

### Mr. Paul Aints Baseball and Shoe Drive

This month, Minnesota Atheists and the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF), are secularizing St Paul as we have for the last 4 years by renaming the St Paul Saints to the Mr. Paul Aints for a day. The "S" in Saints is covered throughout the stadium. The players wear jersey's which read "Aints" with the scarlet letter "A" for atheism. Player-worn jerseys are up for auction during the game.

As we did last year, we will be collecting new or gently used shoes and donating them to the secular charity named soles4souls. We are have given the shoe drive the slogan "Leave Your Soles at the Gate."

Minnesota Atheists is selling newly re-designed T-Shirts to commemorate the game. On the front they say "Mr. Paul" and the year we started the Aints Game "Est. 2012" with the scarlet letter "A". On the back it says "Unbelievable Fun," our URL "MinnesotaAtheists.org", and the Aints Logo. We have sizes in men's, women's, and children's and are available for purchase on our website or in the store at CHS Field.

To advertise the game, we have put up billboards in the metro to run through the game day. The billboard dedicated to FFRF reads "God Less America," clearly an alternative to "God Bless America" which is a song that has been played at baseball games. The billboard dedicated to Minnesota Atheists reads "Atheists Want Your Soles", in reference to the shoe drive. Both list the date of the game, July 16th; the location, CHS Field; and the hashtag for the event, #MrPaul. We hope to see you there!



Minnesota Atheists member Shirley Moll





**Inside this issue:** 

President's Column 2

**News and Notes 3** 

Secretary's Report 4

Cable Report 5

**Event pictures 8-9** 

**Blogpost 10** 

## **President's Column**

#### By Alyssa Ehni

Recently, Minnpost published an article asking why the media doesn't reach out to atheists for their perspective in times of tragedy. If you want to read the article, you can find it here: www.minnpost.com/media/2016/06/times-tragedy-whydont-media-get-atheists-perspective or on page 6 of this issue.

The article discusses how the media is quick to interview leaders in various faith communities and show people mentioning that they are keeping the victims and their families in their "thoughts and prayers," tragedy after tragedy. The author notes that atheists are contacted for the "atheist perspective" rarely, if ever. He even quotes our own August Berkshire mentioning that Minnesota Atheists hasn't been asked for our perspective on a terrorist attack since 9/11.

I appreciate that a member of the media is asking this question. Atheists and other non-believers *exist, godsdamnit,* and our perspectives should be included in conversations about the impact of religion and religious extremism.

One way in which this article fails is in assuming that atheists (or religious leaders) inherently have something pertinent to say. Just because someone is an atheist or a religious leader doesn't necessarily qualify that person to issue a meaningful statement in the face of tragedy. Neither does it mean that particular person can truly speak on behalf of that particular group. The only thing atheists have in common is a lack of belief in any gods. It has been said that there are as many versions of Christianity as there are Christians; I imagine the same applies to Muslims and any other religion.

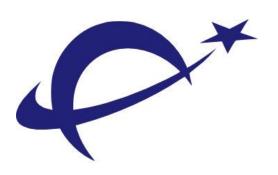
I have a different question though. Why does the media make a point of asking religious leaders for their thoughts anyway? What is this obsession with hearing from the same people who are always invited to the conversation and

continue to talk in circles? I agree with August. Why doesn't the media spark conversations about how the people committing these atrocities are reading the same scriptures as the folks offering the murdered their "thoughts and prayers" while in their next breath stating that they only wanted the homosexuals/abortionists/dissenters "gone." This gives people who mirror a slightly different version of the perpetrator's thoughts a platform in which to express the same sentiments.

It takes away from actions that individuals take to effect positive change.

This article was posted two days after the shooting during Latin Night at a gay club in Orlando. 49 people died and 53 were injured. Thousands of people lined up around the local blood bank to donate blood to help the injured. There were thousands more who would have, but were not allowed. And yet, we do not seek their perspective.

Instead we're only reminded of the current circumstances which continue to re-victimize these same people again, after they've died.



## Cryptogram By George Francis Kane

"Pmb" xr yixbnynmuxzza bednucb nr x raryckxyns smuyixbnsynmu md etcia kcyxovarnsxz oinusnoze. Yvc omnuy nr gnbei yvxu elry yvc Elbem-Svinrynxu smuscoy md Pmb. Um xiplkeuy gnzz pey aml dimk yvnr gmizb ym x rloeiuxylixz gmizb. Um iexrmu gnzz zexb aml ym x gmizb smuyixbnsynup yvnr muc. Um kcyvmb md nudeieusc gnzz euxhze aml ym zexo dimk efnryeuse ym x "rloei-efnryeuse."

-Zemuxib Oenjmdd, "Yvc Ovnzmrmova md Mheesyntnrk"

## **News and Notes**

#### By George Francis Kane

Secularists have been disappointed that the Senate Judiciary Committee has decided, at least until the presidential election in November, not to hold confirmation hearings for Merrick Garland, whom President Obama nominated to fill the vacancy on the U. S. Supreme Court created by the death of Antonin Scalia. Our disappointment is because it is only in those hearings that we are likely to glean Judge Garland's views on the Establishment Clause and separation of church and state. Working on the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the decisions he has written have been heavily freighted by companies suing for exemptions to regulations by government agencies. He has written no decisions in Establishment Clause cases.

Republicans have stalled the hearings in the hope of a presidential victory in November, and a more conservative nominee for the Supreme Court. Because some Senators expressed concerns that Donald Trump would actually name a conservative, the presumptive Republican candidate provided a list of eleven judges whom he would consider for an appointment to the Supreme Court. Trump picked many of the judges from a "wish list" put out by the conservative Heritage Foundation, so they are reliable fits with Republican ideology. Those who have heard Establishment Clause cases have all shown that they are not friends of secularism.

Here are the cases I've found in which judges on Trump's list have judged cases on issues covered by Minnesota Atheists' Public Policy positions.

Diane Sykes, of the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, wrote the opinion in the *Korte v. Sebelius* case, which held that for-profit corporations can challenge the Affordable Care Act's contraception mandate, and that the mandate substantially burdens the religious practice of closely-held corporations whose owners have religious objections to contraception, This ruling has been confirmed by the Supreme Court in the *Hobby Lobby* case.

In 2006, Judge Sykes wrote the decision in the *Southern Illinois University v Christian Legal Society* case. SIU had stripped the student group of its official status because it prohibited gay students from joining, violating the school's anti-discrimination policy. Sykes ruled that SIU had to reinstate the group.

Judges Steven Colloton and Raymond Gruender of the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals signed onto the only circuit court decision to rule that the Affordable Care Act's birth control accommodation for religious non-profit organizations such as church-run colleges and hospitals, requiring them to sign a form indicating that they do not want to provide birth control coverage, creates a "substantial burden" for the organizations' religious beliefs. Seven other appellate courts ruled that the burden was not substantial before the Supreme Court overturned those decisions in *Zubik v. Burwell*. The Supreme Court sent the cases back to the trial courts, contending that it was possible to provide the coverage

required by the Affordable Care Act without putting the religious organizations in the position of having to facilitate the process.

Judge Gruender's record shows particular hostility to women's reproductive rights. He wrote an opinion holding that employers can deny contraception coverage without violating the Pregnancy Discrimination Act. The trial court and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission had both held that such a policy amounts to unlawful sex discrimination, but Judge Gruender reversed them, writing astonishingly that "the Pregnancy Discrimination Act does not require coverage of contraception because contraception is not related to pregnancy . . . and is gender-neutral."

Judge Colloton joined Judge Gruender's *en banc* opinion reinstating a South Dakota law that requires women seeking an abortion to sign a statement that included acknowledging that the abortion "will terminate the life of a whole, separate, unique, living human being," and that the pregnant woman "has an existing relationship with that unborn human being."

Justice Thomas Lee, on the Supreme Court of Utah, has also issued opinions that raise questions about his views on reproductive justice. In *Carranza v. United States*, Lee wrote a concurring opinion stating that a fetus is a "child" under Utah's wrongful death statute.

William H. Pryor of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals wrote, when he was Attorney General of Alabama, that in *Roe v. Wade*, "seven members of the Supreme Court swept aside the laws of the fifty states and created—out of thin air—a constitutional right to murder an unborn child."

I found no information regarding rulings on issues for which Minnesota Atheists has a written policy position, for the following judges on Trump's list:

Thomas Hardiman, Third Circuit Court of Appeals Raymond Kethledge, Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Don Willett, Texas Supreme Court Allison Eid Colorado Supreme Court Joan Larsen, Michigan Supreme Court David Stras Minnesota Supreme Court

In the past I have written about the assassinations of atheist bloggers in Bangladesh. The rate of these assassinations has increased, with 5 in April, 4 in May and 3 so far in June, but there may be good news in the case. Police have arrested three assassins, members of two separate terrorist groups. Police have learned the names of the members of these organizations who planned and ordered the attacks, and predict that they will be arrested soon.

# Presentation by Dan Barker, co-president of FFRF

Dan Barker, co-president of Freedom From Religion Foundation will be at the Rondo Community Outreach Library, 461 N Dale St, St Paul on Saturday, July 16 at 1:00 p.m.. The presentation is titled "God: The Most Unpleasant Character In All Of Fiction"



## **May Public Meeting Review**

By James Barri

Karen Shragg, author of Move Upstream: A Call To Solve Overpopulation, has a simple point: nothing we do to solve the world's problems – not increasing food production; not ending war; not ending poverty; not reducing pollution; not reducing consumption of our natural resources – will ultimately succeed unless overpopulation is stopped. With the current population at 7.3 billion, the conventional wisdom of two kids per couple (replacement rate) is already untenable. The fact is that we will soon (if we did not already) outstrip the world's resources, and the solution isn't zero population growth—it's population decline.

We got here through many paths: increased food production, advances in medicine and hygiene, and the notion that big families are necessary. Much of that attitude has religious and cultural roots. One example is the notion that children are divine gifts, and a sign that the head of the household is blessed. Another is the idea that a woman's only purpose is child-bearing. A more pernicious religious aspect is the belief that this world isn't important, except as a means to get a good place in the next life; and that anything that contradicts this notion is sinful.

Ultimately *Nature* — which has no ideologies — will bring on the consequences of our blindness: famine, through depletion of farmlands and oceans; desertification; and increased CO<sup>2</sup> in our atmosphere. Since a major cause of war is access to resources, we can expect massive amounts of death when nature responds to our wastefulness.

How can we counteract this? 1) Religious teachings that equate birth control with abortion must be fought and changed. 2) Women must gain greater access to contraceptives, AND to greater education and social freedoms—as these are great incentives to have fewer kids. Men's attitudes need to be changed, also.

These changes, among others, must be done worldwide, in spite of arguments that such plans are racist. This is a worldwide problem. What is the point of having the best seat on the Titanic?

# Cable Report By Steve Petersen



This past month we revisited with members of The Satanic Temple for an update on how their group is doing one year later after their founding in Minnesota. James Zimmerman interviewed Koren Walsh and John Wreisner. For more information on The Satanic temple go to: www.thesatanictempleminneapolis.com of their Facebook page.

We are actively looking for people to host and produce programming. Ilf you have ideas on programming or are interested in getting involved, please contact Steve Petersen at 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 MinnesoaAtheists.org website. Access via Itunes and YouTube has been made possible by Grant Hermanson. To date, our channel has had over 261,000 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. Sponser: 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.

# In times of tragedy, why don't the media get atheists' perspective?

#### By Brian Lambert for Minnpost.com

The aftermath of our all too regular mass homicides follows a familiar pattern. "Thoughts and prayers" are with survivors, victims' families and the affected city. There are defiant assertions from the horror struck that, "We will not tolerate this any longer." Some politicians call for an end to hate and better coordination between law enforcement agencies. And others, when there's a whiff of Islamic heritage involved, play the "enemy is here" card, recklessly injecting accelerant into the roiling emotions of the moment. For the media, standard reaction reporting involves transcribing pretty much all of the above. In the case of the Boston Marathon bombing, the Ft. Hood shooting, Paris, San Bernardino and now Orlando, it's also standard practice to log the response from leaders of various religious faiths, most of whom encourage restraint and emphasize that Muslims themselves are collateral victims of these atrocities. The good, dutiful notion being to develop a body of sympathy that reflects solidarity among the broader local religious community.

While the Strib and the PiPress haven't gone the latter route yet, at least when I called Monday, National Public Radio was hitting all the customary notes. And all that is fine insofar as the objective is to register the solidarity of the community at large. But if the intention is ever to discuss the "perversion of religion," a common enough refrain today and in past incidents involving radicalized Muslims, there's at least one group, silent but no longer all that small or irrelevant, that the media rarely draws into these discussions, such as they are: atheists.

"I think we were called once, some time after 9/11," says August Berkshire. "And no, no one else has called today."

Berkshire is the founder and past president of Minnesota Atheists . He's been active in the cause of challenging the belief systems of organized religions since the mid -1980s and jokes that current membership in the state is "probably around 250,000, although most haven't paid their dues yet."

Humor aside, Berkshire, a local delivery truck driver by day, is serious about the value of inserting an

atheist perspective into conversations about religiously inspired violence. "Look, prayer didn't do anything to stop this latest attack and prayer won't do anything to stop this kind of violence from happening again. All it may do is make some people feel good for a while."



Twitter
August Berkshire

The underlying point of his organization, and that of international atheist figures like Richard Dawkins and Sam Harris, is that a submissive dedication to the tenets of an organized religion has the downside of people outsourcing their critical thinking to a third party. Dawkins and Harris are both problematic personalities, offering conventional thinkers no end of opportunities to paint them as Islamophobes for their view that even conventional Islam imbues irrational, counter productive, anti -science attitudes toward women and homosexuals. But if the point is to engender an honest debate, you'd expect the atheist view to at least have a seat at the media table in moments like this. "Look," says Berkshire, "at their origin, all three of the Abrahamic religions — Christianity, Judaism and Islam — preach and warn against homosexuality. They're anti gay. A lot of their followers today may be cafeteria Christians, Jews and Muslims, picking and choosing what they want. But I'm talking at their scriptural origins. We reject that. Atheists reject the teachings of religions for a lot of reasons, but among them is the lack of respect for science. Atheists, if I have to point it out, are very accepting of gay equality and other minority issues. We understand that."

Find more at minnpost.com.

## **Cryptogram Answer**

"God" as traditionally defined is a systematic contradiction of every valid metaphysical principle. The point is wider than just the Judeo-Christian concept of God. No argument will get you from this world to a supernatural world. No reason will lead you to a world contradicting this one. No method of inference will enable you to leap from existence to a "super-existence."

-Leonard Peikoff, "The Philosophy of Objectivism"

# Secretary's Report June

#### By Tim Berry

 A motion was made and approved to accept Revision J of our Public Policies.

Complete meeting minutes are available to dues paying members by contacting Tim at sec@mnatheists.org

### **Dues Assistance Fund**

By Steve Petersen and Art Kallenbach

Becoming a member of Minnesota Atheists is a way to support the organization's mission of "building a positive atheist community that actively promotes secular values through educational programs, social activities, and participation in public affairs." Achieving that mission requires the active participation of as many atheists as we can reach, and empowering them to be involved in running the organization.

Almost every function – Meetup social events, educational meetings and other activities we sponsor – is open to all who want to attend. Running for the board and voting for board members, however, are restricted to dues-paying members only. Even though dues are only \$35 a year, regrettably there are some in our community who cannot afford to join. To assist people of limited means, some of our members have proposed creating a fund to cover memberships of those who cannot afford the dues.

Requests for assistance with dues will be strictly confidential, although we would like a brief explanation of why applicants are not able to afford the membership. We will encourage sponsored members to get as involved in the organization as they reasonably can.

A request can be sent in writing to Minnesota Atheists, POB 120304, New Brighton, MN 55112 or membership@mnatheists.org. Please include your name, address and email, and note whether you would like the paper or email delivery of the newsletter. Students, please include a copy of your school ID.

If you are a member and are willing to donate funds to this project, please contract Art Kallenbach or Steve Petersen in person or at membership@mnatheists.org.

# **Call for September 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 by 11:59 p.m. on August 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.

## **MN Pride and Parade 2016**

Minnesota Atheists walked in the Pride parade this year, held on June 26, in Minneapolis. At the end of the parade, volunteers from our organization staffed an information booth. It was a great day and a Minnesota Atheists tradition.



# **June Freethought Picnic 2016**

#### **Upcoming Picnics**

Sunday, July 17th at 11:00 a.m., Wabun Picnic Area Shelter B, 4655 46th Ave S, Minneapolis

(August Picnic sponsored by Minnesota Atheists)

Sunday, August 21st at noon, Columbia Park Picnic Area, 800 Columbia Pkwy, Minneapolis

#### About the Picnic:

- --This is a Potluck Picnic, so bring some picnic food to share if you can!
- --Bringing your own beverage, plate, and utensils helps out.
- --The picnic takes place in a shelter so it will occur rain or shine.
- -- The shelter area has electrical outlets.



- --Lots of Friendly People!
- --Lively Discussion
- -- A Playground for the Kids
- --Room for Frisbee, Ladder Ball, etc.











# **Featured Blogpost**

### Yes, This Is About...

by Stephanie Zvan, reprinted with permission from http://the-orbit.net/almostdiamonds/

As the news rolls in from Orlando, with 50 people reported dead and that many more reported injured, the disavowals are flying. Everyone wants to tell us what didn't cause all this death and trauma. But, well, yeah, it did.

Yes, this is about religion.

Religion is what it takes to give us the authority to look at another person's consensual pleasure and decide that gives us jurisdiction over their life and death. Nothing else gives us that permission. Nothing else puts us above someone else this way but the borrowed mantle of a god's judgment. Secular arguments fail spectacularly to do so, which is why LGBT rights are a staple of secular activism.

Not only are religious arguments the only one that can give us this permission, they routinely do. It isn't possible to actively participate in U.S. culture-to view our media, to pay attention to our current events, to educate one's self in preparation for voting-without being inundated with religious arguments that same-sex attraction and sexual behavior are wrong and harming our society. Nor is this confined to any one religion, making it all the more potent as an idea. Someone raised in a homophobic religious tradition will not have their ideas challenged simply by looking outside their home or community.

Religion planted this idea, makes it pervasive, and gives it power.

Yes, this is about homophobia and transphobia. Reports are coming out that the shooter was specifically incensed about two men kissing in front of his toddler. This could turn out to be spurious. That wouldn't tell us that this isn't about homophobia and transphobia. Someone who wants a target still has to choose that target, and LGBT targets are chosen far more frequently than we'd predict by chance. This is not a surprise.

Think about the way a bully picks a target. They choose to terrorize the outcast, the person perceived as weak, the person whose friends won't come in a group to protect them. School bullies often go after people perceived as queer or gender-nonconforming because they fit those criteria. These patterns don't change simply because the bully reaches the age of majority. Their choice of target is still informed and abetted by homophobia and transphobia, theirs or that of society as a whole.

Homophobia and transphobia also have an effect on how this violence affects communities. I can't count the number of friends who have said today that places like Pulse were supposed to be their refuges against the rest of the world. It wasn't random forces that pushed so many people my friends identify with together in one place. There is nothing random about the fact that my friends face their vulnerability so starkly today.

Homophobia and transphobia pushed these people together for safety, and homophobia and transphobia are what make that safety so easy to take away.

What happened in Orlando was the particular actions of a particular person, but that person lived and made their decisions in our broader culture. Saying that major parts of this culture had no effect on him and his behavior and its consequences is absurd.



## **Upcoming Events**

**Presentation by Dan Barker, co-president of FFRF** Saturday, July 16 at 1:00 p.m., Rondo Community Outreach Library, 461 N Dale St, St Paul. Presentation titled "God: The Most Unpleasant Character In All Of Fiction".

Tailgating for the Mr Paul Aints Game Saturday, July 16 at 3:00 p.m., Saints Tailgate Lot, 380 Prince St, St Paul

**Atheist Night with the Mr Paul Aints** Saturday, July 16 at 7:00 p.m., CHS Field, 310 5th St E, St Paul. Atheist sponsored St Paul Saints minor league baseball game. Purchase tickets at SaintsGroups.com, password: 2016atheists

**July Freethought Picnic** Sunday, July 17 at 11:00 a.m., Wabun Picnic Area Shelter B, 4655 46th Ave S, Minneapolis. Potluck picnic sponsored by the Humanists of Minnesota.

**August Freethought Picnic** Sunday, August 21 at noon, Columbia Park Picnic Area, 800 Columbia Pkwy, Minneapolis. Potluck picnic sponsored by Minnesota Atheists.

Atheists Talk Community Brunch 1st 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 7:00-8:00pm, 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 from 6:30-8:00 p.m., Larpenteur Estates Party Room, 1276 Larpenteur Ave W, St Paul. freethought.toastmastersclubs.org

**Freethought Dinner Social** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month from 5:00-7:00pm, Davanni's, 8605 Lyndale Ave S, Bloomington **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., Sweeney's Saloon, 96 North Dale Street, St. Paul (Note, two different locations). Shattering the myth that Atheist groups are male dominated with a female's 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 S, Minneapolis For more events, visit www.meetup.com/minnesota-atheists

# Minnesota Atheists Membership and Donations

One-year student membership \$10	Donations are tax deductible. Membership fees are deductible for the amount beyond their fair market value.
One-year individual membership \$35	
Three-year individual membership \$90	Student memberships incude a subscription to the PDF version of The Minnesota Atheist delivered by email. All other memberships include a subscription to the printed version delievered by postal mail. If you would prefer the PDF version delivered by email, please check the box and provide your email address.
One-year household membership \$45	
Three-year household membership \$115	
One-year sustaining membership \$75	
Three-year sustaining membership \$200	Minnesota Atheists
	PO Box 120304
O Life membership \$600	New Brighton, MN 55112
	Please make checks payable to Minnesota Atheists.
General Fund \$	Students, please enclose a copy of your fee statement or school identification.
Building Fund \$	
Radio Fund \$	
Name:	
Street Address:	
Street Address:	

# THE MINNESOTA ATHEIST 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**

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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.

## **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: 264

Life members: 42

Meetup members: 2,230

#### **Minnesota Atheists Honorary** Members

Hector Avalos, PhD

Dan Barker

Gerald Erickson, PhD

Annie Laurie Gaylor

Dick Hewetson

Robert M. Price, PhD



The Minnesota Atheist July/August 2016 Published by Minnesota Atheists PO Box 120304 New Brighton, MN 55112 612.588.7031 info@mnatheists.org Copyright 2016 by Minnesota Atheists. All rights reserved.