

FREELY SPEAKING

Space Coast Freethought Association

February 2010

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 7

SCFA Monthly Meeting

Location: Melbourne Public Library, 540 E. Fee Ave.
large conference room right of reference desk

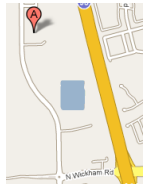
Time: 1:30-3:30

Sunday, February 14

Adopt-a-Road

Location: Stack Blvd. and Palm Bay Rd., west parking lot near Amscot shopping center

Time: 9:00a.m.



Sunday, February 21

Meetup Eat-Up

Location: Chili's, Viera (I95-Viera exit, W on Wickham, N on Lake Andrew)

Time: 1:30

Friday, February 26

Dinner and a Lecture

Pictures from Data: Unveiling Hubble's Colorful Universe - Zoltan Levay, Hubble Space Telescope SI

Location: Dinner - Middle Eastern

Aromas, 3150 S Babcock St # E, Melbourne - 6pm

Lecture - FIT, 150 W University, Olin Eng. Auditor - 8pm



Sunday, March 7

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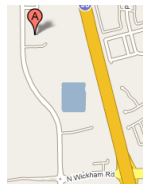
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Hypermassive Black Holes

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 achieve these goals.

SCFA Board of Directors

Doug Cramer, president

Steven Brown, vice-president

Cameo Johnson-Cramer, secretary

Bill Hunter

SCFA Adopts Science Class

We have recently adopted the 5th grade Science Resource Room at Sabal Elementary on Wickham Rd. This school is in a low income area and scores lower than all other schools in the region in science. We would like to raise \$2,000 for their science improvements. Donations can be made at meetings or online at spacecoastfreethought.org/donate. What better way is there to encourage critical thinking than by teaching science?

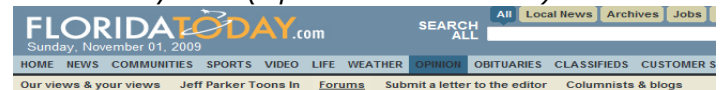


So far we have raised \$266!

If you have a science background and would like to helping design and/or run experiments during special events at the school, please let us know.

Want to talk about freethought issues?

floridatoday.com (Opinions —> Forums)



atheistnexus.org



A COMMUNITY OF NONTHEISTS



Church-State Update

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

National

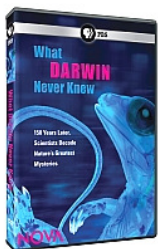
Court dismisses atheist soldier's suit against Pentagon (1/8)

'A federal judge in Kansas yesterday dismissed a lawsuit by an atheist soldier who claimed his rights were violated because he had to attend events where prayers were said while stationed at Fort Riley. U.S. District Judge Kathryn Vratil ruled Army Spc. Dustin Chalker failed to exhaust all other alternatives before he and the Military Religious Freedom Foundation sued the Department of Defense in 2008. [...] Pedro Irigonegaray, a Topeka attorney, said the foundation was always concerned that the courts would agree with the Department of Justice about Chalker not going through his chain of command before seeking judicial relief. "But we also knew that efforts to comply with the process were met with dismissive and punitive reactions," Irigonegaray said. "It was our hope because of the immensity of the issue involved that the court would ... have intervened.'" – Associated Press

Supreme Court blocks video coverage of Prop. 8 trial (1/11)

'The U.S. Supreme Court, acting on an appeal from conservative defenders of California's ban on same-sex marriage, overruled a federal judge in San Francisco today and blocked video coverage of the trial on YouTube. [...] The high court did not explain its reasoning. [...] Under the court's rules, lawyers can seek an emergency order only if they can show their clients will suffer "irreparable harm" if the justices fail to act. In this case, the defenders of Prop. 8 said their witnesses could be subjected to harassment and intimidation if they testified in favor of the ban on marriage for gay and lesbian couples.' – Los Angeles Times

Want to keep informed of SCFA events & discussions? Join atheists.meetup.com/569/



What Darwin Never Knew

Read the transcript or buy the DVD

www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/beta/evolution/darwin-never-knew.html

National con't.

.S. Military Weapons Inscribed With Secret 'Jesus' Bible Codes (1/22)

'An American defense contractor will voluntarily stop stamping references to Bible verses on combat rifle sights sold to the U.S. Army and Marines and Australia and New Zealand's military forces. The references to Bible passages raised concerns that the citations break a U.S. government rule that bars proselytizing by American troops in Afghanistan and Iraq, which are predominantly Muslim countries. [...] Trijicon of Wixom, Mich., said it was also providing to the armed forces free of charge modification kits to remove the Scripture citations from the telescoping sights already in use. [...] A spokesman for U.S. Central Command initially said the Trijicon sights didn't violate the ban and compared the citations on the sights to the "In God We Trust" inscription printed on U.S. currency. [...] [H]owever, Army Gen. David Petraeus, Central Command's top officer, called the practice "disturbing.'" – Associated Press

Other Freethought Groups Nearby

Orlando Atheists and Freethinkers

Orlando, FL
meetup.com/GotReason

Campus Freethought Alliance

University of Central Florida
facebook.com/group.php?gid=2219642055

Stuart Atheist Meetup Group

Stuart, FL
atheists.meetup.com/600

First Coast Freethought Society

Jacksonville, FL
firstcoastfreethoughtsociety.org

Florida Atheists & Secular Humanists—FLASH

West Palm Beach, FL
freethoughtflorida.com

Humanists of Florida Association

throughout Florida (Barefoot Bay, Lakeland, etc.)
floridahumanist.org