

# 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 [CSH](#). Find us at [www.metrodirect.net/humanist](http://www.metrodirect.net/humanist)

## We join the Tampa Bay coalition of Reason

Recently a meeting was held at CFI with leaders of major groups present to institute the formation of a chapter of COR. The object here is to acquaint the public with the freethought movement through a common media campaign. We are excited at the prospect and will keep you posted on plans as they develop.

## Our Program for October 3rd.

### Will Humanism make you prosperous, wise and Happy?

**No.**

But it could make you curious, empathetic, more questioning, and aware of yourself as a part of a complex universe. In general, Humanists are not full of boisterous certainties, eager to show others their obvious deficiencies of logic and fact. It becomes us to present a face of sympathy to those who like ourselves, are affected by the many layers of prevailing ignorance, and to offer whatever help we can to bring forth the best possible resolution of our assorted human dilemmas.

Most of us have arrived at this place by simply noticing the internal and external contradictions in the blurry patina of everyday conventions. Vague references to mind expansion, righteousness, the will of god, fate, duty, and deference to authority at various levels, and other nearly ingrained habits of conformity which we are pressured to accept, inspired many of us to think more critically. Many of us are challenged to present substitute certainties by those still afflicted with the hollow shibboleths we rejected. Join us on Saturday to discuss it. JP

Volume 18 No. 10

October, 2009

**At our last  
board meeting,  
we agreed to  
co-sponsor to  
2010 Annual  
conference.**



The Humanists  
of  
Florida  
Association

*in collaboration with*  
**AHA & CFI**  
*announces*

*the first-ever, all-inclusive*  
**Humanist & Freethought  
Conference**  
April 30 - May 2, 2010  
Sarasota, FL

[info@FloridaHumanist.org](mailto:info@FloridaHumanist.org)

Our Board of directors has given a great deal of time and energy to the creation of a new and updated set of **By-laws**. A PDF file of the final product is being delivered with this newsletter. Please look it over, and see if you believe it will satisfy our requirements as an organization. Remember that we are basically a social and educational organization meeting the standards of such groups to satisfy the IRS 501(c-3) definition. We will have a vote to ratify the document in November, and would like as many of you as possible to attend. If questions, contact any board member or officer.

**Please join us  
for a free and  
open  
discussion.**

**Saturday Oct.  
3rd  
2:00 PM**

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

Following our  
meeting, many of us  
will dine together at  
the

**Farmer Boy  
Restaurant**  
at 2129 Drew St. just 2  
blks west of Library.

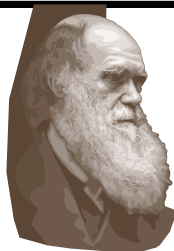
**Don't Forget...**

**Tampa  
Bay  
Harvest  
Please...**



**Bring as many boxed and canned food items  
as you can to this meeting.**

With the important help of **Glenn Paul** and  
**Tampa bay Harvest**, we can do our part to  
help relieve significant human suffering.



## The Darwin Bicentennial and the Year of Science

Find out what activities are  
planned for this Year of Science  
in our area.

[www.evolvetampa.com](http://www.evolvetampa.com) . JP

## Our New Website

We have put up a new site with hopefully more utility than the previous version. All newsletters from the past two years are there, as well as pictures of some of us. (We need more!) See the calendars and maps. We can be found at: <http://suncoasthumanist.com>



*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

Our monthly social dinner,  
The Moveable Feast for October is at:

## FISH TAIL WILLY'S

on Sunday October 18th at 5:00PM. This restaurant is located at:

**2543 Countryside Blvd - Countryside Centre - in Clearwater, FL.** See Google [MAP](#).

While the menu is mostly seafood with early birds at about \$12; pizza, burgers, soups are also available.

Please make your reservations by Saturday Oct 17th with Glenn at **727-595-3347** or email reply at [kpaul29@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kpaul29@tampabay.rr.com) Hope to see you there on October 18th.

## Laugh Lines A baker's dozen puns for you...

1. The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
4. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
6. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
7. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
8. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
9. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
10. A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
11. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
12. Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other, 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'
13. I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

Thanks to *Connie Purdum*

# HUMANIST SOCIETY OF THE SUNCOAST

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

## Board of Directors

Meets Sept., December, April

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~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

**Glenn Paul Publisher.**  
**Jim Peterson, Editor**

Have an Idea, opinion or essay you want to share?

E-Mail us at:

[sunhum@metrodirect.net](mailto:sunhum@metrodirect.net)

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

*~ Join ~*

*The Humanist Society of the Suncoast.*

- ♣ Trial -3 month- free news
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*(Privacy respected)*

**Send to: Glenn Paul, Treasurer**  
**Suncoast Humanist Society**  
**2507 First St. #E**  
**Indian Rocks Beach**  
**33785-3010**

## Plan to attend our HumanLight Event this December!



How often do you get a chance to have a positive impact on the world by partying? Well, when you celebrate HumanLight, a December holiday for Humanists, you get a chance to enjoy, entertain, educate, and enlighten.

Human Light was first celebrated in 2001. It has been celebrated in dozens of locations across the U.S. and has gained the attention of the national media, but many Humanists still don't know about it. See the video link below for the story of this new holiday. Please take a few minutes to view it. After you do, we hope that you will start thinking about attending our annual Human Light celebration this year. The holiday is typically celebrated on or around December 23rd. Watch this newsletter for more details later.

Check out the new video here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsiYANxesTo>

You can learn more about Human Light by visiting the website at:

[www.humanlight.org](http://www.humanlight.org)

**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 - even if not from a distinctly Humanist perspective.**

Let me know if you would like to recommend a person or organization.

Call Jim at (813) 531-8138 or E-mail me at [humanist@ij.net](mailto:humanist@ij.net)

**Have an opinion**, idea, or essay that needs to get vented? This newsletter is your space.

For editorial consideration for the next issue, see Jim Peterson at: [jamestp@suncoasthumanist.com](mailto:jamestp@suncoasthumanist.com)

### Share your favorite restaurant.

Glenn Paul wants to improve the selection of restaurants in which we have our monthly social dinners. Our main criteria for selection is:

1. Location—center county preferred
2. Cost—low to moderate accommodates everybody.
3. Room—to accommodate up to 25
4. Ambience—not too noisy at 5PM.
5. Food—good.

Contact Glenn at:

[glennkayp@juno.com](mailto:glennkayp@juno.com)  
or call 727-595-3347

### Read Humanist Periodicals:

The Humanist, Free Inquiry, Free Mind, Humanist Perspectives, Skeptical Inquirer, Secular Humanist Bulletin, The Skeptic, Essays in Humanism, and many others.

### **\*\*Classifieds\*\***

#### **Automotive:**

1997 TOYOTA CELICA CONVERTIBLE Sports car looks. Drives like a dream. 5-speed stick shift. White with black top only 115,700 miles. Alloy wheels. Asking \$4500. Call Steve Brown. 727-595-4864.

### *Humanist Quotes*

*“The human race may be compared to a writer. At the outset a writer has often only a vague general notion of the plan of his work, and of the thought he intends to elaborate. As he proceeds, penetrating his material, laboring to express himself fitly, he lays a firmer grasp on his thought; he finds himself. So the human race is writing its story, finding itself, discovering its own underlying purpose, revising, recasting a tale pathetic often, yet none the less sublime.”*

*Felix Adler*