



Humanists of West Suburban

ChicagoLand



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

THIS MONTH

Dec. 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Dupage Unitarian Church

Program: Humanists Celebrate HumanLight
Coordinators: Jane Winter and Howard Katz

There's Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukah, and even a Wicca celebration called Yule. Now Humanists have their own winter holiday, created by the New Jersey Humanist Network. They named it HumanLight, celebrating the light of reason, compassion and hope. Since its 2001 inception, it has been adopted by a growing number of Humanist chapters in the USA, Canada and England encompassing readings, food, music and gift giving to the poor. HWSC will celebrate HumanLight on December 8th beginning at 6:30 with a potluck, asking that you bring a dish of food to share plus a contribution of a non-perishable item to be sent to our local food pantry. Beverage will be provided.

These pot lucks area always popular and well attended so you don't want to miss out on an evening with your Humanist friends. **RSVP** Jack Sechrest at (630) 554-8058 or jack@skognet.com. Contact Jane Winter at (630) 681 8393 or jfwinter@comcast.net for further information on the program..

HUMANIST MONTHLY LUNCHEON

(Philosopher's Lunch)

When: Thursday, Dec. 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Where: Country House Restaurant
6460 College Road in College Square, Lisle IL

It's a pause in the holiday rush, an hour or so with warm company in the cold of winter. It's possible to linger over food that is modestly priced or dash out without doing the dishes. **RSVP** Jack Sechrest at jack@skognet.com or (630) 554-8058 for a seat at our table.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

You may have seen the ads on busses and billboards: *Good Without God* or the series entitled *Consider Humanism*. There have also been television ads on NBC and cable channels along with print ads in USA Today and the Seattle Times. According to Roy Speckhardt, executive Director of the American Humanist Association, "...this

campaign will help many people realize that they are already humanists and just did not know the term. Humanists believe in and value love, equality, peace,

freedom and reason – values that are comparable to those of moderate and liberal religious people."

AHA supporters have raised \$50,000 to pay for these ads. Another \$150,000 came from the Stiefel Foundation, dedicated to "gain respect for freethinkers and ensure the complete separation of church and state."

The Stiefel Foundation was founded by Todd Stiefel who worked at Stiefel Laboratories as Chief Strategy Officer, Enterprise Leadership Team chairman and member of the executive committee of the Board. He co-led the teams that sold equity of Blackstone and Stiefel Laboratories, a pharmaceutical company making skin care products, to GlaxoSmithKline. Todd is the Founder and President of the Stiefel Freethought Foundation and serves on the Board of numerous organizations that promote religious freedom.

The AHA has also expanded its outreach into a Legal Center and Bioethics Center thanks to Louis Appignani, a successful entrepreneur from Miami, a longtime Humanist and member of the AHA, who founded the Appignani Foundation with \$2,500,000, its funds expected to grow over the years.

Appignani, Chairman and Founder of Computer Education Inc., and Barbizon International Modeling School, has served on the boards of several professional civic organizations. He earned a BBA in accounting from CUNY-Baruch and an MS in finance from Columbia University. He attended postgraduate studies in economics at Indiana University.

These, and many others, exemplify the generosity within our ranks. In today's economy, every nickel counts. Are you a member of the AHA? If the above has inspired you to join, contact Jack Sechrest or check out the AHA website at www.americanhumanist.org.

WORDS TO CONSIDER

I am the creator and the destroyer. I am he that defines all worlds. I bring life to the lifeless. I rain death on all that lives. My judgment is supreme. I encompass all things. I



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am the progenitor of good and evil. I created sin. I cause its every pain. Hell is of my works. I am the source of all gods. I create gods on a whim. I destroy gods with a thought. I am man.

-- Craig Smith