



THE MINNESOTA ATHEIST

Sunday, October 18, 2015 Monthly Public Meeting with Professor Hector Avalos

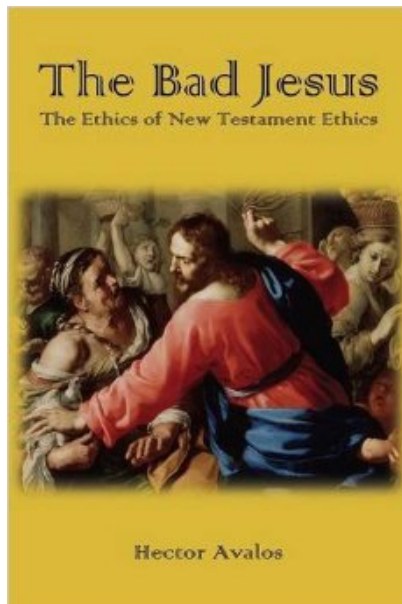
The Old Testament god, Yahweh, is a monster, but the New Testament god, Jesus, is a nice guy, right? Well, Dr. Hector Avalos, Professor of Religious Studies at Iowa State University in Ames, begs to differ. In his new book, *The Bad Jesus: The Ethics of New Testament Ethics*, this Harvard-educated scholar tears the shroud off the legend and exposes the real character of Jesus, as he is portrayed in the Bible.

In the book's chapter titles, Prof. Avalos describes Jesus as: Unloving, Hateful, Violent, Suicidal, Imperialist, Anti-Jewish, Uneconomic, Misogynistic, Anti-Disabled, Magically Anti-Medical, Eco-Hostile, and Anti-Biblical. Do you have Christian friends who are trying to convert you? Bring them with you to see this extraordinary presentation!

Prof. Avalos is the author of numerous other books, including *Fighting Words: The Origins of Religious Violence* (2005) and *The End of Biblical Studies* (2007).

His work has been the basis of several episodes of the podcast "Inquisitive Minds" (available on iTunes). He is a regular columnist for *The Ames Tribune*, writing on issues of religion and culture.

This marks the seventh time that Professor Hector Avalos (aka "Mr. October") has spoken to our group: five straight Octobers (2006-2010) and our August 2013 conference. We are very grateful to him and his wife Cindy that they are willing to drive here so often.



Sunday, October 18, 2015

Ramsey County Library
2180 North Hamline Ave
Roseville, MN 55113

1:30pm Doors open

2:00pm Featured Speaker

4:00pm Post-meeting dinner at:

Panda Garden Buffet
1706 Lexington Ave N
Roseville, MN 55113

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President's Column

By Eric Jayne

Since 2012, Minnesota Atheists has coordinated several community volunteer projects with local social service agencies that help individuals and families meet their basic needs. Through these events Minnesota Atheists has donated thousands of hours of labor and thousands of dollars to help provide direct relief to those in need. Our two recurring monthly volunteer events with *The Food Group* food bank in New Hope and the *Family Place* shelter in St. Paul have helped us establish positive relationships with both service professionals and those they serve. The purpose of these efforts is to provide substantive assistance to secular non-profits making our community a better place while also creating an outlet for freethinkers to donate their time to helpful causes which highlights our brand of *positive atheism in action* to the general public. I am hopeful that our volunteer work will remain an essential part of Minnesota Atheists and that it may even expand in the future, but with a limited number of volunteer leaders in our organization I'm afraid that sustainability will become a problem. But this problem can be easily solved with just a little bit more help from our members and supporters.

The volunteers who organize the recurring events at the food bank (every second Thursday) and the family shelter (every third Saturday) consists of a core of six people. Usually these recurring volunteer shifts are filled by one or more of these six volunteer leaders, but occasionally a situation comes up where none of the six is available. We have resolved these situations, but it hasn't been done without challenges. With just another one or two people (but we'd gladly take more) who could commit to our team of volunteer leaders for one year (but we'd gladly accept a longer commitment), these challenging moments could be significantly reduced. Additionally, we welcome the new ideas and energy that new volunteer leaders would bring to the group.

The primary responsibility of a volunteer leader is to communicate and coordinate with the rest of the volunteer leader team so that we can plan our two recurring events at least one month ahead of time and coordinate other occasional events that may require recruiting volunteers. The annual Walk to End Hunger, Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, and holiday gift donation to Children's Hospital are a few examples. With the combined experience already on our volunteer committee, newcomers would be given eager support to flesh out their own ideas of agencies, programs, and causes to help by means of *positive atheism in action* through Minnesota Atheists.

As one of the first members of the internationally supported Foundation Beyond Belief, Minnesota Atheists has been recognized as a leader in volunteerism in the secularist/humanism/atheist community. This year Minnesota Atheists

received the *Heart of Humanism* award by Foundation Beyond Belief for the work we did in 2014. This past April, we were named the Volunteer Team of the Month and we received a grant from the Foundation Beyond Belief to help pay for the food we prepare at the Family Place shelter.

Please consider joining our volunteer leadership team. Please contact me at pres@mnatheists.org or 952-261-8207. Of course, we would love any help you can give, so if being a leader doesn't work for you, consider signing up for one of our community volunteer events on the Minnesota Atheists Meetup site. Your help is truly appreciated by the staff from agencies at which we volunteer and the community they serve.



News and Notes

Government Does Not Have Freedom of Religion By George Francis Kane

The case of Kim Davis, the clerk of Rowan County, Kentucky, refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples dominated church-state separation news in September. Davis is surely a pawn of homophobic bigots who think they can yet stop same-sex marriage with the tactic of claiming a right to supersede the law and public policy with the personal religious convictions of government officials. Kim Davis is an unlikely champion of "biblical marriage;" until same-sex marriage became an issue, she never evinced the slightest concern for it. She has divorced three times, and had twins resulting from an affair during one of her marriages. She credits a 2011 "conversion" to Christianity for her current opposition to same-sex marriage. She was elected to the office of County Clerk in 2014, took office in January of this year and in August announced that she would refuse to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples because their marriages violate her god's law. When she refused court orders to issue the licenses, she was jailed on September 3 for contempt of court.

Davis' lawyer denounced the jailing, asserting that a perfectly reasonable compromise was available: to eliminate the requirement that Davis' name appear on the licenses. That would eliminate the burden on her religious conscience. As soon as Davis was jailed, her staff began issuing the licenses in question. That would seem to fulfill her lawyer's proposed resolution, but Davis announced that she considered the licenses issued without her approval to be invalid. Since the licenses were being issued, U.S. District Judge David Banning ordered her released on September 8, on the condition that she not interfere with the subordinate clerks in her office issuing the licenses. There was a large public rally that celebrated her release, led by candidate for the Republican nomination for the presidency Mike Huckabee. Davis immediately rejected the condition for her release, however, announcing that she would continue to refuse to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, and would invalidate the licenses that her staff had issued.

As we would expect, the religious right portrayed Kim Davis as a champion of religious liberty. They claimed her for

the moral tradition of Dr. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks, as a dissenter from secular law on the basis of god-declared moral precepts. Opponents on the left relegate her instead to the tradition of Governor George Wallace, who used his office as Governor to block the admission of black students to the University of Alabama. The legal situation is, however, best understood in terms of court rulings on school prayer cases.

The courts have long ruled that mandatory prayers in public schools violate the First Amendment prohibition against Establishment of religion. In these cases they have prohibited teacher-led prayer. Teachers have variously asserted a religious-freedom right to proselytize their students, but the courts have ruled that public school teachers are agents of the state. As agents of government they may not use their classroom to promote one religion over any other, or to promote religion over non-religion, regardless of their personal beliefs.

That is the situation in which Kim Davis finds herself. She is employed with a legal requirement to issue marriage licenses in accordance with relevant state and federal law. She may have objections to those laws, which may have consequences to her personal actions. She may herself decline to marry a suitor of the same sex. She may advise people to not marry partners of the same sex. She may not, however, take a government action which violates established law in the furtherance of any religious objective. May an Amish clerk refuse to register automobiles? May a vegan Hindu clerk deny business licenses to restaurants that serve meat? Or refuse to issue fishing licenses? Davis' religious freedom demand dissolves quickly into absurdity. Conservative Christians support Davis only because of the political position that she is taking, and not because of the principle on which she stands.

Cryptogram By George Francis Kane

Em kfccrqirc em yzqmcoqur oqi uodd ye Zmi jok odxohk
Irrq bcrpoefcr, oqi ye crpoyqk bcrpoefcr emioh.

Ykoou Okypma

September Meeting Review

A Hell of an Approach to Church/State Separation

By Nancy Hertz

At the September meeting John Wreisner, from The Satanic Temple spoke about the work his organization has been doing in regards to State and Church Separation. The Satanic Temple started when prayer in schools was being considered. Some outspoken people started talking about the advantage of being able to do Satanic prayers in school if other religions could do prayers. This quickly moved the school boards to decide that prayers were not going to be allowed in the schools. This is how the Satanic Temple began its work to strengthen State/Church separation. The Satanic Temple has an advantage in Church/State issues in that many times the population reacts so strongly against the idea of "Satanists" having any say in things that they will stop the promotion of other religious ideas or materials.

In Florida one school district was allowing the Gideon Society to hand out bibles to students. The Satanic Temple created a coloring book and requested permission to hand it out in the schools. The school district reversed its policy and ended the distribution of all religious material.

The Satanic Temple has also worked to get a Ten Commandments monument removed from an Oklahoma City Court House. They created a monument called Baphomet, with the idea of placing it next to the Ten Commandments monument. After the Satanic Temple applied to put their statue on the grounds the city decided the Ten Commandments needed to go.

Currently the local Temple is working to get a student Satanic Temple student group started in School District 11 (Anoka/Hennepin). They chose this district due to several concerns about the district not protecting the LBGTQ community, allowing religious groups to have more freedoms within the school than others, and a blatant connection between a religious group called the Child Protection League and the school board.

The Satanic Temple is a secular group. They hold no belief in any god or supernatural being or abilities. More information can be found at www.thesatanictemple.com.



John Wreisner

Call for November/December 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. Article length should ideally be 500-1000 words and no more than 2000 words.

Please send submissions to the editor, Jenny Nolan at edito@mnatheists.org by 11:59pm on October 22. All submissions may be edited for style and length.

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

Cable Report By Steve Petersen

James Zimmerman interviewed Eric Jayne, President of Minnesota Atheists, on *The History and Future of the Mr. Paul Aints*. Minnesota Atheists has been a corporate sponsor of one ballgame a year for the Saint Paul Saints, an independent professional baseball team. Jayne gave the history of how the sponsorship came about and how the Saints organization has worked with Minnesota Atheists to help defer costs, to make the game a memorable experience and also to help secular charities for each game.

Have a program idea? Would like to be an interviewer or interviewee? Would like to get some experience of being on the crew behind the scenes? We have opportunities for you! Also, if you would like to see Atheists Talk on your local station, we can work to make that happen. Please contact Steve Petersen at address@mnatheists.org.

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

Podcasts: Programs are available on the MinnesotaAtheists.org website. Access via iTunes and YouTube has been made possible by Grant Hermanson. To date, our channel has had over 134,000 downloads.

Cable Schedule

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: <http://nwct.org/programming.aspx>
Sponsor: 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.



Book Reviews By James Zimmerman

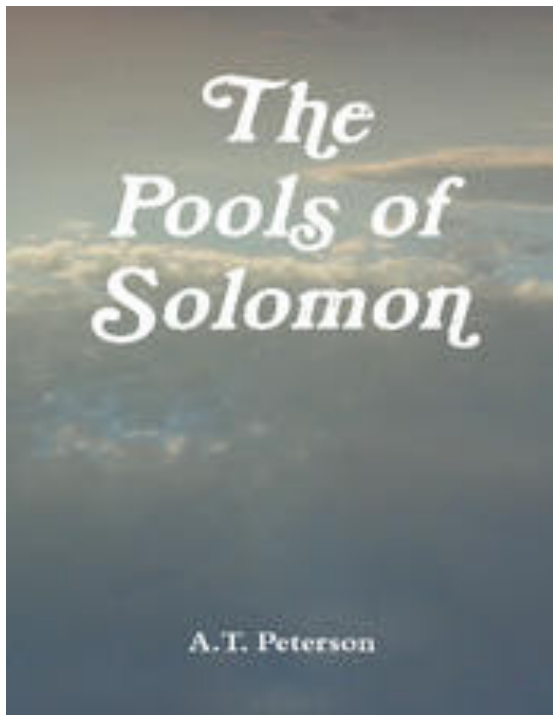
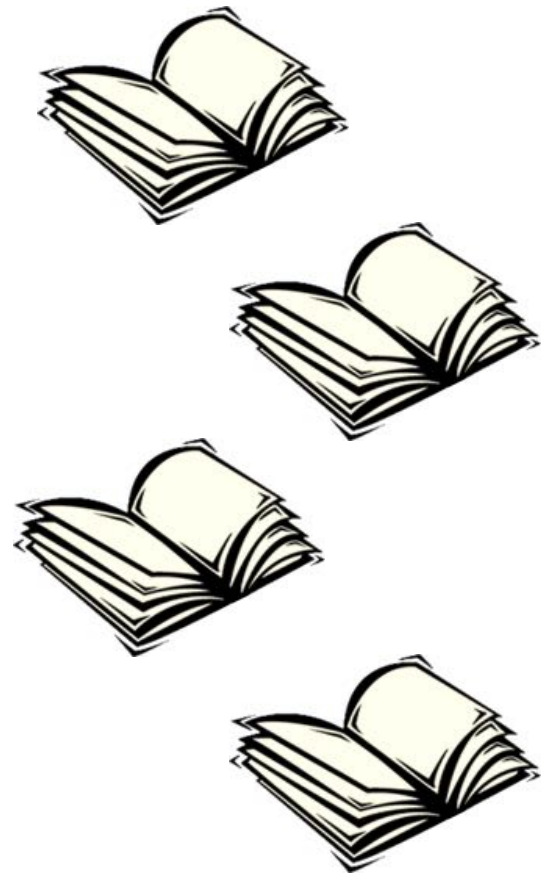
The Pools of Solomon

by A. T. Peterson, 274 pages
Lulu, ©2014

Written by local author A.T. Peterson, *The Pools of Solomon* is a work of fiction following the life of Thornton Klein, a physician working in an Israeli hospital who volunteers his time to provide medical assistance to Palestinians.

Chapters 1 and 2 are essentially an extended prologue introducing us to Klein first as a poor orphan in Arkansas, and then on to medical school in Minnesota, where he meets Galit, a Jewish Israeli whom he eventually marries. Interestingly, the opening pages show us how Klein's ideas and values developed, and how he used both logic and trickery to bring a school bully to his senses to rectify wrongs he had committed. This, in turn, sets up Klein's ideas for uniting the disparate ethnicities vying for space in Jerusalem. Through the course of the book, Klein suffers huge losses, but stays committed to his belief that Israelis and Palestinians can live together peaceably – and the catch of this tale is that Klein isn't above using his deception if it furthers the greater good.

As the plot develops, we are introduced to several characters – Israeli police, ER doctors, Klein's in-laws, and a couple extremists. In time, these secondary characters become major players and by the final third, their stories trump Klein's. Peterson, however, doesn't forget his hero, and Klein's story comes back around, as does a final flashback that ties together



the loose ends. It's a well-conceived plot with – true to the press release – “dynamic characters”.

The book attempts to depict the divide between religious-held beliefs, which often hold that one people has a unique history and science, which shows that all humans have a shared history. Despite being surrounded by devoutly religious people, Klein does not belong to any religion. In fact, he is an atheist. Well, confusingly Klein self-identifies as an agnostic, but backs this up by defining his stance in terms identical to atheism (see page 44).

The Pools of Solomon is self-published, which is a net positive as such a controversial story, especially one with a hero who resorts to unusual measures in his quest for peace, might have been unlikely to find a home with a publishing company. The downside, however, are many typographical errors (most pages have at least one), an over-use of the past perfect tense, and in a couple instances, two chunks of conversations are repeated word-for-word as a character reflects on the earlier conversations.

Nevertheless, *The Pools of Solomon* is a compelling read. Put it on your list for next summer at the beach (that's where I read most of it).

Book Reviews By James Zimmerman

How to Defeat Religion in 10 Easy Steps: A Toolkit for Secular Activists

by Ryan T. Cragun, 200 pages
Pitchstone Publishing, ©2015

In *How to Defeat Religion*, sociology professor Ryan Cragun provides a handbook on what secular activists can do, in his words, “shrink religion to the point that it is marginalized in U.S. society” (page 7).

Of course, some atheists might not want or care to defeat religion. The negative connotations here might have been sidestepped if the title was *How to Promote Secular Values*, or something similar. Nevertheless, Cragun kicks off his short, quick book by defining exactly what he means by “defeat” and drawing a distinction between liberal and fundamental religions. Cragun also proves that religion is neither necessary nor desirable and, therefore, society would be better without it.

The next ten chapters each focus on a single step toward marginalizing religion. Many of the steps build on previous ones. Some are obvious – such as step one, which involves promoting secular education; others are more subtle and require a nuanced look at the strategy to understand how Cragun believes it will lead to a more secularized America (for example, chapter 4 recommends encouraging regulated capitalism). Cragun brings in a variety of sources, from data culled from extensive surveys to personal anecdotes. After explaining each step, the chapters conclude with recommendations of what activists can do to bring about the change. The recommendations are divided into three sections – one each for the individual activist, local freethinking groups, and for national organizations. It’s in this section where

Cragun mentions Minnesota Atheists’ yearly teaming up with the St. Paul Saints as an example of great fun and press for local secular groups (page 92). Some of the ideas Cragun offers are easier than others, and some have more detail provided – such as the four pages dedicated to Cragun’s ideal line-up for an all-secular television channel.

Some of the statements in the book are a bit odd. Cragun indicates that vegetarian and vegan children might be uncomfortable drawing pictures of turkeys during Thanksgiving (page 109), later he pinpoints the alignment between the Republican Party and the religion-right as having occurred only about 40 years ago (page 56), and some readers might be put off by the distinction drawn between intellectuals and nonintellectuals. Though unfortunately lacking an index, the book contains a healthy notes section and bibliography.

Overall, however, the book is an interesting read and a good handbook for secular activists to keep around for ideas on how – if not to defeat religion – then at least to promote secular values. A copy certainly belongs on the shelf of the Minnesota Atheists’ library.

HOW TO DEFEAT RELIGION

IN 10
EASY
STEPS

RYAN T. CRAGUN



Treasury Report By Chris Matthews

Baseball Game Fund	
Chris Matthews	\$500
Art Anderson	\$15
Total Baseball Game Fund	\$515
Radio Fund	
George Kane	\$200
Mike Haubrich	\$60
Rachel Wilson	\$50
Justine Hartz	\$23
Laura Hutt	\$20
Mark Paquette	\$15
Cash at Fifth Sunday Fundraiser	\$230
Total Radio Fund	\$598
General/Visibility Fund	
Michelle Tjernagel	\$60
Joel Bartos	\$5
Cash from Scavenger Hunt	\$120
Cash at Aints game	\$21
Total General/Visibility Fund	\$206
Total Income:	\$1,319
Current Building Fund Total	\$134,358
Top Expenses	
Conference	\$1,405
Radio Show	\$1,025

Secretary Report By Heather Hegi

- The board discussed where we should have the 2016 summer picnics. Should we stay with Wabun Picnic Area as we did this year or go back to Columbia Park as in years past. Considerations were discussed and it was decided that we would like to go back to Columbia Park, so we will suggest that the June and August picnics be there and the Humanists of Minnesota choose for July.
- The status of committees was discussed as a follow up from the Quarterly Business Meeting.
- A Bylaws Committee was created to review and update the Bylaws since areas in need of clarification have been identified, and the bylaws haven't been reviewed for some time. Alyssa volunteered to chair this committee.
- Rejuvenating the Public Relations committee was discussed. This committee needs a chair.
- We need a new Radio Producer as Mike has moved out of state. We have a list of people to ask.
- Rejuvenating the Speakers' Bureau and Education committee/task force was discussed. The idea was to compile and maintain a list of local atheist speakers and topics on which these speakers can present. This has not happened at this point.

Complete meeting minutes are available to dues paying members by contacting Heather at sec@mnatheists.org

Atheists Talk Radio Report By Mike Haubrich

Atheists Talk radio and podcast is a communications service of Minnesota Atheists. Our volunteer producers, hosts, interviewers and contributors are committed to presenting topics of interest to atheists and humanists. Topics include, but are not limited to, general atheism and humanism, separation of church and state, science, gender, race, culture and the arts.

These are the programs we have produced since the last report:

"Food Supply Failure," Emily Cassidy on Atheists Talk #327, August 23, 2015

Emily Cassidy, once active with Minnesota Atheists, now works for the Environmental Working Group. Greg Laden talked to her about the alarming realization that in order to provide enough food for the projected world population of 9 billion people by 2050 we are going to have to make some serious adjustments in how we do agriculture. Also, we need to cut back on meat consumption.

"Climate Consensus," John Abraham on Atheists Talk #328, August 30, 2015

John P Abraham is a physicist who works to counter the climate denialists and provide the facts to defeat the fictions around global warming. Greg Laden interviewed him and they discussed the most current information that we have on how El Nino may (or may not) affect the winter in the coming months. This also was my last program as host of Atheists Talk.

"Skepticon 8," Lauren Lane on Atheists Talk #329, September 13, 2015

Skepticon grew from a student event on campus to the largest atheist and skeptic conference in the U.S. in just a few short years. Co-founder Lauren Lane and her team of volunteers built Skepticon into an atheist Mecca, if you will. With talks, workshops, vendors, and even a Dino Prom, it has become an unprecedented annual gathering of heathens from all over the country and beyond. The free registration and central location don't hurt either.

Minnesota Atheists is the producer and the director is Mike Haubrich with hosts Mike Haubrich, Brianne Bilyeu, Scott Lohman and Stephanie Zvan. In addition, David Pacheco, Maddy Love and Greg Laden conduct interviews. Both Stephanie and Brianne upload podcasts to our web site. The radio program is live every Sunday from 9:00 to 10:00 am at AM950 KTNF studios in Eden Prairie, MN. Live streaming is provided by AM950 KTNF from their web page, <http://www.am950radio.com/listen-live>. 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 <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).

All past programs can be accessed via the Minnesota Atheists web page <http://minnesotatheists.org/news> or on iTunes. If you are interested in helping on the radio program, please send a message to radio@mnatheists.org.



Featured Blogpost

Too Easy, But What the Hell

By Dana Davis, reprinted from <http://angrybychoice.fieldofscience.com/> with permission.



I 'belong' to a 'Creation Evolution Debate' group on Facebook. I joined this group, not because I think there is a debate, there isn't, but because I wanted to see what Creationists thought was debatable. Was kind of hoping to see some thoughtful discussion or potential misconceptions that could be cleared up. Basically all I see is the same old arguments from ignorance that have been dealt with time and time and time again. For example, a set of five questions showed up awhile ago (complete with a geocities-approach to web design.)

1. **How did nothing turn into something?** It didn't. I'm assuming this question is referring to Big Bang Theory, which has nothing to do with evolution and is a problem of physics. I recommend Stephen Hawkings' *A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes* for an answer. I like the sub-heading though, as discussing evolution is banned.
2. **How did life come from non-life?** I don't know. One place you could start to address this question is Freeman Dyson's *Origin of Life*. (Full disclosure, I haven't read it but have read papers on the topic.) Of course the origin of life is not the same as evolution, but what the hell. Regarding the sub-heading, what is the first law of science? Is it conservation of mass? The 1st law of thermodynamics? Neither are relevant here.
3. **How did millions of life forms evolve with absolutely no evidence of major change?** What? I mean really, what? Let's see, I do not look like my cat nor a mushroom, nor a bacterial colony. Isn't that evidence of major change? We have these things called fommits...no that's not right...mossels...no...OH! Fossils!!!! Right. A good place to start reading about this would be Richard Dawkins' *The Ancestor's Tale* or Neil Shubin's *Your Inner Fish*.
4. **How can a watch come into existence without a watchmaker?** It can't. Also, don't mention DNA, because

it's so complex it's beyond the complexity of all computers on earth. That's probably why DNA is used to control computer synthesis machines. Wait that's not right, computers control DNA synthesis machines. I'll go with another Richard Dawkins' book, *The Blind Watchmaker*.

5. **How did thought come from non-thought?** I don't know, but I do not think thought is as super special as our geocities web host. I recommend Steven Pinker's *How the Mind Works* as an excellent starting point. Sub-heading is true, the first thought, if there is such a thing, did not come from an evolutionary biologist since the major tenets of relatively modern evolutionary thinking is only a couple hundred years old.

So I answered all 5 questions! Probably the author is not happy with those answers, but I answered them, so the point of that abomination of a website is shown to be wrong! Oh wait, I'm not an evolutionist (whatever that means), so I guess the questions still stand.

Cryptogram Answer

To surrender to ignorance and call it God has always been premature, and it remains premature today.

Isaac Asimov



Blasphemers' Ball III

Join us on Saturday, November 7th for the third incarnation of our Blasphemer's Ball. Like the previous two, this event will feature the rocking sounds of local atheist bands that are sure to bring out the heathen in you. This time, though, we are bringing the music to the east side of the River to make St. Paul a little less saintly. Keith Lodermeier, former editor of this newsletter, leads the band Fistful of Datas. The evening will also include blasphemous music by Driftwood Pyre and Via, who have recently returned from touring and are ready to take on their hometown again. Minnesota Atheists President Eric Jayne will be on hand to perform debaptisms, the Amsterdam staff will be on hand with a ready supply of food and drinks, and more atheist-themed fun are also in the works for that night.

So please join us at the Amsterdam Bar and Hall, 6 W 6th st., St. Paul – doors open at 8:00pm. This is for 21 and older.

Upcoming Events

Godless Gamers Every Sunday at 2:00pm and Thursday at 6:00pm, Fantasy Flight Games Center, 1975 County Rd B2, Roseville

Atheist/Agnostic Alcoholics Anonymous Every Sunday from 6-7pm and Wednesday from 7-8pm, Health Recovery Center building, lower floor, 3249 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis. Based on A.A. minus beliefs in any form of a God.

Freethought Toastmasters Meeting 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30pm, Larpenteur Estates Party Room, 1280 Larpenteur Ave W, St Paul. freethought.toastmastersclubs.org

Freethinking Females 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm, Claddagh Irish Pub, 7890 Main St N, Maple Grove, and 4th Monday of every month at 7:30pm, Chatterbox Pub, 800 Cleveland Ave S, St. Paul (note two different locations). Shattering the myth that Atheist groups are male dominated with a female's only event.

Volunteer Food Packing 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:00pm, The Food Group, 8501 54th Ave N, New Hope

Blasphemer's Brunch 2nd Saturday of every month at 10:30am, Pizza Lucé, 800 W 66th St, Richfield

Shooting Pool with the Infidels 2nd Saturday of every month at 7:00pm, Dunham's Bar and Grill, 173 Lothenbach Ave, West St Paul

Minnesota Atheists Board Meeting 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm, Amherst H Wilder Foundation, 451 Lexington Pkwy N, St Paul. All Minnesota Atheists members are welcome.

Bowling for Deities Last Saturday of every month at Noon, Memory Lanes, 2520 26th Ave South, Minneapolis

For more events, visit www.meetup.com/minnesota-atheists



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

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.

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.

General Fund \$ _____

Building Fund \$ _____

Radio Fund \$ _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email (required for student memberships and email subscriptions): _____

Minnesota Atheists

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

Minnesota Atheists Affiliates

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 Humanism and Ethical Union, and the Secular Coalition for America.

Minnesota Atheists Membership

Regular members: 206
Life members: 42
Meetup members: 2017

Minnesota Atheists Honorary Members

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



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