

The Humanist Society of the Suncoast

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

A brief History of Disbelief

Our Last Episode : The Final Hour

Volume 16 No. 9

September, 2007

Join the Humanist Society and become rich in the appreciation of humanity that makes life worth while.

See page 2 and send your dues to Hal East.

Remember,

following our meeting, we will get together at the

Farmer Boy Restaurant

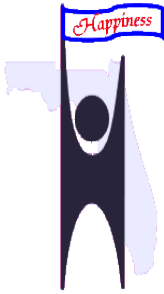
at 2129 Drew St. just a few blocks west of the Library.

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,
September
1st
2:00 PM**

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



Coming Events at the Center for Inquiry, and other venues

September:

15: Tampa - Monthly Lecture Series: Carol Mehlman, Esq.

29: Tampa Bay Skeptics - Quarterly Meeting

October:

20: Tampa - Monthly Lecture Series: Professor Bill Hall

27: St. Petersburg Times Reading Festival

President Jim Peterson was a panelist in a three part television discussion on *Democracy For America, Religion and the Community*, which will be airing until September 30, 2007.

The show airs three times a week on Tuesday 9:00 pm., Friday 4:30 pm and Saturday 2:30 pm on Bright House (96) or Knology (21). You may also watch it on-line streaming at those times at: www.accesspinellas.org.



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!



A Film by *Jonathan Miller*

The history of disbelief continues with the ideas of self-taught philosopher Thomas Paine, the revolutionary studies of geology and the evolutionary theories of Darwin. Jonathan Miller looks at the Freudian view that religion is a 'thought disorder'. He also examines his motivation behind making the series touching on the issues of death and the religious fanaticism of the 21st century.

This film documents the self liberation of humankind from its own delusional thinking. It reveals how the modern freethought movement grew from the small whispers of dissent from the minds of the brilliant few, to the full throated rejection of religion that is now emerging in western culture. JP

NEXT MONTH...

Our topic will be, *Repairing American Democracy* which will be based on Steven Hill's book, *10 steps to Repair American Democracy*. The book has been widely disseminated thanks to the generosity of one of our outstanding members, and hopefully, we will be prepared to take on certain of the topics in some detail.

We will also have as our special guest, Rebecca Steele, who is the director of the ACLU's west Florida office. She has considerable experience in matters of voting rights, and litigation and will be able to help illuminate certain other problems including the erosion of fundamental rights and liberties under this regime, which has proven to be antithetical even to the rule of law.

For those of you who received a copy of the book, do try to read it and come prepared to give us your own well thought out opinions on these extremely important matters.





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 September social dinner will be held at

Toojay's

Original Gourmet Deli

on Sunday September 23rd at 5:00PM. The restaurant is located at 27001 US Hwy 19 in the COUNTRYSIDE MALL in north Pinellas.

Please make reservations with Glenn at 727-595-3347 or click [here](#) to E-mail him before Saturday, July 21st.

Many Humanists believe...

-that just because people argue, it doesn't mean they don't love each other. And just because they don't argue, it doesn't mean they do.
-that we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.
-that no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.
-that true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. Same goes for true love.
-that you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.
-that it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.
-that you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.
-that you can keep going long after you think you can't.
-that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.
-that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.
-that money is a lousy way of keeping score.
-that sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down, will be the ones to help you get back up.
-that sometimes when I'm angry I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.
-that maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had and what you've learned from them and less to do with how many birthdays you've celebrated.
-that it isn't always enough to be forgiven by others. Sometimes you have to learn to forgive yourself.
-that no matter how bad your heart is broken the world doesn't stop for your grief.
-that our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become.
-two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.
-that even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you - you will find the strength to help.
- that the people you care about most in life are taken from you too soon.

Our Humanist Society is actively looking for interesting speakers with novel and well thought out ideas on just about any subject of interest to a general audience . Let me know if you would like to recommend a person or organization. Call Jim at (813) 412-1680

HUMANIST SOCIETY OF THE SUNCOAST

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

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

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

~ Join ~

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