

Humanists of West Suburban Chicagoland

Meeting at DuPage Unitarian Church, 4 South 535 Old Naperville Rd., Naperville IL 60563 (<http://howsc.org>)

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2009

Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009 1:00 p.m.

Philosopher's Lunch at Panera's

On Butterfield just east of Naperville Rd. in Naperville

If you're among those lucky enough to have the noon hour free, you might want to give this casual gathering a try. Food is good and the private room lets us speak as loud as we like. For further information, contact Jack Sechrest at jack@skognet.com or (630) 554-8058.

Sunday Sept. 6, 2009 at about 3:00 (no later than 5:00)

Labor Day Picnic: at the home of Jack and Perry Sechrest, 452 Burr Oak Dr., Oswego

It's time! Our seventh year of enjoying the most-est fun-est end-of-the-summer picnic. Gathering at the beautiful home of Jack and Perry where we eat, drink and make merry, it's our welcome to the Humanist schedule for the coming year. There is food in abundance where table-hopping is encouraged. Bring Aunt Martha and Uncle Zeke plus that someone who's surely to be interested in Humanism once he or she is introduced. It would be swell if you could also bring a few folding chairs, although no one (other than the dog) has ever had to sit on the grass. Then bring your potluck offering, multiplying the content according to the number in your party. The entrée, beer, wine and soft drinks will be provided. Make reservations with Jack Sechrest at 630 554-8058 or jack@skognet.com

Wednesday Sept. 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Program: Single Payer: The Best Healthcare Solution

At Kreves Hall at the DuPage Unitarian Church

Speaker: Steve Serikaku

By now everyone is aware of the issue that has become a battle, ranging from birth to death and everything in between. Who shall care for us in time of greatest need? Equally important, who will pay? Town Meetings have distorted the democratic discourse, using mob psychology to reduce citizens into hysterical rabble. Yet there are issues that need to be explored. As said in Isaiah 1:18, "Come, let us reason together..."

Steve Serikaku is a retired educator and a member of the Illinois Single Payer Coalition and Move to Better Healthcare. He will present the reasons we need reform, list the problems with the current proposals coming from Congress, and show why single payer is the best solution.

OCTOBER PREVIEW

Saturday, October 10, 2009

The October Humanist meeting will change its regular schedule just a bit to accommodate Dr. Loyal Rue who will address the Humanists of West Suburban Chicagoland on Saturday evening at 7:30 pm in Kreves Hall at DUUC. He is the author of *Religion Is Not about God*. We will be looking at why people choose to live ethical lives. Dr. Rue presents a general theory of religion from a naturalistic world view.

UNITED CoR FRONT AND CENTER

You no doubt remember a recent speaker at HUAC, Hemant Meta, chair of the Secular Student Alliance who charmed us with his frank and humorous description of atheism. He is now working to organize a local chapter of the United Coalition of Reason, an umbrella group encompassing free-thought organizations: humanists, secular Judaism, skeptics, non-theists, Ethical Culture and atheists. To help facilitate and get this off the ground, Fred Edwards, the communications director of United CoR (formerly in the same role with AHA) is proposing a visit to this area that includes a joint lunch or dinner with one leader from various local groups. He will also provide a two-to-four-hour seminar for those interested in learning how to do publicity. For further information go to their website at www.unitedcor.org.

WORDS TO CONSIDER

Better a poor man who is healthy and fit than a rich man racked by disease. Health and fitness are better than any gold, and bodily vigor than boundless prosperity. There is no wealth to compare with health of body, no festivity to equal a joyful heart. Better death than a life of misery, eternal rest than a long illness. Good things spread before a man without appetite are like offerings of food placed on a tomb. What use is a sacrifice to an idol which can neither taste nor smell? So it is with the man afflicted... He gazes at the food before him and sighs, as a eunuch sighs when he embraces a girl.

-- Ecclesiasticus 30:14