

## Atheists of Florida CHAPTER MEETINGS:

### MIAMI:

Sunday, January 18, 2 p.m. in the 8th floor Boardroom of the Broward County Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale. Postcards were sent to all members in the Miami-Dade area ahead of this newsletter. With the recent resignation of Chapter Director Christopher Jones, a new director is being sought. Results in the January, '98 newsletter.  
FME: Atheist Hotline: (305) 936-0210.

### TAMPA:

Saturday, January 31, (last Saturday of each month) 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. in meeting room B of the Clearwater East Public Library, 2251 Drew Street, Clearwater. Update on the TIA chapel case and a few short videos. FME: Ed Golly (813) 839-7567.

### PALM BEACH:

Sunday, January 18, (third Sunday of each month) 3:30 p.m. at the Herb Watt Rec. Building, just north of the North Palm Beach Library. FME: Charles Schisler (407) 627-6340.

**Snickier sticker**  
A of F board member Ed McDougall  
sent us this E-mail

The other day I went to the religious book store where I saw a "Honk If You Love Jesus" bumper sticker. I bought it and put it on the back bumper of my car and I'm really glad that I did.

What an uplifting experience followed.

I was stopped at a traffic light at a busy intersection, just lost in thoughts of the Lord, and I didn't notice that the light had changed. The bumper sticker really worked. I found lots of people who love Jesus. Why, the guy behind me started to honk like crazy. He must really love the Lord, because pretty soon, he leaned out of his window and yelled, "Jesus Christ" as loud as he could. It was like a football game with him shouting,

"Go, Jesus Christ, Go!!" Everyone else started honking too, so I leaned out of my window and waved and smiled to all those loving people.

There must have


*"It never ceases to amaze me how people who haven't a clue what's going on in this world seem to know with certainty what's going on in the next."*

— Brent Yaciw

been a guy from California back there because I could hear something about a sunny beach, and saw him waving in a funny way with only his middle finger up in the air. I asked my two kids what that meant. They kind of squirmed, looked at each other, giggled and told me that was the Hawaiian good luck sign. So, I leaned out my window again and gave him the good luck sign back.

Several cars behind, a very nice black man stepped out of his car and yelled something, I couldn't hear him over all the honking for "Jesus", but it sounded like "Mother Truck" or "Mothers" something from where I was. Maybe he was from California too. He must really love the Lord. A couple of people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started walking towards me. I bet that they wanted to pray, but, just then I noticed that the light was changing, and I stepped on the gas. And a good thing that I did, because I was the only driver to get across the intersection.

I looked back at them standing there. I leaned out of my window, gave them a big smile, and held up the Hawaiian good luck sign as I drove away.

Praise the Lord for such wonderful folks!!! 

8 December 1997

Atheists of Florida



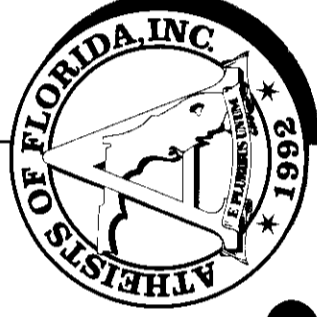
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Volume VI Number 7

December, 1997



## Special board meeting

PEMBROKE PARK, FL—THE ATHEISTS OF FLORIDA BOARD of directors held a special meeting here on December 7, 1997. In attendance as a guest was Miami Chapter director Christopher Jones.

At the regular board meeting in April, 1997, Dr. Michael Brannon was introduced to the board. A psychologist in the Miami area, Brannon reported on his facility and his concept for several types of programs which he could develop and manage. These could serve as social programs which would receive funding from local government agencies. A motion was made that Dr. Brannon establish a substance abuse program after which Atheists of Florida would attempt to obtain public and/or private funding. Brannon determined it would require about six months to establish the program. Dr. Albert Lyngzeitson offered a friendly amendment that he assist Dr. Brannon with the program. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Several months later, Christos Tzanetakos, president of A of F, became aware of an organization named TRESTAR which had been founded by Dr. Lyngzeitson. Christopher Jones had been installed as its president. Trestar was essentially the very program which was intended to be formed for Atheists of Florida, but A of F had no involvement whatsoever with Trestar. Our program had been hijacked by Lyngzeitson.

Trestar had also begun to produce its own

video programs for cable public access. When Tzanetakos asked Jones to sponsor the placement of A of F Forum videos on the Broward public access channel, he refused since he was concerned with placing Trestar programs in available slots.

Therefore, at the special board meeting, Tzanetakos introduced a motion for the board to request the resignation from Atheists of Florida of both Jones and Lyngzeitson. Tzanetakos displayed memos and E-mails exchanged between all three and explained the content and his reactions.

Lyngzeitson submitted and incidental motion to allow Jones to address the board. Jones explained his position and Lyngzeitson responded to all of Tzanetakos' complaints.

The chairman put the motion to a ballot vote and by a margin of 8 to 2 the motion was defeated.

But within the following week, both Lyngzeitson and Jones resigned from Atheists of Florida.

Board member Rebecca Porto offered to act as director for the Miami chapter until a suitable replacement for Jones can be located. She will also now serve as the producer for the Atheists of Florida Forum and Twain Scholarship programs.

In other business, Tzanetakos has sought to establish higher standards for A of F regarding debate with various religious organizations. It was his desire to have the board specify guidelines which would focus on the advancement of the agenda of atheism. (see **Special page 7**)

# Atheists of Florida

Dedicated to the absolute separation of State and church

## Religious Freedom Amendment

*derailed from the fast track?*

**T**HE ROLLER COASTER HISTORY of the Religious Freedom Amendment has taken another twist. Last month, before Congress recessed, the House Constitution Subcommittee pushed the RFA through the House Judiciary Committee. This, says Barry Lynn of Americans United, is the first time in a long time in the amendment's history that lawmakers have been able to push it to a vote. Lynn predicts that as soon as Congress returns from its holiday break, amendment proponents will fast-track it through the House.

This latest development continues a pattern characterized by sudden reversals where the legislation was stalled, revised or sped up through the frantic efforts of prayer groups to push it through committee for a floor vote. What could be going on?

Introduced by Rep. Ernest Istook (R-OK), the present version of the RFA reads:

*"To secure the people's right to acknowledge God according to the dictates of conscience: The people's right to pray and to recognize their religious beliefs, heritage or traditions on public property, including schools, shall not be infringed. The government shall not require any person to join in prayer or other religious activity, prescribe school prayers, discriminate against religion, or deny equal access to a benefit on account of religion."*

Critics charge that the Amendment would "gut" the Establishment Clause and reverse decades of vital legislation and court rulings protecting the separation of government and religion. **A**

## Twain scholarship essay contest

**WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED** thirteen essays for this year's essay contest. Seven arrived from the University of South Florida, 3 from Florida International University, one from University of Miami, and two from Miami-Dade Community College.

The committee is in the process of evaluating the submissions and we will announce the winners in our next newsletter, along with the winning essay. First place takes a prize of \$500, with \$300 for second place.

To assist with the prize awards, Atheists of Florida president Christos Tzanetakos has donated a .7 carat European cut diamond ring with an appraised value of \$700.00. The ring is being raffled by the Twain Scholarship Fund and the drawing will be in January, 1998. Understandably, with a ring of this value, we must sell a minimum of 200 tickets. If you would like a chance at the ring and have not bought your ticket, send \$5 per ticket to Twain Scholarship Fund/P.O. Box 3893/Ft. Pierce, Fl. 34948. Please buy as many tickets as you can; college students need our help.

These are the tickets currently in the drawing:

Name	Number of tickets	Name	Number of tickets
Michael Zaccar	1	Ed McDougall	20
Alex Grilko	2	Tony Schlefstein	5
James Williams	5	Steve Hein	2
Maria Richardson	2	Sylvia Maiman-Berger	5
Connie Purdum	5	Patricia Elkins	1
Dr. Marvin Engle	4	Albert Lyngeidelson	1
Ed Canmarie	1	R. Piccininni	1
Vincent Kirk	1	Alan Altman	20
Gill Schaefer	2	Terese Rockefeller	5
Marilyn Woolman	2	Kyoko Brogdon	20
Nat & Joyce Wolf	5	Ed Golly	20
Peter Castelveccchi	7	Charles Foss	10
Ton O'Neil	1		
Peter Rummel	1	Total	155
Helen Klein	6		



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Membership dues and general correspondence should be sent to:

Atheists of Florida  
P.O. Box 3893  
Ft. Pierce, FL 34948-3893  
E-mail: AthAI.FI.C@aol.com  
Contact Phone: (305) 936-0210

### Membership dues

- Life Member \$ 500.00
- Sustaining 50.00 yr.
- Couple 40.00 yr.
- Individual 30.00 yr.
- Student (under 25 yrs) 10.00 yr.

Send newsletter correspondence to:  
Tampa Bay Chapter  
P.O. Box 130753  
Tampa, FL 33681  
E-mail: AthAI.FI.E@aol.com

The A of F newsletter is provided free to our members as a medium of exchange. Letters from members are published on a space-available basis. Articles may be edited for clarity or length. Atheists of Florida, Inc. is affiliated with the national Atheist Alliance for purposes of information exchange.

### Officers

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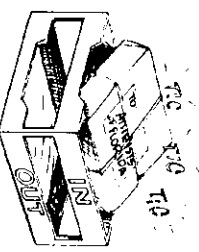
Newsletter Editor: Ed Golly

## 'Devil-worshipping atheist' is an oxymoron

*This was selected as the letter of the day in the Florida Today.*

I agree with Geraldo Rivera on most issues. Recently, however, I was deeply offended by his remarks concerning the teen-age murders

## Letters



at Pearl High School in Mississippi.

On a "Rivera Live" episode, Geraldo and a couple of guest lawyers queried about an allegation that some or all of the seven alleged cult murder conspirators were Satan-worshipping atheists.

It is puzzling to me why so many religionists believe that atheists are evil and satanic. The truth is that atheists do not believe in gods, devils, angels, nor heaven or hell. We consider these beliefs to be just as supernatural and paranormal as belief in Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy and Mother Goose. Therefore, the phrase "devil-worshipping atheist" is an oxymoron and an insult to my intelligence as a critical thinker.

### Hemlock Society of Florida, Inc.

P.O. Box 39561  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339-9561  
800/849-9349  
954/563-7386

### MARY BENNETT HUDSON

Furthermore, the misconception that secular folks are violent and uncivil is equally fanciful. As a member of several atheists and free-thought organizations, I have found that non-believers are just as kind-hearted and family-oriented as religious people. Indeed, atheists include scientists, doctors, educators, automotive technicians and car-

## Special meeting

*continued from page 1*

"Rather than waste our time in debate over the primitive superstitions of religions," he said, "we should be promoting the positive aspects of the atheist lifestyle. Would members of the National Academy of Science engage in debate over the validity of headlines in the *World Weekly News*? Preposterous." Therefore a committee was formed to establish official guidelines for policy representation of Atheists of Florida. It will meet and determine its recommendations prior to the next board meeting, probably in April '98.

Also, another committee will draft an organizational manual for Atheists of Florida. This will establish guidelines for future chapters. **A**

penters. Those whom I have met and read about are more concerned with human progress, protecting the environment and wildlife conservation than many Christians I know.

Good and bad people come from all walks of life and from diverse beliefs concerning gods. Religion has nothing to do with morality.

Barry Rowe  
Melbourne

## Idiot box review

Dear Sirs:

I am an avid viewer of your program [the Twain Scholarship Fund cable series], and would like to congratulate you for having the fortitude of challenging certain views and beliefs which are held by many people in our country. Keep up the good work.

Please place me on your mailing list.

Theodore Prida  
Miami

## Perdomo checks in

Editor:

Thanks for having printed on the August/September 1997 newsletter my comments on President Clinton's (hypoecritical?) suggestion about praying around at school (while he probably was playing around?).

I wish you a very happy New Year. I have just read the book *Bible Prophecy, Failure or Fulfillment?* by Tim Callahan (1997, Millennium Press, 2761 North Marcongo Ave., Altadena, CA 91001), which I've found extremely good. To me, though, it was nothing new. Some time ago I read *The Real Messiah? A Jewish response to Missionaries*, by Aryeh Kaplan (45 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018), which in 1976 already said the same things. I do recommend both of them.

I believe the next books to come must be something like *Why I am not a Jew, Is the Bible really the word of a God or just hearsay?* and *Why the Christian God fooled it with Muhammed and Islam.*

Ed, I wish you all again a very happy 1998.

Mike Perdomo  
Miami **A**

## Dept. of Revenue prays for us

### A recent letter by A of F president Christos Tzanetakos tells the whole story

Mr. Larry Fuchs  
Executive Director, Florida Department of Revenue  
Carlton Building / Room 104  
501 S. Calhoun Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
August 11, 1997

#### Re: Complaint

Dear Mr. Fuchs,  
Our organization has been granted tax-exempt status by our Federal Government under the 501(c)(3) rules. Unfortunately and in our opinion, unconstitutionally, your department has denied our application of tax exemption for sales and use taxes.

Anticipating future fund raising events when our organization incorporated, we obtained the tax certificate of registration #23-08-403592-99.

Although our organization had no sales activities, we filed our returns as required.

Last year, we changed our mailing address and promptly notified your department. Despite the above, and after several phone inquiries, we still have not received the booklets with our quarterly forms.

Recently, after receiving another NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY, I called your department at (904) 922-7222 to inquire about the forms and an explanation for the change of the due dates. (We used to file on or before April 20, July 20, etc.)

The agent who identified himself as Mr. Abrams, upon realizing what an Atheist is, was very rude, unprofessional and sarcastic. Referring to the forms, he inappropriately stated, "I pray you will receive them." Also, at the end of our conversation, his "God bless you" remark was meant to be irritating.

Your attention to this most disturbing behavior from a public/government employee would be appreciated.

Most sincerely,

*Christos Tzanetakos*

President, Atheists of Florida, Inc.  
*Response from the State of Florida Department of Revenue*

August 20, 1997

Mr. Christos Tzanetakos  
President, Atheists of Florida, Inc.  
Post Office Box 3893

Fort Pierce, Florida 34948-3893

Dear Mr. Tzanetakos:

I have received your letter of August 7, 1997, regarding your interaction with a "Mr. Abrams."

If the facts are as you described them your are certainly due an apology. This agency does not tolerate inappropriate workplace behavior. No employee should allow his or her personal beliefs to interfere with their professional conduct.

This matter will be referred to our Inspector General for investigation. I expect that you will be contacted in the near future for a more detailed statement regarding the event which you have reported. Your cooperation in the inquiry will help us determine the facts and insure that our standards are being met.

Thank you for bringing this situation to my attention.

Sincerely,

*L. H. Fuchs*

## Judge nixes A.D.

DELRAY BEACH — A judge banished the letters "A.D." from his courtroom two months ago, saying non-Christians appearing before him might not believe they are living "in the year of the Lord."

Florida Circuit Judge Stephen M.

Cohen, who is Jewish, said he was concerned said he was concerned the Latin phrase, which is an abbreviation for "anno Domini," would offend someone.

"I really think it's a significant issue," he said.

Christians, obviously, aren't the only people appearing before Cohen, who presides over criminal cases in Palm Beach County's South County Courthouse.

Muslims use a lunar calendar dating from what would be A.D. 622, when Mohammed fled from Mecca to Medina. Judaism also has a lunar calendar, under which this year is 5757.

Cohen started scratching out any A.D. that showed up on court documents requiring his signature. He also filed a complaint. But when circuit court officials in West Palm Beach declined to act, he issued an A.D. ultimatum.

"Please be advised that effective December 1, 1997, I will not sign any documents bearing the A.D. designation," Cohen wrote Oct. 29 in a memo to Chief Judge Walter Colbath.

Colbath referred Cohen's complaint to the Florida Attorney General's Office, which, in turn, passed it on to the State Court Administrator's Office. From there, the complaint was referred to Gerald Kogan, chief justice of the Florida Supreme Court.

Cohen received a call from Kogan, who said that he had discussed Cohen's A.D. complaint with the other justices, and they agreed that A.D. isn't necessary on court documents. Florida law doesn't require or prohibit putting A.D. by the year on official documents. Some official documents carry it, while others don't.

"I wasn't looking to give anyone a hard time," Cohen said. "I'm just glad it's over."

## God Module

It's like we said: It's ALL in your head!

— by Brent Yacov

Based on a wire story that originally appeared in the Los Angeles Times

Scientists suspect a module in the brain may affect how a person responds to religious beliefs.

Researchers said Tuesday, October 28th, that the human brain may be hard-wired to hear the "voice of heaven"—or at least, what people interpret as such. In an experiment with patients with an unusual form of epilepsy, researchers at the University of California-San Diego brain and perception laboratory determined that parts of the brain's temporal lobe, which the scientists dubbed the "God module," may affect how intensely a person responds to religious beliefs. People suffering this type of seizure have long reported intense mystical and religious experiences as part of their attacks and are unusually preoccupied with mystical thoughts between seizures.

That led researchers to use these patients as a way of investigating the relationship between the physical structure of the brain and spiritual experiences. In an experiment, the researchers determined that one effect of the patients' seizures was to strengthen their brain's involuntary response to religious words. The researchers tested the patients' involuntary responses to a series of test words about sex, violence and religion by measuring the electrical conductivity of their skin, a standard laboratory technique for assessing emotional responses. They compared the patients' responses to those of a group of more normally religious people and a neutral group. They found the patients had an unusually strong reaction to religious terms like the word "god," compared to the other people. That led the scientists to suggest a portion of the brain was naturally attuned to ideas about a supreme being.

"It is not clear why such dedicated neural machinery...for religion may have evolved," the team reported at a meeting of the Society for Neuroscience in New Orleans.

One possibility was to encourage tribe loyalty or reinforce kinship ties or the stability of a closely knit clan — ideas proposed by John Doner in a talk he gave to the Humanists of the Suncoast several years ago, another example of how freethinkers are ahead of their time!

While their efforts directly address the neural basis of religious expression, the scientists felt the need to include a disclaimer: "These studies do not in any way negate the validity of religious experience or God," they said. "They merely provide an explanation in terms of brain regions that may be involved." Most researchers, unfortunately, are as politically-beholden to believers as anyone else, relying on them for grant money and their jobs. Some, however, are bolder than others: "People have been tickling around the edges of consciousness, and this sort of research plunges in," said Craig Kinsely, an expert in psychology and neuroscience at the University of Richmond in Virginia. "There is the quandary of whether the mind created God or God created the mind. This is going to shake people up." No kidding. The obvious conclusion is that god-belief is simply the product of the mind, and might even be considered a birth defect by some future society. Not what the churches want to hear!

The Atheist Alliance faxed the following news release to the Associated Press, the source of the news article about that killing in Kentucky. That xian prayer leader sure was eager to assume atheists were out to get them. So just how many admitted atheists would you expect to find all in one place in West Paducah? If that kid had "atheist" friends, they were probably just some kids saying that to get a rise out of the prayer group.

## \*\* NEWS ADVISORY \*\*

December 2, 1997

Contact: Marie A. Castle, 612/588-1597  
5146 Newton Ave. No.  
Minneapolis MN 55430

## Atheists Denounce Speculation of Atheist Link to Kentucky Shootings

The Atheist Alliance, a national organization with 16 member societies, has denounced the implication in news reports of a link between atheism and the shooting of praying students in a West Paducah, Kentucky, public high school by a teenage boy.

"The killing of three students and wounding of five others is a totally reprehensible act," said Marie Alena Castle, president of the Atheist Alliance. "It only compounds the tragedy for Ben Strong, the leader of the Christian prayer group, to publicly speculate on the killer's motives by noting that he 'hung out with people who claimed to be atheists,' as if that was somehow relevant.

"The prayer leader's statement is slanderous, indefensible and highly unethical. It promotes hatred of unbelievers. It expresses—and very likely was inspired by—the religion-generated stereotype of atheists as lacking moral sense and being a diabolical threat to religion.

"There is nothing about atheism that even remotely encourages violence—it is simply a lack of god beliefs. Organized atheism seeks only to preserve the right not to believe. What others believe is of no concern as long as they don't try to force those beliefs on us or use the resources of government to advance a sectarian agenda.

"We can only hope this tragedy will not be exploited by the Christian Coalition as a supposed example of the 'Christian persecution' they complain of. We hope they will not be so unethical as to turn those young victims into 'martyrs' to justify their continuing legislative attempts to undermine and eventually destroy state-church separation."

By Frank Coffman

This is from the April 30 edition of the Colorado University campus newspaper.

# Insight

**GOD IS WORSHIPPED** as the creator of the universe. But, of course, since God is omnipotent, it was easy for him to create the cosmos. When you're all-powerful, making a universe is no big deal. It's an ordinary miracle.

I could create a universe, too, if I were omnipotent. Anybody could. When you are omnipotent, nothing is difficult. For God, the Big Bang wasn't even a strain. Why praise God for doing something that was, for him, effortless? Does God ever think, "I wonder where I came from? How did I get to be God, any-

way?" How did he become omnipotent? Did he start out small and gradually become increasingly powerful over eons of time?

*Even the existence of God is largely a rumor.*

Most people say that God simply is. He always has been, and he always will be. But since he didn't create himself, he isn't responsible for his own awesome existence. In that case, he doesn't deserve credit for being God — a position that he merely found himself in.

God has supposedly always existed in his present form, which means that he hasn't improved himself or attained anything. He was always omnipotent, by nature. That's just the way he is. He may be all-powerful, but since he didn't earn or achieve any of his power, he's hardly praiseworthy.

God felt some inexplicable need to create the universe. Apparently, God has needs, too. Why didn't he make a Mrs. God and let it go at that? I mean, what does he get out of having a universe anyway? If God has needs, is he lacking something? Does that mean he's less than omnipotent?

What was God doing before he created the universe? Obviously, he had a lot of time on his hands, floating around in the void. An infinity of time is a long time to do nothing, even for God, so naturally he needed to create something to occupy himself and to fill up the unnerving emptiness that surrounded him.

Actually, that's just a theory. Ultimately, everything is unknowable. The problem with The Unknown is that not much is known about it. Even the existence of God is largely a rumor.

Frank Coffman lives in Boulder

The odd thing about God is that he acts exactly as if he doesn't exist. He doesn't lift a finger to relieve suffering. Famines, plagues, cancer, evil dictators, dying babies — nothing moves him to action. If we didn't know that he exists, we would assume that he doesn't.

Since God is omnipotent and omniscient, he should have made a better world. I could have done better, but unfortunately I wasn't invested with unlimited power over the universe. Is it expecting too much for an omnipotent being to eliminate deadly germs, crippling diseases, genetic defects, locusts and so on?

People are sometimes criticized for "playing God" when they make life-and-death decisions. Actually, "playing God" is a misnomer, since God himself doesn't play God. Apparently, even *he* doesn't think that it's right to "play God."

God, who is also known as "the Great Silence," delegated a lot of his authority to his son, Jesus. Jesus is slightly lower in status than God Almighty. God is omnipotent, but Jesus is just a little less than omnipotent. He's semi-omnipotent.

Oddly enough, Jesus started life on earth as a baby (God in a diaper). Did the Baby Jesus say "goo-goo" and "ga-ga," or did he already speak in parables?

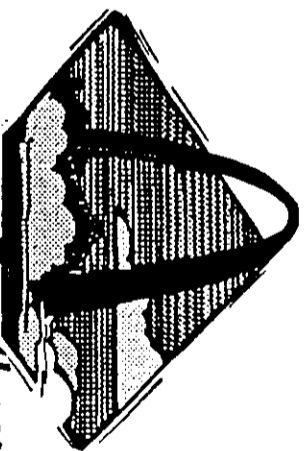
After his crucifixion, Jesus rose from the dead, although he wasn't really dead, apparently. After all, no one can kill God. That's obvious. He must have just been lying low or feigning death during that famous three-day "lost weekend." In any case, he didn't "die for our sins," since no credible God can die.

Jesus has made himself scarce for the past 2,000 years, although some people claim to have encountered him during near-death experiences. Some returnees report seeing him welcoming souls into the next world. Evidently, Jesus has been reduced to the status of personal greeter in the tunnel of white light.

God is omnipotent, which means that he can do anything, except, of course, demonstrate his own existence. He prefers to remain elusive, acting as if he doesn't exist, and then punish anyone who doubts his existence. He's funny that way.

God gave human beings free will. But, of course, if people exercise their free will by deviating from religious doctrine, God punishes them severely. Evidently, free will is a trap.

More than 90 percent of the population believes that there is a heaven. It is supposed to be a wonderful place, but heaven may not be all that it's cracked up to be. After all, heaven was made by God. Since he did a flawed job on this world, what assurance do we have that he did any better with the next world?



**Gateway to Freethought**  
April 10-12, 1998

Meet Me in St. Louis



for the

4th Annual

Atheist Alliance

Convention

Hosted by the  
**Rationalist Society of St. Louis**  
in celebration of the  
**50th Anniversary**  
of its founding

Mark your calendar!  
(It's Easter weekend)  
Watch for sales on air fares!

For further information or to register for the convention contact:

The Rationalist Society of St. Louis  
P.O. Box 2931, St. Louis, MO 63130  
Barbara Stocker: 314-846-8105 <RSSLSbarb@aol.com>  
Jim Rollins: <smiling@infidels.org>

## Program Highlights

Speakers include:

- Michael Martin, author of *The Case Against Christianity*
- Annie Laurie Gaylor, on Women Without Superstition
- Kaz Dzimka, fired from his job for promoting Humanism
- Verte Muhrer, Executive Director, Center for Inquiry - Midwest
- Valery Countryman, on The History of The Rationalist Society of St. Louis
- Bill Petersen, Ph.D., on The Psychology of a Believer

Pat Inniss, Boy Scout discrimination activist  
Herb Silverman, the candidate without a prayer  
On the lighter side:

Experience being "saved"  
by Rev. Hank Shiver & Sister Chastity  
and the 666 Club (700 minus 34).  
As an added attraction:  
Sunday bus tour, 12 - 7 p.m., by Fred Whitehead.  
See the historic and freethought sights in St. Louis.  
\$25.00 per person. Seating is limited.

## Convention Prices

- #1 Full convention package Registration, all activities, Friday dinner program, Saturday lunch program, Saturday banquet program. **\$135.00**
- #2 Registration, all activities Saturday lunch program, Saturday banquet program. **\$115.00**
- #3 Registration only (no meals) **\$60.00**
- #4 Friday dinner program only **\$35.00**
- #5 Saturday lunch program only **\$25.00**
- #6 Saturday banquet program only **\$40.00**  
Sunday morning wrapup session included in all prices.

## Hotel Reservations

Embassy Suites Hotel  
901 North First Street, St. Louis, MO 63102  
(On Historic Laclede's Landing)  
1-800 EMBASSY (362-2779) or 1-800 314-241-4200

### Room Rates:

Single or Double: \$72.00 plus tax  
Triple or Quad: \$92.00 plus tax  
Rates include full breakfast and two complimentary drinks.