

# Sacramento Reason

COR

*Shine the Light of Reason!*

## Upcoming Events

**Aug 31** [Godless Pervert Story Hour, SF](#)

**1 Sun** [Secular Family Day Stockton](#)

**1 Sun** [BBQ and Potluck, Stockton](#)

**3 Tue** [Book Club, Ceres](#)

**4 Wed** [New Member Meetup, Sac](#)

**6 Fri** [SAAF Monthly Meeting](#)

**7 Sat** [Brunch & Atheism, Tracy](#)

**7 Sat** [Secular Coalition for CA Call](#)

**7 Sat** [Ask an Atheist wanders The Galleria](#)

**8 Sun** [Vegan Heathers, Stockton](#)

**9 Mon** [Book Club, Stockton](#)

**13 Fri** [Freethought Dinner Social, Sac](#)

**13 Fri** [Game Night, Oakdale](#)

**14 Sat** [Atheist Film Festival in SF](#)

**14 Sat** [Brunch & Atheism, Stockton](#)

**15 Sun** [Blasphemy Breakfast, Rocklin](#)

**15 Sun** [Brunch & Atheism, Turlock](#)

**15 Sun** [Blasphemy Brunch, Sac](#)

Continued on Pg. 5

Sac Coalition of Reason  
Calendar: [sacramento.unitedcor.org/sacramento/page/events](http://sacramento.unitedcor.org/sacramento/page/events)

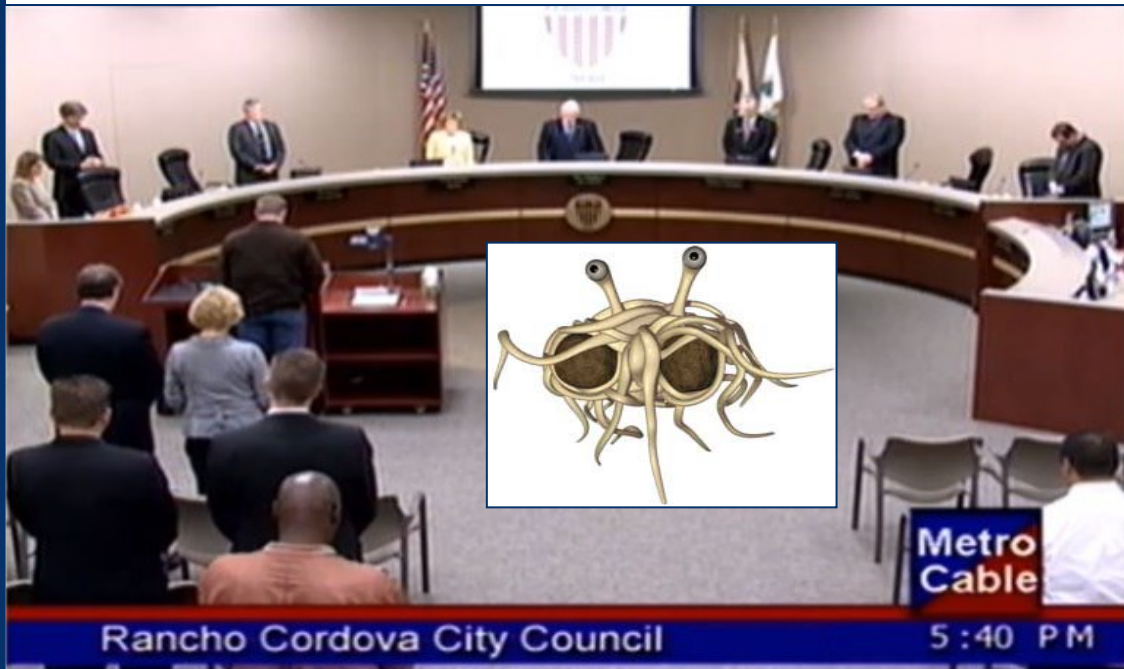
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Volume 1, Issue 9

Issue Theme: Prayer Fail

September 2013

## Church of Flying Spaghetti Monster to Pray at Rancho Cordova City Council Oct. 7



### Seriously. If they're going to open with prayer, then let it be FSM!

Call for Support! Let's show up to support this risky move! It's not all fun and games - it's seriously pointing out the absurdity of mixing church and state. 5:30 pm, October 7, Rancho Cordova City Hall, **2729 Prospect Park Dr**, Rancho Cordova. Be respectful. You may quietly leave after the "prayer", so sit near the back if you plan to exit early. Bring a camera, if they're allowed, but stay out of the way and just observe. Leave a good impression.

For more information about the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster, what is sometimes seen by some as a parody of religion, [see this website](#). To follow the Sacramento Church of the FSM, follow this [Facebook page](#).

### Discuss This Prayer Sept. 16 at Strings (where else?)

What should the Sacramento Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster pray about with these two minutes they've been given? Come help us discuss options as we have some Happy Hour specials at Strings in Rancho Cordova. We'll meet each other, consider the best use of this allowed time, look to future opportunities, and share some fun together. [Strings, 9500 Micron Ave #128, 5:30 pm, Sept 16.](#)



**Facebook.com** ..... search for 'Sacramento Area Coalition of Reason'. 'Like' the Sac CoR Facebook page, where you will find a daily variety of news, humor, insights and tools for every person of reason. Our readers represent 20 countries. 40% live in the Sacramento area. Sign up to keep informed! ([Click Here](#)) or go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sacramento-Area-Coalition-of-Reason/376151155788191>



Poor Joshua. After what must have been heartfelt prayer, God promises to give him land, but fails. God promises to drive out Canaanites and Jebusites, but fails. God promises to drive out all inhabitants along their travels, but fails. God promises to again drive out Canaanites, but fails. God promises land to David forever, but fails. This is the God you are asking to help your team win the ball game? *Really?*

## Secular Coalition of Calif.

Everyone is invited to the [California Secular Coalition conference call](#).

This is the group allowed to lobby!  
Dial this number on September 7, 10:00 AM to listen to all our CA news.  
(530) 881-1400

When prompted, punch in participant code 978895.

## "Ask The Social I.Q. Lady"

As an atheist, I get very offended when someone asks me to pray for them or to join them in prayer. What can I say to get my point across? T.R.

Dear T.R.,

Remember, you are in complete control of how you allow others to make you feel. Why take offense over a question?

There are three parts of every good communication: oneself, the other person(s), and the situation. How you respond is going to depend on who the other person is (e.g.: family member, co-worker, stranger) and the circumstances. If a family member asks you to pray before a meal simply say, "Although I don't pray, I do want to take this moment to show my gratitude." Then either thank the cooks, the host or even the farmers who grew the food. If you're not being asked, but happen to be part of the group, quietly step back and allow the others to do their thing.

Many believers will ask for prayer when someone is ill or needs help. What they're really asking for is support. The relationship you have with that person will dictate your level of support. For example, if an acquaintance asks, you can respond with, "I hope (whomever) is going to be all right." This way you're showing support without addressing their petition. Those close to you should know your position on prayer, but oftentimes they don't or they forget. If a close friend asks for your prayer, find out how you can be of real help. Say, "Let me help." Then immediately follow that with suggestions that you are actually willing to do. "I can babysit" or "I can drop off a meal." Sometimes it's best just to show we care.

*Andrea Griffith is a Social Intelligence expert. Learn what to say and do to get the results you want.*

## Blaspheming With Food Every '3rd Sunday' Morning!



Such a pleasant group of happy heathens on a fine Sunday morning! Every 3rd Sunday of the month, in various locations, come sit down to breakfast or brunch with us. Everyone is welcome! It's a nice way to meet like-minded friends. No topics, just have fun. [See the calendar](#) for all locations.



## Book Clubs

### Sacramento

*Sex & God* How religion distorts and uses sexuality. [2013 book list is here.](#) Open to everyone, [Coffee Garden, 2904 Franklin Blvd.](#) Sept 16, 6:30PM.

### Stockton

*Not in Our Classrooms* Why Intelligent Design is Wrong for our Schools. Open to everyone. [See website.](#) VIP Pizza 3499 Brookside Rd, Stockton. Sept. 9

### Ceres

*No God But God* Origins & Future of Islam. [See website](#) for location. Sept. 3

### Grass Valley

*Demon Haunted World.* Let reason chase away your superstitions. [See website.](#) Sept. 15, 2 PM.

## Finally!

*The Skeptic's Annotated Bible* is in Print!  
[Buy it here.](#)

## New Member Meeting

**New to the freethinking community?** Come to this casual event for a quick overview of the community and plenty of time to just hang out and get to know each other. Great sandwiches and coffee drinks, too. *Every 1st Wednesday, 6:30p - 9:00p.* [Coffee Garden, 2904 Franklin Blvd., Sacramento](#) [Details here.](#)

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AOF Speaker Series Presents:

## "Candidate Without a Prayer" Herb Silverman Speaking

**When:** Sept. 26, 7:00 pm

**Where:** Curtis Hall, Sierra 2 Community Center, 2791 24th Street, *Curtis Hall is on the south end of the Sierra 2 center.*

Herb is a tenacious fellow. In 1990, a colleague pointed out that atheists were ineligible to hold public office in South Carolina. He went to work on that. Eight years later the South Carolina Supreme Court ruled unanimously in his favor. Herb went on to found several Humanist groups, and holds positions with American Humanist Association, Secular Student Alliance, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, and is "On Faith" blogger for the Washington Post Online. [More details here.](#)

You can buy his book at this event. Ask him to personally autograph your copy!



## Counter Apologetics Group Forming



**When:** Sept. 15, 6:15 pm

**Where:** Round Table Pizza, private room. 4885 Granite Dr, Rocklin [\(map\)](#)

**Directions:** I-80 to Rocklin Rd exit, go west, it's right there by the freeway, one block north

Brainstorming session. Let's plan our scouting and engagement, as well as future recruiting and training. Ultimately our goal is to publicly undermine the lies and fallacies apologists use to coerce their targets. Bring notepad and pen.

We will plant the banner of reason in enemy territory. Learn to arm yourselves, and train others. Let's take this debate to the gates of the evolution-deniers, dominionists and the merely superstitious. Be armed. Be trained. Be ready. This is where you begin.

Seen the bumper sticker "God is my Co-Pilot"? Care to take your hands from the wheel to test that?



## Some popular 'Meet, Eat n Drink' Addresses and Maps:

Sep 4 6:30 pm New Member Orientation and Coffee, Coffee Garden [Map here](#)

Sep 14 10:00 am Brunch and Atheism: Panera Bread 10718 Trinity Pkwy Stockton [Map here](#)

Sep 13 6:00 pm Freethought Dinner: Kaveri Madras Cuisine [Map here](#)

Sep 15 11:00 am Blasphemy Brunch: Mel's Diner 565 Howe Ave [Map here](#)



[www.secularsafezone.org](http://www.secularsafezone.org)

### Secular Zones

**Students:** Look for this new symbol around campus. It means you are in a Secular Safe Zone, free from discrimination, monitored by an ally. See more details at [secularsafezone.org](http://secularsafezone.org) Show your teachers how to join.

**School Staff:** To be a Secular Safe Zone Ally, read the [Resource Guide](#) here. Then print the logo on the last page to display in your classroom or office area. This space is then identified as a safe zone away from harassment for religious non-belief and expression. The bullying must stop. The myths must end. Nonbelievers depend on your support and role modeling. Thanks.

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### Highway Cleanup by "Our" Sign

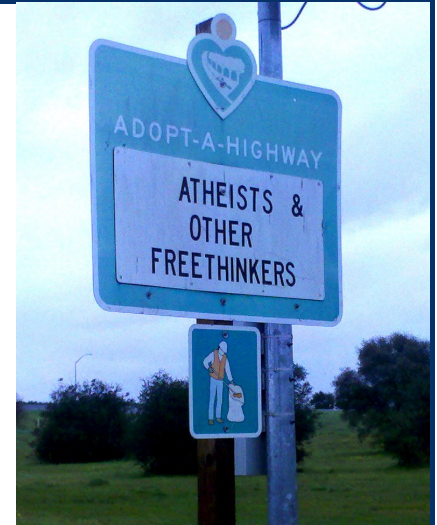
**When:** Sat Sep 21, 9am – 11:30am

**Where:** Elkhorn Blvd. Park & Ride

*Highway 99 at Elkhorn Blvd., Sacramento  
Meet at the Park & Ride on the west side.*



Sacramento Reason



Keep our atheist stretch clean.  
Come join us as we find all sorts  
of weird objects beside the road.  
Great group of folks. Join in!

### Freethought Roundtable - 3rd Tuesdays

The Freethought Roundtable is an open forum for the discussion of the diverse and often contentious topics of God(s), Religion, and Disbelief. These issues are inextricably linked to philosophy, history, society and the human condition generally. And, as such, make for profoundly important and interesting discussions.

Outside food and drinks aren't permitted, but they have a great menu so order something on your way in. **Coffee Garden, 2904 Franklin Blvd , 7:00 PM.** [Map here.](#)

### Prayer Fail - Happens Every Year



## Freethought Dinner—Friday the 13th, 6:00 pm

A fun dinner social for friends and members of the local community of reason. Feed your mind and feed your body, join your freethinking pals at Kaveri Madras Cuisine, 1148 Fulton Ave, for good food, good drink and sparkling conversation about all things freethoughty! Yummy Indian food. [Map here.](#) [Details here.](#)



### Calendar cont'd.

**15 Sun** [Ancient Christian Study Grp](#)  
**15 Sun** [Book Club, Grass Valley](#)  
**15 Sun** [Counter Apologetics Group](#)  
**16 Mon** [FSM City Council Prayer Disc.](#)  
**16 Mon** [Book Club, Sacramento](#)  
**17 Tue** [Freethought Roundtable, Sac](#)  
**20 Fri** [Drinking Skeptically, Stockton](#)  
**21 Sat** [Highway Clean Up, Hwy 80](#)  
**21 Sat** [Boys & Girls Club Renovation Lodi](#)  
**22 Sun** [Freethought Movie Night, Lodi](#)  
**26 Thu** [Herb Silverman Speaking](#)  
**27 Fri** [Sac Skeptics in the Pub](#)  
**27 Fri** [Godless Game Night, Lodi](#)  
**27 Fri** [Karaoke at Torii's, Modesto](#)  
**Oct 1** [Book Club, Ceres](#)  
**Oct 2** [SacFAN New Member Meetup](#)  
**Save the Date**  
**Oct 7** [FSM Opening Prayer for Council](#)  
**Oct 7** [Richard Dawkins & Adam Savage](#)  
**Oct 12** [Freethought Day Great Speakers](#)  
**Oct 21** [Q&A Author of Sex & God, D. Ray](#)

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### Secular Family Day in Stockton

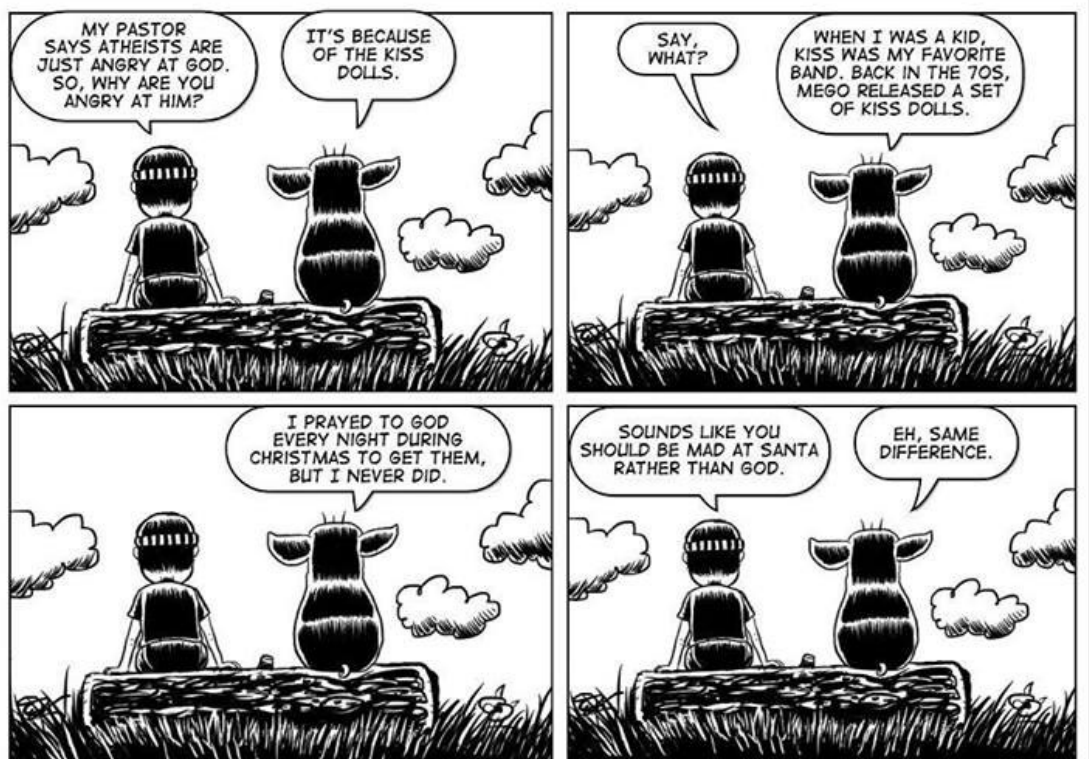
Sunday, September 1, 12:00 - 5:00

Pixie Woods, 3121 Monte Diablo Avenue, is Stockton's own fairyland for the "young in age and the young at heart" It's a great place to bring the whole family. [Details here.](#)

Ride the Pixie Express Train down the tracks past Frontier Town. Take an excursion down the lagoon on the Pixie Queen paddle-wheel boat, or take an exciting ride on a vintage carousel. (Unlimited passes are \$8 each.)

Let's have a picnic! The Yum Yum House concession stand is nearby for food, or bring your own. After Pixie Woods, join the rest of SAAF for our [Labor Day BBQ](#) at 5pm.

*Each first Sunday is "Secular Family Day" – a day for the whole family to get out and meet other secular families in fun places all over the Central Valley.*



thetheistpig.com



## Game Nights

Atheists and theists are all welcome. Bring a friend, roommate or honeypie. Chatting, eating, playing, laughing. Sound good? Three to choose from:

Sacramento third Saturday 6:00 pm, or Lodi Sept 27 at 7:00 pm, or Oakdale Sept 13 at 7:00 pm



### Ancient Christian Study Group

**Sunday, Sept. 15 at noon. Meet at the Shine Cafe, 1400 E St, Sacramento.**

History of Rome, religions of the Empire, Gnosticism, Mystery cults, Christian persecutions, biographies, the Bible and other related topics. If you ever wanted a new perspective on the old ways, then this group is for you.

Previous biblical knowledge is not required to participate or listen.

We will be meeting every third Sunday. Each meeting a specific topic will be covered. [Details here.](#)

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### Activist Corner By Julie Wedge

To pray or not to pray...that is the question. As atheists we feel there are many existing places for people to celebrate their faith. We also feel our government buildings are no place for that. We certainly have the Constitution on our side, but what happens when they think adding a little diversity makes it legal?

These thoughts are being played out now in Chico. Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) and The Coalition of Reason recently challenged the Chico Council's invocation practice. Our Constitution states:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Clearly there is no establishment of a particular religion allowed, but they argue it allows religion over no religion. This is certainly what the Chico Council and other jurisdictions are using to justify it. But does that make it right? In the court of public opinion, most feel as long as a diversity of belief is recognized, or a particular deity is not mentioned, the wall of separation is not breached.

We disagree. Using any invocation separates believers from non-believers and therefore the wall is compromised. Some atheist groups have rallied around the Flying Spaghetti Monster (FSM) to see if their governmental agencies will truly recognize such diversity. And some actually do. We would like to suggest we continue to ask for invocations by followers of the FSM, or ask for a ban like Chico did with their petition found here:

<http://www.change.org/petitions/city-of-chico-stop-religious-invocations-atcouncil-meetings>

If you are uncomfortable with this approach we would like to offer an alternative: Just ask your Council or government agency to put one day in the invocation rotation where they skip it altogether and just get to work!

### How Do I Find My Representatives?

**U.S. Senate:** [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm)

**House of Representatives:** <http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

**State Senate/Assembly:** <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>

Local representatives can always be found on your City or County Website under the Government tab.

# Local Groups to Visit or Join

Name	Emphasis		Tax Ded		Website
Agnostic & Atheist Student Association (AgASA)	UC Davis student group Meets Tuesdays, 6:10 great topics	Y		Y	<a href="http://agasadavis.wordpress.com">agasadavis.wordpress.com</a>
Americans United for Sep of Church and State (Sac Chapter)	Promotes individual activism, confronts violations	N	Y	National only	<a href="http://au-sac.org">au-sac.org</a>
Atheist Student Organization (ASO)	CSUS student group Meets Fridays at noon.	Y		Y	<a href="http://csusaso.wordpress.com">csusaso.wordpress.com</a>
Atheists and Other Freethinkers (AOF)	Events both social and presented, for growth and fun.	Y	Y	N	<a href="http://aofonline.org">aofonline.org</a>
Brights Action	Translate our naturalistic worldviews into constructive actions for school/library/media	Y	Y	Internat'l only	<a href="http://the-brights.net/">the-brights.net/</a>
FACTS Church	Church-like hymns, rituals, all the trappings in secular form.	Y	Y	N	<a href="http://factschurch.com">factschurch.com</a>
Greater Sacramento Chapter of Freedom From Religion Foundation	Protecting the constitutional principle of separation of state and church.	Y	Y	N	<a href="mailto:sacffrf@gmail.com">sacffrf@gmail.com</a>
Humanist Association of the Greater Sac Area (HAGSA)	Humanist events, speakers, focus is on doing good.	Y	Y	National only	<a href="http://hagsa.org">hagsa.org</a>
Sacramento Area Coalition of Reason	Directing the community to the various groups of reason.	Y	N	Y	<a href="http://SacramentoCoR.org">SacramentoCoR.org</a>
Sac Area Skeptics (SAS)	Promotion of skeptical thinking, awareness of reality, logical skills.	Y	Y	Y	<a href="http://sacskeptics.org">sacskeptics.org</a>
Sac City Freethinkers	Sac City College student group Meets every other Wednesday.	Y		Y	<a href="http://saccityfreethinkers.wordpress.com">saccityfreethinkers.wordpress.com</a>
Sac Freethinkers, Atheists and Nonbelievers (SacFAN)	Meetup for variety of fun, learning, singing, projects, games, activism.	Y	N	Y	<a href="http://SacFAN.org">SacFAN.org</a>
Sac Organization for Rational Thinking (SORT)	Discussions of rational thinking and science over mysticism and anti-rationalism.	Y	N	N	<a href="http://home.comcast.net/~kitray2/site/?/home">home.comcast.net/~kitray2/site/?/home</a>
Sac Think Atheist	Events, podcast, and forum to fight anti-atheism and gain tools.	N		N	<a href="http://thinkatheist.com/group/sacramentocalifatheists">thinkatheist.com/group/sacramentocalifatheists</a>
Secular Coalition for California	Train to engage media and lobby state politicians. Activist resource.	N	N	Y	<a href="http://Secular.org/states/chapters/california">Secular.org/states/chapters/california</a>
Secular Student Alliance or Freethinkers of Sierra	Sierra College student group Meets Thursdays at 1:00.	Y		Y	<a href="http://secularstudents.org/sierra">secularstudents.org/sierra</a>
Stockton Area Atheists and Freethinkers (SAAF)	Meetup events, variety	Y		Y	<a href="http://StocktonAAF.org">StocktonAAF.org</a>
Sun City Roseville Humanists	Humanist opportunities for our Sun City residents. Meets 1st Sundays from 1:00 to 3:00.	N	N	N	<a href="http://scred.org/sub_category_list.asp?category=98">scred.org/sub_category_list.asp?category=98</a>



I prayed for a sign...

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## Prayer Fails in Controlled Tests

“In the largest study of its kind, researchers found that having people pray for heart bypass surgery patients had no effect on their recovery. In fact, patients who knew they were being prayed for had a slightly higher rate of complications.” from [an article in NBC News](#) titled “Power of Prayer Flunks an Unusual Test.”

“The work, which followed about 1,800 patients at six medical centers, was financed by the Templeton Foundation, which supports research in to science and religion.”

Similar tests have also failed: Byrd and Harris (1988), O’Laoire (1997), Sicher (1998), Mayo Clinic (2001), IVF-ET Prayer Scandal (2001), Rabin Medical Center (2001), MANTRA Study (2005) and STEP Project in 2006.

But, we’re not surprised, are we? [See details here.](#)

## Lost at Sea Searching for God’s Will



Hannah Gastonguay, 26, told reporters that she and her husband had “decided to take a leap of faith and see where God led us.” They were lost at sea for weeks.

The family was eventually dropped off at the U.S. embassy in Chile, from which they will fly back to the states, courtesy of the same government that so seriously interfered with their religion, making them decide to leave in the first place.

## Another Child Dies in Faith Healing Family

Herbert and Catherine Schai-ble stand charged with third-degree murder and other crimes after their 7-month-old son Brandon died from bacterial pneumonia, dehydration and a group B streptococcus infection on April 18.

Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams says the boy’s death could have been prevented, but the couple instead turned to prayer.



About 20,000 people die of cancer every day. If 20,000 people prayed one million times for elimination of cancer, about 20,000 people would continue to die each day of cancer. Had they worked on science research instead, it might have been less.



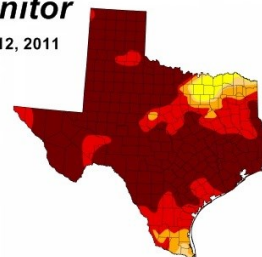
The State of Texas was led to pray for rain in April 2011. They didn't get rain. I know, weird, huh?

## U.S. Drought Monitor

July 12, 2011

Exceptional Drought

Extreme Drought



## Ending Life

"There were times when civil rights, women's rights, and disabled rights were causes everyone was talking about. While we still must safeguard those rights, it is time to spotlight another. That is the right to control one's own death. We—not society—should decide when the pain and suffering is no longer bearable. Too many have bought into the God myth that the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. If there were a father-like god, like most fathers, he wouldn't want his children to suffer. Today more and more people dismiss that biblical kind of thinking, but nevertheless a cultural bias exists." [Read this full account](#) of how one loving couple acted on that decision.

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## Godless Perverts Story Hour - The Performance Event!

**Saturday, August 31, 7:00 PM, San Francisco**

The Center for Sex and Culture, 1349 Mission St., San Francisco ([map](#))

The Godless Perverts Story Hour is an evening about how to have good sex without having any gods, goddesses, spirits, or their earthly representatives hanging over your shoulder and telling you that you're doing it wrong. We'll be bringing you depictions, explorations, and celebrations of godless sexualities, as well as critical, mocking, and blasphemous views of sex and religion. The evening's entertainment will have a range of voices — sexy and serious, passionate and funny, and all of the above — talking about how our sexualities can not only exist, but even thrive, without the supernatural.

Our lineup for August 31 includes Molly Weatherfield (aka Pam Rosenthal), Victor Harris, Jen Cross, Virgie Tovar, Kate Sirls, M. Christian, and Simon Sheppard — plus your charming hosts Greta Christina, David Fitzgerald, and Chris Hall. Hope to see you there!

\$10-20 sliding scale donation. No-one turned away for lack of funds. This event is a benefit for the Center for Sex and Culture. [More details here.](#)

## "The Demon Haunted World" Book Club in Grass Valley

Sunday, September 15  
Briar Patch Community Market  
290 Sierra College Drive  
Grass Valley ([map](#))

For many people, the world is a scary, magical, haunted place. It may be dangerous, but the world can be explained without resorting to magic and demons as the best explanation for the challenges we experience. Let the light of reason chase away the superstitions by communing with Carl as we read and discuss this book.



## Atheist Film Festival in SF

Saturday, Sept. 14  
Noon to late night  
Roxie Theater ([map](#))

Sit back, take in the best in this year's atheist films with like-minded movie-goers. From the serious to the satire, share a full afternoon and evening of story-telling from our point of view, for a change.

### [Buy Tickets Here.](#)

All-movie Pass \$40  
With Reception \$65  
Individual movies \$10

### [Film Trailers Here](#)

*Creaton*

*The Revisionaries*

*Ron Goes To Heaven*

*Sophia Investigates the Good News Club*

*Kùmàrè*

*Hug an Atheist*

*The Magdalene Sisters*

Q&A in person with the Directors of *Revisionaries*, *Hug an Atheist* and *Good News Club*. Also hang with them at the optional reception Friday evening.

[Website here.](#)

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## Ask an Atheist at The Galleria in Roseville

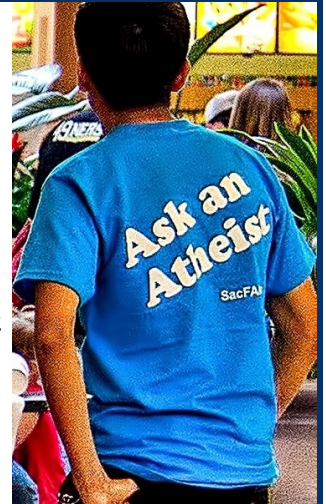
**Where:** The Westfield Galleria Mall, Roseville ([map](#))  
Meet outside on the west steps next to Crate-n-Barrel.

**When:** Saturday, Sept. 7, 12:30

**Who:** You and a few others, walking in pairs.

Come walk in pairs while wearing an "Ask an Atheist" t-shirt. Show shoppers we love to browse, too. It's all about dispelling myths about atheists. We don't have horns! They just need to get to know us. Shirts available there from Judy, \$10. Stay as long or short as you like.

Most of all, just be yourself. If you are asked a question you can't answer, just say, "I don't know." It's not about having answers, it's about being visible and being available. We don't approach anyone, we just make friendly eye contact. It's the easiest activism you'll ever do! (Mainly we get thumbs-up!)



## "Ask an Atheist" Running Jerseys

**Order yours!** Email Rich at [64spokes@gmail.com](mailto:64spokes@gmail.com) for more details. Wear yours proudly when you run on your own, or in a race like this: [California International Marathon Dec. 8](#)



"After my Christmas Lectures I received letters from the pious saying that they would have no objection if only I had qualified my remarks by saying: 'But I should warn you that many well-informed people think differently.' When did you last hear a priest - in the pulpit, on radio, on television, in infants' Sunday School - qualify his statement with 'But I should warn you that many well-informed people don't think God exists at all . . .?'"



NATIONAL SECULAR NEWS - EVERY WEEK

Call (559) 726-1300 every Thursday at 9:00 AM Enter Code: 199568 . Or, if you prefer getting your national secular updates by email, then [sign up here](#).

## FFRF Lunch with Annie Laurie

When you get your [FREE ticket](#) to hear all the great speakers at Freethought Day, be sure to buy the box lunch!

No food is available in the nearby area, so order the box lunch. Then come join us in the FFRF tent where Greater Sacramento Chapter of FFRF members and their guests will have a special lunch with our Co-President, Annie Laurie Gaylor, who will have just finished her talk in front of the entire crowd.

Annie Laurie will gladly answer your questions, give us a little talk just for us, and introduce your new Board.

Order the box lunch, don't forget. I won't have enough cookies to share, sorry.

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## Freethought Day - How You Can Help

By David Diskin

October 12th William Land Park hosts the largest freethought event in California. A FREE event, with speakers like Annie Laurie Gaylor (FFRF) and entertainers like Shelley Segal, organizers are expecting record-breaking attendance.

**Spread the Word:** Tell everyone you're going to this event. Post a link on Facebook. Tweet about it. Download a poster, print it, and post it at your local coffee shop or at work. Tell believers and non-believers alike; everyone is welcome!

**Volunteer:** Help us out! Organizers need help with setting up and cleaning up. They'll reward you with a Volunteer Dinner on Thursday before the big event.

**Reception:** On the evening of Friday, October 11, you'll enjoy a special event with the distinguished speakers, live entertainment, a selection of food and wine, and much more, for just \$75.

**Sponsor:** Packages include Reception admission, ads on the website and in the program, recognition from the stage, t-shirts, and more, starting at \$250.

Visit [www.FreethoughtDay.org](http://www.FreethoughtDay.org). Click on "Table, Support, Sponsor, and Volunteer" to help support this annual public freethought event.

But at the very least, just show up and have a great time. [Free registration here](#).

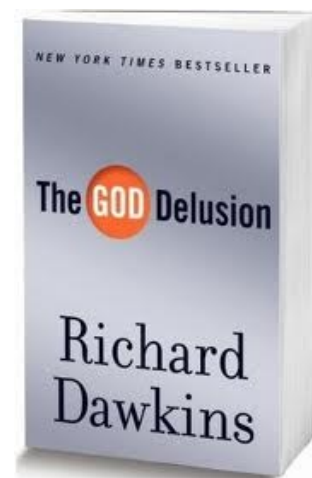
## Richard Dawkins In Person October 7

In his book "The God Delusion" Richard Dawkins offered a stunning critique of religion and promoted scientific principles over creationism and intelligent design. This best seller helped atheism break into mainstream.

His most recent book, "An Appetite for Wonder" is a memoir covering his early life in colonial Kenya, his intellectual awakening at Oxford, and the creation of his ground-breaking books and philosophy. First of all a scientist and premier biologist, Dawkins has recently been at the forefront of uninhibited conversations about atheism. He also originated the word "meme", by the way, which began in a biological sense.

Hear these two beacons of reason, Richard Dawkins and Adam Savage of the TV show MythBusters, in discussion, live, on stage together.

See more details and Buy Tickets (\$17 and \$27) [at this website](#).





Presenting Sacramento's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Freethought Day

A Festival of Reason, Freethought, and Church-State Separation



Jason  
Frye



Greta  
Christina



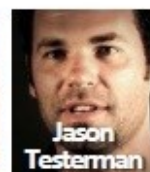
Keith  
Jensen



Heina  
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Jason  
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Annie Laurie  
Gaylor



Victor  
Harris

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Learn about our  
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Family Friendly Afternoon

Outstanding Speakers · Authors' Panel

Community Groups and Organizations

## Saturday, October 12

10am - 6:30pm · Rain or Shine

William Land Park Amphitheatre

Sacramento, CA

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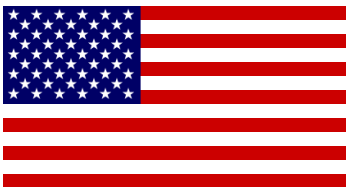
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We firmly support the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights, including the First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion" and Article Six "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States".



Can I make tax deductible donations?  
**Yes!** Many freethinking groups are 501c3. See Page 7 for details.

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## This Month's Theme: Prayer Fail

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." —Matthew 21:22 (NIV)

"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed ...Nothing will be impossible for you." —Matthew 17:20 (NIV)

"Ask and it will be given to you" —Luke 11:9-10 (NIV)

When praying fails believers say God has a better plan, but where is that in these quotes? If you're going to justify, then why not pray to a milk carton? At least you can see it. And you get to drink the milk.



## What Do Itchy Hands Mean?

Joke submitted by Pat Kelley

Some people say an itchy left hand means you're going to get money soon, but I'm not superstitious, so I'll drive to my bank and get money just in case it's not true. I used to think when my right hand itched it meant new friends on the horizon. Phew, imagine my relief when I found I was just going to lose money.

## Sacramento's Freethinking Calendar

Sacramento has its own event calendar for atheists, skeptics, humanists, and all other freethinkers. Sacramento Area groups love to cooperate and mingle, all supporting each other in these times of religious zeal. The Sac Coalition of Reason, which maintains this automatically-updated calendar, is not a club or group with a Board, or rules, but is a resource directing anyone interested to find local freethinking groups that suit them. Bookmark this calendar on your devices. It's a handy one-stop reference for almost everything going on up and down the valley.

<http://unitedcor.org/sacramento/page/events>

