



# THE MINNESOTA ATHEIST

## Public Meeting Sunday February 21, 2016 *Contradiction* Documentary

*Contradiction: A Question of Faith* is a recent documentary written and directed by Jeremiah Camara. In this film, Camara, the author of *Holy Lockdown* and *The New Doubting Thomas*, travels across the United States exploring the impact of excessive religiosity in black communities. The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life states "While the US is generally considered a highly religious nation, African Americans are markedly more religious on a variety of measures than the US population as a whole, including level of affiliation with a religion, attendance at religious services, frequency of prayer and religion's importance in life."

Camara interviews many well-known people in the atheist movement, including: Mandisa Thomas of Black Nonbelievers Inc.;

Lawrence Krauss; Norm R. Allen, founder of African Americans for Humanism; and atheist rap artist Greydon Square. Additionally, Camara interviews notable figures from the black church, such as Reverend Martin Luther King III, and Dr. Ray Hagens, chief elder of the Afrikan Village. These thinkers provide their thoughts, opinions, and experiences while also unveiling the origins of black American's love affair with religious faith, while exposing the trickery and discrepancy in messaging of religious leaders.

The film explores the ideas of televangelists touting the prosperity gospel (the idea that by giving money to the church and praying, god will bless you with wealth). Black Americans tithed approximately \$250 million per week, with very little to show for it in the way of cultural

vitality, economic progress and community prosperity. It also discusses the role gender plays in determining who is most supportive of the black church.

The film interviews young black atheists who are starting their journey through non-belief.

Since the movie's original release, it has been shown at conventions, such as The Gateway to Reason, multiple film festivals, and a back yard movie night. We will be showing *Contradictions* on Sunday, February 21, 2016, at 2:00 pm at the Roseville Public Library. Following the film, we will have a unique opportunity for a question and answer session with director, Jeremiah Camara. Please join us for what we hope will be an enlightening experience.

### Inside this issue:

President's Column 2

News and Notes 3

Meeting Review 4

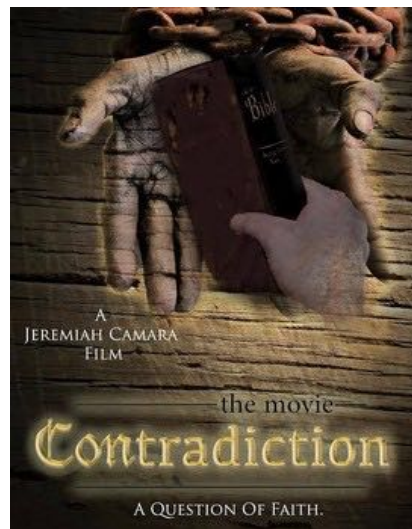
Cable Report 5

Secretary Report 6

Treasury Report 7

Board Nominees 8-10

Cryptogram Answer 10



Sunday, February 21, 2016

Roseville Public Library

2180 Hamline Ave N

Roseville, MN 55113

1:15 - Doors Open

1:30 - Special Meeting for Board Elections

1:45 - Break / Social Time

2:00 - Showing of Documentary *Contradiction*

3:45 - Q&A with Producer

4:00 - Post meeting dinner at New Fresh Wok,  
1535 Larpenteur Ave W, Falcon Heights

# President's Column

By Eric Jayne

## Mr. Paul Aints to take the field for the 5<sup>th</sup> time

It's a balmy 19 degrees Fahrenheit (265 Kelvin!) as I write this article but I'm thinking about summer, tailgating, and baseball. Atheist baseball, to be precise. That's because I'm in the midst of planning the 5<sup>th</sup> annual, "Atheist Night" with Bill Murray's 2015 North Division Champions, St. Paul Saints minor league baseball team. This year's one-of-a-kind game will be held on Saturday, July 16 at CHS Field – awarded "Best New Ballpark of 2015" by *Ballpark Digest*.

The team will again be rebranded to the secular-friendly "Mr. Paul Aints" during the atheist takeover and there will be atheist themed antics on display for the crowd's mid-inning entertainment. The secularized jerseys worn by the gracious and good humored team players will be auctioned off during gameplay and a portion of those proceeds will go to the Foundation Beyond Belief. That is a secular non-profit group that assists over 100 atheist and humanist organizations in providing humanitarian help through community volunteerism.

We will set up a pregame tailgating space in the same parking lot we were at last year (one block southeast behind CHS Field, under the Lafayette Bridge). Tailgating will begin around 3pm and end around 6:15 so we can pack up, mosey in to the stadium, and witness the first pitch to be thrown by a real-life atheist!

My son joined me on the mound last year for the honor, and, being a chip off the ol' block, he nailed it as I did in 2013. American Atheists president, David Silverman, tossed out the first pitch in 2012, and a lucky auction winner by the name of Ross got the privilege in 2014. This year's ceremonial first pitch will be auctioned off again, to help Minnesota Atheists pay for the sponsorship fee. The winner of the first pitch will receive a free "Aints" shirt to wear on the pitcher's mound and a fun lifelong memory. We will also be seeking a co-sponsor to help with the sponsorship fees. Also, all proceeds from the sale of Mr. Paul Aints shirts and hats helps us pay for the baseball

game sponsorship, and we're accepting direct donations to our "Atheist Baseball Game Fund" which can be found either on the Minnesota Atheists website in online store or under the Join/Donate tab. Aints game sponsorship donations can also be accepted by mail to "Minnesota Atheists Baseball Fund" P.O. Box 120304, New Brighton, MN 55112.

With 2 wins and 2 losses, this year's atheist game will either render our beloved irreverent team with a winning record or losing record. We will have to defeat the Fargo-Moorehead Redhawks to achieve a third win and I have faith that the Aints will make it happen.

Tickets are available now at [SaintsGroups.com](http://SaintsGroups.com) (password: 2016atheists). Don't wait too long to purchase your tickets though. We sold out a couple weeks before game day and the stadium was at standing room only capacity! Infield Reserved tickets are selling for \$21 and General Admission tickets are \$11. You will receive a brand new 2016 St. Paul Saints hat with your paid admission and the Minnesota Atheists will receive \$2 for every ticket sold in our ticket group package.

This summertime tradition has been fun to organize these past few years. I'm grateful for the positive feedback I received from not just the members and supporters of Minnesota Atheists, but also from Christians and others who don't identify as atheists. This positive atheism outreach to the greater public, in a mainstream venue, has grown popular thanks to the continued enthusiasm of our members and supporters, and to those who volunteer their time helping us coordinate all that goes into it. We are always looking for volunteers to help us host our welcoming table by the front gate, to move supplies at our tailgating spot, to pack up supplies before and after the game, and other odds and ends. Email us at [board@mnatheists.org](mailto:board@mnatheists.org) if you're interested in helping us organize this year's atheist baseball event!



# News and Notes

By George Francis Kane

*Following is a speech that I presented at the Freethought Toastmasters meeting on January 4, 2016. It is typical of presentations at every club meeting. If you are interested in attending a meeting of the Freethought Toastmasters Club, please refer to the meeting information in Upcoming Events.*

Who here is an atheist? Let's see a show of hands. There are some countries, such as Saudi Arabia, where this simple act of raising your hand in answer to that question can get you arrested, and sentenced to years in prison, lashings, and even death. For you have committed the crime of blasphemy. Blasphemy is the act of insulting or showing contempt or lack of reverence for a God, to a holy person or toward something considered sacred.

That this can be a crime is probably incomprehensible to you, because as Americans we are strongly committed to freedom of speech. You might say it is in our national DNA. But even we Americans admit that freedom of speech cannot be absolute, because it can conflict with the rights of others that government must protect. If, for example, you harm someone by libel or slander, government can hold you responsible and liable for that harm.

This argument is used to justify blasphemy laws. Muslims believe that if one of them is seduced away from Islam, even from their particular cult of Islam, that he will lose his soul and salvation. They take this very seriously. They apparently know this because their holy texts tell them so; and they know with certainty that their holy texts are correct, because to question it would be apostasy, which is forbidden by their religion and punishable by death.

They assert also another harm, one to the nation. For example, the Saud family was granted the authority to rule Arabia by the founder of the Wahhabi sect of Islam as the representatives on earth of Allah and the one true religion. This gives them a holy duty to secure their rule. A recent royal decree identifies as a form of terrorism "calling for atheist thought in any form, or calling into question the fundamentals

of the Islamic religion on which this country is based." So atheists are terrorists even if they have perpetrated no violence, made no threats, nor planned any actions, because atheism inherently delegitimizes the Saudi nation. If atheism is correct, there is no reason the people of Arabia should accept Saudi rule. The Saudis regard atheism as a threat to the state. As the execution this weekend of Shiite cleric Nimr al-Nimr shows, Saudis regard other sects of Islam and peaceful dissent as a threat to the state. Democracy is a threat to the state. And they claim that defense of the state is an obligation owed to Allah; so their religion requires exclusive political monopoly by the monarchy.

This relationship of religion and government comes straight out of the dark ages. In a modern democratic republic political speech receives special protection, because it is essential for the functioning of democracy, to keep the marketplace of ideas open, fair and free from government restriction. Criminalizing dissent from religious dogma is of course abhorrent to the liberal values of the democratic republics of the Western world, and yet blasphemy laws are even known here. According to the Pew Research Institute, there are laws prohibiting blasphemy in 16% of European nations and 31% of the nations of the Americas. But they are certainly in decline, and the European Union has called for the repeal of all blasphemy laws. Blasphemy laws were in effect everywhere before the rise of constitutional republics, but we simply outgrew them.

The United Nations Human Rights Council has been inconsistent in opposition to blasphemy laws because a large number of its members are in the Organization of the Islamic Conference. The OIC position is that international human rights standards may not contradict Sharia law. It should be a top diplomatic priority of the United States to lobby the Council to support international protection of political speech and to prohibit blasphemy laws.

(continued on page 4)

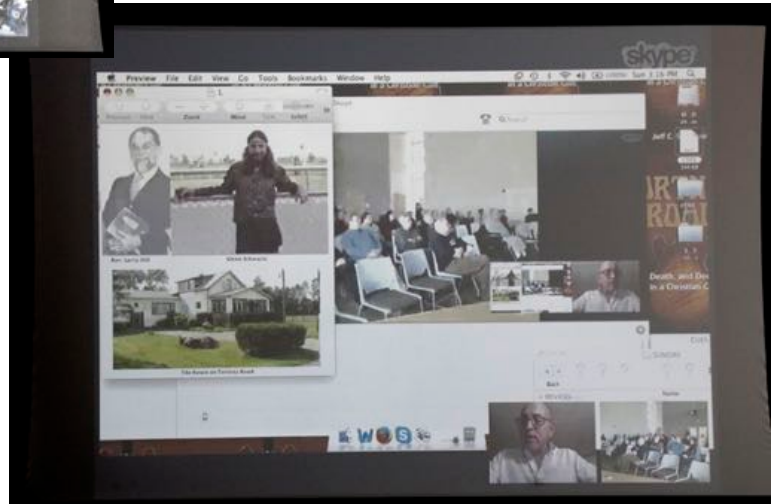
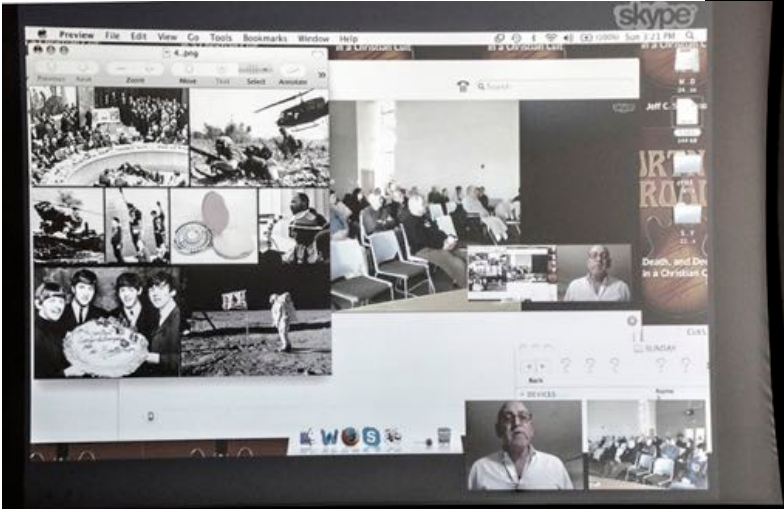
## Cryptogram By George Francis Kane

Cbvbedyyl fzbdoqvc, asb beenef qv ebyqcqnv deb  
hdvcbenxf; asnfb qv zsqynfnzsl nvy l eqhqjxynxf.

Hdgqh Sxub, Aebdaqfb nw Sxudv Vdaxeb

# January Meeting Review

The January Public Meeting at the Roseville Library featured author Jeff Stevenson presenting by Skype from New York. Stevenson spoke about *Fortney Road*, his latest book, published by Freethought House. The use of Skype was a success and may open our presentation offerings to atheist speakers anywhere in the world!



## News & Notes (continued from page 3)

There are some people in the Western nations who condemn blasphemous acts such as the publication of cartoons of Mohammed in the *Jyllands Posten* and *Charlie Hebdo* because they were intended to offend Muslims. Others believe that countries adopt laws that are properly suited to their national beliefs and historical experience, and condemn the imposition of our values on them as a cultural vestige of colonialism. But this ethical relativism ignores the actual consequences in the lives of the people of these nations. We cannot deny that the laws enacted by some nations lead to better lives for their people than laws enacted by other nations. The citizens of every nation are better off if they are protected from oppression by their nation's religious majority. That requires freedom of speech and separation of church and state.



# Cable Report

By Steve Petersen



David Pacheco and James Zimmerman

For our first program of 2016, host James Zimmerman interviewed David Pacheco. David is the president of the Minnesota chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State and has been active for a number of years on many issues involving the overlap of religion and government. After providing a brief history of Americans United, David discussed the major issues the group worked on in 2015, including same-sex marriage rulings and religious activities in public schools. David talked about the upcoming elections, specifically the presidential election, and offered some insights on how the candidates' comments can affect the voting public, even if those candidates don't ultimately win office. David concluded by providing resources for those who wish to get involved with Americans United. Visit their site, [www.au.org](http://www.au.org), to learn more

We are actively looking for people to host and produce each show. If you have ideas on programming or interest in hosting please get involved. Contact Steve Petersen at [address@mnatheists.org](mailto:address@mnatheists.org).

**Cable Crew:** George Kane, Brett Stembridge, Shirley Moll, Steve Petersen, Les Stordalen, Grant Hermanson and Art Anderson.

**Podcasts:** Programs are available on the [MinnesotaAtheists.org](http://MinnesotaAtheists.org) website. Access via iTunes and YouTube has been made possible by Grant Hermanson. To date, our channel has had over 200,000 downloads.

## Cable Schedule

**Bloomington:** Ch. 16. Sunday 11:00 p.m. Sponsors: David and Joanne Beardsley.

**Minneapolis:** Ch. 75. Monday 7:00 p.m. Sponsor: Steve Petersen.

**Northwest Community Television (NWCT): Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, Maple Grove, New Hope, Osseo, Plymouth and Robbinsdale,** Ch. 20 check web page for date and times: <http://nwct.org/programming.aspx>  
Sponsor: Grant Hermanson

**Rochester:** Ch. 10. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:30 p.m. Sponsor: Jim Salutz.

**Roseville, Shoreview, Arden Hills, North Oaks, Little Canada, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Moundsview/New Brighton:** Ch. 14. Wednesday 10:30 p.m. Sponsor: Shirley Moll.

**St. Cloud:** Ch. 12 Thursday 8:30 to 9:00 p.m. Sponsor: Tom Stavros.

**St. Paul:** Ch. 15 Wednesdays 5:00 p.m. Sponsor: Jim Wright.

**Stillwater:** Ch., 16. Tuesday 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Sponsor: Lee Salisbury.

**White Bear Lake, Hugo, Lake Elmo, Mahtomedi, Maplewood, North St. Paul, Oakdale, Vadnais Heights:** Ch. 15. Saturday 8:00 p.m. Sponsor: Michael Seliga.

**Have a program idea? Would like to be an interviewer or interviewee? Would like to get some experience of being on the crew behind the scenes? We have opportunities for you! Also, if you would like to see *Atheists Talk* on your local station, we can work to make that happen. Please contact Steve Petersen at [address@mnatheists.org](mailto:address@mnatheists.org).**

# Secretary's Report - December

By Heather Hegi

- A former church building that had been looked at before for the purpose of becoming the home of Minnesota Atheists, has come back on the market. The building committee did some research. Upgrades to make the building Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant would add significant costs. In this conversation, a board member brought up another building online that looked promising. The board is tasking the building committee to do more research into our options, including purchase and rental.
- Options to make the Radio Program more self-sustaining were discussed. Brianne and August had met with the station owner to discuss our options.

We were given a 13-week discount on the program as we weigh our options and recruit more sponsors.

- A motion was approved to continue our weekly radio program through May 1st.
- A motion was approved to authorize Brianne as a Minnesota Atheists Secular Celebrant.
- Possible action on Itasca and Isanti county sheriff featuring "In God We Trust" on vehicles was discussed. August will contact FFRF to discuss appropriate action.

Complete meeting minutes are available to dues paying members by contacting Heather at [sec@mnatheists.org](mailto:sec@mnatheists.org)

## Minnesota Atheist Published in Pioneer Press

From the Jan. 27th edition of the Pioneer Press:

A letter from a professor of law and director of the ProLife Center at the University of St. Thomas ("A stand for life," Jan. 22) is so rife with errors that I wonder how the writer can be so ill informed. As a member of Carly Fiorina's Minnesota Leadership Team, the writer should be well aware that Fiorina has been called out for her misrepresentations regarding the Planned Parenthood videos, which were selectively and deceptively edited, including dubbing in words that were never said and adding in pictures, without permission from the parents, of fetuses that were miscarried, not aborted. Planned Parenthood does not sell "baby parts," nor does the University of Minnesota purchase "baby parts," claims that are dangerously inflammatory and that may have contributed to recent violence against Planned Parenthood clinics across the United States, including shootings and arson. Fetal tissue is used for crucial medical research, and the only money involved is reimbursement for the costs of preparing, storing and shipping that tissue. The figures cited in the edited videos were not enough to cover those costs; even so, Planned Parenthood stopped asking for reimbursement, absorbing the costs of processing the fetal tissue, to avoid even the appearance of malfeasance.

As a recently retired women's health care professional, I don't even know what the writer means by "a child can be aborted right up until she takes her first breath." Roe v. Wade

allows abortions up to the point of viability, which occurs around 24 weeks of gestation. Per Minnesota law, any abortion performed after 20 weeks gestation must be done in a hospital (Minnesota Statutes section 145.412) and two physicians must be present, "to take all reasonable measures consistent with good medical practice to preserve the life and health of any live birth that is the result of an abortion if the abortion is performed after the twentieth week of pregnancy," (Minnesota Statutes section 145.423) even though the fetus is not viable, and resuscitation efforts are generally not even undertaken on miscarriages that occur before 23 to 24 weeks of gestation. The writer further suggests that Planned Parenthood does nothing but provide "condoms, pills and abortions." Wrong, again; Planned Parenthood provides comprehensive reproductive health care, including cancer screening and referrals, even paying for follow-up care if the woman is uninsured, as well as contraceptive care, screening and treatment for STDs for men as well as women, even prenatal care, and yes, abortions, a legal and necessary part of women's health care. For many women, Planned Parenthood is the only place they can obtain reproductive health care. As the saying goes, the writer is entitled to her opinion but not to her own "facts." Let's try to keep the debate factual.

-Joyce Denn

# December Treasury Report

By Chris Matthews

## Radio Fund

Richard Dean	\$500
Alice Lesney	\$200
John Annen	\$150
Jay Mellentin	\$100
Josh Robertson	\$100
Jim Wright	\$100
Larry Lyke	\$50
Bruce Yoder	\$50
Michael Seliga	\$35
Brianne Bilyeu	\$25
Shirley Rae Moll	\$25
Craig Stilen	\$25
Mark Paquette	\$15
August Berkshire	\$10
Steve Petersen	\$10
Rachel Wilson	\$10
<anonymous>	\$25

**Total Radio Fund \$1,430**

## General/Visibility Fund

Michael Sasse	\$250
William Udseth	\$200
Michael Abbott	\$165
Timothy Anderson	\$100
David Bicking	\$100
Vanita Mishra	\$100
Joseph Smith	\$100
Keith Thorkelson	\$100
George Kane	\$75
Thomas Dooley	\$65
Vicky Hagens	\$65
Thomas Bauch	\$50
August Berkshire	\$50
Andrew Flamm	\$50
Ross Meisner	\$50
Craig Stilen	\$50
Tim Traynor	\$50
Jake Foster	\$25
Jeff Gunn	\$25
Frank Neubecker	\$25
Rajiv Vaidyanatha	\$25
Adam Zielie	\$25
Lilly Bubser	\$20
Rachel Braaten	\$15
Joyce Denn	\$15
Homero Gallegos	\$10
<anonymous>	\$9

**Total General/Visibility Fund \$1,814**

**Total Income: \$3,244**

**Current Building Fund Total \$135,021**

## Top Expenses

Radio Show	\$820
Aints Mdse	\$628

## Freethought Toastmasters Open House

Do you feel nervous speaking in front of a group? Would you like to become more comfortable sharing your thoughts and ideas? Learn how to practice your communication and leadership skills in a supportive, freethinking environment.

Freethought Toastmasters is hosting an open house on Monday, February 15. The meeting begins at 6:30 pm. Come as early as 6pm for social time, pizza, and beverages. All are welcome.

Location: Larpenteur Estates Party Room, 1276 Larpenteur Avenue West, Saint Paul.

Date: Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Time: 6:30pm – 8pm.

Questions? Contact Marissa Kocaman, [president-6913@toastmastersclubs.org](mailto:president-6913@toastmastersclubs.org) or 612-356-2820.

## Call for March Articles

We welcome contributions from all readers of The Minnesota Atheist. While we cannot guarantee that your submission will be accepted for publication, we will carefully consider anything that is related to atheism. We would especially like to receive contributions which provide profiles of individual atheists and which report atheist-related events in the wider community.

Because we are a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, we cannot print articles that support or oppose a specific candidate, but we can print articles that support or oppose specific causes. Article length should ideally be 500-1000 words and no more than 2000 words.

Please send submissions to the editor, Jenny Nolan at [editor@mnatheists.org](mailto:editor@mnatheists.org) by 11:59pm on February 22. All submissions may be edited for style and length.

We look forward to receiving your submissions. Without readers like you The Minnesota Atheist would be needlessly constrained in its breadth and depth.

# Nominees to the 2016 Board of Directors

The 2016 Board nominations have been placed, below are the candidate statements for all nominees. The Elections will take place on February 21st during a special session before the February Public Meeting. This will be held at the Roseville Public Library, 2180 Hamline Ave N, Roseville MN 55113 at 1:30pm. The new board will take effect on March 1, 2016.

## Alyssa Ehni - President

Alyssa is excited to have been nominated for President of Minnesota Atheists. She has been active within Minnesota Atheists by co-hosting our volunteer event at The Family Place, hosting a craft beer meet-up, participating in our Toastmasters club, and attending game nights at Godless Gamers. Alyssa enjoys the wonderful community she has found within Minnesota Atheists and looks forward to continuing to foster fellowship and furthering Minnesota Atheists' mission of Positive Atheism in Action.



## Art Kallenbach - Associate President

After being raised in a moderately religious Lutheran family in Coon Rapids I unceremoniously realized I was an atheist approximately 30 years ago. Several years ago I was invited to a debate a Pastor was having with August Berkshire. Impressed by the debate and the work Minnesota Atheists was doing, I became a member a few years ago. Then I served on the board this past year as a director-at-large. With the membership's approval I look forward to serving as associate president this coming year.



## Heather Hegi - Chair

I am honored to have been nominated as chair. This last year I served as secretary, and the previous three years I served as chair. I'm happy to serve in any role, but I do think that the role of chair fits me well. I am dedicated to the organization and seeing that we are as effective as possible. I am a passionate atheist who sees religious thinking as harmful to society, suppressing science and critical reasoning. Since religions are widespread, I think this organization is an important voice of reason.





# Nominees to the 2016 Board of Directors

## Georgia Hancock Tsoi - Associate Chair

This will be my 3<sup>rd</sup> year to serve on the board. I am a longtime member of Minnesota Atheists and have enjoyed seeing the increase in members and participation. I share Minnesota Atheists' goals of educating the public about atheism and promoting the separation of church and state. I am an open atheist in my community and career and encourage others to be open and to educate their friends and family about atheism. I have continued my role of librarian for Minnesota Atheists and am on the Public Policy Committee. I look forward to more opportunities to learn and grow with the Minnesota Atheists board this year.



## Tim Berry - Secretary

I am proud to have been nominated as secretary for Minnesota Atheists. I live in Saint Paul and am an officer in Freethought Toastmasters. My passion is reading and have I been a regular at the Little Canada Book Club for years. Looking at retirement I am excited that I now have more time to devote to helping Minnesota Atheists to nurture a community we all can look to for comradeship, mutual support and a voice for us in public affairs. I wish to work for the scientific world view to thrive, and realize this will require all of our dedication of time and resources.



## Chris Matthews - Treasurer

I appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve as treasurer of Minnesota Atheists, a position I have held since 2011. This role suits me well since I enjoy working with numbers and computers. I am a Minnesota native and a life member of Minnesota Atheists. Positive atheism and keeping church and state separate are two values I hold in high regard, and I am glad to do my part to help Minnesota Atheists pursue these values.



**Congratulations to our new board members!**

# Nominees to the 2016 Board of Directors

## August Berkshire - Director-at-Large

When I sit at a Minnesota Atheists board of directors meeting and see the other eight board members, I am extremely pleased by two things: 1) None of them were on the board ten years ago, meaning that we have been very successful at recruiting new leadership; and 2) They still value my presence, both as someone with good ideas and as a long-timer with "institutional memory".

My goals this year are to keep working on changing the state marriage laws so atheists can conduct civil marriages as secular atheists and not as religious atheists, and to work on more cooperative projects with other freethought groups.

I also feel that our movement may be "struggling" with success. As more and more people become atheists, there may be less of a perceived need for organized atheism. But, as we know, the threats to our liberties and rights have not lessened. We need to organize if we hope to accomplish anything.



## Eric Jayne - Director-at-Large

I'm excited to have the privilege of serving on the board again as a director-at-large, and I pledge my allegiance to Alyssa Ehni for her candidacy seeking the presidential office!



## Sarah (Hertzey) Hertz - Director-at-Large

Three years ago I found myself looking for an atheist social circle. I had read lots of blogs and even started to listen to a couple of podcasts. But I missed having events to go to on a regular basis. I found, through Meetup, the Minnesota Atheists, and specifically the Newbie Night and Godless Gamers. Through these events, I found many friends and events to occupy my extroverted self. As I enjoyed the events, I became curious about the leadership and started to attend board meetings as a general member. With the election coming up, I now find myself excitedly accepting the nomination for Director-at-Large. I am very excited to see how I can help our community and membership grow and flourish.



## Cryptogram Answer

Generally speaking, the errors in religion are dangerous; those in philosophy only ridiculous.

-David Hume, *Treatise of Human Nature*

# Upcoming Events

**Atheists Talk Community Brunch** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month at 10:30 a.m., Q. Cumbers, 7465 France Ave S, Edina

**Godless Gamers** Every Sunday at 2:00 p.m. and Thursday at 6:00 p.m., Fantasy Flight Games Center, 1975 County Rd B2, Roseville

**Atheist/Agnostic Alcoholics Anonymous** Every Sunday from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 p.m., Health Recovery Center building, lower floor, 3249 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis. Based on A.A, minus beliefs in any form of a God.

**Freethought Toastmasters Meeting** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m., Larpenteur Estates Party Room, 1280 Larpenteur Ave W, St Paul. freethought.toastmastersclubs.org

**Freethinking Females** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., Claddagh Irish Pub, 7890 Main St N, Maple Grove, and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m., Chatterbox Pub, 800 Cleveland Ave S, St. Paul (note two different locations). Shattering the myth that atheist groups are male dominated with a females only event.

**Volunteer Food Packing** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:00 p.m., The Food Group, 8501 54th Ave N, New Hope

**Blasphemer's Brunch** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m., Pizza Lucé, 800 W 66th St, Richfield

**Minnesota Atheists Board Meeting** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., Amherst H Wilder Foundation, 451 Lexington Pkwy N, St Paul. All Minnesota Atheists members are welcome.

**Bowling for Deities** Last Saturday of every month at Noon, Memory Lanes, 2520 26th Ave South, Minneapolis

For more events, visit [www.meetup.com/minnesota-atheists](http://www.meetup.com/minnesota-atheists)



## Minnesota Atheists Membership and Donations

- One-year student membership \$10
- One-year individual membership \$35
- Three-year individual membership \$90
- One-year household membership \$45
- Three-year household membership \$115
- One-year sustaining membership \$75
- Three-year sustaining membership \$200
- Life membership \$600

General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Radio Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations are tax deductible. Membership fees are deductible for the amount beyond their fair market value.

Student memberships include a subscription to the PDF version of *The Minnesota Atheist* delivered by email. All other memberships include a subscription to the printed version delivered by postal mail. If you would prefer the PDF version delivered by email, please check the box and provide your email address.

**Minnesota Atheists**  
**PO Box 120304**  
**New Brighton, MN 55112**

**Please make checks payable to Minnesota Atheists.**

**Students, please enclose a copy of your fee statement or school identification.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required for student memberships and email subscriptions): \_\_\_\_\_

# Minnesota Atheists

## Positive Atheism in action since 1991

Minnesota Atheists is dedicated to building a positive atheist community that actively promotes secular values through educational programs, social activities, and participation in public affairs.

### Minnesota Atheist Board of Directors

**Board Email**  
board@mnatheists.org

**President**  
Eric Jayne  
pres@mnatheists.org

**Associate President**  
Alyssa Ehni  
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**Chair**  
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**Associate Chair**  
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**Secretary**  
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**Treasurer**  
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763.428.3424

**Directors-at-Large**  
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Art Kallenbach  
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### The Minnesota Atheist Newsletter

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**Minnesota Atheists Goals**  
Minnesota Atheists practices positive, inclusive, active, friendly, neighborhood atheism in order to provide a community for atheists, educated the public about atheism, and promote separation of state and church.

### Minnesota Atheists Affiliations

Minnesota Atheists is affiliated with the Atheist Alliance of America, Atheist Alliance International, American Atheists, The American Humanist Association, the Council for Secular Humanism, The International Humanist and Ethical Union, and the Secular Coalition for America.

### Minnesota Atheists Membership

Regular members: 206  
Life members: 42  
Meetup members: 2017

### Minnesota Atheists Honorary Members

Hector Avalos, PhD  
Dan Barker  
Gerald Erickson, PhD  
Annie Laurie Gaylor  
Dick Hewetson  
Robert M. Price, PhD



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