

April 2018 Volume 28 Number 4

## **April Public Meeting The Minnesota Legacy Amendment**

Guest Speaker: Former MN State Rep. Phyllis Kahn



In 2008, Minnesota's voters passed the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment (Legacy Amendment) to the Minnesota Constitution to: protect drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve arts and cultural heritage; to support parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater.

The Legacy Amendment increases the state sales tax by three-eighths of one percent beginning on July 1, 2009 and continuing until 2034. The additional sales tax revenue is distributed into four funds as follows: 33 percent to the clean water fund; 33 percent to the outdoor heritage fund; 19.75 percent to the arts and cultural heritage fund; and 14.25 percent to the parks and trails fund.

Before this state constitutional amendment could be put before the voters it had to pass the Minnesota State legislature. One of the bill's supporters in the Minnesota House of Representatives was (now former) Rep. Phyllis Kahn. Rep. Kahn went on to chair the Legacy Funding Committee, which oversees appropriations.

Since our meeting date this month coincides with Earth Day, we thought it would be a good idea to invite Rep. Phyllis Kahn to tell us a bit about the history of this pro-environment and pro-arts amendment, including how it garnered bipartisan support and passed during tough

economic times. Rep. Kahn is an avid bicyclist and supporter of the arts. She was also the first legislator to ever speak at our annual Day of Reason at the Minnesota State Capitol.

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#### Sunday, April 22, 2018

1:00–1:15 p.m.: Social

1:15–1:45 p.m.: Business Meeting

1:45–2:00 p.m.: Break 2:00–3:30 p.m.: Program

4:00 p.m.: Dinner

Rondo Community Library

461 Dale St N St Paul, MN 55104

Hoa Bien 1105 University Ave W St Paul, MN

#### 2 The Minnesota Atheist



https://keepeostreineaster.com - 100% of the proceeds go to the FFRF.

### **Cryptogram**

By George Francis Kane

Gjq vsmaqe Z juhq iqqm um ugjqzkg gjq oseq uouwqb Z uo gjug Z qhqe iqvzqhqb Djezkgzum msgzsmk.

—Bum Iuepqe, Vskzma Nuzgj zm Nuzgj: Neso

Xequdjqe gs Ugjqzkg



News & Notes
Separation of Church and State
— Minnesota Style

#### By George Francis Kane

The separation of church and state has been an issue this month here in Minnesota. First, Saint Louis County removed a Ten Commandments plaque from a county courthouse in Hibbing, Minnesota following a complaint from the Freedom from Religion Foundation. The plaque bore the title GOD'S LAWS. The Ten Commandments were listed above the following biblical quote:

YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF MARK 12: 30-31

The plaque was removed by county staff after FFRF Senior Counsel Patrick Elliott wrote a letter of complaint to County Administrator Kevin Gray. Elliott's letter observed that "Given the content of the display, a reasonable observer would view it as an endorsement of religion." Gray told hibbingmn.com that "the county attorney's office researched applicable law, including relevant Federal Supreme Court decisions on this topic, which contributed to the decision to direct property management to remove the plaque."

# Acts of government must always address a secular purpose, not "prepare the way for the Gospel."

The removal of the plaque generated a large volume of heated discussion on social media, and the county received calls and emails both supporting and opposing it. The plaque is in storage while the county decides what to do with it.

A similar struggle is going on in Cloquet, Minnesota where the FFRF has requested that a Ten Commandments plaque be removed from the police and fire station building. The city government refused, so further action from FFRF is expected.

A bill was introduced in the Minnesota legislature to require public schools to display "a

durable poster or framed copy" of the national motto "In God We Trust" in every school building. Senate bill SF3061 and its companion House bill, HF3665 read in part:

A bill for an act relating to education; requiring display of national motto in school buildings; amending Minnesota Statutes 2017 Supplement, section 124E.03, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 121A.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
Section 1. [121A.12] NATIONAL MOTTO.
(a) To the extent funds are available, a school board must provide a durable poster or framed copy of the national motto of the United States, "In God We Trust," for display in each school building in the district. A school board may accept nonpublic funds or in-kind contributions to implement this section.

b) In the event the display of the national motto is challenged in court, the Office of the Attorney General must defend the display. The school and school board shall be held harmless for complying with this section.

Asked by Minnesota Public Radio for a comment, Minnesota Atheists Director-at-Large August Berkshire noted that the bill "violates the separation of church and state by making it look like the school takes an official position of whether a God exists." He warned that Minnesota Atheists would likely mobilize to oppose the bill.

Also this month, Archbishop Bernard Hebda of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis wrote in a column in The Catholic Spirit that it is the duty of the laity to represent the Catholic faith in the public arena.

Within the Church, it is the laity who are called upon to 'especially assist with their Christian wisdom' the shaping of the temporal order to both further the common good and prepare the way for the Gospel.

The article was the archbishop's call for parishioners to participate in the legislative process. He asserted that those who argue for the separation of church and state "misread our Constitution as requiring a division between per-

### **Atheists Talk**

#### **Radio Show**

Podcasts can be listened to at www.mnathe-ists.org (scroll down to the podcast link), https://www.patreon.com/AtheistTalk. You can catch our show live, every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. Central on AM 950 KTNF or online at http://www.am950radio.com/listen-live/ and https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/a-minnesota-transatheist/atheist-talk. Contact us during the show with questions or comments at (952) 946-6205 or contact us anytime via radio@mnatheists.org or tweet us anytime at @atheiststalk.

Sponsors of the program are Q.Cumbers restaurant in Edina, American Atheists, and the members and donors of Minnesota Atheists. To support the program, go to the MNA web page donation/radio, giveMN/minnesotaatheists, https://www.patreon.com/AtheistTalk or donate by mail to our PO Box. All donations are tax deductible.

#### **Recent Programs**

## "Secular Soup" Atheists Talk #444, March 11, 2018

Maddy, Hertzey, and Marissa Alexa McCool are joined in studio by Amy Withawhy and joining us by Skype is Ami. Amy and Ami are the cohosts of the Secular Soup podcast, which is quickly becoming one of our favorite podcasts here at Atheist Talk. Patreon donors have access to an extended episode!

They described their show as:

"Welcome to the Secular Soup podcast! Your hosts are Ami from Texas and Amy from Minnesota, and we're just two blueberries floating in a bowl of tomato soup. Tune in for real talk about atheism, feminism, politics, parenting, and whatever the fuck else we want to talk about because this is our show. And get ready for a whole lot of motherfuckin' profanity. Buckle up bitches! It's time to have some soup!"

Yeah, it's some of the most delicious soup we here at Atheist Talk have ever tasted, and Ami & Amy assure us that it is far better than anything Tom and Cecil of Cognitive Dissonance have ever produced. While we can't vouch for that last statement, we also can't argue with soup-er awe-

some guests like Amy & Ami.

#### "The Atheist Muslim" Atheists Talk #443, March 4, 2018

Author, podcaster, and activist Ali A. Rizvi joins us to discuss his book *The Atheist Muslim, A Journey from Religion to Reason*.

Ali A. Rizvi is a writer, activist, public speaker, and physician. Ali grew up in Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan as part of a progressive Muslim family, before he moved permanently to Canada in his twenties. As a physician, he trained in pathology (with fellowship in ontological pathology) at SUNY Buffalo and the Roswell Park Cancer Institute, and also holds a master of science degree in biochemistry from McMaster University. Today, he works in medical communications. Ali is an avid and vocal advocate for secularism. science, and reform, particularly in the Muslim community. He has been featured on CNN, in The New York Times, The Atlantic, The Huffington Post, CBC, New York Post, and a range of other major media outlets.

## "Dave Silverman " Atheists Talk #442, February 25, 2018

This week we are joined by the President of American Atheists, Dave Silverman. We cover a lot of ground, chatting about the upcoming National Convention March 29th through April 1st in Oklahoma City, Dave's most recent book Fighting God: An Atheist Manifesto for a Religious World

## "Secular Social Justice " Atheists Talk #441, February 18, 2018

Secular humanism in the U.S. has a reputation for largely addressing the concerns of middle-class white people. That reputation is currently being challenged by groups across the country but perhaps nowhere more strongly than at the Secular Social Justice conferences. In 2016 in Houston and this year on April 7 in Washington D.C., these conferences bring activists from the margins into the spotlight. As this year's conference describes itself:

Secular Social Justice is a platform for activists of

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#### Atheist Talk continued from page 4

color to address the ravaging effects of systemic racism, sexism, heterosexism, transantagonism, colonialism, and white supremacy through workshops, discussions, and coalition-building.

What does that mean in practical terms? In this episode, we were joined by Kansas City activist and organizer Diane Burkholder. Diane is the co-chair of the American Humanist Association's LGBTQ Humanist Alliance and a speaker at both their 2016 and 2018 conferences. She talked with us about came out of last year's conference and what this year has in store.

## Treasury Report February

**By Chris Matthews** 

#### **Radio Fund**

\$10 August Berkshire

\$10 Total Radio Fund

#### General/Visibility Fund

\$600 Jon Strand

\$50 Art Kallenbach

\$40 Edward Lubinski

\$25 Geraldine Jensen

\$59 cash / anonymous

\$774 Total General/Visibility Fund

Total Income \$784

**Current Building Fund** \$138,715

#### **Top Expenses**

\$615 Radio Show

\$330 Newsletter Printing



## March Meeting Review Science is Racist?

#### By James Barri

The Scientific Method, we are told, is objective, and is concerned with the gathering, quantification, and interpretation of data. However, scientists are human, and over the centuries, the data they collected, or ignored, depended on their preconceptions. One of those preconceptions concerns racial differences. To start, "race" is a social construct, and there is very little genetic difference between the "races." The more data that is acquired from more widespread sources, the smaller that claims of genetic differences get. Stephanie Zvan showed a chart pinpointing distinct racial differences that were based on only a few spots in Europe, Asia, and Africa; but further charting — worldwide shows that there is almost no differences. There also seems to be discrepancies as to what constitutes racial differences: She cited two studies claiming to count the number of races: one found six, the other found 16.

Regarding preconceptions: for centuries, scientists were only white men, and their work was colored by the notion that white men were at the top of human creation (indeed, that idea was partly inspired by the story of Noah's Flood, Yahweh supposedly "cursed" the children of Noah's son Ham by turning their skin black. ed.), and that others were not worth consideration. There were many scientists — Ernst Haeckel and Charles Davenport, to name two — who claimed that Caucasian men have always been superior to all others. In 2007 James Watson was claiming that there is a link between skin color and high sex drive.

It's not a far leap from thinking others inferior to treating them as nonhuman, either for enslavement, extermination, or experimentation. In 1849, Dr. Marion Sims, the "Father of Gynecology," operated on black slaves with vaginal fistulas without anesthesia. From 1932–1972 black men in Tuskegee, Alabama, with syphilis, were left untreated in order to trace the course of the disease (when a treatment was discovered, it was denied to the men, in order to complete the experiment). There was also a study in Guatema-

la, in which the men were infected with syphilis by the doctors.

Another aspect of this form of racial generalization is that scientists have often learned one fact, then extrapolated an erroneous conclusion from it. For example, consider Sickle-cell Anemia. It was long believed to be a condition affecting only Africans, when actually it shows up in people who live near the Equator. Sometimes these misguided preconceptions can also cross sexual lines as well, e.g., research on heart disease which doesn't involve studying womens' bodies, since hormones just complicate the work.

While slow progress has been made, and is slowly being made, many obstacles remain. A major obstacle has been the growth of pseudoscience combined with belief in white supremacy. This has gone on since the 19th century, and is still strong today. Stephanie listed several organizations and their proselytizers: The Pioneer Fund, with J. Phillipe Richton, who claims that blacks and Hispanics are more sexually active than whites and so outbreed them, while whites don't reproduce as often (Richton's distinction is between quantity over quality). This is the basis for the claim of "white genocide." Another example is Richard Lynn, connected with a periodical called Mankind Quarterly, and The Institute For the Advancement of Ethnology and Eugenics. He also provided some of the data that Charles Murray used for The Bell Curve.

For centuries, scientists were only white men, and their work was colored by the notion that white men were at the top of human creation

The best way to offset this gross misinformation is to challenge it, in academia and in the

media (where, unfortunately, most people get their science news). But there are difficulties. Jonathan Marks, in his book *Is Science Racist?*, mentions this lack of challenge by saying that there is no taboo against criticizing



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#### **March Meeting** continued from page 6

creationism, but people just don't hold the same animus against pseudoscientists who make racial claims. Steven Pinker claims that to question these people is seen as being political.

General attitudes towards science and scientists are changing, and this is a result of teaching kids how science works, without prejudging. It helps that more women and minorities are getting involved in the sciences. People should also learn the history of science and learn to question taboos. To sum up, scientific history, racially speaking, has been Garbage In, Garbage Out. But, 'a change is gonna come"!

### **Get Famous (Sort of)**

You too can become published by simply submitting something to The Minnesota Atheist newsletter:

Have a blog? Let us reprint it. Have an opinion? Let us hear it. Want to review a movie/TV show/book etc.? Give us your take.

Enjoyed a gathering or event?

printed?

Tell us about it. You can also send us a photo. Have a comment about something we Don't hold back.

Just send your input to editor@mnatheists.org and we'll do the rest.

#### **Separation** continued from page 3

sonal belief and public action, or between moral principles and political choices."

Of course, everyone will take positions on political issues according to their values. The archbishop does not understand, however, that the Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses prohibit government to impose religious orthodoxy. Acts of government must always address a secular purpose, not "prepare the way for the Gospel."

Don't be deceived into disbelieving the false, false god Allah. Disbelieve in the true, false god Jehovah.

—August Berkshire

### **Cryptogram Answer**

The longer I have been an atheist, the more amazed I am that I ever believed Christian notions.

Dan Barker, Losing Faith in Faith: From Preacher to Atheist

## The Wager What if you're wrong?

By Milo Grika

I went to a Catholic high school, not because my family was Catholic (my mother was raised Lutheran, my father Jewish, but both, I came to realize, were atheists), but because a number of local politicians had graduated from there and my parents thought it would be good on my résumé. I don't know if my high school alma mater has in fact opened doors (certainly not since I graduated from college and removed it from my résumé), but I guess it is as good a reason as any to chose one school over another.

I think it was my sophomore religion teacher, perhaps sensing my lack of belief, who said to me, "If you believe in God and there is no god, then when you die, nothing is lost, but if you don't believe in God and there is a god, when you die, you will lose, so why not believe—just in case?"

This is known as Pascal's Wager. 15th century French philosopher, mathematician, and physicist, Blaise Pascal felt that since there is a chance God exists, better to believe in him "just in case."

I didn't have a good retort back in high school, but I knew there had to be one, I just had to wait for it to come. Now, three plus decades later, the answer should have been obvious: "What if you believe in the wrong god? What if you should be Muslim and worship Allah, otherwise you will be damned to eternal torture in hell. Or if you should be Jewish and worship Yahweh, otherwise even if you are resurrected you will not be reunited with your loved ones and will wonder the world alone.

Of the 1000+ sects of Christianity, there are groups that feel that other, demonstrably devout, Christians are going to hell.

Moreover, what if you should be worshiping Zeus and thus Hades is waiting for you. Or what if you should be worshiping Jupiter and thus Pluto is waiting for you, or Thor thus Hel, or Ra thus Osiris, or, or, or ... Ah *l'esprit d'escalier*.

In fact this "wager" isn't a coin toss as Pascal reasoned, because indeed there is the same likelihood that any one of the tens of thousands

of gods invented by humankind exists, and any one of them might be the One. Furthermore, in a Buddhist sense, one might not believe in a god, but through a life of good, skillful deeds, be reborn as a higher life form. Or even that there is a hands-off Creator, but the belief or disbelief of which still ends with nothing after death.

The probability actually is meaningless for me as regards the god of Abraham or Muhammad, or any other so-called god, in that I am so repulsed by the "morality" of the Torah/Bible, Qur'an, the "left-handed bibles" of some Christian sects, and really any written Word inscribed with the laws and commandments of said god, that even if tangible evidence for one of these deities were to be revealed, I would strive NOT to follow as I could not bring myself to also follow the hurtful, demeaning, and inhumane commandments in the respective archaic texts, let alone rejoice in divine totalitarianism in perpetuity.

Christopher Hitchens would say that this last bit makes me more than an atheist, it makes me an anti-theist, that is, someone who is against the whole idea of following any god especially a personal one that directly reacts to me. And I would say that given the so-called morality proposed by the gods we've invented, he is right on the money.

So what does that make me? Am I an atheist because I don't believe in God? Am I an agnostic because I don't believe there will ever be absolute evidence for or against a creator (not to be confused with a personal god). That, as stated, I'm an anti-theist? Am I merely a skeptic? Humanist? Rationalist? Some might prefer naturalist, though sadly, people may confuse that term with nudists.

Regardless, all these titles are worthless. Not a single one completely describes who I am. (Though nudist partially describes me.) Furthermore, as has been said many times by many people throughout human history, anyone on this planet can be deemed an atheist towards the god(s) of the accuser. In fact everyone on this planet is born an atheist and after becoming indoctrinated in the beliefs of their family, becomes an atheist against every god, save the one(s) they learned to worship by their parents.

#### The Wager continued from page 8

Every Jew and every Christian firmly believe that Allah does not exist or is otherwise not really God and vice versa, they are all by definition, atheists as they do not believe in each others' god. In the end, absolute atheists merely don't believe in just one additional god.

Every religious person, and atheist for that matter, are all so sure that they got it right, that everyone else seems sadly and woefully misdirected. And so it isn't even a Jewish vs. Christian vs. Muslim argument, it is an argument for one specific sect of one specific religion against all sects of all religions.

Of the 1000+ sects of Christianity, there are groups that feel that other, demonstrably devout, Christians are going to hell, because they are not interpreting the bible correctly, or not performing rituals the way that God supposedly wants.

Even staunch atheists will accuse self-described agnostics of not only being wrong, but being wrong about themselves. Some, such as Penn Jillette, go so far as to call agnostics "cowards" for not accepting that there isn't anything to "not know."

There are so many ways to believe, or not to believe, that no matter what you say you are, someone is going to accuse you of not being "right" enough.

Socrates was accused of being an atheist. Not because he didn't believe in the Greek pantheon (he very much did believe in all the gods), but merely because he taught that one should act based on reason before acting with a god in mind. For this, he was sentenced to death because the ancient Greeks still felt that everything existed and happened because of the will of the gods.

While there have been a number of attempts to come up with a better name for an unbeliever, perhaps the problem is really that there shouldn't be a need for a specific word at all. Titles are for active do-ers, that is, practitioners. Christians actively believe in Christ; they regularly practice their faith. Pacifists actively believe in non-aggression; they regularly practice facing violence with nonviolence. Titling non-believers "atheists" is akin to saying that everyone has a belief and, for some, that belief is the belief of the lack of deities, when in reality, most non believers don't practice anything; they simply don't

spend any time thinking about the supernatural.

Since there isn't a word for non-stamp collectors [a-philatelists?], or non-beekeepers [a-apiarists?], why should there be a word for non-religionists? I'm not the first to say Atheism is no more a religion that one can practice, than not-golfing is a sport.

Research groups that study religious affiliation have searched for an umbrella term for those that live a life without religion, and "nones" is becoming the norm, as in: "What do you believe, Christianity, Judaism, Islam or none of the above?" The problem, of course, with "nones" is that it sounds like "nuns," making it confusing at best when simply spoken. So in the end, I tend to think of myself as a non-believer, though I accept being called an atheist even when (or maybe especially if) the term is used as a derogation.

At the end of the day, I'm not much of a gambler, but not believing in God seems a pretty safe bet. Even if the God of Abraham is THE God, today's mostly reformist Jews and Christians now profess that goodness is pretty damn close to godliness. Also, in the Qu'ran, there is a loophole whereby only those that follow a god other than Allah are doomed, so atheists might be okay.

And a final thought from Isaac Asimov —

"I am an atheist, out and out. It took me a long time to say it. I've been an atheist for years and years, but somehow I felt it was intellectually unrespectable to say one was an atheist, because it assumed knowledge that one didn't have. Somehow, it was better to say one was a humanist or an agnostic. I finally decided that I'm a creature of emotion as well as of reason. Emotionally, I am an atheist. I don't have the evidence to prove that God doesn't exist, but I so strongly suspect he doesn't that I don't want to waste my time."

## The "Nones" That You Know Charlie Parker

#### By Milo Grika

Charles Parker Jr. (August 29, 1920 – March 12, 1955), also known as Yardbird and Bird, was a black American jazz soloist and a leading figure in the development of bebop. He was an icon for the hipster subculture and later the Beat Generation.

His partner and mother of his children, Chan Berg criticized his previous wife Doris and Parker's family for giving him a Christian funeral (paid for by Dizzy Gillespie), even though they knew he was a confirmed atheist.

"Our people are ebbing away like a rapidly receding tide that will never return. The white man's God cannot love our people, or He would protect them."

—Charlie Parker

### **Minnesota Atheists Membership and Donations**

Membership Levels  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	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 <i>The Minnesota Atheist</i> delivered by email. All other memberships include a subscription to the printed version delivered by postal mail. If you would prefer the
Life membership \$600	PDF version delivered by email, please check the box and provide your email address.
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Just email newsletter Email address (Required for student memberships and email subscriptions)	

### **Upcoming Events**

Flying Spaghetti Monster Dinner/Lunch Sunday, April 29, 1:00–3:00 p.m., Old Spaghetti Factory, 233 Park Ave S, Minneapolis. Free parking is in the lot across Washington Ave.

**Day of Reason Celebration** Thursday, May 3, 1:30–2:30 p.m., Minnesota State Capitol Rotunda, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

May Day Parade and Festival Sunday, May 6, 12:00–6:00 p.m., Powderhorn Park, 3400 15th Ave S. Minneapolis.

Atheists Talk Community Brunch 1st Sunday of every month at 10:30 AM, O. Cumbers, 7465 France Ave S, Edina.

**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 1st and 3rd Monday of every month from 6:30-8:00 p.m., Larpenteur Estates Party Room, 1280 Larpenteur Ave W, St Paul. freethought.toastmastersclubs.org.

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

Freethought Dinner Social 2nd and 4th Monday of every month from 5:00-7:00 p.m., Davanni's, 8605 Lyndale Ave S, Bloomington.

Freethinking Females 2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m., Claddagh Irish Pub, 7890 Main St N, Maple Grove, and 4th 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** 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:00 p.m., The Food Group, 8501 54th Ave N, New Hope.

Blasphemer's Brunch 2nd Saturday of every month at 10:30 AM, Pizza Lucé, 800 W 66th St, Richfield.

Minnesota Atheists Board Meeting 3rd 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 Meelup



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.

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for America

#### Minnesota Atheists Membership

Regular members: 218 Life members: 43 Meetup members: 2,400

#### Minnesota Atheists Honorary Members

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#### **Minnesota Atheists Goals**

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



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