

If you missed the **25th Annual Sacramento Darwin Day Birthday gala** on Feb 6, 2022 (*tsk*), you can see it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZ0bBoAbmUo&t=409s>. The event, about one and half hours of glorious science, included a visit from Mr. Charles Darwin himself – a reasonable facsimile at least. Enjoy it!

✧ ✧ Upcoming AOF Events ✧ ✧

➤ Free Movie Nights

Friday, Mar 4 and Mar 18, 7pm – 10pm

Twice a month, [Reason Center](#) (RC) and AOF host a **Free Movie Night** under a [MPLC License](#). It prohibits us from saying the movie title, but we can hint.

On Mar 4 it's a swoony romantic comedy from 2018, where two overworked assistants trick their bosses into falling in love to give themselves a break, and of course things go sideways. Rated 92% on the Rotten Tomato meter (that's good). On Mar 18 – who knows? Suggestions, please!

To attend, you'll need a personal Netflix account + a laptop or desktop 'puter with the [Google Chrome web browser](#). If you don't have these, please be patient until we have a physical movie venue again. Else, here's how to join us:

1. Open your Chrome web browser right now and install the Netflix TeleParty Extension. Get it at: <https://www.netflixparty.com/>. (Really, do this *now*, don't wait till movie night!)
2. Five minutes before show time, fire up the Chrome browser again and go to the very special Netflix Movie TeleParty link, which will appear on the [AOF Events Calendar](#) about then.
3. **Click that link.** The Movie TeleParty page will open. Log into Netflix (if not logged in already). At the top right of the browser frame check your "Extensions" list. Find the letters **Tp** in red. You may need to click the letters.
4. The Netflix movie party should then begin. You'll be watching it along with the rest of us. As it plays we can chat on the side of the screen and make silly, snarky comments.

Free Movie Night was made for Reason Center members, but non-members are welcome too. How can you become a Reason Center member? Sign up at <http://reasoncenter.com/donate/>. Membership is a measly \$5 a month and is tax deductible if you itemize. And the perks (like this one) will make you swoon.

Location: A Netflix TeleParty link, see above.

Contact: See <http://reasoncenter.com/contact>, or email "programs (at) aofonline (dot) org".

More details for Feb 4: <https://www.meetup.com/SacFAN/events/dtmjqsycfbgb/>

More details for Feb 18: <https://www.meetup.com/SacFAN/events/zsmjqsycfbxb/>



➤ Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

Saturday, Mar 5, 2022, 9am - 11am

From Elkhorn Boulevard to Elverta Road runs a two-mile stretch of Highway 99 - *our* stretch. Sac-area freethinkers "adopted" it in July 1995. It's tidy because we have cared for it, nurtured it, lovingly rescued it from litter and debris, and received recognition for our work. As one of our more successful civic efforts, it proves freethinkers can also serve the community. **And CalTrans will pay us for our help!**

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 and into the ocean, degrading habitat, and leading to a slow death for many sea creatures.

As usual, the stalwart 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.

To get there, 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. Park in the park-&-ride lot if possible, else somewhere on Elkhorn Blvd near it.



Location: Near W. Elkhorn Blvd & Hwy 99, see map at <https://goo.gl/maps/zw3Rwct9yR52>.

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

Notes: In case of rain, fog, excessive mud, rapture or locust plague, the Cleanup will be rescheduled; if unsure, call the Activity Captain (Don). *This is a great event for older children, put please leave smalls safe at home.* And please review the CalTrans Highway Cleanup guidelines at <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/maintenance/adopt-a-highway/covid19>.

➤ AOF Planning Meeting

Tuesday, Mar 8, 2022, 7pm – 8pm

It's an AOF planning meeting, mainly for AOF directors & officers but open to all. These happen as required, and are more fun than they sound.

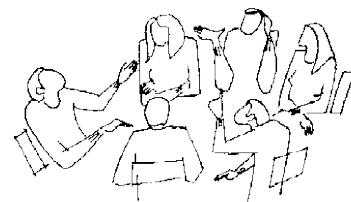
Join us, meet the Board, and keep an eye on the shenanigans. We love visitors. We have drinks & snacks & stuff. And maybe you'll have some good ideas.

Note, this will be an actual in-person meeting, so be sure your vaccinations are current, or wear a mask. Also the home has cats, so please do not be allergic.

Location: Home, Ken Nahigian & Ruth Rezos, 9570 Harvest View Way, see <https://goo.gl/maps/e2s3igXYVcif47Q67>.

Contact: ph 916-366-7061 or see <https://www.aofonline.org/contact.html>.

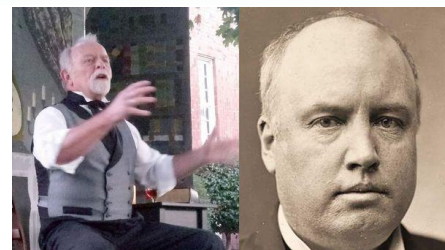
Bring your ideas for AOF, your strategies, your suggestions for events and activities -- most of all, your volunteerism. Helping hands are wonderful.



➤ “Bob” – Robert Ingersoll Speaks

Sunday, Mar 27, 2022, 2pm – 4pm

[Sean O'Brien](#), performance artist and drama maven, will regale us with a new take on the life of [Robert Green Ingersoll](#). You know Ingersoll, of course -- if not, present your hand while we find the ruler. The most eloquent 19th Century freethinker, "RGI" was America's top orator in a day when public speaking was a bog of mediocrity where carbon minds floated in a sluice of their own making. In other words, he was the envoy, the radical, the bleeding edge of freethought; and he often bled for it. You won't want to miss this one-man show. Get a Sharpie and mark your calendar.



Our performer, Sean O'Brien, provided this background:

I chose “Bob” as the title of my show because Ingersoll was, in his time, warmly referenced by that appellation. And, apart from his agnosticism, he was well known for his dedication to “hearth and home” and the warmth of his family life was the single thing that so frustrated the clergy in their attempts to attack the man and not the idea, which has so often been the tack of religious bigotry and it’s response to rational argument. At present, “Bob”, is a compilation of Ingersoll’s speeches from which I have edited what I believe are his most compelling arguments; however, I am working on expanding my one-man show into a much larger two act drama with multiple characters for the stage.

Since I retired from teaching and directing Theater Arts in secondary schools from New York City,, Virginia, Montana and California, I have focused on my own performance in local theaters, such as: Big Idea Theatre Company, the Sacramento and Davis Shakespeare Festivals, Chautauqua Theatre and The Art Theatre of Davis. I perform “The Portable Poe Show” in the public schools when they are open and “Bob” for regional humanist and free thought associations. I also have a singing and guitar act that I perform in Old Sacramento during tourist season and pubs when we are not in the throes of a pandemic.

This is an in-person event. See location below.

Location: Sam's Hofbrau meeting room, 2500 Watt Ave, map at <https://goo.gl/maps/Sf8o8QKV1WcDQcFQA>.

Contact: See <https://www.aofonline.org/contact.html>.

Park free in the lot. Get some snacks, and meet in the private room at the back. Sac County mask requirements, currently in flux, may apply (see <https://dhs.saccounty.net/PUB/Documents/ME-HealthOrder20210729.pdf>).

➤ Davis Community Meal - Feed the Hungry

Tuesday, Mar 29, 2022, 4pm – 7pm

The **Davis Community Meal** serves full meals to the hungry, the poor, the indigent, the outcast. It happens in bucolic Davis city, so near to us, where compassionate citizens have developed a secular solution for the problem of hunger, and have asked for help.

Join us in this effort. Your reward will be an opportunity to meet new minds and hobnob with your freethought friends, a likely free meal, jazzy music, and the rosy hearts-glow of benevolence. Also, seriously, it's a blast!

Cooking? None required. The Davis Community Meals team will perform all the food prep and kitchen work. Our job is simply to set up chairs & tables, serve, put things away at the



end, and clean a bit (with a minimum of mopping). Extra points if you can arrive for setup, but if you can't, that's OK, any help is good help. Setup begins 4:30 p.m., food service at about 5:45. At 6:30 we clean up, leaving the hall as we found it.

For details, please see <http://daviscommunitymeals.org/>.

Location: St. Martin's Episcopal Church hall, 640 Hawthorne Lane, Davis, map at <https://goo.gl/maps/QKG8Ui2NdVVYdTrV9>. (Yes, a church hall, so what?)

Contact: Call Service Coordinator (Don, 916-447-2169), or see <https://www.aofonline.org/contact.html>. *Carpooling may be available. For info, please contact the Service Project Coordinator.*

You want to help? Here's how.

Support Reason Center

Remember Reason Center? Opening in July 2014, it hosted hundreds of events and had twelve partner organizations. Creating a social and intellectual community for freethinkers, it contributed to society through education and community service, advanced the civic understanding and acceptance of folk like us, and upheld the separation of religion and government. Then, in November 2020, it closed. Will "RC" ever return? That depends on your support. Please stand up for Reason Center as it stood up for you. To donate or join, visit ReasonCenter.org.

Support AOF

You can support AOF *without spending a dime*. How? When you purchase goods at Amazon.com, simply use this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/68-0325762>. Bookmark it now! Prices & service will be the same, but AOF will receive a small kickback for whatever you purchase. Sweet!

Suggest a Meeting

Have a speaker or meeting idea? Tell our Program Committee! Go to <http://www.aofonline.org/contact.html>, click "Program Committee" in the drop-down line, and enter your suggestion. (AOF pays reasonable honorariums to speakers.)

Volunteer?

Uh, yeah. We suggest it meekly. See <http://www.aofonline.org/learn/committees.html> for opportunities.

✧ ✧ **Secular Holidays** ✧ ✧

➤ **International Women's Day**

Tuesday, Mar 8, 2022

International Women's Day (IWD), an international celebration, honors the social, economic, and political achievements made by women everywhere.

This secular holiday dates back to the early 1900's, a time of turbulent growth in the industrialized world that saw growing demands for women to have the right to vote. Among other relevant historical events, it commemorates the "Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire" on March 25, 1911 in New York City, where over 140 women lost their lives.

Born from the socialist and labor movements, International Women's Day has grown to become a global day of recognition and celebration across developed and developing countries alike. Promoted by the United Nations since 1975, International Women's Day is, in the words of the UN, "a day when women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political. It is an occasion for looking back on past struggles and accomplishments, and more importantly, for looking ahead to the untapped potential and opportunities that await future generations of women."

For decades, IWD has increased in strength annually. Women's organizations and governments around the world have celebrated IWD annually on the 8th of March by holding large-scale events that honor women's progress and highlight areas where women's rights still need to be advanced.

IWD is an occasion that can be celebrated by all community groups that believe women's rights are human rights.

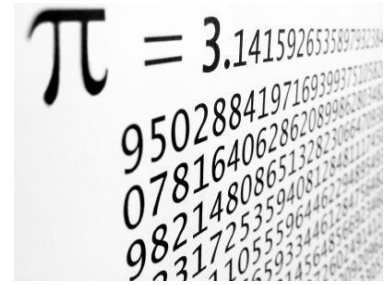
Each year on March 8, hundreds of International Women's Day events occur all around the world. IWD events range from small random informal gatherings to large-scale highly organized events. All celebrate women's advancement and highlight the need for continued vigilance and action. The day is about honoring all women and their accomplishments, this can be done by taking part in a large organized activity or by simply honoring the women in one's life with flowers, a small gift, or even a thank you.



➤ Pi Day

Monday, Mar 14, 2022

Pi, Greek letter (π), is the symbol for the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. **$\pi = 3.1415926535...$** (This is *pi* to just ten decimal places; it is an irrational number, meaning the digits continue *infinitely* without repeating.) Math fans around the world celebrate Pi Day on March 14th, i.e. 3/14 in the American dating convention, since the first three digits of PI are 3.14 (Mar 14 also happens to be Albert Einstein's birthday). "Pi Moment" occurs on that day just before 3:10 pm (i.e., 15:9:26.5).



The San Francisco Exploratorium celebrated the first **Pi Day** in 1988, with staff and public marching around one of its circular spaces, and then consuming fruit pies. Since then, the museum has added pizza pies to its Pi Day menu. The founder of Pi Day, the "Prince of Pi," is Larry Shaw, now retired from the Exploratorium, but still helping with the celebrations. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology often mails out its acceptance letters to be delivered to prospective students on Pi Day.

Celebrate Pi Day by doing anything to get students interested in mathematics. Teachers can organize many unique activities for students to generate interest. It is also used to inform students as well as the rest of the public about Pi, its history and applications. Pi Day parties in math and science classes are common, utilizing different types of pies, all the while teaching students about Pi.

➤ Freedom of Information Day

Wednesday, Mar 16, 2022

Freedom of Information (FOI) Day is an annual event on March 16, the birthday of James Madison, widely regarded as the Father of the Constitution and a foremost advocate for openness in government.



On this day, the [American Library Association](#) presents the James Madison Award and the Eileen Cooke State & Local Madison Award to recognize those individuals or groups that have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's right to know.

The **James Madison Award** – Named for President James Madison, the award was established in 1986 and is presented annually on the anniversary of his birth. That award is designed to celebrate an individual or group that has brought awareness to these issues at the national level.

The **Eileen Cooke State & Local Madison Award** – Named for Eileen Cooke, former director of the ALA's Washington Office, this award honors an extraordinary leader who has built local grassroots awareness of the importance of access to information. Cooke herself was a tireless advocate for the public's right to know and a mentor to many librarians and trustees.

➤ Sunshine Week

Monday, Mar 13 to Saturday, Mar 19, 2022

Sunshine Week includes Freedom of Information Day (March 16), the birthday of James Madison, and runs through that calendar week. Madison was the principal author of the US Constitution and the Bill of Rights which guarantee the rights of citizens. So Sunshine Week stands as a national initiative to open discussions about the important or open government and the freedom of information.



Sunshine Week dates back to 2002 when the Florida Society of Newspaper Editors launched Sunshine Sunday in response to efforts by some Florida legislators to create new exemptions to the state's public records law. After Florida's initiation on this topic, other states followed its course. The American Society of Newspaper Editors launched Sunshine Week in March 2005. It has become an annual event.

Sunshine Week is not restricted to journalists. Anyone can be involved: students, teachers, bloggers, private citizens, public officials and non-profit groups. The only requirement is to engage in a public discussion either small or large about the importance of open government. A discussion can take many forms: a large public forum, a classroom discussion, an article or an editorial. The idea of participation is not about how much, but about actually being involved.

To participate in Sunshine Week, contact the [state or regional coordinators](#) for your area. Examples of the myriad ways journalists, students, lawmakers and public groups marked Sunshine Week in 2005 and 2006 are collected in "[Bright Ideas for Sunshine Week 2007](#)" and "[Bright Ideas for Sunshine Week 2006](#)".

➤ Equinox (March)

Sunday, Mar 20, 2022

The **March Equinox** is one of two days in the calendar year when day and night hours are nearly equal; in the northern hemisphere, it is also the first day of spring (Gregorian calendar).

Annual seasons exist because of two planetary occurrences:

- 1) A 23.5° tilt of the earth's axis, which makes the earth rotate like a gyroscope, so it points continuously in a fixed direction-toward the area of space near the North Star;
- 2) the earth continuously revolves around the sun in an elliptical orbit-once every 365.25 of our solar days.

So for half of the year the Southern Hemisphere has more sun than the Northern Hemisphere, and for the other half of the year the reverse is true. At noontime in the Northern Hemisphere the sun appears highest in the sky during summer and lowest in the sky during winter.

The Vernal (Spring) Equinox is almost exactly halfway between the winter and summer solstices, and in the sky the sun appears about midway between its highest and lowest points. It is one of the two times during the year when day and night are almost exactly 12 hours long, and very close to being equal to one another. The other day is the Autumnal Equinox, which usually falls on or near the first day of autumn (September 22-23 northern hemisphere / March 20-21 southern) in the Gregorian calendar.

The First Day of Spring has been a time of celebration throughout recorded Western history. Most ancient Mediterranean Pagan religions had some sort of festival at or around the time of the Vernal Equinox. The celebrations were a way to rejoice in the rebirth of nature and to ritually act out this seasonal change, from the symbolic death of the earth in winter to its resurrection through the budding and blooming that came after the equinox. Many of these religions had stories of a man-god, born of a virgin, who was killed and reborn at this time each year, and this day was often connected to the worship of many fertility goddesses with such names as Ostara, Astarte, Eostre, Ishtar, and Ostra. The name for the modern Christian Easter holiday originated from these spring celebrations.

In every culture the Vernal Equinox signals the return of weather that favors our ability to grow agricultural crops, and for this reason we have associated it with the "rebirth" of our ability to perpetuate ourselves. It is understandable why we have chosen to celebrate such a momentous occasion, and why it has come to represent "rebirth" in a variety of contexts. For freethinkers the Vernal Equinox is a great time to celebrate the rebirth of Western art, philosophy, and culture with secular themes after centuries of religious domination. It is also a perfect day to celebrate the accomplishments of intellect, reason, and logic, and a time to renew connections to our intellectual past as well as renew promises to continue striving to enlighten and improve the human condition.

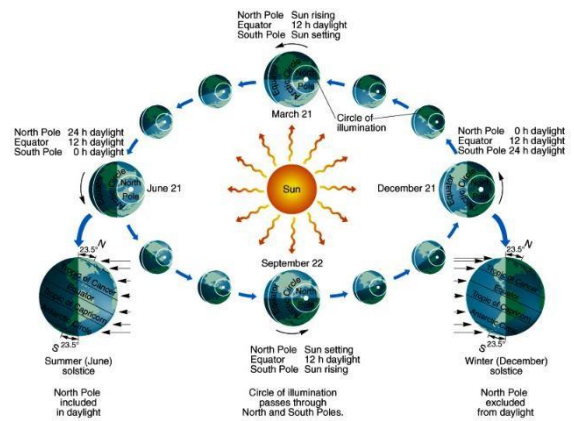
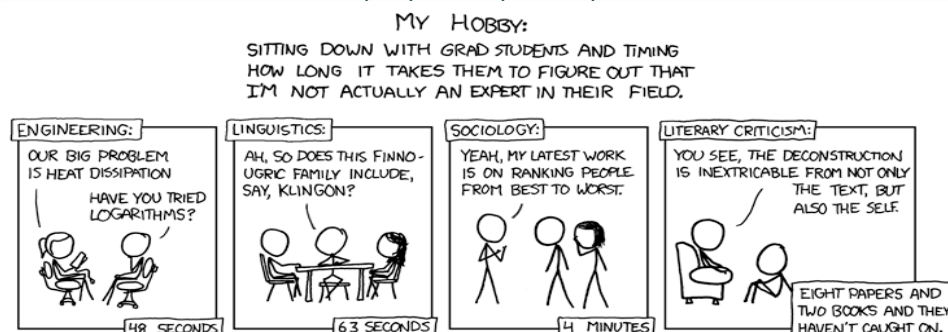
Another secular holiday to celebrate around this time, and as an alternative to Easter, is the [Excitement of Life Week](#).

➤ **Atheist Coming-out Day** **Wednesday, Mar 23, 2022**

[Atheist Day or Atheist Coming-Out Day](#) is a new secular holiday declared in 2019 by the [Freedom From Religion Foundation](#) in partnership with the [Atheist Republic](#). According to the declaration:

We atheists and atheist allies hereby declare that from now on, March 23rd is Atheist Day. We recognize the struggle of atheists to live authentic lives in many parts of the world. The struggle to openly affirm one's atheism. The fear of intolerant governments, mobs, and religious zealots.

On March 23rd we shall take a stand for our right to be treated equal and for those of us in countries where atheists are persecuted and under a threat of death. From every city in every country in the world we shall be one voice, a voice of reason.



Special event, March 12, 1pm:
Katherine Stewart - In Person!



"Inside the Dangerous Rise of Religious Nationalism"

For too long the Religious Right has masqueraded as a social movement preoccupied with a number of cultural issues, such as abortion and same-sex marriage. In her deeply reported investigation, *The Power Worshippers*, Katherine Stewart reveals a disturbing truth: this is a political movement that seeks to gain power and impose its vision on all of society. America's religious nationalists aren't just fighting a culture war. They are waging a political war on the norms and institutions of American democracy.

Stewart pulls back the curtain on the inner workings and leading personalities and of a movement that is exploiting religion for domination. She exposes a dense network of think tanks, legal advocacy groups, policy groups, networking groups, legislative initiatives, a vast messaging sphere, and others, united by a common will to political power.

Katherine will discuss some of the preconditions that led to the January 6th insurrection at the Capitol, as well as her latest research on the movement's current developments.

Ms. Stewart is author of "The Power Worshippers: Inside the Dangerous Rise of Religious Nationalism", and "The Good News Club".

A FREE EVENT! But seating is limited. Sign up early!

Location: Martha Riley Community Library, 1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd, Roseville; see <https://goo.gl/maps/zHXP8oTufnfHQ9Av5>.

Sponsored by the Greater Sacramento Chapter of Freedom From Religion Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation. To join the chapter, just join FFRF.org/join, and let us know you did! (See Sac.FFRF.org). Questions, email Sac@FFRF.org. See you there!

COVID-19 safety measures

Event will be indoors

Please follow CDC recommendations for vaccinations and masks, except when eating. Safety measures instituted by event host. Meetup is not responsible for ensuring that precautions are followed.

To sign up for this event, click **Attend** at <https://www.meetup.com/ReasonCenterEvents/events/283706969/> or simply email Sac@FFRF.org.



Not yet an AOF member? Please join us!

Atheists and Other Freethinkers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit association, FEIN 68-0325762, incorporated in 1993. Meetings are free and open to the public. AOF also hosts civic service projects, dinners, movies and parties! See what awaits you at www.aofonline.org.

AOF President: Prolific Pamella Rivers
Vice-president: Marvelous Mynga Futrell
Secretary: Rapid Ruth Rezos
Treasurer & Registrar: Kinetic Ken Nahigian
Webmistress: Palpable Pat Kelley
Program chair: Super Susan McLean
Facebook page: Keen Kaeleigh Pontif
Directors at large:

Roger Zabkie, Fran Evanisko, Christine Tweet,
Rae Howard, Kaeleigh Pontif

How to Contact AOF:

- Call 916-304-3796 (voicemail)
 - Or write to PO Box 15182, Sacramento, CA 95851-0182
- Or visit <http://www.aofonline.org/contact> to e-message us

How to Join AOF:

Visit <http://www.aofonline.org/join>, or come to a meeting. We have forms.

AOF's Facebook pages (two of them):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1525411971087089/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Atheists-and-Other-Freethinkers-AOF-104763721971742>

AOF Mission Statement:

"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."

What is a Freethinker? One striving to form opinions of life, religion, politics and philosophy on the grounds of reason and experience, rather than tradition, authority or custom. He or she need not be an atheist, though in a religious society most atheists do tend to be freethinkers.

AOF supports a benign separation of Church and State as the best means to protect the liberty and intellectual commerce of citizens. "... to keep forever from these shores the ceaseless strife that has soaked the soil of Europe in blood for centuries" (James Madison, 1803).

Our vision: to be a venue where secular and unchurched citizens can socialize, dialog, develop friendships and enjoy shared company. AOF does not discriminate on such grounds as race, sexual orientation, age, gender, class, physical debility or (*cough*) religion. We welcome the fair-minded of all political persuasions and preferences. Be respectful, and you may join.

Donations to AOF are tax deductible, and the newsletter is free by email. Please share with sympathetic friends.

Letters, submissions? We love them! See: <http://www.aofonline.org/read/submission-guide.html>.

A Special Announcement from Emmett Fields (bowemmett@gmail.com):

Several hundred sets of the E. Haldeman-Julius Big Blue Books and Little Blue Books are now, for a very limited time, available to Universities, Libraries and scholars free for the price of shipping. Institutions and Scholars can contact Prof. Fred Whitehead, email fredwh@swbell.net with shipping address and qualifying statement – are you a Library or Scholar, etc. Available sets will be sent in order of importance; Universities first.

This is the Bob Black collection of thousands of books; Bob has died and the building is being sold. Those interested in the remainders after the sets have been shipped, please contact Fred.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E._Haldeman-Julius

✧ ✧ **Other Upcoming (non-AOF) Events** ✧ ✧

Sorry to cop out. But due to a pandemic of too-much-news-this-month, please visit these event calendars to learn of other goings-on in the area (because freethought in Sacramento is more than just AOF):

- Reason Center calendar, <https://www.meetup.com/ReasonCenterEvents/events/calendar/>
- Sacramento Freethinkers, Atheists and Nonbelievers, <https://www.meetup.com/SacFAN/events/calendar/>
- Black Humanists of Sacramento, <https://www.meetup.com/bhnb-sacramento/events/calendar/>
- Recovery from Religion Sacramento, <https://www.meetup.com/RfR-Sacramento-CA/events/calendar/>
- Sacramento Skeptics, <https://www.meetup.com/sacskeptics/events/calendar/>
- Sacramento Brights Action Meetup, <https://www.meetup.com/Brights-Action-Sacramento/events/calendar/>
- Sacramento Politics & Philosophy Meetup, <https://www.meetup.com/Sacramento-Politics-and-Philosophy-Group/events/calendar/>



For the first time, fewer than half of Americans Believe

Data from the General Social Survey plots the rise of a more secular nation

From <https://thewhyaxis.substack.com/p/for-the-first-time-fewer-than-half>

Back in 1993, two-thirds of American adults told pollsters from the General Social Survey they “know God really exists” and had “no doubts about it.” As recently as 2008 this certainty of belief in God topped 60 percent.

But during the 2010s faith in a higher power eroded at an unprecedented rate. By 2016 the share of confident believers had fallen to 57 percent. And by 2021 — the most recent year with available data — unwavering faith fell below 50 percent for the first time.

(Technically, it dropped to 49.7 percent. Given margins of error with survey data like this, you typically shouldn’t go out to decimal points, as that implies a level of precision that isn’t really warranted by the data. But “fewer than half” makes for a much more dramatic headline, so it’s what I’m going with today. I’ve got a family to feed, etc.)

It’s likely not a coincidence that a growing movement on the Right is seeking to remake America as a Christian nation at a time when staunch believers are becoming a minority.

Faith in a higher power is declining most rapidly among the young. Among 18 to 34-year-olds, the share with no doubt in the existence of God fell from 64 percent in 1993 to 38 percent in 2021. That current generation of doubt and disbelief will settle down and form families of their own, raising children who never set foot in a traditional church, virtually guaranteeing further erosion of belief in the coming decades.

Declining belief is also concentrated primarily on the left, and to a lesser extent among political independents. Unwavering faith among Democrats fell from a high of 69 percent (nice) in 2000 to 39 percent in 2021. Republican faith, on the other hand, hasn’t changed much — it stood at 74 percent in 1998, compared to 66 percent today.

