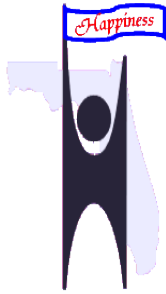


The Humanist Society of the Suncoast

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



Discover the power of Music From the outer ear to the inner mind

Volume 17 No. 1

January, 2008

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

See page 2, send your dues to Glenn Paul.

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,
January
5th
2:00 PM**

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

DON'T FORGET!

January is Dues month for Humanist Society members. See the rate on the back and send in yours today. While you're at it, let us know of any suggestions about subjects you would like to see us try, and other venues for our gustatory and aesthetic exercises.

Hal East

Lucille says It would be nice if any one could call, or stop by for a short visit Hal is at:

Encore Senior Care Village
Harold East, Unit 7, Room
707 620 Belleair Rd
Clearwater, FL 33756

727 467-9464 (ask for Unit 7) or
727 743-1063 (Hal's cell phone)
It may take him a few minutes to answer, but he usually gets the call.



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!

Dr. Robert Benedetti was born near Pisa, Italy, As just a toddler during world war II, his parents house was bombed during American raids, only 10 minutes after fleeing with his mother to a cave-shelter nearby. After graduating from Medical school, he traveled to Washington DC for Medical training and subsequent Surgical Residency. He practiced General surgery in Michigan and Florida starting in 1971 and retired in 1999. Certified by, and subsequently a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, he is also Certified by the Royal College of Surgeons, Canada. His music exposure started with Italian Folk songs, followed by Opera Arias, in the Bel Canto style, and "Classical" music. In the last 30 years he has studied the violin in all its facets, he now plays with the Suncoast Symphony with a violin he built himself in 1981. Most enjoyable for him, is playing chamber music like a Mozart quartets and duets with his daughter at the piano.

This will be the first in a series of discussions over the next year that will attempt to place the experience of music in the stream of the complete human life.

"Classes" of music are a never ending source of differences. If we are to "push" what many consider serious classical music as the best investment of a person's music listening experience, our society will need to expose our young people to this kind of music. Much like Giovanni Viotti did in the early 1800's in Paris. He started "Le Concerts Spirituels" in a public Park, open to everyone on a weekly basis: a great innovation in it's time, in that he hoped to engage the attention of ordinary people in the cause of the art of music.

To be a soldier of music education/culture/Real Music we will need to have a regular forum where all people can learn to enjoy the art of listening; an appalling deficiency in our culture today.

Fortunately, there seems to be a renaissance in the "Classics." Opera is experiencing a resurgence now. Our local Youth Symphony connected to the school system, is doing wonderful things to keep the flame of western musical culture alive. Maybe there is hope...

This first session will consider the relationship between Vibration, Sound and Music. This may take just half an hour or so, then for the rest of the available time will "open the floor" for discussion.



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

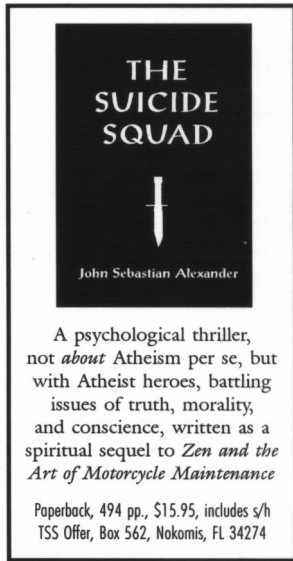
The Moveable Feast...

For January, we become our own chefs as we explore the culinary possibilities of:

bd's Mongolian Grill

3140B Tampa Rd.
Oldsmar FL 34677
(727) 785-0300

A full spread of fresh meats, vegetables, sauces, and unusual condiments will enable you to concoct the perfect dish - buffet style. \$12 to 16.00 (unlimited) We will gather 5:00 on Sunday afternoon January 20th. To confirm your reservation, call or write Jim Peterson—(813) 531-8138 or E-mail: humanist@ij.net



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 has been hospitalized. Give 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 changes to this list.

Laugh Lines...

A man was sitting on the edge of the bed, observing his wife, looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off he asked what she'd like to have for her birthday. "I'd like to be six again", she replied, still looking in the mirror. On the morning of her Birthday, he arose early, made her a nice big bowl of Lucky Charms, and then took her to Six Flags theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Monster Roller Coaster, everything there was. Five hours later they staggered out of the theme park. Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake. Then it was off to a movie, popcorn, a soda pop, and her favorite candy, M&M's. What a fabulous adventure! Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed exhausted. He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, "Well Dear, what was it like being six again??" Her eyes slowly opened and her expression suddenly changed. "I meant my dress size, you dumb ass!" The moral of the story: Even when a man is listening, he's gonna get it wrong.

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. Let me know if you would like to recommend a person or organization. Call Jim at (813) 531-8138

HUMANIST SOCIETY OF THE SUNCOAST

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

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

~ Join ~

The Humanist Society of the Suncoast.

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Send to: Glenn Paul, Treasurer
Suncoast Humanist Society
2507 First St. #E
Indian Rocks Beach
34785-3010