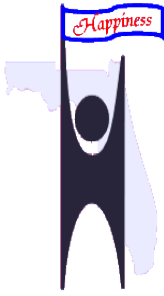


The Humanist Society of the Suncoast

A Socratic society dedicated to the proposition that the fully examined life is well worth living.
Member organization of the Humanists of Florida, the AHA, and ASHS.



The New **Propaganda!**

Volume 16 No. 4

April, 2007

Join the Humanist Society and become rich in the abilities that make life worthwhile.

See page 2 and send your dues to Hal East

One of the most ubiquitous features of the cognitive landscape. How do we counter what many consider its corrosive effects, and move towards a humanistic society?

Another Concertunity

The Tampa Bay Symphony Orchestra is giving its final concert of the season on Saturday April 28th At 8 PM, giving us another opportunity to form a concert party. Call Glen Paul 727-595-3347 to sign up.

Music is the embracing counterpoint to a harmonious life.

Rachmaninoff - Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Mvt. 1 Vera Higgs (Piano)

Beethoven - Piano Concert No. 1 (Rondo: Allegro)

Philip Mark Kwoka (Piano)

Beethoven - Symph. No. 5

Rossini - Thieving Magpie

Saturday, Apr. 28th, 8:00P,

Ruth Eckerd Hall, Clearwater

Tickets available at the door for \$15.00

The thrust of the discussion will be how the propaganda wars have gotten more sophisticated and morally problematic, and the stakes higher. We'll look at examples of propaganda in the political and commercial domains—the billions spent by our government to win domestic and foreign hearts and minds, but also the billions spent by businesses and "special pleaders" who are vying for our attention and our money. We'll consider the arguments that propaganda is inevitable in today's media world, and that the lines separating information, persuasion, and entertainment in our "news" media have grown very blurry. We'll note that propaganda is not just something the "bad guys" do, but that modern media systems are perfectly honed to be agents of propaganda and modern media audiences are its willing recipients. Time permitting, we'll propose some solutions to the semantic malaise.



We are pleased to welcome back with us,

Dr. Jay Black

Dr. Black chaired the Program for Ethics in Education and Community and was the first recipient of the Poynter Jamison Chair in Media Ethics and Press Policy, a position he held until 2003. Since 1985 he has been founding co-editor of the *Journal of Mass Media Ethics*. In 1997, he received the Freedom Forum's national journalism professor of the year award. Dr. Black is co-author of *Doing Ethics in Journalism* and *Introduction to Media Communication*. He also edited *Mixed News: The Public/Civic/Communitarian Journalism Debate*. He's been a reporter and copy editor for newspapers in Missouri and Ohio. His Ph.D. is from the University of Missouri. He is also first author of *Doing Ethics in Journalism*, the Society of Professional Journalists' ethics handbook, and in 1996 edited a volume titled *Mixed News: The Public/Civic/Communitarian Journalism Debate*. Currently he is working on three other books.

Remember,

following our meeting, we will get together at the

Farmer Boy Restaurant

at 2129 Drew St. just a few blocks west of the Library.

Those of us who have sampled the cuisine came away well satisfied, and without substantial detriment to our personal wealth.

Please join us for this free open discussion.

Saturday, April 7th 2:00 PM

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



Don't Forget...

Tampa Bay Harvest

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



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

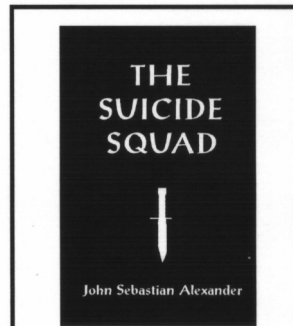
What do Humanists Want?

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

The Moveable Feast ...
Our April social dinner will be held at the

Pizza Shack Italian Grille

located at 11963 Indian Rocks Rd in Largo.
The restaurant is located just north off Walsingham in a small shopping center about a mile east of Gulf Blvd. We will dine at 5:00PM on Sunday April 15th.
Good Lasagna and other Italian delights plus cheap wine and reasonable prices.
Please call Glenn at 727-595-3347 by Saturday April 14th or E-mail glennkayp@juno.com for reservations. For restaurant info, see www.pizza-shack.com



A psychological thriller, not about Atheism per se, but with Atheist heroes, battling issues of truth, morality, and conscience, written as a spiritual sequel to *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*

Paperback, 494 pp., \$15.95, includes s/h
TSS Offer, Box 562, Nokomis, FL 34274

Sick Bay...

Hal East, our founder and treasurer is recovering at home Give him and **Lucille** a call at (727) 738-0912.

Miriam & Sidney Goetz are both dealing with Health problems. They are staying close to their new home in Palm Harbor, and would appreciate hearing from their friends. Call (727) 787-1984

Mitch and Katherine Modisett are going through some difficult times with health problems, but would love to hear from you. Give them a call at (813) 788-5516

Call (727) 213-0460 for changes to this list.

Laugh Lines ...

01. Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.
02. Don't worry about what people think, they don't do it very often.
03. Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks
04. Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.
05. If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.
06. My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.
07. Not one shred of evidence supports the notion that life is serious.
08. It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.
09. For every action, there is an equal and opposite government program.
10. If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.

Thanks to *Connie Purdum*

Our Humanist Society is actively looking for interesting speakers with novel and well thought out ideas on just about any subject of interest to a general audience of educated and compassionate people. Let me know if you would like to recommend such a person or organization. Call Jim at (813) 283-1645

HUMANIST SOCIETY OF THE SUNCOAST

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

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~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Lucille Odeneal & Hal East Publishers.

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sunhum@metrodirect.net

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

~ Join ~

The Humanist Society of the Suncoast.

- ☞ Trial -3 month- free news
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Send to: **Hal East, Treasurer**
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Dunedin, FL 34698