

takes a scant two hours. Please dress for the season. Perhaps bring a backpack or fanny-pack to carry 3 or 4 trash bags.

Location: CalTrans Park-&-Ride lot, W. Elkhorn Blvd, map: <https://goo.gl/maps/tYdW8mBbZc12>

(Travel north from Sacramento on I-5, past the Sleeptrain Arena. Take the "Highway 99 - Yuba City, Marysville" exit. Exit at Elkhorn Boulevard less than a mile north. Turn left, cross the overpass, and the park-&-ride lot will be on your left.)

Contact: 916-447-2169 (Don Knutson), or see the AOF Contact Page (<http://www.aofonline.org/contact.html>).

➤ **Philosophers' Table: Stages of Moral Development**

Sunday April 30, 2017, 12PM – 1PM

When morality emerges, its roots are simple, its twigs are pliable -- "good" is whatever brings food, comfort, sleep, and frequent diaper changes. In other words, it's all self-interest with scant thought of others. Later we grow aware of other minds, we progressively acquire concerns for family, friends, neighbors, the community, and eventually (hopefully) the planet.



Say a retail clerk accidentally undercharges you. What do you do, and why? Be honest now. You ... tell the clerk, keep the money, give it to the homeless person on the corner? Or buy a latte? Where does your action put you on the moral map?

This Philosophers' Table will explore the actions and characteristics that measure *your* compassion for others.

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

AOF Philosophers' Tables are roundtable discussions, free to attend and open to all, believers too.

➤ **Signs and Symbols in Religious Art**

Sunday April 30, 2017, 1PM – 3PM

Traditional religious art is a maze of symbology and allusion. If a person's head appears closer to the bottom of a painting, it means something. If one person's foot covers part of another's, it means something else. At this meeting our artsy authority will help you decode the aesthetic heuristics, so you will no longer feel like a dunce at the art gallery, and maybe even score some sweet brain-points with your less schooled friends. Come to April's mind-expanding presentation. Become wiser.



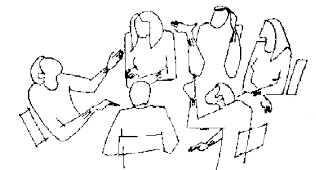
Location: Reason Center, 1824 Tribute Rd, Suite A, Sacto. Map: <https://goo.gl/iVQL8z>.

➤ **Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday May 10, 2017, 7pm – 9pm

An AOF planning meeting for AOF Directors & officers, but open to *all* interested friends and members of AOF. You are welcome to join us, meet the Board, and advise us.

Bring your ideas for AOF, your strategies, your suggestions for events and activities -- most of all, your volunteerism! Helping hands are wonderful.



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



Book Review

A book AOF member Dave Flanders purchased, that is now in paperback that you might like that is available at Barns and Noble bookstore:

A Troublesome Inheritance—Genes, Race and Human History by Nicholas Wade

Back cover review: **A new account of the genetic basis of race and the role of evolution in human history**

Human evolution, conventional wisdom holds, ended long before prehistory began. Convenient as this view may be, new research into the human genome shows it cannot be right. Nicholas Wade, a science reporter for many years with the *New York Times*, cites mounting evidence that humans have continued to evolve up until the present day, giving rise to the various races of humankind and to the variations in social behavior that may help make human societies distinctive. While rejecting unequivocally the notion that there is any superior race, Wade argues that the study of recent evolution holds information critical to the understanding of human societies and history, and that the public interest is best served by pursuing the scientific truth without fear.



When you donate blood...

Please consider donating blood at Sacramento's BloodSource, and use AOF BloodSource ID# **4857** when you do it. Numerous BloodSource Donation Centers exist – find them listed at <http://www.bloodsource.org/Locations>. AOF gets no perks when members donate, but it saves lives, and is good for public relations. And what is be more sweetly Humanistic than donating blood?

Support the Reason Center

Go Reason Center! It opened in July 2014 and is picking up speed. "RC" has hosted well over 200 freethought events, and currently has twelve partner organizations.

Its mission: to support a social and intellectual community for freethinkers, contribute to society through education and community service, advance the civic understanding and acceptance of freethinkers, and uphold the separation of religion and government.

But will it continue? Reason Center needs continued support from members and donors. Please become a Reason Center member, or even make a one-time donation. You'll feel good. Visit the website, ReasonCenter.org, to see how to help.



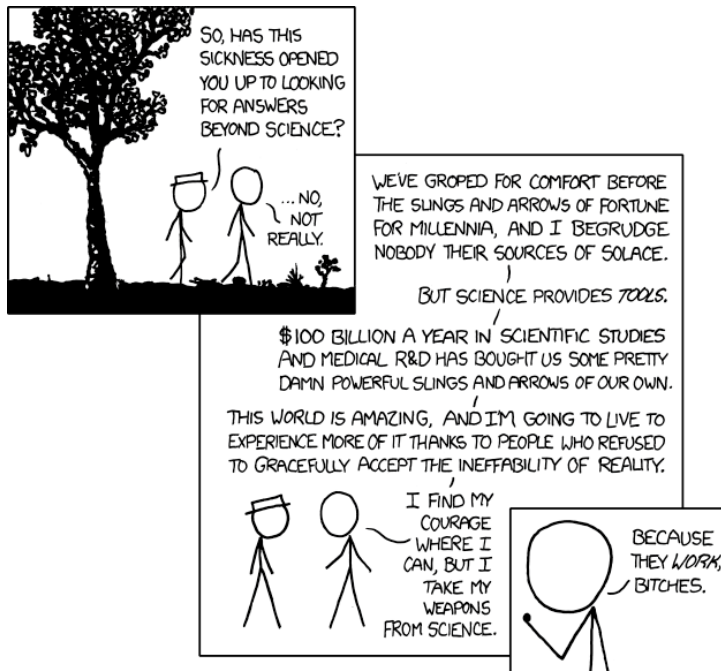
Not a member of Atheists and Other Freethinkers? Join the fun!

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, visit the website, www.aofonline.org; or contact AOF at our 24/7 voice-mail: 916-447-3589; or write to PO Box 15182, Sacramento, CA 95851-0182. Or think hard. We're psychic.

AOF President: Brad Clark. Vice-president: Mynga Futrell. Editor: Fran Evanisko. And all the rest, here on the isle.

"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."

<h2>Subscription / Membership Form</h2> <p><i>Mail to: AOF, PO Box 15182, Sacramento CA 95851-0182 (Attn: Membership)</i></p>	
Name(s) _____	Phone: _____
Street _____	Apt. # _____
City _____	State _____ ZIP + 4 _____
E-mail address (please print!) _____	
<i>E-mail is required for newsletter delivery.</i>	
Questions, concerns? Call AOF, 916-304-3796.	
Your Membership Level (annual, please circle): Patron (\$50) Family (\$30) Individual (\$20) Low-income (\$10)	<input type="checkbox"/> Please check here if you do NOT want your name on lists occasionally provided to groups similar to AOF.
Basic Dues : \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Please check here if you DO want to be an AOF Activist (e-mail address required).
Additional Donation : \$ _____	
Total enclosed : \$ _____	
<i>AOF is a 501(c)(3) Educational Association, EIN 68-0325762. Dues & Donations are tax-deductible as permitted by law. Non-members may receive the AOF Newsletter for free on request (email only).</i>	



Thanks again to xkcd.com