

The February AFS Meeting

This month's AFS meeting will be on Sunday, February 10 at 1:00PM. Our speaker will be **Reggie Finley**, who will tell us about his latest adventure as "Dr. Ion" in a new company called The Fun Scientists LLC. The Fun Scientists's mission is to provide the very best in science education and entertainment to children and families. They combine fitness-fun as well as stimulating and engaging science demonstrations for growing and curious minds. Their science programs are meant to always be fun, engaging, high-quality and safe.



Reggie is the founder and President of the company. Dilandrea (Dee) Finley is a co-owner and CFO.

This AFS program will include fun activities and science demonstrations and will be especially good for children, so please feel free to bring your little

ones to the meeting!

Reggie has been very busy the last few years in his own education. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Science Education, a Bachelor's degree in Human Development and is now completing his last term to earn a Masters degree in "Science and the Public." He is looking to start in a Ph.D program specializing in Science Education in June of 2013.

Calendar

- 2/10 AFS Board Meeting, 11:00 a.m.
 - 2/10 AFS General Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
 - 3/10 AFS Board Meeting, 11:00 a.m.
 - 3/10 Potluck Lunch, 12 Noon
 - 3/10 AFS General Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
 - 3/23 Medshare, 15-20 people 1-4 p.m.
Ameribistro on Flat Shoals Pkwy after
- All events at AF Hall unless noted.*

Member Bios

Paul Broman: I'm a 35 year old married software engineer who has worked for both Yahoo!



and Microsoft, and yet still found time to work for a small software shop run by Scientologists. I was raised in Jacksonville, FL by a mom who had an atheist father and a dad who was a Biblical literalist from Colorado who didn't subscribe to organized

religion, and enjoyed debating Jehovah's Witnesses who he would invite into his house.

Despite being raised to believe the Bible and disbelieve evolution, I began to doubt in my teens when I became more aware of the existence of non-Christian religions and the fact that if I had been born elsewhere I would have believed a religion that I had been taught in my actual life to believe was false. This combined with the absurdity of disbelieving evolution in our modern times drove me headlong into atheism around the time I moved to Seattle in 1998.

I returned to Florida in 2003 and found myself un-

wittingly working for Scientologist ex-Microsofties, which led to an amusing 6 months with a number of good stories which had to come to an abrupt end when I found a job in Orlando, FL working for a company that would be acquired by Yahoo! in 2005. It was in Orlando where I met and married my wife. I moved to Atlanta in 2009 shortly after the birth of my daughter Alana when Yahoo! downsized their office in Orlando, but I love it here.

Bob Konopelski: Age 43, live in Smyrna, in Atlanta area for 19 years, originally from Reading, PA, Software Consultant.



I was raised as a Catholic but on some level I've always been an atheist. I didn't officially come out until I was 40. After seeing all the harm that religion has inflicted and is still inflicting, it became apparent that it was necessary to come

out and support the cause of Reason.

I can be contacted at 678.468.6688 or bobbybig-brain@gmail.com. Facebook: Bob Konopelski.



Programs and Speakers

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

Feb 10: Reginald Finley

Mar 10: Bob Truett

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

AFS Email List

The AFS Announcements email list provides subscribers with reminders and updates on AFS activities. Send an email to AFS-Announce-subscribe@yahoo-groups.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>.

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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.

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New board member needed to replace Rick Pace

Atlanta Freethought News

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AFS Webmaster: Michael Buckner
Website Help: Paul Broman
AFS Facebook Site: Laura Ross & Rick Pace

New Billboard in San Diego Puts Atheism in Positive Light

by David Silverman

<http://atheists.org/new-billboard-san-diego-puts-atheism-positive-light>



(San Diego, California,
January 30, 2013)
**“Atheism: A personal
relationship with
reality.”**

These words appear over an image of a curtain, held open by a stack of books, that reveals an appealing natural scene. They are part of a prominent 14 ft x 48 ft billboard scheduled to go up today along the Martin Luther King Jr. Freeway (SR 94) near College Avenue. Its appearance is the product of a joint effort by the national American Atheists and the local San Diego Coalition of Reason. The latter is a cooperative network of 18 atheist, humanist, skeptic and church-state separation groups. These include student, military, parenting, support and social groups as well as lecture societies and congregationally-structured communities.

The billboard cost \$4,000, paid for by American Atheists and local contributors, and will remain for the next four weeks. For a graphic art image of the billboard, free for media use, visit www.SDCoR.org.

This effort is part of the ongoing nationwide campaigning of both American Atheists and the United Coalition of Reason, which between them have placed billboards in the majority of U.S. states and most major cities over the past five years.

“We want to express how using intelligence to free oneself of the god idea can open the curtain to a inspiring new outlook,” said Debbie Allen, coordinator for the San Diego Coalition of Reason. “Atheism is positive and offers grounding in the real world.”

David Silverman, president of American Atheists, noted: “With many of our previous billboards, we’ve made it a point to challenge traditional religion. But this time we want to show the other side of our coin, that atheism is a breath of fresh air.”

“As for those who will never join us, we hope they will discover that we are a regular part of local communities everywhere,” added Fred Edwards, national director of the United Coalition of Reason, the parent organization of the San Diego Coalition of Reason. “Non-believers like us live all over America. We’re your friends, your neighbors, your coworkers and family members. You should get to know us.”

The billboard was designed by graphic artist Bruce Harris for the San Diego Coalition of Reason. According to Debbie Allen, part of the message of its imagery is: “When you raise the curtain between the known and the unknown,

there is nothing there but the natural world. No wizards, no spirits, no deities.” The billboard will be seen by traffic going east toward Lemon Grove, La Mesa, Spring Valley and Rancho San Diego.

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The San Diego Coalition of Reason (www.SDCoR.org) is an alliance of local organizations working together to increase public awareness of secular-minded groups throughout the San Diego area.

American Atheists (www.Atheists.org) is a prominent national organization that labors for the civil liberties of atheists and the absolute separation of government and religion.

The United Coalition of Reason (www.United-CoR.org) is a support organization that exists to raise the visibility and sense of unity among local groups in the community of reason.

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Why I Raise My Children Without God

By TXBlue08 | Posted January 14, 2013 | Texas

<http://ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-910282>

CNN PRODUCER NOTE: TXBlue08, a mother of two teenagers in Texas, blogs about raising her children without religion. She said she shared this essay on CNN iReport because 'I just felt there is not a voice out there for women/moms like me. I think people misunderstand or are fearful of people who don't believe in God.' What are your thoughts on this iReport? Share your written response via our Sound Off assignment.

Update: CNN hasn't flagged this iReport as inappropriate, but some community members have. This is a divisive topic, however it does not violate our Community Guidelines, so we ask people to please stop flagging it. We will continue to review the story as often as possible.

- dsashin, CNN iReport producer

When my son was around 3 years old, he used to ask me a lot of questions about heaven. Where is it? How do people walk without a body? How will I find you? You know the questions that kids ask.

For over a year, I lied to him and made up stories that I didn't believe about heaven. Like most parents, I love my child so much that I didn't want him to be scared. I

wanted him to feel safe and loved and full of hope. But the trade-off was that I would have to make stuff up, and I would have to brain-wash him into believing stories that didn't make sense, stories that I didn't believe either.

One day he would know this, and he would not trust my judgment. He would know that I built an elaborate tale—not unlike the one we tell children about Santa—to explain the inconsistent and illogical legend of God.

And so I thought it was only right to be honest with my children. I am a non-believer, and for years I've been on the fringe in my community. As a blogger, though, I've found that there are many other parents out there like me. We are creating the next generation of kids, and there is a wave of young agnostics, atheists, free thinkers and humanists rising up through the ranks who will, hopefully, lower our nation's religious fever.

Here are a few of the reasons why I am raising my children without God.

God is a bad parent and role model.

If God is our father, then he is not a good parent. Good parents don't allow their children to inflict harm on others. Good people don't stand by and

watch horrible acts committed against innocent men, women and children. They don't condone violence and abuse. "He has given us free will," you say? Our children have free will, but we still step in and guide them.

God is not logical.

How many times have you heard, "Why did God allow this to happen?" And this: "It's not for us to understand." Translate: We don't understand, so we will not think about it or deal with the issue. Take for example the senseless

tragedy in Newtown. Rather than address the problem of guns in America, we defer responsibility to God. He had a reason. He wanted more angels. Only he knows why. We write poems saying that we told God to leave our schools. Now he's making us pay the price. If there is a good, all-knowing, all-powerful God who loves his children, does it make sense that he would allow murders, child abuse, wars, brutal beatings, torture and millions of heinous acts to be committed throughout the history of mankind? Doesn't this go against



everything Christ taught us in the New Testament?

The question we should be asking is this: "Why did we allow this to happen?" How can we fix this? No imaginary person is going to give us the answers or tell us why. Only we have the ability to be logical and to problem solve, and we should not abdicate these responsibilities to "God" just because a topic is tough or uncomfortable to address.

God is not fair.

If God is fair, then why does he answer the silly prayers of some while allowing other, serious requests, to go unanswered? I have known people who pray that they can find money to buy new furniture. (Answered.) I have known people who pray to God to help them win a soccer match. (Answered.) Why are the prayers of parents with dying children not answered?

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If God is fair, then why are some babies born with heart defects, autism, missing limbs or conjoined to another baby? Clearly, all men are not created equally. Why is a good man beaten senseless on the street while an evil man finds great wealth taking advantage of others? This is not fair. A game maker who allows luck to rule mankind's existence has not created a fair game.

God does not protect the innocent.

He does not keep our children safe. As a society, we stand up and speak for those who cannot. We protect our little ones as much as possible. When a child is kidnapped, we work together to find the child. We do not tolerate abuse and neglect. Why can't God, with all his powers of omnipotence, protect the innocent?

God is not present.

He is not here. Telling our children to love a person they cannot see, smell, touch or hear does not make sense. It means that we teach children to love an image, an image that lives only in their imaginations. What we teach them, in effect, is to love an idea that we have created, one that is based in our fears and our hopes.

God Does Not Teach Children to Be Good

A child should make moral choices for the right reasons. Telling him that he must behave because God is watching means that his morality will be externally focused rather than internally structured. It's like telling a child to behave or Santa won't bring presents. When we take God out of the picture, we place responsibility of doing the right thing onto the shoulders of our children. No, they won't go to heaven or rule their own planets when they die, but they can sleep better at night. They will make their family proud. They will feel better about who they are. They will be decent people.

God Teaches Narcissism

"God has a plan for you." Telling kids there is a big guy in the sky who has a special path for them makes children narcissistic; it makes them think the world is at their disposal and that, no matter what happens, it doesn't really

matter because God is in control. That gives kids a sense of false security and creates selfishness. "No matter what I do, God loves me and forgives me. He knows my purpose. I am special." The irony is that, while we tell this story to our kids, other children are abused and murdered, starved and neglected. All part of God's plan, right?

When we raise kids without God, we tell them the truth—we are no more special than the next creature. We are just a very, very small part of a

big, big machine—whether that machine is nature or society—the influence we have is minuscule. The realization of our insignificance gives us a true sense of humbleness.

I understand why people need God. I understand why people need heaven. It is terrifying to think that we are all alone in this universe, that one day we—along with the children we love so much—will cease to exist. The idea of God and an afterlife gives many of us structure, community and hope.

I do not want religion to go away. I only want religion to be kept at home or in church where it belongs. It's a personal effect, like a toothbrush or a pair of shoes. It's not something to be used or worn by strangers. I want my children to be free not to believe and to know that our schools and our government will make decisions based on what is logical, just and fair—not on what they believe an imaginary God wants.



American Atheists 50th Anniversary National Convention

March 28-31, 2013 • Austin, Texas

Featuring: A.C. Grayling, Congressman Pete Stark, Katherine Stewart, Jay Jay French, Cara Santa Maria, Dave Silverman, Matt Dillahunty, Teresa MacBain, Seth Andrews, Hemant Mehta, and many more!

The convention includes our 1st Annual Art Show and Silent Auction! Download your application at

<http://atheists.org/artshow> before all the spaces are gone!

Download your application at <http://atheists.org/convention2013>

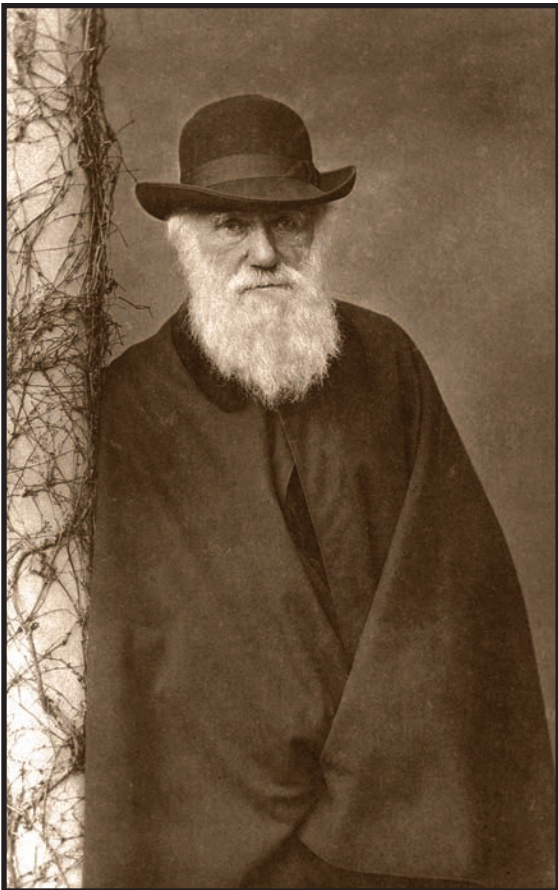
Get the latest updates on Twitter: [#AACON13](https://twitter.com/AACON13)



About the International Darwin Day Foundation (IDDF)

<http://darwinday.org/about-us/#history>

The International Darwin Day Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)3 educational corporation, and its mission is to promote the public education about science and to encourage the celebration of science and humanity. It is managed by the American Humanist Association (<http://americanhumanist.org/>) as an autonomous program.



Science is our most reliable knowledge system, and it has provided us with information that has greatly improved our lives, through this intellectual enterprise. Therefore we believe that it is time for everyone to learn more about science, and to celebrate its many accomplishments.

Mission Statement

The dual mission of The International Darwin Day Foundation is to **promote public education about science** and in addition to **encourage the celebration of Science and Humanity** throughout the global community including the general public, private and public institutions, science professionals, science educators at all levels, libraries, museums, the print and electronic media, and science enthusiasts everywhere. **Science is**

our most reliable knowledge system. It has been, and continues to be, acquired solely through the application of human curiosity and ingenuity and, most importantly, it has provided enormous benefit to the health, prosperity and intellectual satisfaction for our human existence. These are worthy achievements for all people to celebrate! [...]

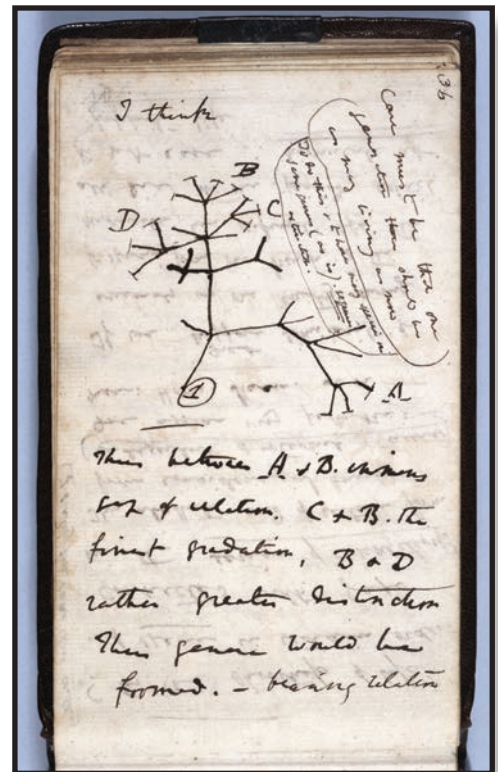
The Origins and History of Darwin Day

We suspect that ever since Charles Darwin published his famous book, *On The Origin of Species* that there have been sporadic efforts to celebrate his accomplishments. One, with a recent but prolonged history, was initiated in 1980, at Salem College in Massachusetts. This weeklong event called the Darwin Festival (<http://www.salemstate.edu/~pkelly/darwin/>) continues to be held each year.

However, the history that leads directly to this Darwin Day Web site was initiated by Dr. Robert ("Bob") Stephens and took place at Stanford University. The first EVENT (<http://darwinday.org/events/darwin-day-1995/>) sponsored by the Stanford Humanists (<http://www.stanford.edu/group/Humanists/>) student group and the Humanist Community (<http://humanists.org/dday.htm>), was held on April 22, 1995. The famous anthropologist **Dr. Donald Johanson**, who discovered the early fossil human called '**Lucy**', gave a lecture entitled "Darwin and Human Origins" to over 600 people in the Kresge Auditorium.

In subsequent years the location and date of the celebration was changed to coincide with Darwin's birthday and was held on, or near, February 12 each year. The success of the venture is reflected in the list of speakers which include **Richard Dawkins**, 1996; **Paul Berg**, 1997; **Robert Sapolsky**, 1998; **Douglas Hofstadter**, 1999; **Michael Shermer**, 2001; **Robert Stephens** and **Arthur Jackson**, 2003; **Robert and Lola Stephens**, 2004; and **Eugenie Scott**, 2005.

In the intervening years, after the original **Darwin Day Celebration** was established, Bob worked with other groups to expand the idea of celebrating Science and Humanity. Modern cultures, which rely so heavily on scientific knowledge which was developed solely on the basis of human curiosity and ingenuity, had not developed a tradition by which to show appreciation for this phenomenal knowledge system which is largely responsible for providing all of us with the standard of health



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and prosperity that we enjoy today. Therefore, the Darwin Day celebration was seen as an authentic way to show appreciation to all those, both past and present, who have contributed to the scientific enterprise. The overall goal of the original concept was to recognize the achievements of humanity as represented in the acquisition of verifiable scientific knowledge.

In the year 2000, after a serendipitous meeting between two Darwin enthusiasts, **Amanda Chesworth** and **Bob Stephens** — they co-founded the Darwin Day Program. Bob became Chairman of the Board and President of the nonprofit corporation while Amanda became

a member of the Board, Secretary and Executive Director of the Program. Amanda's interest in Darwin complemented that of Dr. Stephens by having had a long-standing interest in Darwinian evolution and also, by having independently hosted previous Darwin events. The third member of the Board was **Dr. Massimo Pigliucci** who, also independently, initiated an annual Darwin Day event at the University of Tennessee (<http://fp.bio.utk.edu/darwin/>), in 1997. Dr. Pigliucci became the Vice President. **Arthur Jackson**, who had been involved since the original Darwin Day Celebration in 1995, became a member of the Board in 2002. Much was accomplished during the next 3 years and much of the credit goes to Amanda. The number of EVENTS that took place around the world increased substantially over these years and thousands of people attended these events to learn more about Darwin. More importantly however, they learned about Science and the role of humans in developing the Scientific Method that permitted the acquisition of an enormous amount of verifiable scientific knowledge, that is now available to modern humans. To Amanda's credit, a substantial book was published in 2003 by Tangled Bank Press, entitled *Darwin Day Collection One*.

Celebrating Science and Humanity within our various cultures throughout the world is an idea that is overdue, and the current mission of Darwin Day is to greatly expand our outreach efforts directed towards a Global Celebration in 2009, Darwin's 200th birthday. Please register (<http://darwinday.org/wp-login.php?action=register>) to create your event with us.

Additional independent Darwin Celebrations have also been developed. For instance, in 1997 the University of Tennessee initiated an annual two-day event sponsored by the Tennessee Darwin Coalition (<http://fp.bio.utk.edu/darwin/>). This web site is an excellent example for other Universities to visit when they

are considering the development of a Darwin Day project for their campus.

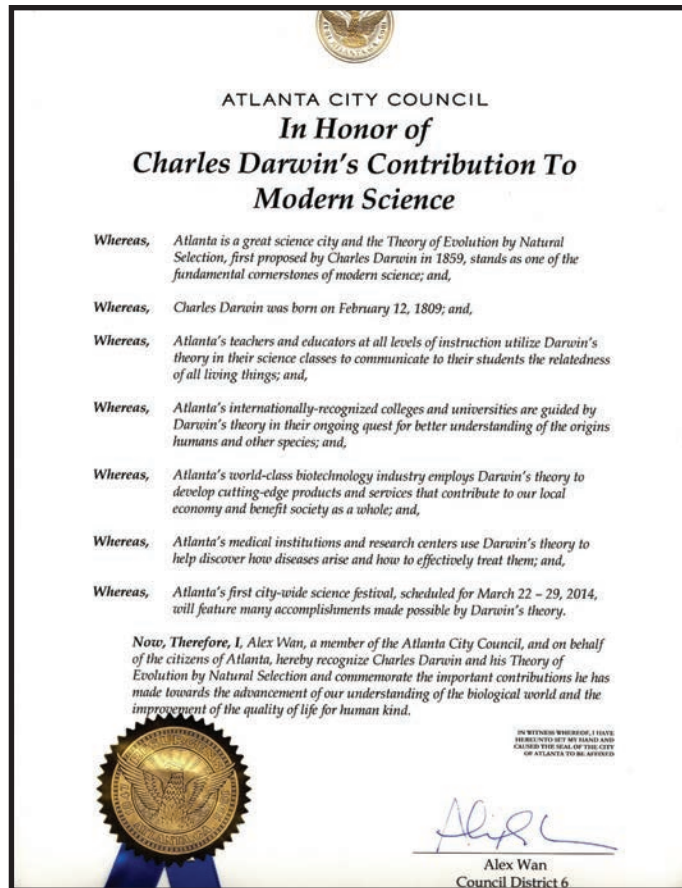
Baruck College has an interesting Darwin web site with a number of facets to it, that was started in 1998 with an 'Introduction to Charles Darwin.' (<http://darwin.baruch.cuny.edu/biography/index.html>) Subsequent additions took the form of Faculty Development Colloquia (<http://darwin.baruch.cuny.edu/colloquium.html>) and Seminars (<http://darwin.baruch.cuny.edu/seminar.html>).

Shrewsbury England is the place where Charles Darwin was born and this small town in the Western Midlands near the Welsh border has had a week long Celebration in early February for the past four years. However, in 2005 they expanded the Celebration to a month-long affair. This impressive Celebration (<http://www.darwinshrewsbury.com/>) will feature films, speakers, and plays, together with many activities for citizens and visitors alike. They recognize the importance of their "most famous native son" and look forward to expanding their celebration.

A novel way of celebrating Darwin that has its roots in the misty past is to have a "Phylum Feast" (<http://pinicola.ca/darwind2.htm>). This tradition has been nurtured since 1989 (http://www.ucl.ac.uk/biology/new/admin/dbp/dbp_history.html) by the personnel at the Eastern Biodiversity Museum (<http://pinicola.ca/bmnhc.htm>) at Bishop Mills, Canada.

Once our web site was established in 2000 we invited all those around the world who wanted to join the Celebration of Science and Humanity to register and advertise their events on this site and you can review them here (<http://darwinday.org/events/>). Note that events take place in many countries and vary from private dinner parties to week-long symposia. Our current objective is to reach out to ever greater numbers of people and organizations to make Darwin Day a truly International Celebration.

Thanks to Marc Merlin of the Atlanta Science Tavern for his hard work in persuading the City of Atlanta to declare an official Proclamation Commemorating Charles Darwin!



Other Meetings of Interest in Metro Atlanta

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. See <http://www.fellowshipofreason.com>.

The Fayette Freethought Society hosts lunches, dinners, book discussions, civic activities and more. See details at <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. See <http://www.meetup.com/Peachtree-City-Humanists-PTCH/>.

GUST (Gwinnett: Understanding Secular Truths) meet often for discussions, etc. For more information, see <http://gust.domek.org/>.

The Atlanta Skeptics have arranged a group tour on Feb. 16 with Roswell Ghost Tours. We will be meeting at 6:00 p.m. first for dinner at Rasa Sayang, a Malaysian/Chinese restaurant, 1425 Market Blvd. #1390, Roswell, GA, 30076 Tel: (770) 643-8812 (<http://www.rasasayangrestaurant.com/>), then head to the Ghost Tour at 617 Atlanta St Roswell, GA 30075, Tel: (770) 649-9922. For people skipping dinner, please note they must be at the Ghost Tour no later than 7:45pm.

The cost will be \$15/head for adults; and \$10 for children under 12, not including gratuity. Payment will be made individually to the tour guide when they get there (please do not try to pay on meetup), cash only.

Also it is requested that you bring a flashlight for yourself/your group, we will be walking through a few dark unlit areas, also sensible walking shoes, coat etc. If it is a light rain the tour will still take place, so plan accordingly. For heavy rain we will have to cancel, so please check the meetup site just beforehand.

They are flexible on headcount, but please consider your RSVP a little bit more carefully than normal so we have a reasonable idea of final numbers. Also please let us know

when you RSVP if you will be attending the dinner so we can keep the restaurant apprised of the numbers.

Lastly, please bear in mind we are representing not just Atlanta Skeptics, but the entire skeptics movement, so let's keep things civil if a bit challenging for our tour guide (and yes, they know who we are). See more about it at <http://www.meetup.com/AtlantaSkeptics/>.

The Black Nonbelievers of Atlanta meet often for discussions, social events, etc. For more info see <http://blacknonbelievers.org/>.

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

The Atlanta Science Tavern will host a fundraiser for the Charlie Bates Solar Astronomy Project, the world's largest solar astronomy outreach program on Sat., Feb. 23, at 7:00PM at Manuel's Tavern, 602 N. Highland Ave NE, in

Atlanta. Steven W. Ramsden will talk about Bringing Solar Astronomy to 50,000 People a Year. Suggested donation is \$10 per person. There will be free Solar Viewing Glasses and solar-related educational materials for all attendees. See more at <http://www.meetup.com/AtlantaScienceTavern/>

There will be a **meetup for Atlanta atheists** on Sunday, Feb. 10, at 6:00PM 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., Feb. 24, at 4:00 PM at Five Seasons Brewery, 5600 Roswell Rd, in Sandy Springs. (<http://www.meetup.com/>)

IIG Atlanta will have a general meeting Saturday, Feb. 16 at 6:00 p.m. at Rasa Sayang along with Atlanta Skeptics and will arrive at the Roswell Ghost Tour afterwards. (See the Atlanta Skeptics blurb). The organization exists to promote critical thinking about the paranormal, supernatural and unexplained and also offers \$50,000 for anyone who can demonstrate evidence of the occult or paranormal under properly controlled conditions. <http://www.meetup.com/IIG-Atlanta/>.



WWFSMD?

Become a Member!

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

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

Individual memberships: One person can become a member for \$50 per year.

Sustaining memberships: One person can become a sustaining member for \$100 per year.

Life memberships: Avoid the hassle of renewing every year. A life membership lasts a lifetime.

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

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

Annual dues are:

Membership Dues# of mems Total

Individual \$50 _____ Name _____

Low Income \$20 _____ Address: _____

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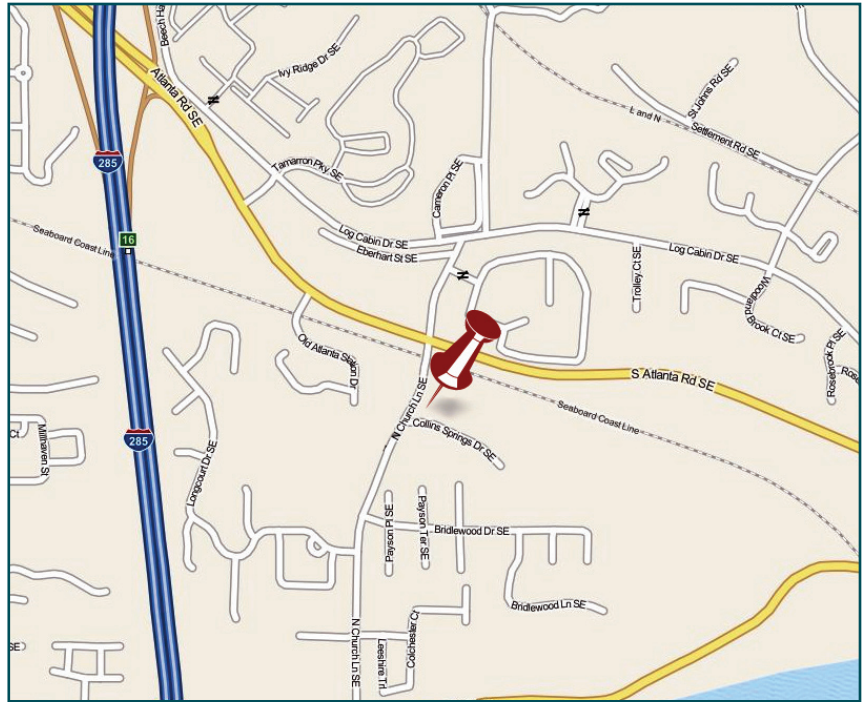
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Dare To Think For Yourself!

**The Feb. 10 Meeting:
1:00 at AF Hall,
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Smyrna, GA**

**This Month's Speaker:
Reginald Finley**



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