# Number 1 **Publication**

# The January AFS Meeting

Charles Miller,
American Atheists' Regional Director for Alabama:
"The Atheist Agenda? The Atheist Agenda!"



Charles "Chuck" Miller

The AFS program on Sunday, January 12th will feature well-known leader and popular speaker Charles ("Chuck") Miller, a longtime leading activist for civil rights and atheism. We're quite proud of our ability to offer members and visitors speakers who are national and regional

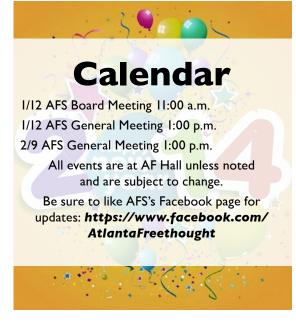
leaders and Chuck Miller is a great example of this. Miller, who currently serves as Regional Director for Alabama for American Atheists and who was a co-founder and former executive director of the Alabama Secular Coalition, will address "The Agenda." He'll talk about "both the public's perception (and misconceptions) about what atheists want to see happen, and what our real agenda is." He expects to have time for questions and is eager "for non-atheists to attend and ask questions."

Miller earned a history degree from the University of Florida and has served in a number of capacities including as a consultant for the Law Enforcement Department (State of Florida) before becoming a consultant with PriceWaterhouseCoopers, IBM and CIBER, Inc. His clients included the US Navy, NASA, and the US Treasury Department.

The Miller program on January 12th at 1:00 p.m., free and open to the public, will be preceded by conversation and socializing starting about noon—and a meal at a local eatery will follow the program for those who are interested.

# **Grounds Committee**

AFS is looking for people who would like to be on the Grounds Committee for 2014. It's a great way to get fresh air while making Freethought Hall a better place to be. Please see a board member for more information.



# **Sunday Assembly**

Atlanta now has its own branch of the Sunday Assembly, which was started in London, England by comedians Sanderson Jones and Pippa Evans in January 2013, and which has now spread from the UK to the US, Canada, Ireland and Australia. In fact, the very first meeting in Atlanta last month featured Sanderson Jones! SSA is meeting at 11:00 on the third Sunday of every month (so as not to compete with Fellowship of Reason and AFS) in a beautiful and hip medical tech headquarters in Chamblee, where Skepticamp 2013 was held. Each meeting is a lively secular celebration with group singing, lectures, and a goal to establish a sense of community. Everyone is invited! Childcare is provided and the organizers say that at this point they plan to have a potluck lunch after every meeting. AFS folks will enjoy themselves and SSA hopes we can get involved. More info on SSA and other meetings of interest is on page 6.



# **Programs and Speakers**

All programs are on the second Sunday of each month at AF Hall, 4775 N. Church Lane SE, Atlanta, GA, unless otherwise noted. Programs start at 1:00 PM, but feel free to arrive at 12:00 for socializing. Visitors are always welcome.

The views and opinions expressed by speakers at AFS do not necessarily reflect those of AFS members or its policy.



Jan 12: Charles R. (Chuck) Miller, Regional Director of American Atheists for Alabama, will speak.

Feb 9: TBA

Mar 9: TBA

Apr 13: TBA

May II: TBA

June 8: TBA

# **AFS Email List**

The AFS Announcements email list provides subscribers with reminders and updates on AFS activities. Send an email to AFS-Announce-subscribe@ yahoogroups.com to subscribe. The AFS Forum email list is a place for discussions of freethought, atheism, agnosticism, church-state separation and religion. To subscribe to this list, send an email to AFSForum-subscribe@ yahoogroups.com. For information on other AFS email groups, visit the AFS website at http://www.atlantafreethought.org.

The Atlanta Freethought Society is a member-run organization dedicated to advancing freethought and protecting the rights and reputation of freethinkers, agnostics, atheists and humanists.

We welcome anyone who is interested in learning about living a good life free from religion through attending AFS speeches, debates, and discussions. We employ protests, letters to the editor, broadcast appearances, and any other reasonable and civil means available to achieve our mission.

We define freethought as "the forming of opinions about life in general and religion in particular on the basis of reason and the evidence of our senses, independently of tradition, authority, or established belief."

We actively support a strict separation of church and state as the best means to guarantee liberty for all, regardless of religious belief or lack of belief.

We seek to educate ourselves on many topics but especially on religion and non-religion. We do this through a series of thought-provoking speakers and programs, and by maintaining a web forum and an extensive library of freethought, religious, and related books, pamphlets, videotapes, and audiotapes.

We provide an organization where freethinkers and non-theists can develop friendships, talk freely, socialize and enjoy each other's company. We do not discriminate against anyone on such irrelevant grounds as race, sexual orientation, age, gender, class, or physical disability. We welcome members and leaders of all political parties and preferences.

Because we are designated by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) educational organization, contributions to AFS are tax deductible.

Any who are like-minded are welcome to join us.

# Atlanta Freethought News An AFS Publication

Editor: Laura Ross Assistant Editor: Steve Yothment

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# **Atlanta Freethought News**

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Membership in AFS is \$50/year per person, \$20 for low income. Membership includes AFNews by email or mail. (Tell us which one you want.) Sustaining Membership is \$100. Life Membership is \$1000. Subscriptions only are \$30 for 12 issues.

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# A Little List: The Top Ten Church-State Stories Of 2013

Dec 31, 2013 by Rob Boston in Wall of Separation

https://www.au.org/blogs/wall-of-separation/a-little-list-the-top-ten-church-state-stories-of-2013

It's that time of year when people are compiling lists. So let's look at the Top Ten Church-State Stories of 2013.

I. Greece, N.Y., prayer case argued before U.S. Supreme Court: An Americans United-sponsored lawsuit challenging legislative prayer in the city of Greece, N.Y., reached the Supreme Court. https://www.au.org/church-state/december-2013-church-state/featured/ showdown-at-the-supreme-court

The suit, Town of Greece v. Galloway, challenges the use of almost-exclusively Christian prayers before meetings of the Greece Town Board. AU's plaintiffs, Susan Galloway and Linda Stephens, who are Jewish and atheist respectively, said the practice makes them feel like second-class citizens.

A decision in the case could have far-reaching consequences for the separation of church and state. The case was argued in December, and a ruling is expected by the end of June.

2. The Supreme Court rules on same-sex marriage: In June, the Supreme Court ruled on two cases concerning same-sex marriage. The decisions in U.S. v. Windsor and Hollingsworth v. Perry had the effect of advancing the legality of same-sex marriage and led some observers to conclude that it's only a matter of time before the practice is legal nationwide. Indeed, in the wake of those rulings, several lower courts have issued decisions favorable to same-sex marriage in other contexts, most recently in Utah.

Religious Right groups and the Roman Catholic bishops reacted with anger and dismay to the rulings and vowed to oppose them. https://www.au.org/ church-state/september-2013-church-state/featured/wedding-crashers

3. Contraceptive lawsuits advance in the courts: Opponents of the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive mandate filed a slew of lawsuits, asserting that the provision violates their religious liberty rights. Federal courts handed down conflicting rulings on the matter, and the Supreme Court has announced that it will hear two cases brought by the owners of secular corporations who oppose the mandate. In the meantime, courts are beginning to issue rulings in cases brought by religiously affiliated organizations such as religiously affiliated colleges. https://www.au.org/media/pressreleases/americans-united-urges-us-supreme-court-to-protect-workersaccess-to-birth

The spate of legal cases astounded some advocates of church-state separation and women's rights, who assumed that access to contraceptives was a long-settled issue in the United States.

4. Religious Right-backed candidates lose in Virginia: A slate of candidates backed by the Religious Right was defeated in Virginia's statewide elections in November. Ken Cuccinelli, a Republican closely aligned with the Religious Right, lost the governor's race to Democrat Terry McAuliffe. https://www.au.org/church-state/december-2013-church-state/au-bulletin/ religious-right-candidates-lose-va-elections

The GOP's lieutenant governor candidate, E.W. Jackson, was also defeated. Jackson, a former staff member for TV preacher Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition, lost to Democrat Ralph Northam by 10 points. Jackson, who often appears at Religious Right meetings, made several controversial statements during the campaign. He asserted that non-Christians "are engaged in some sort of false religion," and he was criticized for earlier comments calling gay people "sick" and accusing President Barack Obama of "Muslim sympathies."

In the attorney general's race, Democrat Mark R. Herring defeated conservative Mark D. Obenshain in a tight race that was not settled until absentee

ballots were counted.

5. Anti-evolution efforts fail in Texas and other states: Attempts by creationists to water down the teaching of evolution in public school science classes failed in Texas, and antievolution bills collapsed in several other states.

In Texas, several members of the State Board of Education criticized proposed new science books because they did not promote creationism. The effort failed when textbook publishers refused to create special books for Texas that downplayed evolution. The board subsequently voted to adopt textbooks that discuss evolution in depth. https://www.au.org/church-state/ december-2013-church-state/people-events/ book-publishers-refuse-to-create-creationist

Creationism fared poorly in several others states as well. The National Center for Science Education reported that anti-evolution bills floundered in seven other states - Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Missouri, Montana, Oklahoma and Virginia. https:// www.au.org/blogs/wall-of-separation/creationismcorralled-eight-states-reject-creationist-measures

# 6. Church politicking issue reemerges: The Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) in August issued a report calling on the

Internal Revenue Service to lift the ban on pulpitbased partisan politicking.

An ECFA commission prepared a report for U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley (R-lowa) asserting that the current law, which prohibits all 501(c)(3) nonprofits from intervening in political races between individuals, is "vague"; the groups went on to assert that the law "chills permissible speech" and "causes confusion" among non-profits. https://www.au.org/ church-state/october-2013-church-state/featured/ pulpit-politicking-pushed

It's unclear what impact the report will have, but late in the year the IRS hinted that some movement on the issue may occur. The tax agency issued a document listing its goals for the fiscal year 2013-14. Among them was a line item indicating that the IRS hopes to finalize new internal procedures for conducting audits of houses of worship, a necessary first step before a church can be investigated for politicking.

## 7. U.S. Senate votes to reject vouch-

ers: An effort by voucher supporters to create a nationwide plan failed in the Senate in March. During a lengthy session over budget issues on March 22, U.S. Sens. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) and Rand Paul (R-Ky.) put forth an amendment

Continued next page

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# Continued from previous page

that would have allowed II million low-income students to receive \$1,300 each to put toward tuition at religious and other private schools.

Americans United and its allies mobilized quickly to oppose the measure, and it was handily defeated by a vote of 60-39. (https://www.au.org/church-state/may-2013-church-state/featured/school-voucher-victory) However, voucher plans continued to advance in some states, notably North Carolina.

**8. Hurricane relief sparks church-state battle:** In the wake of the devastating Hurricane Sandy, which struck several East Coast states in late October of 2012, some religious leaders began demanding taxpayer funds to rebuild damaged houses of worship.

The issue flared up in the House of Representatives and Senate in 2013, with Americans United and its allies arguing that repairing and rebuilding houses of worship is a job best done with private funds, not government money. AU noted that diverting taxpayer aid for purely religious purposes would raise constitutional issues; the group also pointed out that historically, tax aid has been extended only to entities that serve a public purpose, such as libraries, schools and community centers. https://www.au.org/blogs/wall-of-separation/fema-fight-resumes-senate-ponders-taxpayer-aid-for-damaged-houses-of

No church-relief bills have passed in Congress, but AU continues to monitor the situation.

**9. North Carolina bill proposes official state religion:** In one of the most bizarre church-state stories of the year, a North Carolina legislator introduced legislation that would have allowed local governments in the state to declare official religions. https://www.au.org/church-state/may-2013-church-state/au-bulletin/nc-state-religion-bill-dies-after-national-furor

The resolution, which was cosponsored by nine state lawmakers, asserted that "each state is sovereign and may independently determine how the state may make laws respecting an establishment of religion." It also declared that "the North Carolina General Assembly does not recognize federal court rulings which prohibit and otherwise regulate the State of North Carolina, its public schools, or any political subdivisions of the State from making laws respecting an establishment of religion."

House Speaker Thom Tillis (R-Charlotte), had the measure pulled after it received a torrent of national and international ridicule.

10. Mt. Soledad cross must be removed, court rules: In the latest twist of a long-running church-state case, a federal court ruled that a towering cross on public land in San Diego must come down. The Mt. Soledad cross has been the subject of litigation for more than 20 years. Although its supporters claim that the cross is a war memorial, opponents note that the cross was never described as a memorial to veterans until recent times. They also assert that a sectarian symbol like a cross cannot memorialize all war dead. https://www.au.org/blogs/wall-of-separation/cross-over-court-rules-calif-sectarian-symbol-on-government-land-must-come

Cross defenders are appealing the decision in Jewish War Veterans of the USA v. Hagel.

Happy New Year!

# Michelle Malkin Opposes Reason, Religious Liberty, Minority Rights ... And Christianity! - Marietta Daily Journal, January 5, 2014

Dear Editor:

Michelle Malkin ("Cruciphobia and the cross the Left can't bear," *MDJ*, 30 Dec 2013 http://mdjonline.com/view/full\_story/24305399/article--Cruciphobia--and-the-cross-the-Left-can-t-bear) issues a thoroughly false statement that atheists "don't stand for reason or religious liberty." So it is interesting that in the same column she shows that she opposes reason, religious liberty, minority rights ... and Christianity (or at least Christianity's key symbol).

Malkin insists that Christians should be allowed the special privilege of having their most religious symbol as the only symbol to be in a public park honoring war dead, and that everyone else should have the "freedom" to acknowledge and appreciate Christianity. According to her, opposition to such an arrangement is anti-American, anti-Christian, and extremist. And, by the way, she fails Logic 101 by repeating the longstanding lie that the "Founding Fathers fought for freedom of religion, not freedom from religion." She claims that a majority vote can over-ride individual and minority rights—about as thoroughly un-American as one can get. For Malkin the only choice is to either venerate Christianity and Christian symbols or be considered "vengeful purveyors of cruciphobia" or "haters." So much for liberty.

Only by considering the cross as something other than a symbol of Christianity (Christians, are you all okay with this? Malkin seems to be) can the courts permit the ongoing pretense that no government is endorsing a religion in this case. Imagine that an Islamic or atheistic symbol were proposed for a mountaintop in a state park and perhaps the absurdity will become clear.

The Founding Fathers and the Constitution they approved certainly did not want governments to be engaged in eliminating religious organizations, activities, or symbols. Every community in America, and nearly every street corner, shows that no one is attempting any such destruction, as churches, temples, and mosques abound. But those same framers understood well that if governments have the power to erect huge crosses, then by the same principle governments can declare that your religious or irreligious beliefs are unacceptable. Freedom of religion must include the full freedom to accept or reject any or all religious beliefs. If freedom from religion is not a choice, then religious freedom is denied.

Regards,

## **ED BUCKNER**

Author (with Michael E. Buckner) of In Freedom We Trust: An Atheist Guide to Religious Liberty (Prometheus Books, 2012)

Treasurer and Former President, American Atheists http://www.atheists.org ebuckner@atheists.org

# New York State Senator Andrew Lanza Calls For Boycott of Times Square, Revocation of American Atheists' Nonprofit Status

# American Atheists responds with an open letter to NY State Senator Lanza

http://news.atheists.org/2013/12/17/new-york-state-senator-andrew-lanza-calls-for-boycott-of-times-square-revocation-of-atheists-nonprofit-status/

Following is a press release issued by New York State Senator Andrew Lanza (R-Staten Island) which called for a boycott of Times Square and the revocation of American Atheists' 501(c)(3) nonprofit status because of their Christmas billboard campaign. American Atheists President David Silverman released the open letter below to State Senator Lanza.

### **State Senator Andrew Lanza**

Legislative Office Building 188 State Street Room 915 Albany, NY 12247 December 16, 2013

State Senator Andrew Lanza:

Your recent press release "denouncing" our "hateful" billboard in Times Square and "calling for the revocation" of American Atheists' 501(c)(3) nonprofit status leads me to believe that you have little idea what the First Amendment of the Constitution actually protects. Please allow me to educate you.

The First Amendment gives all Americans, irrespective of their beliefs, exactly the same rights. This means we all have the right to express ourselves as long as we don't infringe on the rights of others. Nobody has more or fewer rights than anyone else. Christianity is not superior to atheism or any other system; Christianity is equal to atheism under the Constitution.

Does our billboard infringe on anyone's rights to do as they see fit? Can our billboard affect your life if you don't want it to do so? One could ask the same question about Christian billboards threatening non-Christians with hell.

The answer, of course, is no. Billboards don't infringe on people's rights.

You are the one attempting to infringe on others' rights. You are petitioning, on your official government-hosted website, to suppress our Constitutional right to freedom of speech. This is truly an act that should frighten Americans. Your abuse of your office to attempt to silence a minority group is not only un-American, it is the antithesis of the ideals upon which our nation was founded.

You should be ashamed of yourself, and all New Yorkers should be ashamed to be represented by you. In your press release, you defame the character of the tens of millions of atheists, agnostics, and nontheists by saying, "[I]t is not surprising to me that people who do not believe in God are hateful and malicious." That is bigotry, plain and simple. You smear the nearly 3 million non-religious New Yorkers with your hate. You are unworthy of the office you hold.

New Yorkers deserve to be governed fairly by someone who understands the value of diversity and the benefits of freedom of speech, not by a theocrat who attacks our most cherished values on a religious whim.

The fact that you are using your religious hatred to try to damage the businesses in New York's Times Square by calling for a boycott there during the holiday season astounds me. I wonder if you'd call for a boycott of your own home district if there was a billboard you didn't like erected in Staten Island.

You call our billboard "hate speech." You say that "there is no room in our

society for religious hatred or persecution." Yet, this critique rings hollow when it comes from a man who voted to enshrine religious persecution in the laws of New York by voting against equality for LGBT New Yorkers.

Our billboard, which points out that Christmas is better without the religious baggage, is not hate speech nor persecution, Senator. Critique is not persecution. Demanding our equality is not an attack on your rights. It is an assertion of ours.

America is not a Christian nation. In the words of President Obama, "We are a nation of Christians and Muslims, Jews and Hindus—and nonbelievers." Our First Amendment rights are not negotiable, and neither is our place in society. We will continue to assert our rights proudly and defend the right of all Americans to have a government that treats all religions—and all citizens—equally.

Make no mistake: We do not fear you. The more you attempt to silence us, the louder you will hear us rise in opposition to your posturing. You are so damaged by your religion that you can't obey your own oath to uphold the Constitution when it conflicts with your dogma and pride.

Enjoy our current and future awareness-raising projects. It could not be more clear that you need them.

Sincerely,

### **David Silverman**

President American Atheists

## Tweets from State Senator Lanza

Lanza's Tweet: https://twitter.com/senatorlanza/status/411683109881774080/photo/1 (he has since deleted it)

Lanza's second Tweet: https://twitter.com/senatorlanza/status/411847703321378816

Lanza's Petition: http://www.nysenate.gov/webform/

petition-remove-intolerant-advertisement

Lanza's Press Release: http://www.nysenate.gov/press-release/senator-andrew-lanza-denounces-american-atheists-hateful-times-square-advertisement-sa

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# Other Meetings of Interest in Metro Atlanta

Atlanta Astronomy Club meetings are usually held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at AF Hall. However according to the website the January general meeting will take place from 3-5 at Fernbank Science Center, 156 Heaton Park Drive, Atlanta, GA 30307. (http:// www.atlantaastronomy.org)

The Fellowship of Reason meets on the first Sunday of every month at 10:30 AM at AF Hall. They also have meetings for book discussion, philosophy, a classic film course, and other events. (http:// www.fellowshipofreason.com.)

There will be a meetup for Atlanta atheists on Saturday, Jan. 12, at 6:00 p.m. at Thinking Man Tavern, 537 W. Howard Ave, in Decatur. (http://www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists/)

Another meetup for Atlanta atheists is scheduled for Sun., Jan. 26 at 4:00 p.m. at Five Seasons Brewery, 5600 Roswell Rd, in Sandy Springs. (http://www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists)

The Fayette Freethought Society hosts lunches, dinners, book discussions, civic activities and more. (http://www.meetup.com/ Fayette-Freethought-Society/)

The Peachtree City **Humanists** meet

often for discussions at Starbucks, lunch, dinner at She's Bistro, and more. Several upcoming events in October. (http://www. meetup.com/Peachtree-City-Humanists-PTCH/.)

# **GUST (Gwinnett: Understanding** Secular Truths) meets on the 2nd Monday of

every month at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett, 12 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrencev-

ille, GA. Their next meeting is at 7:00, Mon. Jan. 13th. (http://www. meetup.com/brights-295/.)

IIG Atlanta will meet in the "Crow's Nest" at Manuel's Tavern, 4:30 p.m Jan. 18. Independent Investigations Group Atlanta is affiliated with IIG-West and Center for Inquiry, and promotes critical thinking about the paranormal, supernatural and unexplained. It offers \$100,000 for anyone who can demonstrate evidence of the occult or paranormal under properly controlled conditions. Questions?

Visit IIGAtlanta.com or contact Shaune Beattie by gmail: shaune. beattie@gmail.com. (http://www.meetup.com/IIG-Atlanta/).

The Atlanta Skeptics will meet on Sat. Jan. 18 at 6:00 p.m., Manuel's Tavern, 602 N Highland Ave. NE, Atlanta. Our very own ER physician Angie Mattke will revisit her very popular alternative medicine topic. This time around she will be walking us through the world of medical myths. We will be in the North Avenue room. (http://www. meetup.com/AtlantaSkeptics/.)

Sunday Assembly Atlanta will meet on Sun. Jan. 19 at 11:00 a.m., SSA Venue, 3580 Pierce Dr Suite 160, Chamblee. From Peachtree Industrial Blvd., turn onto Pierce Drive where you see the Office Depot. Join us for our Sunday Assembly Atlanta's second meeting! We will have foot-stomping fun sing-a-longs, inspiring poetry, and a great talk by Dr. Richard Blue, motivational speaker who specializes in positive psychology. He will be starting our new

year off on the right foot by giving us practical advice about how to combat negative thinking and develop a more positive mindset to improve our relationships and lives. Dr. Blue got his PhD in Counseling and Psychological Services from GSU in 1975 and currently serves as the consultant psychologist for the TV show "Atlanta's Biggest Loser". In addition, Dr. Blue is the author of Dr. Blue's Guide to Making Relationships Work: 50 Quick Tips That Will Save Your Relationship. You can read more about him at his website, http://www.bluephd.com

Childcare is provided and there is a potluck lunch afterwards. SAA will be providing utensils, napkins, and drinks. Don't feel obligated to bring anything but an empty stomach though!

For more about the global movement, check out: http://sundayassembly.com/about/ (http://www.meetup.com/Sunday-Assembly/)

The Black Nonbelievers of Atlanta is having their monthly general meeting at East Point Library, 2757 Main Street on Sun. Jan. 19 from 2:30-4:30 pm. It's the first General Meeting for the New Year! We will be kicking off the year with another youth panel discussion. Many of our children are openly identifying as nonbelievers, and we

would like for them to share their experiences with family, friends and classmates. Also, we will reflect on the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. how his words and actions reflected Humanism more than divine intervention. As always, there will be refreshments provided, networking opportunities and merchandise available. (http://www.meetup.com/

Black-Nonbelievers/)

**The Atlanta Science** Tavern is meeting at

Manuel's Tavern, Saturday, Jan. 25, 7:00 pm, \$3.00 for non-students.

The topic is "Male and female brains: A distinction that makes a difference" by Bradley Cooke, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience Institute, Georgia State University. We have known for more than forty years that the brains of humans and other animals are sexually dimorphic. That is, there are reliable differences in the average size, shape, and connectivity of male and female brains. While the existence of neural sex differences is beyond dispute, their significance is controversial. What do neural sex differences mean for social norms, mental health, and the perennial argument about "nature vs. nurture"?

This Science Tavern presentation will focus on the neuroscience of sex differences. The speaker will describe how sex differences in the brain are typically studied and how the factors that influence their development have been identified. Gonadal hormones such as testosterone and estrogen play a major role in establishing sex differences. Yet at the same time, sex-typical experiences are also important in the development of male and female brains. That is, both hormones and hormonedriven experience seem to be necessary for the normal development and expression of sex-typical brains and behaviors. (http://www.meetup. com/AtlantaScienceTavern)

The SOS (Secular Organizations for Sobriety) meets on Tuesdays at 7:30PM in Roswell. For more information, send an email to donnajgore@yahoo.com.



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# (Or renew your membership with this form or online at www.AtlantaFreethought.org!)

as the social and activist events that we sponsor! voting rights in the organization—and enjoyment of the superb speakers we have coming up, as well Society. Every month you will get our acclaimed monthly newsletter, the Atlanta Freethought News, If you've enjoyed what you've read, we enthusiastically invite you to join the Atlanta Freethought

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send it to you at no additional charge. (You can also pick up a paper newsletter at any AFS meeting.) and mailing expenses. But if you really want the paper version of the newsletter, just let us know and we wil Paper newsletter: We encourage members to receive the newsletter by email. This avoids the printing

Thank you for your support! We look forward to your being with us in the coming months!

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# **Atlanta Freethought Society**

4775 N. Church Lane SE Atlanta, GA 30080-7224 www.atlantafreethought.org afs@atlantafreethought.org

"Religious bondage shackles and debilitates the mind and unfits it for every noble enterprise, every expanded prospect."

—James Madison, 1774

# We still have these great books for sale:

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By the late, great Carol Faulkenberry (illustrated by Amanda Faulken- berry); like Ambrose Bierce's Devil's Dictionary — but better: more biting, funnier. Guaranteed to make you laugh out loud and to challenge at least one idea you hold.

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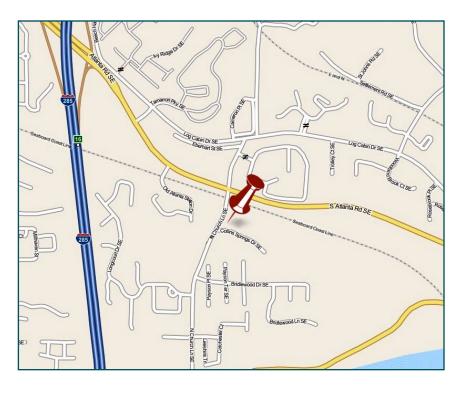
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The January 12
Meeting:
1:00 at AF Hall,
4775 N. Church Lane SE
Atlanta, GA

# This Month's Speaker: Charles "Chuck" Miller



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