

## January AFS Meeting Austin Gates “Free Speech Under Attack”

**Austin Gates** will talk about the erosion of free speech in modern America and the dangerous consequences. He'll discuss why free speech is important, how modern day policing techniques and laws are slowly chipping away at our freedoms, and what we can all do to fight back.



**Austin Gates**

Austin Gates is 24 years old and is from Atlanta. He currently works as a political strategist and consultant for Democratic candidates and elected officials in Georgia.

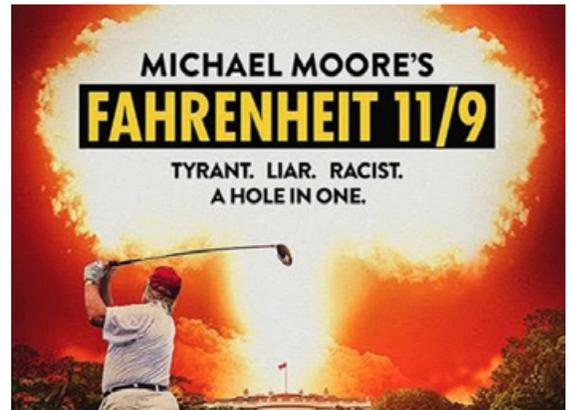
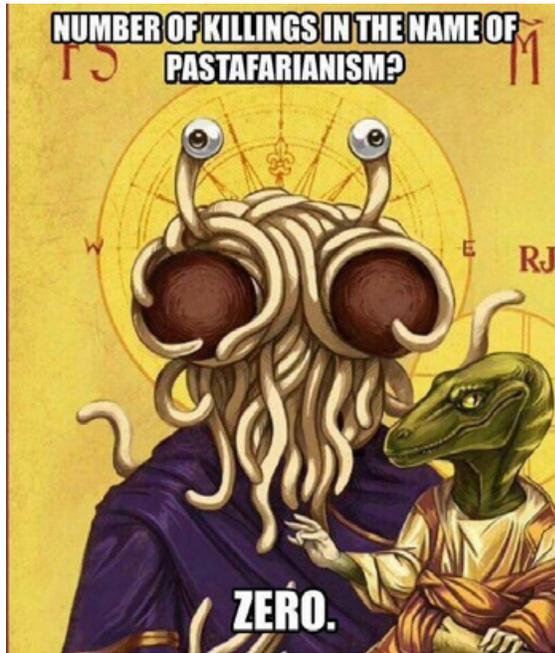
He was drawn to politics and advocacy when he was wrongfully arrested at a 2014 protest against the Ferguson, MO grand jury decision not to indict a police officer who shot and killed a black teen while his hands were in the air. He currently has a lawsuit pending before the United States Supreme Court that could have lasting implications if the court decides in his favor.

### Calendar

Jan 13	AFS Board Meeting	11:00 a.m.
Jan 13	AFS General Meeting	1:00 p.m.
Jan 19	FFRF/AFS movie night	7:00 p.m.
Feb 10	Potluck Lunch	12:00 p.m.
Feb 10	AFS General Meeting	1:00 p.m.

All events are at AF Hall unless noted and are subject to change.

Be sure to like AFS's Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/AtlantaFreethought](http://www.facebook.com/AtlantaFreethought)



On January 19th at 7:00 p.m. at Atlanta Freethought Hall, the Georgia chapter of FFRF and AFS will continue our combined movie night tradition by showing *Fahrenheit 11/9*, the Michael Moore documentary about the 2016 elections and its aftermath. Much of it we know about, but a lot of stuff Moore has dug up about the behind-the-scene dirty dealing will be explored. We will then discuss the subject and some brief announcements about our activities, future meetings & local issues will follow.

FFRF will provide hot chocolate, coffee & soft drinks. Please bring snacks (chips & dip, cookies appetizers) & your favorite beverage. FFRF & AFS will provide coffee, hot chocolate, soft drinks, plates, cups & cutlery.

All events are free and open to the public.

**For the latest in upcoming AFS events, join our Meetup group!**  
[meetup.com/Atlanta-Freethought-Society](http://meetup.com/Atlanta-Freethought-Society)

## Programs and Speakers

All programs are on the second Sunday of each month at AF Hall, 4775 N. Church Lane SE, Atlanta, GA, 30339 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.

### **Feb 10: Harry Saffold Jr. “Standing on Faithless Grounds”**

### **Mar 10: Mandisa Thomas of Black Nonbelievers: “We Still Have Work To DO!”**

### **Apr 14: Scott O. Lilienfeld, PhD - “Intellectual Humility: Research, Theory, and Implications for Skepticism”**

## 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.com](mailto:AFS-Announce-subscribe@yahoo.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@yahoo.com](mailto:AFSForum-subscribe@yahoo.com). The AFS Facebook page is at [facebook.com/AtlantaFreethought](https://facebook.com/AtlantaFreethought). For calendar information on AFS activities, please join the [Meetup group](#). The AFS website is [www.atlantafreethought.org](http://www.atlantafreethought.org). To keep up to date on the Atlanta Freethought Society calendar of upcoming events, please join our Meetup group: [meetup.com/Atlanta-Freethought-Society](https://meetup.com/Atlanta-Freethought-Society).

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

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

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Views, opinions, positions or strategies expressed by authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, positions or strategies of the Atlanta Freethought Society or any member thereof. The editors of *Atlanta Freethought News* reserve the right to edit or alter in any manner it sees fit any articles deemed to be obscene, offensive, defamatory, threatening, in violation of trademark, copyright or other laws, or is otherwise unacceptable; and also to correct grammar and to conserve space.

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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 voting privileges and  
AFNews by email/USPS (indicate preferences).

Sustaining Membership is \$100.

Life Membership is \$1000.

Subscriptions only are \$30 for 12 issues.

Please make checks and money orders payable to  
**Atlanta Freethought Society**  
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See AFS events and member views at:  
[facebook.com/AtlantaFreethought](https://facebook.com/AtlantaFreethought).

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## 36 Arguments for the Existence of God: A Work of Fiction

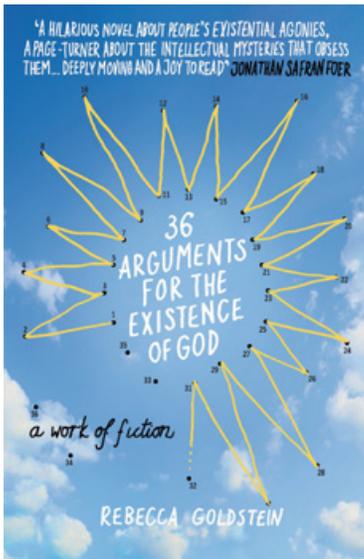
Rebecca Newberger Goldstein

Vintage Books, 2010 • 978-0-307-45671-7

A Review by Charles Shapiro

*36 Arguments for the Existence of God* by Rebecca Newberger Goldstein, is both an entertaining novel and a primer in common arguments for religion and their refutations. The book is in two parts: The first is a funny and engrossing novel. The second is an appendix containing 36 philosophical arguments for the existence of God, together with the reasons that they fall short. The book is both fun and educational.

The novel's protagonist is Cass Seltzer, a professor at a small New York college who has just written a hit book entitled "*The Varieties of Religious Illusion*" (a reference to William James's 1901 book, "*The Varieties of Religious Experience*"). Cass is deeply in love with his girlfriend and has a brand-new offer to teach at Harvard University. The novel moves back and forth in time to show his checkered past and difficult future. One of the themes of the novel is a comparison of the joys and disappointments of romantic love with those of religion.



Goldstein's characters make this book great fun. Lucinda Mandelbaum is the aforementioned girlfriend, a ruthless, brilliant, and beautiful professor specializing in psychology and game theory. Other characters are equally interesting and well-drawn. Jonas Elijah Klapper is Cass's former graduate advisor, a charismatic mystic and hater of "scientism". We also meet Pascale Puissant, Cass's ex-wife, a wild French poet who tends to confuse

the past with the future, and Roz Margolis, his grad-school girlfriend just returned from 30 years of anthropological field work in the Amazon.

The novel is full of entertaining asides, such as a short and mostly-accurate essay on Willam James Sidis, a child prodigy who burned out early. Mathematics runs through the book as well, with miniature essays on an ingenious method of deriving the sum of a set of sequential numbers and a famous proof that there is no largest prime number.

The 36 Chapters in the novel are titled as if they are philosophical arguments for God's existence ("Chapter 20: The Argument from Tidings of Destruction"), but those titles don't match anything in the appendix. I puzzled over this. If you leave off the first three words of the chapter titles, they all relate exactly to the contents in the chapters. I tried to read the chapters as theological arguments, but couldn't find a convincing thread here.

The "36 arguments" appendix in the back, in contrast to the novel, is straight philosophy. Its 36 sections each deal with a specific argument for the existence of God. Each argument is syllogized in a numbered list followed with a short essay explaining its flaws. Argument 24—"The Argument from Holy Books"—first lays out the claim that since holy books claim that God exists then he must exist in four numbered sentences, then enumerates the flaws in that argument (e.g. circularity, and the plethora of different holy books each with a different conception of the deity). The syllogisms and refutations are clear and written for a general reader. This section is pretty slow going compared to the novel, but it provides a solid primer on its

subject. The arguments and flaws will be familiar to anyone who's taken an undergraduate philosophy course.

Goldstein has written a wonderful examination of the ways that religion both helps and hurts people. One central element of the book's plot is the Waldeners, a fictional Jewish sect in a small upstate New York town. Through them, Goldstein shows both the joys and the limitations of a life of faith. The book reads as a defense of atheism, with a careful examination of how religion can both enhance and blight people's lives. It's well worth picking up, even if your usual reading diet tends toward mysteries and science fiction. □

### Simon Blackburn's *Think: A Compelling Introduction to Philosophy*

Oxford University Press, 1999  
312 pp., including index, bibliography, and notes

A Review by Ed Buckner

An Atlanta Freethought Society leader, Dennis Martin, recently organized the AFS library so that the books are finally effectively available for members.

This short review is one in a series on books from our library. If you'd be willing to write such a review, please tell either Ed Buckner or AFNews editor Laura Ross.

Simon Blackburn's *Think* is most appealing. It's clearly written, it has an engaging look and unimposing size, and it's not intended to be the basis for a year-long course; in other words, it's suitable for amateurs like me who are too old to become professional philosophers but who still want to get a better grip on major intellectual ideas. One thing I like is that Blackburn uses only a little symbolic logic (which has in the past been something I've struggled with), and when he does, he explains it well.

The book has eight sections, all brief. And with topics like "God," "Knowledge," "Free Will," and "Reasoning," it's likely that this will be of broad interest to many AFS members. The index and bibliography are well organized and useful.

Blackburn discusses key ideas from philosophers

**Think continued on page 5**

## Changes Needed?

By Jack Egger and Ed Buckner

We are both life members and former leaders of AFS and we agree on some things but we disagree on some key matters as well. And one of us (at least) thinks some changes are needed. We urge members to speak up at meetings or write your own articles or letters to AFNews about any of these matters.

### Our agreed-on opinions:

Belief in the supernatural is harmful to societies. Sometimes religious belief is relatively harmless, sometimes it's quite dangerous. The danger is lessened in parts of the world where the popularity and blind acceptance of religion is fading. Always such beliefs are unjustified.

Opinions about evolution are not properly a matter of *belief*—it's a matter of fact that evolution of the species of life on Earth has occurred over billions of years. The modern consensus theory that has grown directly from **Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* (1859)** to explain this is very close to universally accepted by biologists, and there are no real scientific theories to compete with it.

The evidence is overwhelming that serious, imminently dangerous, global climate change, heavily attributable to human (especially from the petrochemical industry) activity, has occurred for decades now and threatens life on the planet. Nearly every nation on Earth—except, now, disgustingly, the US—has pledged to work to reverse this.

It is quite unlikely that **Donald J. Trump** could have won the presidency without major white Christian/Evangelical support, as **Michael** and **Ed Buckner** laid out in a recent AFS talk (and in an essay by Michael published in *AFNews*). We agree that Trump is among the worst Presidents the US has ever had (since at least Democrat **Andrew Johnson** [1865-1869]). As a non-profit, 501-c-3 organization, AFS cannot—and should not, even if it were legal—endorse or oppose political candidates or parties. And we've both for a long time strongly supported progressive Democrats, but we don't want our organization to do so. We've known one or two freethinkers who voted for Trump and we think both that they were mistaken to do so and that they have every right to see it differently.

No one who knows American history would ever make the mistake of declaring much of anything permanent about a political party in the U.S. The Democrats were once viciously racist and strongly committed to supporting elitist rich folks and the Republicans were once the more pro-labor, pro-government-spending (on canals, railroads, etc.), pro-civil-rights, and anti-monopoly party. But since roughly the days of **Franklin D. Roosevelt**, that has been reversed. As already noted, of course, AFS as an organization cannot and should not support or oppose any political parties and our members may not all agree with us that the Republican Party deserves no support these days.

### The things we disagree at least a little on:

#### I. Do you think AFS should actively promote trust in science?

**Jack Egger:** Yes. We should support the truth and the truth must have evidence to support it. An example of what AFS can do would be to encourage members to put "IN SCIENCE WE TRUST" on their cars, either where the Georgia license plate holders now permits people to put "IN GOD WE TRUST" or as a bumper sticker. (Such stickers are now available in the entrance lobby of AFS Hall—free and available to any who want them.) It's OK to question scientific theories but not scientific facts. There is no scientific evidence that supports religion's supernatural rhetoric. If you don't advocate for the use of the Scientific Method to know the truth of anything, then what exactly are we trying to educate members on?

**Ed Buckner:** Yes, but ... We are an educational freethought organization, not a science advocacy group. The scientific enterprise, while imperfect, is, in my personal opinion, pretty much the only way we have of reliably finding the truth. I don't, however, think we should do anything that might be interpreted as suggesting that blind, dogmatic trust in science is good, nor should we try to deny a member or speaker the right to question science.

#### 2. Where do you see the AFS in 5 years?

**Jack Egger:** What AFS needs most is more members and supporters, but how do we accomplish this? We must have a clear message on what we are about and this needs to be publicized by any means that we can afford. I say something is wrong if our membership is declining! (See next question for a related matter.)

**Ed Buckner:** It's really hard to know. Our numbers have dwindled over the last decade or two, but at least some of that is just the nature of modern American society—many people moving in and out of the area, young people distracted by many other things, etc. I hope and think that the most important factor is probably just the general decline in religion and, especially, religious orthodoxy over the last generation or so. Most people who care about being able to think freely see less threat to being able to do that these days, despite Trump. While every nonprofit can always use money, the main thing AFS needs is more members and supporters—but how we get that to happen is far from clear.

#### 3. Should AFS apply to become a chapter of the American Humanist Association?

**Jack Egger:** AFS should become an AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION Chapter can be less afraid to speak out, like putting "IN SCIENCE WE TRUST" on our cars, and have the backing of a national organization with their lawyers to protect us. Remaining independent seems to be one of the reasons we are losing members; so, what exactly are we trying to educate people about? Atheists who aren't humanist are very dangerous people. Why is anyone concerned about financial or other reporting requirements to AHA, if we gain paying members?

**Ed Buckner:** We should not. I like and respect AHA and their national leader, Roy Speckhardt, and I'd be fine with being affiliated in some way with AHA—but not as a chapter. Being a chapter means—or used to—being an exclusive part of the national organization. We are now friendly with and affiliated with national organizations like the Freedom from Religion Foundation, American Atheists (designated as a "Local Partner"), the Council for Secular Humanism, and Atheist

Alliance, but we are not chapters of any national organization. We should remain independent, avoid financial or other sorts of reporting requirements by national groups or anything that would prevent us from being connected to all the other national organizations.

#### 4. Should there be anything in AFS's Mission Statement showing opposition to the belief in the supernatural?

**Jack Egger:** There should, or at least it should be made clear in our newsletter, because new or prospective members should know that most of our members are opposed to the belief in the supernatural, before they join. People need to know that we don't believe in unfounded dogma, and do believe in the spirit of enquiry.

**Ed Buckner:** There should not. We are—and always have been—a freethought group, one where everyone can come to his/her own conclusions about major matters. The fact that, like most of our members, I am personally opposed to beliefs in supernatural beings does not change that. We have no dogma, no ideas that people must agree on to join. (Of course, if anyone joined and started tried to impose any sort of dogma, including religious beliefs, that would also be vigorously opposed by me and by most members.) We used to advise the public in the newsletter that “most of our members consider themselves atheists, secular humanists, or agnostics, though the group does not require that”—and perhaps the newsletter should start doing that again, though not as part of our mission statement.

#### 5. Should AFS become, officially, a church without any supernatural beliefs?

**Jack Egger:** We should declare ourselves a church without any supernatural beliefs. Churches in Cobb County, GA, are exempt from paying any property taxes. We should not let false pride about paying taxes cost the members \$2800+ each year, money that could be used to advance our mission. I don't think that most members would feel that they are being dishonest if AFS paid no taxes. When we acknowledge that we are willing to pay the taxes when everyone else does, why would anyone feel guilty?

**Ed Buckner:** No. In most dictionaries and in the public's consensus view, churches are organizations that promote religious belief, so calling ourselves a church—even if we explicitly declare that we harbor no supernatural beliefs—would be seen as being dishonest (and would be dishonest in my own view). While there is reasonably good, broad, support for church/state separation in the US, there are some serious violations that should be vigorously opposed. Among these are real estate tax exemptions for religious nonprofits in many (most?) jurisdictions (including Cobb

County, GA) and automatic, completely without accountability, treatment by IRS. Some treatment by IRS as different regarding nonprofit organizations in general is probably appropriate (and AFS has long taken advantage of this as a 501-c-3 educational organization). But the extra benefits religious groups get are, in my never humble opinion, unconstitutional. All nonprofits with real estate (including AFS)—that therefore use fire and police services, public roads, etc.—should pay real estate taxes—and AFS proudly does, to the tune or \$2,000 to \$3,000 a year—even though churches don't.

#### 6. Do you think there is a need to compete with the myth religions to some day have all churches without any supernatural belief?

**Jack Egger:** Yes. Only with strong competition against religion can we succeed. I believe we have to speed this up to save the planet from being uninhabitable for future generations. We must educate, not force people, to know the truth and not the alternate truth they currently believe about the rapture that is coming. Superman or Jesus will not come and fix everything. We need to start building an infrastructure to be able to educate the people that belief in the supernatural on a world level or any level, is wrong and a scourge on humanity. If we continue our status quo position, nothing will change, except I will quit trying to make AFS of this endeavor. We need infrastructure!

**Ed Buckner:** All religions are myth religions and all churches have some form or another of supernatural beliefs. We—not just AFS, but nonreligious people and groups in the U.S.—are gradually winning the competition with irrational religion. I'd like to see that improvement happen more rapidly, but I don't think we can seriously speed this up without being anti-freedom and anti-American (without, that is, using the government and laws to try to force people to give up their religious beliefs). Long-term educational efforts, formal and informal, are the key and certainly need to be pursued vigorously. □

### Think continued from page 3

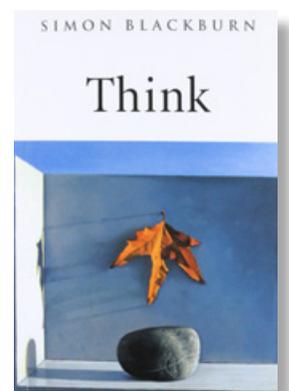
over the last 2000 to 3000 years, citing and explaining major ideas from thinkers like **Plato, Aristotle, Russell, Hume, Descartes, Berkeley, Locke, Pascal, Kant, Epicurus**, and many others, with some telling quotations and witty comments. I was left with the sense that I finally really understand some of these guys' ideas.

My favorite bit was regarding the problem of evil, an idea first laid out, apparently, by Epicurus (341-270 BCE) and often considered by many as the best argument against the existence of an all-powerful, all-loving “God.” Blackburn's analogy for this (pp.170-171) is brilliant and witty—an analogy any future debate opponent I have on the existence of God had best be prepared to counter.

Blackburn is explicit in his introduction about what his little book is and isn't: “This book is for people who want to think about the big themes: knowledge, reason, truth, mind, freedom, destiny, identity, God, goodness, justice. These are not the hidden preserve of specialists. ... This book is self-standing and does not presuppose that the reader has any other resources.”

The clarity of this book means that it is probably of some interest/use to professional philosophical specialists like our own **Dennis Martin**, but it is of far greater interest to us wannabes.

Check it out—and read it, but please remember to return it. □



# Other Meetings of Interest in Metro Atlanta

**The Atlanta Science Tavern** has several meetings planned. Please check meetup page for more information. ([www.meetup.com/AtlantaScienceTavern](http://www.meetup.com/AtlantaScienceTavern))

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

**We Agnostics Atlanta** meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Galano Club, 585 Dutch Valley Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30324. Clubhouse phone number: (404) 881-9188. This is similar to Alcoholics Anonymous group.

**Marietta Skeptic/Humanist Meetup** has various get-togethers and discussion groups. Several upcoming events. ([www.meetup.com/Marietta-Atheists-Meetup](http://www.meetup.com/Marietta-Atheists-Meetup))

**The Peachtree City Humanists** participate in social and educational activities such as dinners, lunches, coffees, outdoor recreation, discussion groups, and book clubs with topics that include science, psychology, philosophy. ([www.meetup.com/Peachtree-City-Humanists-PTCH](http://www.meetup.com/Peachtree-City-Humanists-PTCH))

**The Southern Crescent Freethinkers** sponsor *Navigators*, *Owl & Ibis: A Confluence of Minds*, and meet for dinner, etc. Several upcoming events each month. ([www.meetup.com/Southern-Crescent-Freethinkers](http://www.meetup.com/Southern-Crescent-Freethinkers))

**Recovery from Religion - Morrow Chapter** meets monthly at Barnes & Noble Booksellers Southlake, 1939 Mount Zion Road, Morrow, GA. Join the Meetup group for more information. There is no proselytizing of any kind allowed at these meetings. For more information and resources, please visit [www.recovering-fromreligion.org](http://www.recovering-fromreligion.org). ([www.meetup.com/Recovering-From-Religion-Morrow-Chapter](http://www.meetup.com/Recovering-From-Religion-Morrow-Chapter))

There will be a **meetup for Decatur Atheists** Sun, Jan 13, 6 pm, Thinking Man Tavern, 537 W. Howard Ave, in Decatur. ([www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists](http://www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists))

**GUST (Gwinnett: Understanding Secular Truths)** will meet at 7-9 pm, Mon, Jan 14 at UUCG, 12 Bethesda Church Rd, Lawrenceville. The topic is Science Nuggets. Everyone can bring a subject they'd like to talk about. It can be a recent news article, science history, cool science fact, or something you've been working on personally. ([www.meetup.com/brights-295](http://www.meetup.com/brights-295))

**Atlanta Astronomy Club** will meet on the third Friday at 7:30 pm each month at Fernbank Science Center, 156 Heaton Park Dr, Atlanta, GA 30307 unless otherwise noted. Check website for more info. ([www.atlantaastronomy.org](http://www.atlantaastronomy.org))

**Freedom From Religion Foundation of Georgia** and **AFS** will have a movie night at Atlanta Freethought Hall from 7 pm on Sat, Jan 19. See page 1. ([www.ffrfga.org](http://www.ffrfga.org) - email is [ffrfga@gmail.com](mailto:ffrfga@gmail.com))

**Third Sunday for Atlanta Atheists** is Sun, Jan. 20, 2 pm, Tacos & Tequilas Mexican Grill, 4275 Roswell Rd NE, Atlanta. ([www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists](http://www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists))

**Sunday Assembly Atlanta's** upcoming assembly will be held on Sun, Jan 20, 5:30 pm at First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr NE, Atlanta. They are currently in the planning process, so check Meetup and Facebook for what's in store soon.

This is also a potluck supper. All are welcome. SAA is an extremely active community with a large number of upcoming events including rock chorus, secular support, mindfulness meditation, wonder club, urban wonder, book club, volunteering, queer beyond belief group, public speaking series, etc. ([www.meetup.com/Sunday-Assembly](http://www.meetup.com/Sunday-Assembly))

**Black Nonbelievers** will meet on Sat, Jan 26, 6:30-9:30 pm at Sisters Chapel at Spelman College, 350 Spelman Ln SW, Atlanta. Please support BN member Tiffani Tucker, who will be representing the nonreligious perspective for gOD-Talk: A Black Millennials and Faith Conversation Series spearheaded by the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture Center for the Study of African American Religious Life in association with Pew Research Center and Spelman College. The cost is free and open to the public. Please register at [nmaahc.si.edu/god-talk-black-millennials-and-faith-conversation](http://nmaahc.si.edu/god-talk-black-millennials-and-faith-conversation) ([www.meetup.com/Black-Nonbelievers](http://www.meetup.com/Black-Nonbelievers))

**Ethical Humanists of Atlanta:** Next meeting is Sun, Jan 27 12:30-2 pm at Manuel's Tavern, 603 N. Highland Ave, Atlanta. "Our shared task is to live decently, compassionately, and caringly in the world we inhabit." Come join the conversation. Ethical living is the philosophy of making decisions for daily life which take into account ethics and moral values, particularly with regard to consumerism, sustainability, environmentalism, wildlife and animal welfare.

Any recently made decision have you questioning its ethical or moral value? Maybe you're

teetering or avoiding making a choice due to uncertainty. There's no guarantee questions will be answered, nor an action plan fully evolved, but trust good conversation to occur. Come and let's learn from one another; building forward one step at a time. ([www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanists-of-Atlanta](http://www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanists-of-Atlanta))

There will be a **meetup for Atlanta Atheists** Sun, Jan 27, 4 pm, 5 Seasons Brewing, 5600 Roswell Rd, Prado Shopping Center, Sandy Springs. ([www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists](http://www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists))

**Atlanta Skeptics** has "Drinking Sceptically" on the first Friday of each month at 7 pm. 5 Seasons Brewing, Prado Shopping Center, 5600 Roswell Rd, Sandy Springs. ([www.meetup.com/AtlantaSkeptics](http://www.meetup.com/AtlantaSkeptics))

**Atlanta Atheists** has first Sunday meetups each month: the place varies. Check Meetup for info on the get-together. ([www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists](http://www.meetup.com/Atlanta-Atheists))

**Fellowship of Reason** is going into their 21st year and meets on the first Sunday of every month at 10:30 AM at AF Hall. There are meetings for book discussion, philosophy, a classic film course, and other events. ([www.fellowshipofreason.com](http://www.fellowshipofreason.com))



# Become a Member!

**(Or renew your membership with this form or online at [www.AtlantaFreethought.org](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_

Sustaining Member \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: H \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_

Life Member \$1000 \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscription only \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ Any other things you'd like to tell us? \_\_\_\_\_

Books \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and handling for Books \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Extra donation (Thank you!) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Receive newsletter by email \_\_\_\_\_

(No charge for members)

Receive paper newsletter by mail \_\_\_\_\_

(No charge for members)

Save time and postage by making a payment via **Paypal** to: [afs@atlantafreethought.org](mailto:afs@atlantafreethought.org)

## AFS Art Display Program

4775 N. Church Lane SE Atlanta, GA 30339  
[www.atlantafreethought.org](http://www.atlantafreethought.org) [afs@atlantafreethought.org](mailto:afs@atlantafreethought.org)

Person or entity displaying art: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of artwork (subject, color, dimensions, weight, frame, price, materials, other info — list on separate page if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Display dates: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Owner if other than above: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Is artwork for sale? Yes / No \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Upon sale owner agrees to pay AFS a 33.3% fee.

Terms: All artwork displays will be submitted to Atlanta Freethought Society art committee for approval ([afs@atlantafreethought.org](mailto:afs@atlantafreethought.org)). Installation & removal will be done by artist/owner overseen by AFS art committee. Damage to building will be repaired by artist/owner. The owner assumes all risk for artwork at all times. AFS will not be responsible for any damage or loss while artwork is in our possession.

Owner agrees to terms: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature/date \_\_\_\_\_

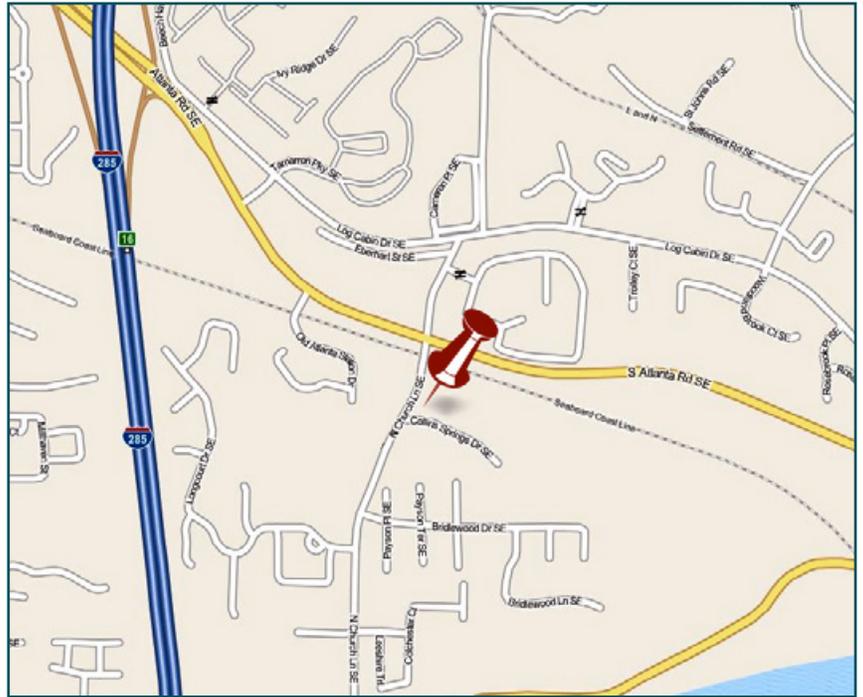
AFS Art Committee approval: \_\_\_\_\_

*Dare To Think  
For Yourself!*



**January 13th meeting  
1:00 at AF Hall  
4775 N. Church Lane SE  
Atlanta, GA 30339**

**Austin Gates**



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