

# The Minnesota Atheist



## Are You Ready for the Freethought Conference and Aints Game?

Atheist baseball and the All-Star Freethought Conference is coming to Minnesota in July! Minnesota Atheists and Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) are partnering with the Saint Paul Saints minor league baseball team for a night of "unbelievable" fun on Friday, July 11 at 7:05pm at Midway Stadium in Saint Paul. The game will be followed up with an All-Star Conference the next day at 9:00am at the RiverCentre in beautiful downtown St. Paul. The Saint Paul Saints team name will be temporarily changed to the secular-friendly "Mister Paul Aints" when they play the Kansas City T-Bones. The "S" in Saints will be covered on signs throughout Midway Stadium and the home team players will wear "Mr. Paul Aints" jerseys as part of the fun. The player worn jerseys will be auctioned off during the game from which a portion of the proceeds will go to the Family Place Shelter in St. Paul where volunteers from the Minnesota Atheists regularly prepare and serve dinners to families without permanent housing. "Baseball and atheism have nothing in common," said Eric Jayne, president of Minnesota Atheists. "Except that both offer happiness and satisfaction once they're better understood."

"We enjoy the atmosphere at Saints games," said Heather Hegi, chair of Minnesota Atheists. "Their tradition of having fun fits us well because it gives atheists the chance to showcase our light-hearted and playful qualities." The All-Star Freethought Conference, to be held on July 12 at the RiverCentre in St. Paul, features best-selling author and scholar Susan Jacoby as well as leaders from national freethought organizations: Dan Barker, co-president of Freedom from Religion Foundation and Debbie Goddard, director of African Americans for Humanism and director of outreach for Center of Inquiry. Other speakers include PZ Myers, author of the atheist-science blog "Pharyngula", and Rebecca Watson, activist and author of the world-famous "Skepchick" blog. The conference is sponsored by Minnesota Atheists, Humanists of Minnesota, and Freedom From Religion Foundation. For full information about the Mr. Paul Aints game and All-Star Freethought Conference please visit: [MinnesotaAtheists.org/conference](http://MinnesotaAtheists.org/conference)

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## June Freethought Picnic

By Heather Hegi



The June Freethought Picnic was a great kickoff to the summer. We had perfect weather, great food, and even better company.

Couples, individuals, and families intermingled in conversation. Children played on the playground and one of them brought an air-powered rocket which the kids enjoyed setting off.

The June picnic was sponsored by Camp Quest and CASH (Campus Atheists, Skeptics, and Humanists from the University of Minnesota). Representatives from Camp Quest gave a short talk and thanked those who donated to help pay for campers to attend who wouldn't have been able to go otherwise.

I would highly recommend attending the July 13<sup>th</sup> and/or the August 17<sup>th</sup> picnic. I hope to see you there!



Join us at the next picnics

**July 13<sup>th</sup>**

and

**August 17<sup>th</sup>**

Visit [minnesotatheists.org](http://minnesotatheists.org) for more information.

## News and Notes

By George Kane

In the June issue, this column reported with alarm the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the case *Township of Greece v. Galloway*, which did more to undermine the Establishment Clause than any previous decision. This month, surprising good news came from the court: it denied *certiorari* to an appeal of a ruling that the Elmbrook School District may not hold high school graduation ceremonies in a church. Justice Antonin Scalia issued a scathing dissent, however, that revealed his blueprint for rendering the Establishment Clause meaningless and effectively demolishing the wall of separation between church and state.

The school district in Wisconsin's Waukesha County had for many years held the ceremonies in the school's gymnasium in a suburb of Milwaukee, but received complaints that the venue was too small and uncomfortable. They moved them to the expansive sanctuary of Elmbrook Church in Brookfield, an unmistakably religious venue, dominated by a cross, with bibles and prayer books in the pews where the graduation audience sits. In 2009, Americans United for Separation of Church and State filed suit, claiming that the practice violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. AU lost at federal district court and in an appeal to a three judge panel of the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, but prevailed in 2012 before the full Seventh Circuit Court. The school district appealed to the Supreme Court, which considered the case in ten separate sessions since issuing the *Greece v. Galloway* decision. In mid-June, the Court at last closed the case with a single-sentence decision: "The petition for a writ of *certiorari* is denied."

Scalia, however, issued a seven page dissent, with the concurrence of Justice Clarence Thomas. Scalia maintained that the decision by the Seventh Circuit Court had been rendered obsolete by the *Greece v. Galloway*

decision. Quoting from it, Scalia wrote that it "left no doubt that "the Establishment Clause must be interpreted 'by reference to historical practices and understandings.'" ... Moreover, "if there is any inconsistency between [a 'test' set out in the opinions of this Court] and ... historic practice ..., the inconsistency calls into question the validity of the test, not the historic practice.""

This is positively perverse. An action cannot violate the Establishment Clause if it has been validated by history – that is, if it had been done before. This analytical tool would be incapable of considering how many times the action had been considered and rejected, because it violated the separation of church and state. It excludes from consideration all of the times that a government action was stopped because a court ruled that it represented an Establishment Clause violation. Those decisions are all rendered moot by *Greece v. Galloway*, so nothing that followed from them can be counted as "history" or "tradition."

It is readily evident that the justification from history will invalidate every test for Establishment Clause violations – the neutrality test and the Lemon test are just as untenable as the endorsement test. Scalia holds that the only permissible test is coercion, but he limits this so much as to make it trivial. The coercion of community action or peer pressure does not count. Scalia quotes as prevailing his own dissent in the 1992 *Lee v. Weisman* case: "The coercion

(continued on page 5)



### George Kane Cryptogram

Q opf bphais cij bwg pfswfj welbr rw gqcb Obhqcraqpfars rw vj rhej; zwh qz cw rbj yipqf ipfleplj wz rbj rjmr cijdc rw cbwg rbpr rbj djf gbw aw fwr vjiqjkj ... gqii vj jkhipcraflis yefqcbja. Pfa rbqc qc p apdfpvij aworhqfj.

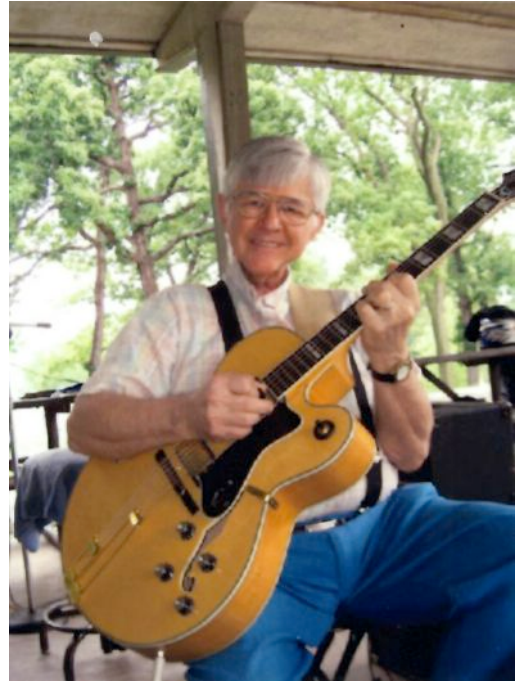
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## Remembering Don Harrer

By Paul Heffron

For many years I played music with Don Harrer. We were good friends. He played guitar in my band and we did shows together. We also shared a secular outlook as freethinkers. Early in life, Don became a nonbeliever and left the Catholic Church. In 2005 when we needed another member in the Freethought Band, Don joined us and made our combo complete. He also played solo guitar dinner music at our Solstice Parties.

After a battle with cancer Don Harrer died on June 9 at age 80. He played guitar professionally for 66 of those years. At the memorial gathering for Don's family and friends on June 13 a recording, which Jerry Rauser made of Don playing solo at the last Solstice Party, was playing in the background. Jerry and I were at the gathering. Steve Peterson and Shirley Moll were also there as friends and as representatives of Minnesota Atheists. Thanks to Jerry there was a large picture on display of Don with his guitar taken at a summer picnic when he played with the Freethought Band. It was Don's favorite picture of himself.



Don was a commercial artist, a lithographer and moonlighted as a musician. He loved to garden, to fix things and to read science and technology articles.

He is survived by his wife Kathy, daughters Jenny and Penny, and two grandchildren.



Thank you to the dedicated volunteers from Minnesota Atheists for preparing a delicious taco meal with black beans and rice at the Family Place shelter in St. Paul, which serves local families without permanent housing. The meals were served family style so our volunteers have the opportunity to join the feast! We do this volunteer event the third Saturday of every month so check out the Minnesota Atheists Meetup page if you're interested in volunteering next month. The Minnesota Atheists is a partner of Foundation Beyond Belief.

# Thank You!



## News and Notes (continued from page 3)

By George Kane

that was a hallmark of historical establishments of religion was coercion of religious orthodoxy and of financial support by force of law and threat of penalty." But it is not clear why even this test would stand against Scalia's own analysis. If examples could be found in which government got away with such coercion, why would coercion not also be justified as traditional?

Actually, Scalia makes a convincing argument that, having ruled as it did in *Greece*, the Court must overturn *Elmbrook*. Surely, the four Justices who voted against *Greece* disagreed, but they must have been joined by two or three others. I presume that this is because they hold the view that school children are especially vulnerable and powerless against religious coercion.

Since the early decisions on school prayer, *Engel v. Vitale* (1962) and *Abington v. Schemp* (1963) the court has noted that the classroom is a highly coercive environment, because of the teacher's position of authority, the exposure of children to peer pressure and the inability of students to avoid or escape personal risk. Also, the right of parents to provide the religious education for their children was held to require protection from government-dictated doctrine. The Roberts court seemed to fear that the *Greece* decision was incompatible with the additional protection that

precedent had provided for children in school, and it was unable to put together four votes consider it.

This means that Scalia has not yet convinced a majority on the court that his Coercion Test must supplant all other tests for Establishment Clause violations. If Scalia's opinion is adopted, the legal barrier to advocacy for religion by government will collapse. If the Establishment Clause is understood to mean nothing more than a protection against compelling religious orthodoxy with the force of law, city and state governments will no longer need to avoid the appearance of endorsing religion. City councils that currently do not have opening prayer, or that take steps to ensure that the prayers are nonsectarian, that will now be emboldened to devote the exercise to Christian proselytizing.

The Coercion Test was not required by the decision written by Justice Anthony Kennedy; it is a *dicta* in Scalia's concurring opinion, that is not mandatory for future judicial rulings. The next Supreme Court rulings on the Establishment Clause will be critical for accepting or rejecting the Coercion Test. By denying *certiorari* in *Elmbrook* the Court has signaled that the struggle for the separation of church and state has not yet been judicially closed.

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## New Baby!

James Zimmerman (a member of the Minnesota Atheist newsletter's editorial committee) and his wife Jennifer Zimmerman are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Emmett Porter. Emmett was born on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at home in St. Paul, weighing seven pounds, four ounces. Big brother Owen and big sister Isla are very proud of their new baby brother.



Congratulations!



## Cable Report

By Steve Petersen

Three years ago Grant Steves interviewed Tim Stanley, Executive Director of Planned Parenthood of Minnesota and North and South Dakota. This past month Brianne Bilyeu hosted him in two more programs on *The Human Right to Reproductive Health and Freedom*. They covered all aspects of reproductive health and challenges to reproductive freedom, including bills and state constitutional amendments to invest fetuses with the legal rights of personhood. Stanley said the most important Supreme Court decision in decades is pending with the Hobby Lobby decision coming late this June. This could result in reducing reproductive options for both women and men and redrawing the line of separation between government and religion for generations. Stanley also reported good news in that there is more push back from supporters as the opponents overreach in their zeal to suppress reproductive freedom.

Planned Parenthood nationwide is one of the largest providers of reproductive health care for low income women, but many states are denying women access to their clinics because they also provide abortion services.

If you would like to see if our cable program could be shown in your area, please contact Steve Petersen at [address@mnatheists.org](mailto:address@mnatheists.org)

**Cable Crew:** George Kane, Brett Stenbridge, Shirley Moll, Steve Petersen, Les Stordalen, Grant Hermanson and Art Anderson.

**Podcasts:** [MinnesotaAtheists.org](http://MinnesotaAtheists.org). Available via iTunes and YouTube. Made possible by Grant Hermanson.

## Cryptogram Answer

I can hardly see how anyone ought to wish Christianity be true; for if so the plain language of the text seems to show that the men who do not believe...will be everlastingly punished. And this is a damnable doctrine.

-Charles Darwin



## Cable Schedule

**Burnsville/Eagan Community Television:** Ch. 14 Check their web site [www.bect.tv](http://www.bect.tv) for day and times. Sponsor: Kevin Hardisty

**Bloomington:** Ch. 16. Sunday 11:00 p.m. Sponsors: David and Joanne Beardsley.

**Minneapolis:** Ch. 75. Monday 7:00 p.m. Sponsor: Steve Petersen.

**Northwest Community Television (NWCT) Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, Maple Grove, New Hope, Osseo, Plymouth and Robbinsdale,** Ch. 20 check web page for date and times: [nwct.org/programming.aspx](http://nwct.org/programming.aspx) Sponser: Grant Hermanson

**Rochester:** Ch. 10. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:30 p.m. Sponsor: Jim Salutz.

**Roseville, Shoreview, Arden Hills, North Oaks, Little Canada, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale,**

**Moundsview/New Brighton:** Ch. 14. Wednesday 10:30 p.m. Sponsor: Shirley Moll.

**St. Cloud:** Ch. 12 Thursday 8:30 to 9:00 p.m. Sponsor Tom Stavros.

**St. Paul:** Ch. 15 Wednesdays 5:00 p.m. Sponsor: Jim Wright.

**Stillwater:** Ch., 16. Tuesday 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Sponsor: Lee Salisbury.

**White Bear Lake, Hugo, Lake Elmo, Mahtomedi, Maplewood, North St. Paul, Oakdale, Vadnais Heights:** Ch. 15. Saturday 8:00 p.m. Sponsor:

Michael Seliga.

## Atheists Talk Radio Report

By Steve Petersen



AM950 KTNF

**"Communicating Climate Change"**, Paul Douglas on *Atheists Talk* #269, May 25, 2014. Atheists Talk continues to attract national personalities and non-atheist guests on issues of common interest. This interview features a liberal atheist and science blogger Greg Laden and a conservative Christian and meteorologist, Paul Douglas, discussing climate change.

**"The Galapagos: A Natural History"**, Henry Nicholls on *Atheists Talk* #270, June 1, 2014  
"Henry Nicholls, a celebrated journalist, author, editor and broadcaster with specialties in evolutionary biology, conservation and history of science and author of, *The Galapagos: A Natural History*." He was interviewed by Carl Hancock.

**"Grief Beyond Belief"**, Rebecca Hensler on *Atheists Talk* #271, June 8, 2014  
"In many ways, religious people 'own' death and bereavement. They are rarely so confident, or feel they are on such solid ground, as they are when someone dies. But the comfort offered by believers is often the last thing a grieving atheist needs. Talk of life after death or God's plans offers little comfort to those who don't believe." Stephanie Zvan's opening statement on the program was the theme for this program. A few years ago, facing her own grief and the religious assumptions of her support group, Rebecca Hensler started Grief Beyond Belief, a support group for grieving non-believers after the death of her son.

**"There Was No Jesus, There Is No God"**  
Raphael Lataster on *Atheists Talk* #272, June 15th, 2014  
"Dr. Raphael Lataster is the author of the book *There Was No Jesus, There Is No God: A Scholarly Examination of the Scientific, Historical, and Philosophical Evidence & Arguments for Monotheism*. The book seeks, according to its website: "to merge the accessibility of popular atheistic writings, with the rigorous scholarly research normally limited to academic journals and monographs. Avoiding the seemingly endless debates on the social impacts of religion, *There Was No Jesus, There Is No God* is only concerned with the evidence."

Dr. Lataster is a former fundamentalist Christian and a professionally secular PhD researcher (Studies in Religion) at the University of Sydney. His main research interests include philosophy of religion, sociology of religion, Christian origins, logic, epistemology, Bayesian reasoning, justifications and social impacts of atheism, Taoism, overpopulation and sustainability concerns, pantheism, and pandeism." The interview was done by Carl Hancock with host Brianne Bilyeu.

**"Greece v. Galloway"**, Linda Stephens on *Atheists Talk* #273, June 20, 2014  
"In November of last year, the Supreme Court heard arguments on the government-sponsored prayer case, *Town of Greece v. Galloway*. Susan Galloway, who is Jewish, and Linda Stephens, who is an atheist, argued that the Christian prayers sponsored by the town of Greece, NY were a discriminatory exclusion of non-Christian citizens who attended town council meetings in order to do business with the city. On May 5, the court narrowly ruled that these sectarian prayers did not discriminate because they were "traditional." Carl Hancock interviewed Linda Stephens on her motivation and reason for filing this suit, and for her reaction to the Supreme Court's decision.

Minnesota Atheists produces the radio program, and the director is Carl Hancock with hosts Carl Hancock, Brianne Bilyeu, Scott Lohman, David Pacheco and Stephanie Zvan. Both Stephanie and Brianne upload podcasts to our web site. The radio program is broadcast live every Sunday from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. from AM950 KTNF studios in Eden Prairie, MN. Live streaming is available on our web page. [www.mnatheists.org](http://www.mnatheists.org). Original music was composed, played and recorded by Brent Michael Davids. The cost to us is \$5,320.00 every six months. Your donations will be appreciated. They can be sent to our post office box or posted online at [minnesotatheists.org/join-and-donate/radio-fund](http://minnesotatheists.org/join-and-donate/radio-fund). Thanks to Brianne Bilyeu the program has a presence on social media: an Atheists Talk Facebook page and an account at [Twitter.com/atheists talk](https://twitter.com/atheists_talk).

## Secretary's Report

The following is a summary of the Board of Director's activities for Minnesota Atheists June, 2014.

- Members of the Board met with the Saint Paul Saints baseball manager to discuss the upcoming July game and develop ideas for various "antics" in the field and in the stands highlighting the fun side of atheism.
- The Board drafted a press release to distribute to the region's newspapers and other outlets to promote the MNA summer conference.
- The MNA summer conference itinerary and workshop line up details were discussed.
- The Board discussed Silent Auction planning to be organized at the MNA summer conference.
- The fall speaker line up was brainstormed and communication will be established from Board Members to secure monthly MNA speaker topics for September, October and November.
- The development of the MNA lending library is underway and more information about this free service will be discussed in the fall.
- The Board is in the early stages of selecting and securing talent for the winter solstice event planned for December.



Friday, July 11!

## Call for September Articles

We welcome contributions from all readers of The Minnesota Atheist. While we cannot guarantee that your submission will be accepted for publication, we will carefully consider anything that is related to atheism. We would especially like to receive contributions which provide profiles of individual atheists and which report atheist-related events in the wider community.

Because we are a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, we cannot print articles that support or oppose a specific candidate, but we can print articles that support or oppose specific causes. A good length to aim for is about 500-1000 words and no more than about 2000 words.

Please send submissions to the editor, Jenny Nolan at [editor@mnatheists.org](mailto:editor@mnatheists.org) by 11:59pm on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. All submissions may be edited for style and length.

We look forward to receiving your submissions. Without contributions for readers like you, The Minnesota Atheist would be needlessly constrained in its breadth and depth.

**AM950 KTNF**

Dear Atheists Talk Radio Friends

The enclosed \$25.00 donation is being given to you in the name of Steve Petersen and Shirley Moll for completing a free no obligation review with my agency.

If any of your listeners complete a free, no obligation insurance review, I will give \$25.00 donation to the Atheists fund of their choice.

Sincerely  
Georgia Hancock Tsoi

Contact Georgia at  
[ghancock@farmersagent.com](mailto:ghancock@farmersagent.com) or  
651.491.5181 to schedule your  
insurance review today!



Minnesota Atheists, Humanists of Minnesota, & FFRF present:

## 2014 All-Star Freethought Conference

Saturday, July 12, 2014

RiverCentre, 175 W Kellogg Blvd, Saint Paul, MN

Big Speakers, Workshops, Auction, Networking, & More!

**DAN BARKER FROM FFRF JUST ADDED!**



**Susan Jacoby** - Best-selling author, scholar, and former Washington Post reporter. Her work has explored law, religion, medicine, aging, women's rights, and political dissent. Her most recent book about Robert Ingersoll is now available in paperback.



**Rebecca Watson** - Skeptical female activist and founder of the Skepchick blog. She is a popular speaker around the world on topics about atheism, feminism, skepticism, and science.



**PZ Myers** - Associate Professor of Biology at the University of Minnesota in Morris. He is the author of the science-atheist blog Pharyngula, which can be found on Freethought Blogs and Science Blogs. His recently published book is titled *The Happy Atheist*.



**Elizabeth Ess** - After dropping out of assassin school, Elizabeth Ess started doing standup comedy. She's brought her fun, punchy and sometimes dark humor all over the Midwest and the West Coast. She writes sketch comedy for Fearless Comedy Productions. (from Ess's website elizabethess.com)



**Debbie Goddard** - Director of African Americans for Humanism, a program of the Council for Secular Humanism, and the director of Outreach at the Center for Inquiry-Transnational. She participated with and helped organize freethought groups and is involved with LGBT activism.



**Dan Barker** - Dan served as an associate pastor in three churches, and was a protestant missionary in Mexico. He publicly came out as an atheist in 1984. He's the author of several freethought books and is currently the co-president of Freedom From Religion Foundation.

Register at [MinnesotaAtheists.org/Conference](http://MinnesotaAtheists.org/Conference) or fill out the details below and mail in this flyer with your check to Minnesota Atheists PO Box 120304; New Brighton, MN 55112

- \*\*\*\*\*
- **Full Package** (speakers, lunch\*, and dinner\*\*) \_\_\_\_\_ \$90 Non-Members \_\_\_\_\_ \$81 Members
  - **Speakers Only** (add \$20 for optional lunch; \$30 for optional dinner) \_\_\_\_\_ \$55 Non-Members \_\_\_\_\_ \$49 Members
  - **Student Rate for Speakers Only** (25 and under, with ID) \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Non-Members \_\_\_\_\_ \$18 Members

\* Lunch Choices: \_\_\_\_\_ Italian Hoagie \_\_\_\_\_ Brie and Apple Croissant \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan (TBD)

\*\* Dinner Choices: \_\_\_\_\_ Mexican Buffet (with vegetarian options) \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan (TBD)

*Additional 10% Discount for MN Atheists members!*

*Become a member: \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$45 Household \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 Sustaining \_\_\_\_\_ \$600*

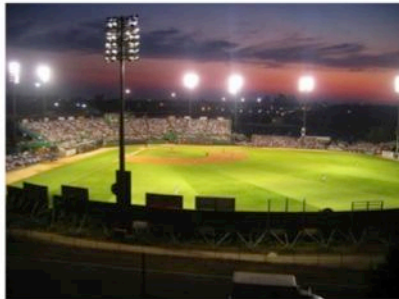
➤ **TOTAL: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



# Night of Unbelievable Fun: The Third Strike presented by Minnesota Atheists and Freedom From Religion Foundation



**St. Paul Saints become  
Mr. Paul Aints**

\$22 Package

- Infield Reserved ticket
- Mr. Paul Aints hat

\$12 Package

- General Admission ticket
- Hot dog & soda

July 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:05 PM



VS



**Order & Print  
Tickets Online**

Go to: [SAINTSGROUPS.com](http://SAINTSGROUPS.com)

Enter "atheists" as the  
password and pick out  
your seats!

For more information about the Saints call  
651-644-6659

For more information about this game's  
sponsors visit  
[MinnesotaAtheists.org](http://MinnesotaAtheists.org) and [FFRF.org](http://FFRF.org)

## Upcoming Events

**Agnostic Alcoholics Anonymous.** Sundays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Men’s Center, 3249 Hennepin Avenue South, Suite 55, Minneapolis. Meets in the basement. Open to all genders.

**Lake Superior Freethinkers Monthly Membership**

**Meeting.** First Sundays, social time 9:00 a.m., breakfast 9:30 a.m. (\$13.00), program 10:00 a.m., Duluth Radisson, 505 West Superior Street, Duluth.

**Freethought Toastmasters.** First and third Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Larpenteur Estates Party Room, 1276 Larpenteur Avenue West, Saint Paul. Contact George Kane, nup@Minn.net

**Freethought Lunch.** First Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Old Country Buffet, County Road B2 between Fairview and Snelling. Contact Bob or Marilyn Nienkirk, 612-866-6200.

**Burnsville Book Club.** First Wednesday, Dinner 6:30 p.m., meeting 7:00 p.m. to about 9:00 p.m., Davanni’s, 14639 County Road 11, Burnsville. Meet in the party room.

**Atheists Talk Television Show Recording.** First Thursday, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., MTN Studio A, 125 Southeast Main Street, Minneapolis. Contact Steve Petersen, 651-484-9277.

**Crafty Freethinkers North.** Second Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Brookdale Library, Study Room I, 6125 Shingle Creek Parkway, Brooklyn Center.

**Little Canada Book Club.** Second Sunday, 1:00 p.m., Caribou Coffee, 3354 Rice Street, Little Canada.

**Freethought Dinner Social.** Second and fourth Mondays, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Davanni’s, 8605 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington. Contact Bob or Marilyn Neinker, 612-866-6200.

**Godless Gamers—Board Game Night.** Second and fourth Thursdays, 6:00 p.m., Fantasy Flight Games Center, 1975 County Road B2, Roseville.

**Blasphemer’s Brunch.** Second Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Pizza Lucé, 800 West 66th Street, Richfield.

**Lunch at the Dragon House Restaurant.** Third Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Dragon House Restaurant, 3970 Central Avenue, Columbia Heights. Contact Bill Volna, 612-781-1420.

**Minnesota Atheists Board Meeting.** Third Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Open to all members. Contact Heather Hegi, chair@mnatheists.org. for location.

**Freethinking Females Evening** at Chatterbox Pub. Fourth Monday, 7:30 p.m., Chatterbox Pub, 800 Cleveland Avenue South, Saint Paul.



Check out more events on our Meetup page at: [meetup.com/minnesota-atheists](http://meetup.com/minnesota-atheists).



**There’s always time to make a difference.**

**Join Minnesota Atheists, renew your membership or make a donation today.**

### Minnesota Atheists Membership and Donations

- One-year student membership \$10
- One-year individual membership \$35
- Three-year individual membership \$90
- One-year household membership \$45
- Three-year household membership \$115
- One-year sustaining membership \$75
- Three-year sustaining membership \$200
- Life membership \$600
- General Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Building Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Radio Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_

Donations are tax deductible. Membership fees are deductible for the amount beyond their fair market value.

Student memberships include a subscription to the PDF version of *The Minnesota Atheist* delivered by email. All other memberships include a subscription to the printed version delivered by postal mail. If you would prefer the PDF version delivered by email, please check the box and provide your email address.

- Please send my subscription by email

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Minnesota Atheists, PO Box 120304, New Brighton, MN 55112. Please make checks payable to Minnesota Atheists. Students, please enclose a copy of your fee statement or school identification.**

# Minnesota Atheists

## Positive atheism in action<sup>sm</sup> since 1991

Minnesota Atheists is dedicated to building a positive atheist community that actively promotes secular values through educational programs, social activities, and participation in public affairs.

### Minnesota Atheist Board of Directors

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Submit material for the newsletter to the editor at editor@mnatheists.org  
Submissions may be edited.

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### Minnesota Atheists Goals

Minnesota Atheists practices positive, inclusive, active, friendly, neighborhood atheism in order to provide a community for atheists, educate the public about atheism, and promote separation of state and church.

### Minnesota Atheists Affiliations

Minnesota Atheists is affiliated with the Atheist Alliance of America, Atheist Alliance International, American Atheists, The American Humanist Association, the Council for Secular Humanism, The International Humanist and Ethical Union, and the Secular Coalition for America.

### Minnesota Atheists Membership

Regular members: 207  
Life members: 37  
Meetup members: 1566

### Minnesota Atheists Honorary Members

Hector Avalos, PhD  
Dan Barker  
Gerald Erickson, PhD  
Annie Laurie Gaylor  
Dick Hewetson  
Robert M. Price, PhD



The Minnesota Atheist July/August 2014.

Published by Minnesota Atheists

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