



Humanists Hawaii

NEWSLETTER

July 23, 2008

July meeting

*Review of attacks on science and the defense of science
by a viewing and discussion of part 1 of the HH video of the
Defend Science Forum of March 30, 2007*

and

*A review of attacks rants, criticism and other observations by
atheist curmudgeon Pat Condell*

*July 27, 2008
10:30 a.m.*

*Krauss Hall 112
University of Hawaii*

In the spring of last year, HH members attended, as a group, the Defend Science Forum at the University of Hawaii Art Auditorium. At that time, Prof. [Michael G. Hadfield](#), Professor of Zoology at UH and a member of the [Defend Science](#) Advisory Board, introduced the topic by recounting assaults against science and the scientific method itself by members of the Bush administration and others and attempts that are being made to expose these assaults and to defend science. Part of the active defense is the Defend Science Statement, on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter.

Prof. Hadfield has graciously accepted the invitation of Humanists Hawaii to speak next month – August 31 – on the topic of how assaults continue and how continuing defense is being mounted. In preparation for this update, this July meeting we will review and discuss the dvd of the first part of last year's Defend Science Forum.

On today's dvd, Prof. Hadfield will first speak on the attacks and defense of science and then [Steve Palumbi](#), Professor of Biological Sciences, Stanford University and author of [The Evolution Explosion](#), speaks on "Why Evolution Matters." That is, how humans cause rapid evolutionary change and why it is necessary to properly teach science to our next generation.

Please bring some small snack items to share.

Who is Pat Condell?

Pat Condell is a British Writer and comedian with a new stand-up show *Faith Hope & Sanity* whose website [Godless Comedy](#) is linked to [our website](#). Our Webmaster Mike Mueller considers Condell a favorite saying, "The video clips are extremely funny and intelligent."

Of himself and his comedy Condell says on his website:

A secular world is a sane world. We owe it to our children.

This is a spin-off from my stand-up show *Faith Hope & Sanity* – A few jokes about religion before it kills us all. You can download audio versions of all my videos at <http://patcondell.libsyn.com>

If you have impaired hearing you'll find subtitled versions at www.dotsub.com where you can translate the videos into any language and post them on your own site if you wish to.

Also, a number of people have asked me for T-shirts and stuff (yes, honestly) so if you want something tasteful to wear to church this Sunday go to www.cafepress/godlesscomedy

On another website, Condell says, "I used to talk about this stuff in comedy clubs until I discovered internet video. Now I get a lot more death threats, but I don't have to deal with drunks."

Gallery on the Pali exhibits

by Norma Nichols, Director

July 13 to August 15: Eye of the Beholder

By the Docent Council, Honolulu Academy Of Arts

The Honolulu Academy of Arts docents are trained volunteer tour guides dedicated to furthering the public's understanding the Academy's art collections and special exhibits. Many docents are also practicing artists, thus bringing the eye of an artist to those beholding art works.

This exhibit is the fourth biennial "Eye of the Beholder" docent art exhibit held at The Gallery on the Pali. Multiple artists will exhibit original art pieces in diverse mediums.

August 17 to September 19: Five Over Eighty: Women Artists Recognized

Betty Pearson, Barbara Betts, Joan Allen, Ruth Pistor, Jean Porter

Betty Pearson

Drawing, painting and reading art history have always been a joy to Betty Pearson. After high school, she attended the Cornish School of Art in Seattle WA and worked as a housekeeper-nanny and cook.

The middle years of her life were busy, raising two children, a husband in politics – with little time left for art. She and her husband had been visiting Hawaii since 1960 and upon his retirement in 1974, they moved here permanently.

She joined the Hawaii Association of Artists (today known as the Watercolor Society), and two watercolor friends, Jeanne Robertson and Elizabeth Zinn, asked her to join the Pen Women in 1986.

Betty was introduced to pastel painting while attending a workshop with Margaret McMillam and Urania Tarbot, the USA Editor of *Pastel Magazine*, in Tuscany and Venice. A joyful experience.

Barbara Bett

Barbara's art has been juried into shows of Hawaii Watercolor Society, Honolulu Printmakers, Association of Hawaii Artists, The National League of American Women, and Department of Education Art Teachers Association.

Her art has appeared in many special exhibits including: Women Artists Depict Hawaiian Women (Gallery on the Pali, '99), Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce Exhibit (1994), Hawaii/Wisconsin Watercolor Show, (1993-1994), NLAPW national miniature shows ('91, '92, '93, '95).

Barbara has owned Ho'olaule'a Designs since 1973. and has illustrated "Cathedral Cooks", 1964; "In Due Season" 1986; "From Nowhere To Somewhere On A Round Trip Ticket", 2004; "Quirky Tales of the Rails", sketches, 2008.

Joan Allen

At an early age, Joan was encouraged by her brother to draw. She attended classes at Montclair, Morristown, NJ, Doylestown, PN, and HAA. She studied with watercolorists Millard Sheets, Jade Fon, Tom Hill, Richard Nelson and Sue Hansen, and collage with Gerald Brommer, and continuing with printmaker Dodie Warren: e.g. etching, relief printing, photogravure.

Allen's work has won numerous awards, has been purchased by The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, shown in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, *Aloha Magazine* and is in private collections internationally. She is a Signature member of the Hawaii Watercolor Society, and a member of the Association of Hawaii Artists, and Honolulu Printmakers.

Ruth Laird Pistor

Ruth has lived in Hawaii since 1970. She spent her childhood in the country south of Covington, Kentucky.

After studying at the Art Academy of Cincinnati, and art courses at the University of Cincinnati, she worked first as a greeting card artist for the Gibson Art Company, then as a children's artist for the Standard Publishing Company, both in Cincinnati, Ohio. Marriage and five children ended her commercial career, so she became a "Sunday Painter".

Her husband's work in the hotel business brought them to Hawaii. And with their last child in school, Ruth took classes, entered juried exhibitions, and won awards including Acquisition Awards from the State Foundation of Culture and the Arts, and from the City and County of Honolulu.

She is now teaching in The Total Life Recovery Program at the Women's Community Correctional Center in Waimanalo, Hawaii.

Jeanne V. Porter

While growing up on the East Coast, Jeanne had little opportunity for learning music or art in grade school, not much better in high school.

Later she enrolled in drawing, watercolor and design classes at the College of Marin in California. She enjoyed the classes and meeting new friends.

When her husband and brother died in 1988-89, she stopped taking lessons until wise friend suggested she find a creative interest to fill the void. She resumed studies at Marin College until 1992.

In 1993, she came to Hawaii and studied for a short while with Warren Stenberg and took art courses at Windward Community College with Snowden Hodges and at the Academy of Arts with George Woollard. She is currently a member of the Windward Artist Guild.

Now wrong claims can land astrologers, tantriks and faith-healers in jail

UK, *Rationalist International Bulletin* # 175

In Britain, astrologers can now end up in prison, if they fail to warn their prospective customers that their services are "not experimentally proven" and "for entertainment only". So can godmen, tantriks, tarot cards readers, faith healers, occultists, fortune tellers, seers, soothsayers, psychics, mantra-healers, mediums and babas.

Since May 26, 2008, the flourishing spiritual business in the country – estimated to bag an annual income of more than forty million pounds – has come under the scanner of new customer protection regulations. Result of the biggest overhaul of Britain's consumer laws in forty years, these regulations implement the European Union's May 2005 Unfair Commercial Practices Directive that will soon govern consumer laws all over Europe.

Besides door-to-door-sellers, children's ads etc., the new British law targets miracle mongers of all kinds and backgrounds – no matter if they are resident Brits or visiting Indians. It compels them to state in a disclaimer that their services are "for entertainment only" and that they are not "experimentally proven". Such disclaimers have to be well visible for all potential customers, put up on name boards, invoices, printed papers with terms and condition, in ads and on websites. If the "entertainment only" nature of their services is not made clear to a client before the session, they can be taken to court and will be liable to a prison sentence up to two years and a fine up to 5000 pounds.

City council on-demand webcasts of meetings

Ōlelo

Honolulu, HI—The Honolulu City Council meetings are available for on-demand viewing on the Internet for up to a year. Full use of the free public service requires a broadband connection. The public can go to <http://www.honolulu.gov/council>, click on the "Meetings – live" link for any of the archived meetings and view them. Meetings are usually available for viewing about 48 hours after they close.

"This expanded partnership with the City Council is . . . a natural extension of the cablecast of government meetings that we've provided for over 17 years and the Internet streaming of most of our channel content for over 5 years.," said Ōlelo's President/CEO Keali'i López, "

"We are in the process of developing pilot programs with other government agencies, as well as a pilot program to bring this service to public producers of local programs that are cablecast on our channels."

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See scheduled events, pictures of officers and current and archived newsletters at our website: <http://hawaii.humanists.net/>

He's Meeting Place Room 112 Krauss Hall

HH meets the last (not the fourth) Sunday of each month at 10:30 am at Krauss Hall at the University of Hawaii. Krauss is a beautiful one-story building with a pond and appropriate flora and fauna. Here's how to get there.

Driving on Dole Street past the University, turn make on East West Road then ewe on Correa Road. Drive to the end and turn make toward the circle with the big tree.

There's free parking on part of the circle, on the other side of Krauss Hall and various lots around campus. The entrance to Krauss Hall 112 is at the Diamondhead end of the lily pond.

We'll put up a sign by the door.



If you need transportation to the meeting, call another Humanists Hawaii member or Dave at the number listed above.

An Urgent Call by Scientists to . . . Defend Science

In the United States today science, as science, is under attack as never before.

Statement by www.defendscience.org

The signs of this are everywhere. The attacks are coming at an accelerating pace, and include frequent interventions by powerful forces, in and out of the Bush administration, who seem all too willing to deny scientific truths, disrupt scientific investigations, block scientific progress, undermine scientific education, and sacrifice the very integrity of the scientific process itself – all in the pursuit of implementing their particular political agenda. And today this dominant political agenda is profoundly allied and intertwined with an extremist (and extremely antiscience) ideological agenda put forward by powerful fundamentalist religious forces commonly known as the Religious Right. These fundamentalists now have extensive influence and representatives in major institutions of the US government, including Congress and the White House. This itself goes a long way toward explaining why science itself is under such unprecedented attack.

It is commonplace under the current Administration for the government to deny funding, censor scientific reports, or in other ways undermine scientific research which might turn up facts which they don't want to hear; to manipulate, distort, or outright suppress scientific findings they find objectionable; to attempt to reshape government scientific panels to obtain policy recommendations on issues ranging from health to the environment, based less on actual scientific findings than on the requirements of the Administration's agenda.

The situation is so serious that more than 6,000 scientists have already signed the "Restoring Scientific Integrity" statement of the Union of Concerned Scientists, which denounces the Bush Administration for "abuse of science"; and Scientific American published an editorial under the title: "Bush-League Lysenkoism: The White House Seeks to Bend Science to Its Will."

CONSIDER THIS:

- » Particular Christian fundamentalist "moral codes" are increasingly imposing restrictions on what kinds of questions can be investigated by scientists and what kinds of answers scientists can come up with. HIV prevention studies have come under attack for even attempting to study prevalent sexual practices. Funds have been cut and researchers have faced intimidation and harassment from fundamentalists inside and outside of government who insist that scientific study of HIV/AIDS begin and end with the demand for "abstinence-only" programs – regardless of the human and social cost. Research into human sexuality in general has been suppressed and faulty studies and outright

disinformation about the effectiveness of condoms and other birth control methods have been promoted and disseminated by the Administration. The Department of Health and Human Services is known to have deleted from its web site scientific health information which conflicted with the Administration's "abstinence-only" approach to sex education . . . THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.

- » Entire new fields of scientific inquiry, like stem-cell research, with potential for path-breaking medical breakthroughs, are denied federal funds because of fundamentalist religious objections . . . THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.
- » Scientists whose findings conflict with corporate interests or policies of the Bush Administration face threats of retaliation or denial of funding. There have been "gag orders" forbidding government scientists from talking publicly about important scientific questions and, at times, even mentioning terms like "global warming." In studies by government scientists on global warming and its potentially devastating consequences for the planet and humanity, titles of reports have been changed and whole sections deleted by high political officials. There are repeated efforts by government officials to over-rule scientists on such things as which plant and animal species to include on the "Endangered Species" list, which natural habitats are in critical need of preservation, how to set air and water quality standards, and so on . . . THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.
- » In a practice many have denounced as "Scientific McCarthyism," scientists who are candidates for scientific advisory boards and panels have been asked how they voted or whether they support particular policies of the Administration, and some have been denied appointments because of their political views. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.
- » Official government-run bookstores at the Grand Canyon have carried books promoting as fact the literalist Biblical notion that the Grand Canyon was formed only a few thousand years ago by "Noah's Flood," in direct contradiction to the overwhelming geological evidence and scientific consensus that the Grand Canyon contains rocks that are billions of years old and that the Canyon itself was carved out by a river, over a very long period of time, millions of years ago . . . THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.

And that is not all: Here we are in the 21st century, and the head of the government himself, George W.

Bush, refuses to acknowledge that evolution is a scientific fact! THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.

The President claims: "On the issue of evolution, the verdict is still out on how God created the earth," and then sits smugly by while Creationists carry out an assault against evolution in classrooms, museums, libraries, government bookstores, and even IMAX movies and science theaters.

No, Mr. President, the verdict is NOT out on evolution. EVOLUTION IS A FACT – IT IS ONE OF THE MOST WELL-ESTABLISHED AND WELLDOCUMENTED FACTS IN THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE. TO DENY AND ATTACK EVOLUTION IS TO DENY AND ATTACK ONE OF THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL FACTS ABOUT ALL OF NATURE AND REALITY AND ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL FOUNDATION STONES OF ALL OF MODERN SCIENCE.

Evolution is not a matter of "controversy" in the scientific community: It is recognized as a fact by the overwhelming majority of scientists in the US and throughout the world. Evolution is just as well established as the fact that the earth goes around the sun – a scientifically-demonstrated truth which, several centuries ago and for some time, was also opposed and even viciously suppressed because of a religious inquisition, resulting in great harm to science and to humanity. We cannot, and will not, allow the same kind of thing to happen with the scientific fact of evolution.

Therefore, we, the undersigned scientists and members of the scientific community, are issuing this urgent call to everyone in society to take up the challenge to DEFEND SCIENCE.

To be clear: Many who continue to hold religious beliefs can and should rally to this call to DEFEND SCIENCE. This is not about science trying to destroy religion. It is about defending science from a specific right-wing political agenda which, coupled with a fundamentalist, Biblical-literalist religious ideology, is setting out to implement a program that will fundamentally pervert and undermine science and the scientific process itself.

Individual scientists may be atheists or agnostics, or may hold various religious beliefs; and their politics range over the full spectrum of political views. But one thing the overwhelming majority of scientists have in common is their understanding that, when conducting scientific investigation and applying the scientific

method, it is essential to use as a starting point previously accumulated scientific knowledge – the storehouse of well-established scientific evidence about reality which has previously been arrived at through concrete and systematic scientific observation and experiment and has been subjected to rigorous scientific review and testing. This is what we scientists stand on as our foundation when we set out to further investigate reality and make new discoveries. This is how science has been done and how it has advanced for hundreds of years now, and this has allowed science to benefit humanity in countless ways.

Genuine science never proceeds from, or uses as its starting point, any set of subjective "beliefs," "opinions" or "faith-based edicts" handed down by religious or secular authorities and proclaimed to be beyond human questioning, testing and investigation. To bring into the scientific process assumptions, religious or otherwise, which were not arrived at by scientific methods, and which by definition cannot be tested by scientific methods, would destroy science as science.

In conclusion: We must refuse to accept a situation where scientific inquiry is blocked or its findings ruled out of order unless they conform to the goals of the government, to corporate interests and to the ideology of religious fundamentalists; where dogma enforced by governmental and religious authority takes the place of science; where the scientific approach of seeking natural explanations for natural phenomena is suppressed. We must insist on an atmosphere where scientists are allowed to seek the truth, even when the truth conflicts with the views and policies of those in power, and where the scientific spirit is fostered, where science education and the popularization of the scientific method are valued, where people are encouraged to pursue an understanding of how and why things are the way they are; where all that has been learned by humanity so far, all that has repeatedly been tested and found to be true, serves as the starting point for further investigation of reality.

IT IS UP TO US. IT IS TIME TO TAKE A CLEAR AND DECISIVE STAND IN DEFENSE OF SCIENCE. THIS IS OF CRUCIAL AND URGENT IMPORTANCE NOT ONLY FOR SCIENTISTS BUT FOR PEOPLE THROUGHOUT SOCIETY, FOR HUMANITY AS A WHOLE AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

What you can do

Scientists and Members of the Scientific Community: Sign and circulate this statement. Help raise funds to have it printed in newspapers across the country, and internationally. Get this statement adopted by scientific, educational and other associations and institutions. Urge others to become involved.

Members of the General Public: reprint and circulate this statement, help spread the word, contribute your ideas about how to wage this crucial battle & join with people in the scientific community and others to wage this battle.

Pope visit boosts sex industry

Australia, [Rationalist International Bulletin # 177](#)

As the Pope touches down in Darwin, Sydney's sex industry is ready for the big boom. Brothels have announced special "papal visit packages" for the 125,000 foreign visitors who come to Sydney for the World Youth Day (WYD) celebrations this week. Bordellos and sex shops across the city are expecting sensational turnovers. Many establishments have recruited extra staff to cope with the expected rush demand for sexual favours during the event. Some pride themselves on being able to welcome their pious international clientele in a wide range of languages with sex workers speaking French, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Arabic, Thai, Korean, Nepalese and Mandarin. The "Xclusive Gentlemen's Club" offers 10% discount to those with accreditation as official WYD visitors. As one of the biggest houses near Randwick Racecourse, the club expects to benefit from its proximity to the venue of the Pope's final open air mass which is expected to attract half a million of pilgrims. The high expectations of the "Forbidden Fruit industry" are based on solid experience. "When the World Council of Churches had their congress in Canberra back in the 1990s, we enjoyed our best business period ever," said a spokesperson of Australia's adult industry group Eros Association.

When religious mass events are in full swing, sex seems to be in the air. After the WYD 2000 in Rome had closed its weeklong celebrations with Pope John Paul II's open air mass in the Tor Vergata field, rubbish collectors discovered the next day thousands of used condoms in the debris of the festival ground. Media reports showed images of the find, but the Vatican angrily dismissed them as fabrications. Critics of the Vatican's doctrinal stance against birth control, extra-marital sex and the "grave sin" of contraception, however, never stopped mocking about it. They say it reveals that young Catholics have a blithe disregard for the Vatican's reactionary teachings – which is indeed excellent news if correct.

Protest against the Pope visit

Australia, [Rationalist International Bulletin # 177](#)

In Sydney this week, a [NoTo Pope Coalition](#), including local rationalist, atheist and secularist groups, plans to distribute free condoms to the participants of the WYD to spark discussions about the Vatican's hypocritical stance on sexuality and personal freedom. They will also protest against the Australian government's generous contribution of 160 million Dollar tax payers' money for the WYD and against new regulations by the government of NSW to grant draconian powers to the police during WYD and slap a 5000 Dollar fine on anybody, who potentially "annoys" the visiting Pope – a blatant attack on free speech. [www.No-](#)

[ToPope.com](#)

Broken Rites, which represents church abuse victim, points to new evidence about how the country's most senior churchman, Cardinal George Pell, has handled sexual abuse allegations against a Sydney priest. [www://brokenrites.alphalink.com.au/](#)

The NSW NoToPope Coalition has announced a peaceful protest demonstration on Saturday July 19th 12 noon at Taylor Square, Darlinghurst. Join them, if you happen to be in Australia.

Court suspends "virgin case"

France, [Rationalist International Bulletin # 177](#)



French Justice Minister Rachida Dati

Is virginity an "essential quality" of a bride? Should husbands be able to legally insist on it? And in case it turns out to be lacking on the wedding night – should they be entitled to get the marriages annulled and to drop their brides like defective articles? This is currently a topic of hot debate in France.

A French Muslim couple – he an engineer in his 30s, she a trainee nurse – had married in 2006. When on the nuptial bed he found her not to be a virgin, he promptly announced it to the still partying wedding guests and sent her back to her parents. Last month, the marriage was annulled at the husband's request, after a court accepted his accusation that his wife had lied about being a virgin. Under the French civil code, lying about an "essential quality" of the relation can be taken as a reason for annulment of a marriage.

The case sparked a hot public debate and feminists called it a *fatwa* against women's liberty. Justice Minister Rachida Dati – backed by President Sarkozy – directed the public prosecutor to file an appeal against the annulment, lest it set a precedent establishing virginity as a requirement for marriage that can be legally claimed. The case is suspended, the marriage valid again, at least till September when the decision of the appeal court is expected.

This twist, however, has created a quite absurd situation, as none of the protagonists is willing to continue this marriage restored for principles' sake. The woman objected the decision and declared through her lawyer that she just wanted the marriage to be over so she can get on with her life.

McDonald's rebuffs anti-gay group

by Paul Adam Haber, editor, [Gay Financial Network](#)

A religious organization that lobbies lawmakers to repeal gay rights has begun a boycott of McDonald's because of their support of a national gay business group.

The American Family Association is furious at the fast food chain for promoting "the homosexual agenda" by refusing to condemn McDonald's Vice President of Communications Richard Ellis' decision to serve on the Board of Directors of the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC). As a corporate sponsor, McDonald's donated \$20,000 to the acclaimed business group that works to put gay business owners in touch with large corporations.

"The main focus of the NGLCC is to connect major corporations with LGBT-owned businesses that want to ensure their diverse supply chain looks like the customer and employee bases they have, or the customer and employee bases they are trying to attract," wrote co-founders Justin Nelson, president, and Chance Mitchell, CEO.

AFA President Donald Wildmon, however, sees the business alliance with NGLCC as the fast food chain's entree into the "culture wars" which pits his group against equal rights for gays.

"McDonald's has chosen not to remain neutral but to give the full weight of their corporation to promoting the homosexual agenda, including homosexual marriage," said Wildmon.

The AFA's appeals to McDonald's to disassociate themselves from the NGLCC, and "remain neutral in the culture war," were rebuffed by the company.

"Hatred has no place in our culture," said McDonald's spokesman Bill Whitman. "That includes McDonald's, and we stand by and support our people to live and work in a society free from discrimination and harassment."

Justin Nelson, co-founder of the NGLCC, says Wildmon and his group are intentionally disseminating

misinformation about the NGLCC in an effort to sway companies from doing the right thing.

"Corporations get involved with the NGLCC because it impacts their bottom line, to help insure they have a strong and vibrant work force that feels welcomed and valued," Nelson told GFN in an interview this week.

"The AFA doesn't understand the broader context. It's not just the right thing to do from a social justice standpoint, but as a business response . . . it's the smart business thing to do because it pays dividends on quarterly earning reports," said Nelson.

McDonald's is only one in a long line of companies that have been targeted by the AFA. They've already boycotted Sears, Kohl's, Kmart, Target, Old Navy and IKEA, citing their support of "the homosexual agenda."

Most famously, they joined the Southern Baptists in boycotting Disney for their support of their gay employees and their welcoming attitude toward gays and lesbians in their theme parks. After a nine year boycott, the hoped for financial impact never materialized, however – during the course of the boycott Disney's profits continued to rise.

Commenting on the AFA's attempts to sway McDonald's decision, crisis management expert, Eric Dezenhall, recently told CNN:

"My experience has been boycotts from the Right, while certainly inconvenient and cause heartache, they tend not to really affect sales or change policy – whereas boycotts from the Left . . . from the gay community and the environmental community . . . not only can have a tangible impact on sales, but can impact corporate reputation and corporate policy."

With more than 80 corporate sponsors currently aligned with the NGLCC, Nelson notes that "Diversity is just good business."

How do you feel about Humanism?

Do you think that humans should search relentlessly for truth, that they should feel compassion for all humankind and determine and promote what is right?

Do you think people can live meaningful, ethical lives without believing in supernatural beings or places?

Would you like to join a group that shares your thoughts? Humanists – generally – believe these things.

To join Humanists Hawaii, please complete and mail this form, with \$25 for individual dues or \$40 for couples, to: Marcia Lambeth at 825 Coolidge St. #310 Honolulu HI 96826.

Dr/Mr/Ms _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phones: Home: _____ Work: _____ email: _____

The Humanist Perspective

Coming *Humanist Perspective* shows on [Olelo VIEWS](#) channel 54 Sundays at 3:30 pm will be:

“Fallibilism and Faith” paper comparing the methods of science and religion by [Susan Haack](#), eminent author and professor of philosophy of science and other things at the University of Miami

Sunday, July 20, 2008

“The Happiness Myth, part 1” by [Jennifer Michael Hecht](#), poet and historian, author of *The Happiness Myth*, *History of Doubt*, *The End of the Soul*. She begins a thoroughly invigorating work-up to actually discussing happiness in part 2.

July 27, 2008

“The Happiness Myth, part 2” Jennifer Michael Hecht, poet, historian, author, gets into the happiness section of her presentation. After historical discoveries, there's a question and answer session..

Sunday, August 3, 2008

“Humanism in Washington DC” with [Toni Van Pelt](#), director and lobbyist of the [Center for Inquiry Office of Public Policy](#) discusses the challenges and satisfactions of lobbying secularism to Congress.

Sunday, August 10, 2008

“Is America a Christian Nation?” with David Koepsell and Steve Crampton. Koepsell, of the Center for Inquiry debates Steve Crampton, Chief Counsel of the American Family Association Center for Law & Policy, regarding the beliefs of US founding fathers.

Sunday, August 17, 2008

“Prospects for Secularizing Islam” with Ibn Warraq. Secularist Pakistani author of include *Why I Am Not a Muslim* (1995) and founder of the [Institute for the Secularisation of Islamic Society](#), discusses the possible future of Islam.

Sunday, August 24, 2008

“Humanism in Africa” with Norm Allen Jr., director of [African Americans for Humanism](#) and secular missionary, discusses how humanistic educators help to support the already existing secular feeling in various parts of Africa.

Sunday, August 31, 2008

If you cannot get Olelo over Oceanic Cable, it is also [streamed over the internet](#).

Our *Humanism and Elections* special aired on channel 54 June 19, 21, 28 and 30. Although its official broadcasts are pau, it deals with a current topic, so it may appear again at unscheduled times.



Humanists Hawaii

c/o David Mielke

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The American Humanist Association (www.americanhumanist.org) is dedicated to ensuring a voice for those with a positive outlook, based on reason and experience, which embraces all of humanity.