

AOF News & Views - Newsletter for April 2016

Upcoming Events

Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

Saturday, April 16, 9:00am - 11:00am

Long ago (July 1995), but *not* in a galaxy far away, Sacramento-area freethinkers "adopted" a two-mile stretch of Highway 99 extending from Elkhorn Boulevard to Elverta Road. Since then we've done a pretty good job cleaning it of litter and debris, and received recognition for this. In fact it's one our more successful civic efforts, and shows freethinkers can serve the community.

So join us! Enjoy a morning commune with nature, and do a deed for the environment and local area wildlife. The refuse we collect would otherwise ultimately be swept by the rain into tributaries, degrading habitat and leading to a slow death for many wetland and water creatures.

And the things you might find ...! Over the years volunteers have recovered many *highly esoteric* items: lacy under garb, erotic equipment, drug paraphernalia, even \$100 bills -- yo, we don't kid, *actual C-notes* littered amid the highway detritus! -- and even stranger things. No, we are too delicate of disposition to say ... we blush, we drop our eyes ... but we promise, surprises await.



The activity captain will provide all safety equipment, including comfortable, natty hard-hats and gloves, stylish safety vests, collection bags, and handy trash pickers. The cleanup takes a scant two hours. Please dress for the season. It may be a good idea to bring a backpack or fanny-pack to carry 3 or 4 trash bags.

Location: Travel north from Sacramento on I-5, past Sleep Train Arena. Take the "Highway 99 - Yuba City, Marysville" exit. Exit at Elkhorn Boulevard less than a mile north. Turn left, cross the overpass. Meet in the park-&-ride lot on your left. **For more info or carpooling, contact:** Don, 916- 447-2169.

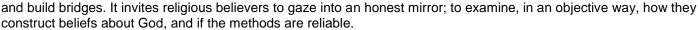
> Anthony Magnabosco - Questioning Believers

Sunday, April 24, 1:00pm - 3:00 pm

From the great state of Texas comes <u>Anthony Magnabosco</u>, an educator, skeptic and agnosticatheist who mission and passion is "street epistemology." What's that? It's a new way to talk to friends, family, co-workers and strangers about deeply-held beliefs.

About philosophy. About politics. And about faith.

See his YouTube Channel for examples (https://www.youtube.com/user/magnabosco210). Anthony evolved the technique over three years, conversing with hundreds of impassioned, earnest believers, honing and polishing a psychology of communication and connection. As introduced in Dr. Peter Boghossian's book A impassioned, earnest believers, honing and polishing a psychology of communication and connection. As introduced in Dr. Peter Boghossian's book A Manual for Creating Atheists, street epistemology helps open doors



You may never argue with religious people again. You might change the world for the better. And who knows, you might find some fallacies lurking in the cobwebbed corners of your mind, too!

As ever, believers are welcome. Come listen to Anthony, schmooze with us, and challenge us. Maybe bring some snacks and beverages for the hospitality table. And if you could, if you would, stuff a ragged old greenback or two into the donation jar. This is how we support Reason Center -- the only Sacramento-area venue dedicated to minds as free as yours!

Location: Reason Center, 1824 Tribute Road, Suite A, Sacramento. For a map, see: https://goo.gl/iVQL8z.

> AOF Directors Meeting

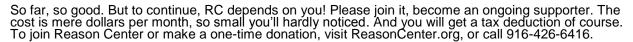
Monday, May 9, 7 pm

We keep inviting you, but really, it's a blast! An AOF planning meeting for directors & officers, but open to *all* our friends and members. Please join us, meet the Board, and ask questions. Bring your ideas for AOF, your strategies, your gripes, your tactics, and your suggestions for events and activities. Most of all bring your wonderful volunteerism. Yes, bring that!

Location: Reason Center, 1824 Tribute Rd, Suite A, Sacramento. Map: https://goo.gl/iVQL8z.

Support the Reason Center

Forgive us, we can't stop talking about Reason Center (RC)! It opened in July 2014 on Tribute Road, and has hosted over 200 freethought events so far, including a wedding. Its mission is to be a freethinkers' safehouse, to foster our community of mind, to contribute to society through education and community service, to advance civic understanding and acceptance of freethinkers, and to uphold a benign separation of religion and government. Also, just to be a place to have fun.





"The purpose of Atheists and Other Freethinkers (AOF) is to promote the civic understanding of atheism and the acceptance of atheists in our community. Through educational programs, projects, and publications, AOF will extend secular perspectives, including the separation of religion and government and the right to think and speak freely on these perspectives."

AOF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit association, FEIN 68-0325762. General Meetings are free and open to the public. AOF also hosts civic service projects, dinners, movie outings, parties! To see what awaits you, visit the website, www.aofonline.org; or contact AOF at our 24/7 voice-mail: 916-447-3589; or scribble a note to PO Box 15182, Sacramento, CA 95851-0182. AOF current (nominal) President is Kristi Craven. Vice-president: Mynga Futrell. And their weary, downtrod team. Help us, please! Editor: Fran Evanisko. He could use help too.

"Satan, Satan! It's the main megafurnace! She's losin' power and the temperature is dropping fast! I'm not sure if I can hold her!"

~ Scotty in Hell

"Life is nasty, brutish and short. Like an elf with bad manners."

"To understand recursion, you must first understand recursion."

[These quotes brought to you by a fear of white space]



Courtesy of Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal, http://www.smbc-comics.com/. Thanks, Zach!