

FREELY SPEAKING

Space Coast Freethought Association

July 2008

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 6

SCFA Monthly Meeting

1:30 at Melbourne Public Library on Fee Ave. We will discuss the origin of religious freedom.

Sunday, August 3

SCFA Monthly Meeting

1:30 at Melbourne Public Library on Fee Ave. We will be showing a **The Four Horsemen** (round table discussion with Richard Dawkins, Daniel C. Dennett, Sam Harris, and Christopher Hitchens.)

Sunday, September 7

SCFA Monthly Meeting

1:30 at Melbourne Public Library on Fee Ave. We will discuss many of the new freethought books on the market.

Sunday, October 5

SCFA Monthly Meeting

1:30 at Cocoa Public Library.

October 10 - 12

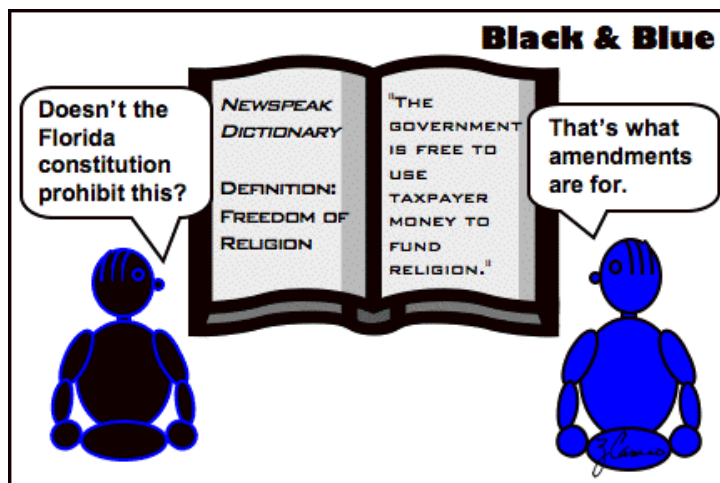
FFRF Convention - Chicago

Saturday, October 18

Freethought Day at Disney

This year we are going to Epcot!
spacecoastfreethought.org/disney/

Want to keep informed of SCFA events? Join groups.yahoo.com/group/scfa_announce/



SCFA News

City Council and County Commission Invocations

We've contacted American's United and they are looking into the situation.

Sign the virtual wall

We now have ~300 signatures on our wall, including the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. See what they have to say at: spacecoastfreethought.org/brick.html.

One Year Ago This Month...

- SCFA joined American's United as an associate group
- Supreme Court rules that taxpayers can't sue over faith-based program
- Brevard Public School abstinence-only sex education program under review

This Month in Freethought History

July 26, 1928, Stanley Kubrick was born.



"The whole idea of god is absurd. If anything, '2001' shows that what some people call 'god' is simply an acceptable term for their ignorance. What they don't understand, they call 'god'.... I chose to do Dr. Clark's story as a film because it highlights a critical factor necessary for human evolution; that is, beyond our present condition. This film is a rejection of the notion that there is a god; isn't that obvious?"



Printed on recycled paper.

Church-State Update

*A Report on Church-State Legal Issues
Affecting Brevard County Citizens*

National

ACLU Calls For End To Mandatory Prayer At U.S. Naval Academy

"In a letter sent ... to Vice Admiral Jeffrey L. Fowler on behalf of a group of midshipmen who object to the prayers, Deborah A. Jeon, Legal Director for the ACLU of Maryland, asked that the Academy discontinue its requirement that all midshipmen stand in attendance at the daily "noon meal prayer," a practice that violates their religious freedom and rights of conscience." – aclu.org

Florida

AU, ACLU Join Lawsuit Against Religion-based Constitutional Amendments on November Ballot

#7 "Religious Freedom": Would repeal a constitutional ban on direct and indirect state financial aid to churches and religious organizations.

#9 "Requiring 65 percent of School Funding for Classroom Instruction; State's Duty for Children's Education": Overrides legal precedent prohibiting public funding of private schools

"The lawsuit filed ... in Leon Circuit Court in Tallahassee aims to remove Amendments 7 and 9 from the November ballot. The amendments were put on the ballot by the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission, but Americans United and other civil liberties and education groups contend that the Commission lacks the authority to do so. In addition to Americans United, groups backing the lawsuit include the Florida Education Association, the Florida School Boards Association, the Florida Association of District School Superintendants, the Florida Association of School Administrators, the Florida ACLU, the Anti-Defamation League and People For the American Way." – au.org



Quote: E. Haldeman-Julius , born July 20, 1889

"It is natural that people should differ most, and most violently, about the unknowable. . . . There is all the room in the world for divergence of opinion about something that, so far as we can realistically perceive, does not exist."
— "The Unknowable," *The Militant Atheist*

If you're looking to volunteer some time, try this website: richarddawkins.net/volunteers

Lawyers (Specializing in American tax law)

Accountants / Designers

Video Editors / Cameramen / Subtitling / Graphics

Website & Computer Specialists

Translators / Educators / Scientists

Space Coast Freethought Association

(SCFA) is a nonprofit community of reason-based individuals organized to facilitate social interaction, promote the non-theistic, rationalist viewpoint as a valid contribution to public discourse, reinforce the First Amendment guarantee of separation between government and religion through education and activism, and work in coalition with like-minded organizations where joint action is needed to

Join our discussion list online at groups.yahoo.com/group/SpaceCoastFreethought/

Join SCFA! Annual membership is \$15 for one, \$25 for a family, and \$10 for seniors and students.

SCFA Board of Directors

Doug Cramer, president
Bob Long, vice-president
Toni Sweeney, treasurer
Cameo Johnson-Cramer, secretary
Steven Brown
Mike Sweeney

The board of directors meets monthly to discuss the future of SCFA. We plan meeting agendas, develop and implement advertising strategies, decide on social opportunities for our members, and more.

If you have any input for the SCFA board of directors, please contact us at info@spacecoastfreethought.org or use the contact form at our website, spacecoastfreethought.org.