *The Humanist Handbook*, *The Humanist Approach to Happiness*, & her latest book, *The Bully Vaccine*.



Humanist Families organizes social outings every month. These are opportunities to do something fun, socialize & enjoy each other's company. Sometimes we go to a park, sometimes a museum, sometimes we go swimming. Our group has grown over the past year to the point we now organize Tampa area outings & 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. We are on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/).

See more at: <http://www.Jen-Hancock.com>.



## Tampa Bay Computer Society & Doc's Café



*We repair member's computers Free!*

Lectures, discussions, & hands-on demonstrations of the humane use of technology. 300 S Duncan Ave Suite 275, Clearwater, FL 33755. [Map](#)

Check out *Doc's Café* to discuss serious ideas & issues.

Find us at: [www.tampa-bay.org](http://www.tampa-bay.org)

## 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 members.

**Local Contact:** Chris  
( [christbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:christbrown@yahoo.com) )  
MSgt, USAF (Retired)

Co-Organizer:  
**MacDill Atheists & Secular Humanists (MASH) MacDill AFB**

On the web at: [www.maaf.info](http://www.maaf.info)



**Meets monthly, usually at a local library**

Learn more at [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com/) [here](#).

**Humanistic Jews of Tampa Bay**  
**Jeff Lipkes**, Leader

Jimmie B. Keel Regional Library  
2902 W Bearss Ave, Tampa, FL 33618



The mission of the [Secular Coalition](#) is to increase the visibility of & respect for non-theistic view-points in the State, & to protect & strengthen the secular character of our government as the best guarantee of freedom for all.

**Bill Norsworthy, is our Florida representative.**

Please sign up [here](#).

Volunteer activists are wanted, needed, & appreciated!



See page 7 for more information on our Secular Coalition activities around the National day of Reason. SC wants **you** to represent the voice of thousands of the people of reason in the halls of power.

As our government undergoes its quadrennial crises of morphology, 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.



## ACLU of Greater Tampa Bay

Since the election, National ACLU went from 700,000 Facebook fans to more than a million. Thank you to all of our supporters, new & old. We would not be able to do the work we have ahead without you.

Will you join with us? <https://tampa.aclufl.org/>

We're on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/aclufltampa/Column: Defending rights in Florida after this election>

Change our nation's libel laws to go after critics in the media. The day after the election, the ACLU of Florida staff met first to come to terms with our collective shock at the civil liberties challenges we are now surely facing, then to begin planning ...

[Tampa Bay Times](#)

Get Bank of Wisdom—**FREE**.  
Contact [Marios Psomas](#), Librarian

WASHINGTON –The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and 155 civil and human rights groups today called upon the Executive Branch to respond more quickly and forcefully to hate-based incidents, which have been occurring at an alarming rate in recent months. The statement follows: “Our diversity is part of what makes America great, and incidents motivated by hate are an affront to the values we share. No one should face acts of violence or intimidation because of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability, or national origin. Just this year, we have seen an alarming increase in accounts and reports of hate-based acts of violence and intimidation.

The February shooting in Olathe, Kansas, where two Indian Hindu Americans were attacked, killing Srinivas Kuchibhotla; □ Four mosques burned in the past two months, in Texas, Washington, and Florida, and more defaced by acts of vandalism; □ Numerous bomb threats against Jewish Community Centers, synagogues, and ADL offices around the country; □ The recent shooting in Washington state of a Sikh American outside of his home; □ Racist graffiti targeting African Americans in Stamford, Connecticut and at a high school in Lake Oswego, Oregon;

We also urge the President to continue the tradition of a White House interagency task force on hate violence, and make available the full resources of the federal government to track and report hate crimes, to investigate and prosecute the perpetrators, and to aid affected communities. Our inclusive democracy demands no less.”

Signed by ISHV & 154 other human rights organizations.  
<http://instituteforscienceandhumanvalues.com/index.htm>



Clearwater, Florida

## Clearwater UU Humanists Usually every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 12:30

We are a group of Unitarian Universalists committed to a humanistic & non-theistic worldview. Currently, meetings are scheduled once a month & are usually held on the third Sunday of most months from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, after UU services.

## A Humanist Discussion group in East Tampa !

### UU Humanists of Tampa

Public Discussion, 2nd Wednesday eve from 7 -9 PM, & on the 4th Sunday Morning 9:45 - 10:45.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa  
11400 Morris Bridge Rd. Tampa, FL 33637

**Bank of Wisdom**  
*Electronic publishing to make the world better*

## Killing Science and Culture Doesn't Make the Nation Stronger

Massive funding cuts in the president's proposed budget could be more devastating than any threat posed by illegal immigrants By [Lawrence M. Krauss](#) on March 21, 2017

Scientists throughout the country across a wide spectrum of fields, from biochemists to physicists, are bemoaning the potentially devastating impact on science and technology in the United States of President Trump's proposed budget request to Congress. As much as the scientific enterprise, and with it the development of new technologies necessary for the long term economic health and security of the nation will be hobbled should the budget requests be approved, the budget—which purports to strengthen our security via large increases in national defense and homeland security—paradoxically undermines the nations fundamental strength by presenting a broad attack on our culture that could be more devastating than any threat posed by a wave of illegal immigrants.

The President's budget reflects a consistent and fundamental vision about American strength that is fundamentally at odds with a vision presented by almost 50 years ago by the physicist Robert Wilson, the first director of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago at which a large particle accelerator was being built. When testifying before Congress about the machine and its cost, Wilson was asked if its completion would aid in the defense of the nation. His answer is striking.

No Sir...I don't believe so.... It has only to do with the respect with which we regard one another, the dignity of men, our love of culture... It has to do with are we good painters, good sculptors, great poets? I mean all the things we really venerate in our country and are patriotic about. **It has nothing to do directly with defending our country except to make it worth defending.**

The President's budget will cut \$900 million—20 percent—from the budget of the Department of Energy's Office of Science, which is the chief funding agency for all of fundamental physical science research at US Universities and National Laboratories. It will also eliminate the \$296 million combined budgets of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, the major federal funding agencies for arts development and humanities research in the country. It will also cut the \$230 million budget of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which supports libraries and museums across the country and would eliminate the \$445 million budget for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Together these cuts total \$1.87 billion from the \$4 trillion total budget. At the same time \$2 billion was added to the total budget to cover an initial down payment on the President's proposed border wall with Mexico, and amount that exceeds the cumulative cost of all the above cuts by over \$100 million.

Suggesting that cutting or eliminating the essential scientific and cultural infrastructure of the country in order to pay for a wall with Mexico, whose purpose and effectiveness has always been in doubt, is more than a facile comparison. It reflects the essentially flawed view of this administration about what is required to preserve American greatness: a laser focus on the defense of the nation in its most literal terms, including military superiority and secure borders, independent of whatever real or perceived threats may exist.

But it is here where Wilson's answer to Congress is so important. Inherent in defending the nation is having a nation worth defending. This view is not new. It goes back at least as far as our founding fathers. As Thomas Jefferson wrote in an 1820 letter to Joseph Cabell, a Virginia politician who Jefferson recruited to help him endow funds to create the University of Virginia: *All the States but our own are sensible that knowledge is power.*

Whether or not knowledge alone is power is debatable. But the spirit of Jefferson's remarks is not. Whether future historians will view the United States as a truly great nation will not depend upon our military strength or our ability to successfully assimilate immigrants, any more than we celebrate the greatness of ancient Greece or Rome by counting their military victories. As for those civilizations whose contributions to art, literature, and science provided the heritage on which modern western civilization is based, our greatness will be judged by our contributions toward subsequent human progress.

Science has an essential advantage of creating associated technologies that power the economic engines of modern society. But the essential value of science for the human condition is not different from that of art, music, and literature. All of these cause us to reflect upon, and sometimes change our perspective of our place in the cosmos, while at the same time inspiring awe and wonder about the world around us I have recently described the story of our 2000 year long intellectual quest to explore the universe and unravel its mysteries as the greatest story ever told...so far, because it reflects the essential greatness of human civilization, along with the ever-changing nature of progress. In this journey, the arts and humanities are inextricably linked with science as we have bravely march together forward toward a future full of surprises that were previously unimagined.

To place our society's priorities so blatantly in favor of military defense while abandoning central features of what it is that makes our country worth defending reflects a fundamental antipathy toward science, the arts, and those features of our country that truly help make it great.

*Lawrence Krauss's new book The Greatest Story Ever Told—So Far [goes on sale today](#). ~ Article © [Scientific American](#) March 21, 2017*



Toni Van Pelt,  
ISHV



Bill Norsworthy,  
UUCH



Mark Brandt,  
UUCH



Chris Brown,  
MAF



Jenn Hancock,  
GTBHF



Rick O'Keefe,  
CFI, TBS



Jim Peterson,  
HSS, TBPC



Al Hann  
AoF

### TBCoR Leadership Team 2016

Editorial E-Mail: [tbcor@metrodirect.net](mailto:tbcor@metrodirect.net)

## Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason – MAY 2017 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. *Meeting planners need this information.*  
**Check for more events + details on the Coalition of Reason Web site at: <http://www.tampabaycor.org/>**



2nd Sunday, 2 PM	BRANDON–CFI Sunday Freethought Social	Skeptical interests with critical thinkers. Click to <b>RSVP:</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup">http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup</a>	
TBA – various activities	S TAMPA– Atheists of Florida, Inc.	Details & <b>RSVP:</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/AOF-Meetup">http://bit.ly/AOF-Meetup</a>	
TBA – various activities	S TAMPA– Tampa Bay Skeptics, Inc..	Details & <b>RSVP</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/TampaBaySkeptics-Meetup">http://bit.ly/TampaBaySkeptics-Meetup</a>	
1st Saturday, 2 PM	DUNEDIN– Humanist Soc. of the Suncoast	Details & <b>RSVP</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/Suncoast-Humanists">http://bit.ly/Suncoast-Humanists</a> <b>Not this week! See Page 2 for details</b>	
3rd Sunday, 12:30 PM	E. CLEARWATER– UU Clearwater Humanists	Details: <a href="http://bit.ly/UUC-Humanists">http://bit.ly/UUC-Humanists</a>	
TBA – various activities at MOSI	E. TAMPA– Museum Astronomical Resource Society (MARS) at MOSI	Details & <b>RSVP:</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/1Psc2Pi">http://bit.ly/1Psc2Pi</a> Other events: <a href="http://bit.ly/MARS-home">http://bit.ly/MARS-home</a>	
TBA - numerous events—this semester	E. TAMPA– Humanities Institute at USF	See <a href="#">Web site</a> for full listing of many events & calendar. <a href="http://bit.ly/USF-Humanities">http://bit.ly/USF-Humanities</a> Locations vary! <b>Page 11.</b>	
4th Monday, 6 PM	N. PINELLAS AREA– CFI Freethought Supper	<b>RSVP is required.</b> Seating is limited to 25! <i>For CFI &amp; TBS paid members.</i> <a href="http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup">http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup</a>	
3rd Saturday, 11 AM	NE TAMPA – Tampa Humanist Assoc.	Details & <b>RSVP:</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/TPA-Humanists">http://bit.ly/TPA-Humanists</a>	
4th Saturday, 10:30 AM;	NW HILLSBOROUGH– CFI Readers Book Discussion	Limited to 10 paid-up CFI members. <b>RSVP is required.</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup">http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup</a> <i>Must have read the book under discussion to attend</i>	
3rd Monday, 7 PM	NW HILLSBOROUGH– Tampa Bay Thinkers	Lively discussions. <b>RSVP</b> here: <a href="http://bit.ly/TPA-Bay_Thinkers">http://bit.ly/TPA-Bay_Thinkers</a>	
4 <sup>th</sup> Friday, 8 PM general meeting. Many more events monthly.	ST. PETERSBURG– Astronomy Club	For several dates, locations, & details: <a href="http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Home">http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Home</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Calendar">http://bit.ly/StPete-Astronomy-Calendar</a>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday plus various other times/venues	TAMPA BAY REGION– Center for Inquiry	Details & <b>RSVP</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup">http://bit.ly/CFI-TB_Meetup</a>	
TBA – various activities	TAMPA BAY AREA– Humanist Families	<b>RSVP</b> here: Family outings & other activities. Details & <b>RSVP:</b> <a href="http://bit.ly/1Ps9MaN">http://bit.ly/1Ps9MaN</a>	



### 2018 Freethought Cruise With Annie Laurie Gaylor & Dan Barker

<https://freethoughtcruise.wordpress.com/> Lvs. Port Canaveral March 3-7, 2018