

AOF News & Views

Sacramento, California

December 2011

Special Points of Interest

Freethought Day 2011 in Pictures (pages 1, 3-7)

Sunday, December 18,
12:00-4:00 p.m.

Solstice/HumanLight Party at Sierra 2



Once again Sac-area humanists and freethinkers will join hands to mark the year's turn. This is our annual, traditional, wowiekawozie joint celebration of the Winter Solstice and the HumanLight secular holiday. Festivities will include music, camaradie, reverie, gobs of food, a raffle of valuable prizes (the raffle pays for the hall), and a charity food drive. Your party organizers are Wendy Hoffspiegel and Tom Ikelman.

As usual it is free and open to all, friends welcome. Simply bring something edible to share, well-presented; your own favorite beverage; and if you will, please, a canned or packaged food item for the River City Food Bank and/or a can or packet of pet food for the Sacramento Pet Food Bank (aka Titanic's Pantry). We will deliver the food, and you will be a secular saint.

Most of all we'd love to share in your talents, your wit, your electric spark of intellect. If you have a favorite poem, a reading, a skit, a joke, a monologue, piece of music -- if you juggle, play an instrument, sing, perform, do tricks -- then *first*, let the coordinators know via the email address below. If they like your idea, practice it, bring it, be ready to awe us. (But um, no fire-spinning,

(Continued on page 3)

FTD 2011 in Pictures By the FTD Committee

Sacramento Freethought Day is over, and we would like to thank all of our guests, speakers, and volunteers.

Now what? Mark your calendar for **October 13 and 14, 2012!**

See all the photos and more at FreethoughtDay.org.



At the Freethought Day reception, David Diskin presents Mynga Futrell with a plaque for 10 years of service.

Standard Fare

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| AOF Line | 2 |
| Membership Form | 6 |
| AOF Upcoming Events | 8 |

AOF Line

By President Jerry Sloan

In accordance with our bylaws with a quorum present, elections for the Board of Directors were held at our general meeting on November 13, 2011.

I am pleased to announce Kristi Craven, Mynga Futrell, Mario Sandri, Vincent Wales and myself were returned to the board.

Joining us are two former board members, David Flanders and our hard working treasurer Ken Nahigian.

Vincent Wales will serve as president of AOF for 2012.

Julian Stanley will continue as our secretary who will record all of board meetings and keep us in line for our previous actions.

The 2012 board has its work cut out for it to see AOF survives as a viable organization.

It was explained to those attending the 2011 board has voted to start having quarterly general meetings. The reasoning being that we can attract higher profile speakers and by saving on monthly room rent we can afford to pay a modest honorarium.

In the off months the board will try to have some social events planned where we can gather and get to know one another a little better.

Because of the move to the quarterly meetings it has been decided the newsletter will be reduced in size during the off months and will contain mostly announcements about regional activities. There will be a large newsletter preceding the quarterly meetings.

Some may think these are radical moves but they are necessary if this organization is to survive.

I hope we will see all of our members at the Human Light (Solstice) celebration on December 18, 2011 which will be held in Curtis Hall (the building next to room 10). It should be a fun time with food, a raffle and entertainment.

This is a celebration for the entire non-believing community of Sacramento.

Take Care . . . We will once again survive Christmas.

AOF Board (2011)

President: Jerry Sloan

Vice President: Mynga Futrell

Secretary: Jillian Stanley

Treasurer: Ken Nahigian

Directors at large: Kristi Craven, Mynga Futrell, Peggy Lucas, Mario Sandri, Jerry Sloan, Jillian Stanley, Vincent Wales

AOF Standing Committees

All AOF members are urged to volunteer in the organization. There are openings in every committee listed here. Please contact the chair or coordinator of any area of interest to you to learn details of getting involved. We would love to have your participation! Phone AOF 916-447-3589 or e-mail aofboard@aofonline.org for direct contact to relevant personnel.

Building / Reason House Committee

Vacant, Chair

Paul Geisert, Mynga Futrell, Mario Sandri

Freethought Day 2012: Date to-be-announced

Vacant, Chair. (Save the date! – It's a celebration of reason and church/state separation)

Darwin Day 2012: Date to-be-announced

Mynga Futrell and Bronda Silva, Co-Chairs

(Save the date! – It's a celebration of science and humanity)

*The purpose of the organization,
AOF, is to promote the civic
understanding and acceptance of
atheists in our community.*

AOF Voluntariat

Affiliation Liaisons

Mynga Futrell, Atheists Alliance International (AAI), <http://atheistalliance.org/>

Jerry Sloan, American Atheists (AA), <http://atheists.org/>

Jerry Sloan, American Humanist Association (AHA), <http://americanhumanist.org/>

Jerry Sloan, Council for Secular Humanism (CSH), <http://secularhumanism.org/>

AOF News Team

Newsletter Editor: Kevin Schultz

Postmaster: Jerry Sloan

Webpeoples: Pat Kelley (Webmistress); Ken Nahigian (Deputy Webmaster)

ISSN: 1936-4229

AOF BloodSource ID#: 4857

AOF Federal Tax ID#: 68-0325762

AOF Voice Mail: 916-447-3589



Peggy Lucas and Kay Dickey (miss you Kay!)



Tom Ikelman and Wendy Hoffspiegel



The elegant home of Susan Vergne



Dan Barker entertained

(Continued from page 1)
please.)

The Raffle. Prizes collected so far include two tickets to the 2012 Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland (value: \$100), a Hoppy's Restaurant gift card, and a miscellany of knickknacks. If you have an item to donate to the raffle, please contact the organizer -- see contact data below.

Party enthusiasts may come to the hall a bit early to get things ready or help decorate. Otherwise noon is best. For a map to the site, click [here](#).

Location : Curtis Hall, Sierra 2 Community Center, 2791 24th Street, Sacramento

More information : 916-447-3589, or see page two of this newsletter.

Curtis Hall is on the south end of the Sierra 2 center. Note, **the hall kitchen has no cooking facilities**, so bring crock pots, hot plates & such for your food.

Like to volunteer or help set up?
Contact: wendynj5@yahoo.com .

Atheists and Other Freethinkers



AOF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization. It is one of 50 member societies of the **Atheist Alliance International** ("a positive voice for atheism"). AOF also maintains affiliations with the

Council for Secular Humanism, American Atheists, and the American Humanist Association.

AOF's Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the association, Atheists and Other Freethinkers, 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 News & Views: Copyright © 2011 by Atheists and Other Freethinkers, PO Box 15182, Sacramento, CA 95851-0182. The contents of News & Views are informational and educational. Views expressed via the articles in this publication are not necessarily those of Atheists and Other Freethinkers.

Print subscription \$12 per year, e-mail subscription free to all on request.

Reprinting of original material in this newsletter is granted to atheist, freethought, rationalist, skeptical, and secular humanist groups as long as acknowledgment is given. Exchange of newsletters with aforementioned organizations is solicited.



Carrie Poppie and Deborah Smith



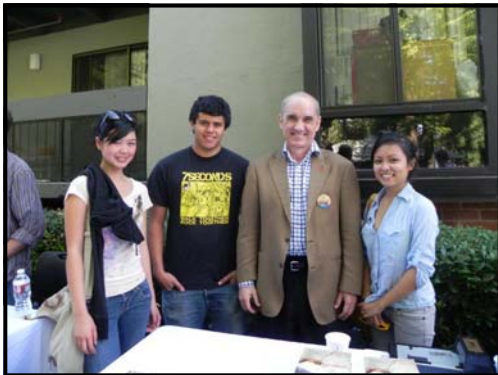
Event emcee Andi Warren



Dan Barker, David Fitzgerald, Richard Carrier



Dan Barker presenting



Dan Barker with UC Merced students



Glenn Branch, from the National Center for Science Educ.



Fred Edword



Bess Hartman, Camp Quest West table



Henna tattoos



Jack Kastorf at the Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Sacramento table



Students traveled all the way from UC-Merced



The Mockingbirds prepare to sing on stage



The Flying Spaghetti Monster in an unusual spot



Ashley Paramore at the Secular Student Alliance table



Paul Geisert of The Brights' Net



Musical entertainment by the Phenomenauts

AOF Subscription / Membership Form

Mail to: AOF, PO Box 15182, Sacramento CA 95851-0182 (Attn: Membership)

Name(s) _____ Phone: _____

Street _____ Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP + 4 _____

E-mail address (please print!) _____

Membership Level (please circle one):

Patron (\$50) Family (\$30) Individual (\$20) Low-income (\$10)

Note: Membership does not include a newsletter subscription

Newsletter subscription:

- ___ Send my printed newsletter by postal mail (\$12 extra)
- ___ Send my newsletter by email (*Free!*) – my email address is above

Additional Donation: \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

AOF is a 501(c)(3) Educational Association – Dues & Donations are tax-deductable as permitted by law. Non-members may receive the AOF Newsletter (same rate - \$12 printed, free via email).

- Please check here if you do NOT want your name on lists occasionally provided to groups similar to AOF.
- Please check here if you DO want to be an AOF Activist (e-mail address required).



Resolutions and recognitions on display



Secular Student Alliance: Evan Clark, Sharon Moss, Lyz Liddell



Unknown tabler



Rich Wilson



FTD Committee member Ken Nahigian

See you in 2012!



FTD Committee member Ruth Rezos (right)



FTD 2011 materials.

Newsletter Submissions

Submit your newsletter items to the N&V submissions editor at this e-mail address:

newsletter@aofonline.org

or mail item to the AOF mailbox: PO Box 15182, Sacramento, CA 95851-0182.

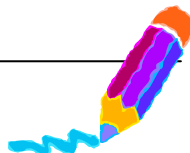
Preference is given to material in a word processing format. (To submit, attach your file to the e-mail and send.)

AOF welcomes succinct and substantive letters to the editor. Note: All letters are prioritized by AOF 's publishing criteria deriving from the organization's Statement of Purpose.

Newsletter Freebie Policy

This newsletter is free by e-mail to everyone. Just send your e-mail address. If you prefer printed copy by postal mail, AOF will send one free issue on your request; after that, please subscribe at \$12 per year. For details, see the signup form on page six.

Want to send a letter to the Editor?
E-mail newsletter@aofonline.org!





P.O. Box 15182
Sacramento, CA 95851-0182

We're on the Web!
aofonline.org

December/January Calendar of Events

AOF General Meeting in December CANCELED

Solstice/HumanLight Party (page one) Sun, Dec 18, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Freethought Dinner Social: **TBD.**
Contact: 419-2105 or shastaseer@sbcglobal.net Thu, Jan 6, 6:30 p.m.

AOF Board Meeting (Planning) Wed, Jan 9, 6:30 p.m.

AOF meetings are open to the public and will occur quarterly in 2012. Note: In February and October AOF co-produces two public education events: (1) an outdoor fair in October - "Sacramento's Freethought Day" (Oct 2012), and (2) a science and humanity celebration - Sacramento's "Darwin Day Educational Gala" (Feb 2012). Watch the newsletter for details.

