

## Join the Humanist Society of the Suncoast

Join with those who believe that:

- The methods of reason and science provide the most reliable means of understanding the universe and ourselves.
- Creative ability, personal responsibility, happiness, and fulfillment are best realized in political cultures that nurture freedom, cooperation, and genuine democracy.
- Human beings and their societies are the products of the same natural, evolutionary processes that form our universe.
- The values, ideas, and social systems of all human cultures arise from experience, and are continuously modified by new knowledge.



For more information, or to **Join**, write:

**E-Mail : [jim@suncoasthumanist.com](mailto:jim@suncoasthumanist.com)**

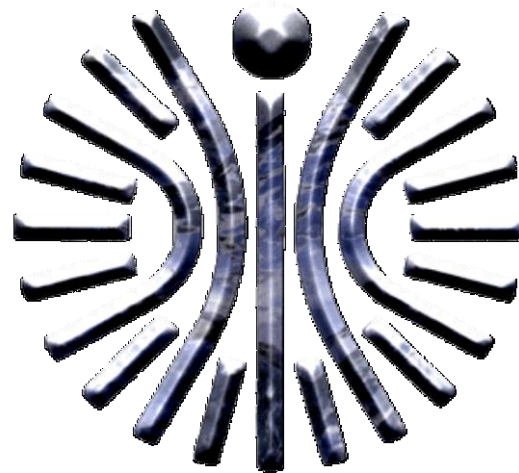
**Humanist Society of the Suncoast  
2507 First St. #E  
Indian Rocks Beach  
34785-3010**

Dues are \$25 single, 30 couple, per year. Or, \$12 for news. Send with name, address, and E-mail.

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## Introducing

# The Humanist Society of the Suncoast



*“Infinite curiosity and simple human decency”*

A chartered chapter of  
**The American Humanist Association**  
[www.suncoasthumanist](http://www.suncoasthumanist.com)

## Goals & Concerns

1. To extend a human centered and science based 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 which 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 promote the 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 all cultural expression, we embrace the essence of our humanity.
5. To explore the grounds of ethics and morality within the unfolding history of our evolving species. Such knowledge enables us to become effective protagonists for the happiness of individuals and the society that nourishes them.



## Approaches

In practical terms, our *Humanist* goals are realized through continuous education, extensive debate and testing of ideas. On Florida's west coast, our chapter actively explores and works to promote the benefits of our rational, human-centered way of life. We try to create a full, rich, social and cultural life for ourselves and others.

*The Humanist Society* is committed to improving prospects for our species in many ways. Many of us are leaders in our community and participate in alliances with others on vital matters of common concern, including:

- \*Advancing reason in human affairs
- \*Sustaining an environment for life
- \*Challenging minority oppression
- \*Protecting freedom of expression
- \*Preserving church state separation
- \*Expanding human rights
- \*Educating for the future

We act for the future, only by cultivating the best of our present potential.

# Humanists..

have an enormous respect for the blindingly obvious. We live as rational beings in a naturalistic and wholly indifferent world. The universe around us is abundant with varied and interesting natural phenomenon: from other worlds in our cosmos, and the intriguing possibilities of string theory and other dimensions, to the surprising complexity of the unseen world in a single cell, atom, or particle.

But in all this mixture of the products of cosmogenesis, there is not one that is more impressive or valuable than the human person. Only we have the capacity to foresee the probable consequences of our own and nature's actions, or to order a scale of value.

*Humanism* differs from other institutions of human culture in that it seeks to address the totality of conditions from which human life emerges and the cultures that now sustain it. With this knowledge, we will build a society that consciously maximizes the happiness of human beings within a culture that values the seeking of truths that accurately describe our condition.

We differ from other species in that we are aware of the cognitive powers, which have enabled us to build a complex technological society. More importantly, our imagination allows us to know and anticipate such dilemmas as: the mortality of our individual selves and others, the possibilities of social upheaval and natural disaster, and the poignancy of being alone.

But the one constant of a truly human life is an insatiable curiosity, the desire to know; at once the glory of our species, and without the disciplines of science and reason, it's greatest vulnerability.

Join an organization that since 1987, works to build a society in which the value and worth of every person is recognized. Help us build a rational alternative to religious and social organizations in which values, important for the happiness of all individuals, are often demeaned or unrecognized. We are creating now, a twenty-first century community in which humanity comes first.



## The Humanist Society of the Suncoast

Dues: \$25. 00/ year individual,  
\$35. for a couple. Pin: add 10.  
\$12 for mail newsletter only.

For this, you have the right to: Participate in all decision-making, receive our monthly newsletter, and be invited to our social-cultural activities. Our public programs are held on the first Saturday of every month at the Clearwater Country side Library at 2741 State Road 580, Clearwater 33761.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*“The unexamined life is not worth living.”*  
Socrates of Athens