Howdy! Well May sure was interesting! We had a real good picket of the National Day of Prayer, and we feature a report on that in this issue on page 9.

Also, I'm an ACA board member again! Our election meeting was held at the Brick Oven Restaurant, and our new President is Matt Dillahunty and our new Vice-President is Don Baker. I'm your only new board member, as of that election meeting. Yess! We feature a photo and report on that on page 15.

Now as of the most recent ACA board meeting on Sunday, May 14, our new Treasurer is Joe Rhodes, and our new Secretary is Steve Elliott. Congrats guys!

We also ironed out a few things on our committees lineup. Our Activities Committee is chaired by Keith Berka. Our new Communication Committee chair is Don Baker. Our new Membership Committee chair is Matt Dillahunty, and our Archivist is Joe Rhodes.

If you'd like to lend a helping hand to any of those committees, please contact those committee leaders. We need your input!

We'll have a booth at the Austin Gay & Lesbian Pride Festival (http://www.pridetexas.org/), Saturday, June 10th at Waterloo Park (East of Downtown on 15th St.). The festival runs from Noon to 8pm. We'll be handing out fliers, meeting people, selling products, people watching, and having fun. We'll need volunteers to help out. If you would like to help, contact Don Baker, who is coordinating this all, he's at: dbaker@atheist-community.org.

And if you’re just picking up this newsletter for the first time, as we’re sure many people will at the Pride Festival, then welcome to an alternative way of thinking! Atheism is about freedom. We are free from god-ism and the fear-mongering that religion relies on. More inside!

Submissions? Send ‘em! joezamecki@hotmail.com

Thanks and enjoy! :o)

In This Issue...
----NDOP Picket Report w/Pics!
----Atheism is a Liberating Worldview!
----Atheist Alliance Convention Report
----Know Your Christian-Run Businesses!
----+ a whole lot more!
The Atheist Community of Austin is a local non-profit educational 501(c)3 organization founded in 1996, and is affiliated with American Atheists Inc., the American Humanist Association, and the Council for Secular Humanism, and is a member group of the Atheist Alliance International. The ACA is a democratically run organization. Board meetings are held every second Sunday of the month, and all members are welcome to attend, but only board members may vote at board meetings. Board elections are held every year in May. Regular membership in the ACA costs just $24. per year, and the membership year begins in March. You can join anytime though. We also offer student, family, senior and life memberships.

The ACA hosts a monthly lecture at the Austin History Center at the corner of 9th St. and Guadalupe St. This is a community service, and a means of disseminating information and ideas of interest to Atheists and the greater Austin community. Lecture topics usually focus on core areas of Atheist interest such as science, skepticism, the impact of religion, philosophy, church-state separation and community activism. Lectures are scheduled on the 3rd Sunday of every month starting at 12:30 pm in the “Reception Room.” Admission is always free. Our June Lecture will be given by Thomas Van Orden, the Austin litigant in the 10 Commandments monument at the Texas State Capitol building case.

Atheist Community News is mailed free to paid members of the Atheist Community of Austin as an unofficial benefit of membership. But of course there is a cost to send it in the mail, so if you’d like to save us that postage, we’ll be glad to take you off of our mailing list, and then you can just pick up your copy at the regular meetings. We’ll try to make sure that there are plenty of copies available at each regular meeting. Just e-mail your editor at joezamecki@hotmail.com or call at (512)382-9283, and I’ll make it so.

ACA website: atheist-community.org  ACA Voicemail (512)371-2911

“No fate but what we make.” Sarah Connor, Terminator II
Editorial...

Talk Back! It’s ok!

I’d like to come out solidly for free speech here and now. It's more important that we speak out about questionable ideologies than it is to protect the sensibilities of the most extreme promoters of those ideologies. Their egos will survive the brazen attack by reason empowered a bit.

American Atheists has done a great issue of their magazine, the American Atheist Magazine, regarding the Mohammed cartoons from Denmark. It seems to be safe to reproduce the images of Mohammed in the form of those cartoons, here in America. Being able to openly criticize wild schemes and views seems to help us keep our emotions rationally in check, so peace is the rule of the day.

We’re having another blood drive on Saturday June 3, 2006. If you’re eligible, it doesn’t hurt much, and you get free cookies and punch afterwards. If you’re not eligible, you can help cheerleading, and maybe they’ll let you have some cookies and punch too. :o)

Recently I was watching Court TV when I saw their question for the e-mail of the day. The question was “Why is the Catholic Church involved in so many scandals?” So here’s my reply.

Court TV,

"Why is the Catholic Church involved in so many scandals?"

My reply:

Because the Catholic Church's old-world, dark-age policies are holding it back from reforming into a less harmful institution. Because they cling to the idea that their clergy members must remain celibate, they attract a bizarre and often mentally ill segment of society. Since they're also above reproach in the eyes of so many influential people, they also attract a lot of people who find that church to be a safe haven for perpetrators of misdeeds. And finally, since they choose to associate so much with children, they also attract a lot of pedophiles. Their inhumane policies also inspire deviant behavior, by enforcing deviant lifestyles on them. Christianity is also a very inhumane, physically masochistic and bizarre religion founded on control, so it's no wonder that the Catholic Church is now the world's largest and most successful pedophilia network.

The idea that religion should be considered sacred and thus respected is the first and strongest defense that this harmful outfit has to use, and it works well. Religious liberty only coasts this criminal group in the guise of innocence, when we can easily read about their harmful acts and utterances on a daily basis. But clearly, promotion of the Christian religion is its first crime.

Joe Zamecki, Editor, Atheist Community News

Correction

In last month's newsletter we mentioned Tom Cruise's comment that he planned to eat his newborn child's placenta. Cruise's comment was made during an interview and was meant to be a joke. A number of news sources missed or ignored this fact and reported the comment as though Mr. Cruise was serious.

In the interest of fairness, we felt this needed to be clarified. Religionists provide us with enough wacky, humorous, baffling and offensive actions, and claims that there's no need to misrepresent them.

Interestingly, one must wonder if there would have been any confusion over the seriousness of his comment if Mr. Cruise wasn't already providing us with a constant stream of religious insanity.

Recently I visited the San Jose Catholic Church in South Austin again. Way back in 1998, I believe it was, Ray Blevins and I attended a presentation at that church, given by a Korean minister who was touring with his crying Virgin Mary statue. We got some video of the presentation and the amazing church, but I don’t know where that video is now, or where Ray is...lol

This minister was touring all over America with his crying Mary statue, and at this presentation, the climax of religious importance seemed to be when everyone got up and lined up down the center aisle to kiss this statue. I estimated that over 200 men, women and children kissed that statue. In between each kiss, an altar boy wiped Mary's face with a hankerchief. Well at least they're being sanitary about this. Not! It was surreal and dark-age-esque.

The other bizarre and grotesque attraction at the San Jose Catholic Church in South Austin is the really graphic statue of Jesus in the lobby area. It's called "Jesus Scourged," and it's basically Jesus standing there after getting his Passion-beating. He looks like he lost a fight with a lawnmower, and in bright realistic color.

Jesus is still there, after all these years, seemingly waiting for someone to Kervorkian his mythical ass. Sorry, it's the spirit of Jesus that enables me to get rude in the editorial section.

So let's all smile at Jesus as portrayed by churches. He's how they want him, whether up there asking his Father why he forsook him, or walking around looking for Doubting Thomas. Whenever the churches are ready to produce Jesus, I'm ready to inspect his wounds and interrogate him. Aiding and abetting his father in any way would have to be the first in a long line of charges. Besides, now that Johnny Cochran is in Heaven, Jesus has a good lawyer!
Thursday June 1  7:30 p.m.  Happy Hour at Ninfas in North Austin on 183 just west of I-35
Saturday June 3 All day long  Blood Drive! We recommend the Central Texas Regional Blood Center on North Lamar
Thursday June 8  7:30 p.m.  Happy Hour at Ninfas in North Austin
Sunday June 11  1:30 pm - 2:30 pm. Board Meeting Begins at 10am. Check weekly meetings for place.
           11:30 a.m.  Regular meeting at Romeo’s, a weekly social gathering at Romeo’s Italian Restaurant, except for Lectures and other special events. Romeo’s is on Barton Springs Rd. Just west of South Lamar.
Thursday June 15  7:30 p.m.  Happy Hour at Ninfas in North Austin
Sunday June 18th  12:30 pm  Lecture Series, Thomas Van Orden on the 10 Commandments case he was involved with and the future of state/church separation, at the Austin History Center, 9th st. and Guadalupe
Thursday June 22  7:30 p.m.  Happy Hour at Ninfas in North Austin
Sunday June 25  11:30 a.m.  Regular meeting at Romeo’s
Thursday June 29  7:30 p.m.  Happy Hour at Ninfas in North Austin

ACA Event Details

-----Lecture Series We hold our monthly lectures at the Austin History Center, at the corner of 9th St. and Guadalupe St. We hold them on the third Sunday of each month and they start at 12:30 pm in the “Reception Room.” Admission is always free, and it’s open to the public. Our June Lecture will be given by Thomas Van Orden. He’ll talk about the 10-C’s case he was involved in and the future of state/church separation.

-----Board Meetings We hold our board meetings on the second Sunday of the month, and lately we’ve held them at the very large Schlotzky’s at the corner of South Lamar and Toomey St., just South of Town Lake. We used to start the board meetings at 10 am, but we just voted to change the meeting time to 1:30 pm. All members are welcome, but only board members may vote at those board meetings.

-----Happy Hour! We now meet for Happy Hour at Ninfas on 183/Aauderson which is just west of I-35 by about a block. It’s on the Northbound side of 183. If you’re coming north on I-35, be sure to take the 183/St. Johns exit, go through St. Johns, and then left onto 183 Northbound, under the overpass. Ninfas is famous for their wonderful Tex-Mex food.

-----Regular Weekly Meetings Sundays at 11:30 am at Romeo’s Italian Restaurant on Barton Springs Rd. Just West of South Lamar. We meet outside in their patio area.

-----TV Show The Atheist Experience is our tv show. It airs on Time-Warner Cable, public access channel 10, from 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm every Sunday. It’s a live call-in talk show, so feel free to call in with comments and questions for the show and their audience. Members of the ACA are also invited to visit the tv studio during the show, as live studio audience members. This show is also repeated, taped, on Tuesdays at 4:30 pm on Channel 10.

-----Online Radio Show “The Non-Prophets” is a regular live internet radio show on the Freethought Radio Network. It airs on alternate Saturdays from 2 PM to 3:30 PM (3-4:30 PM Eastern time) at www.freethoughtradio.com. Just click on “Listen”. The show is hosted by Jeff Dee, co-hosted by Denis Loubet and produced by Russell Glasser.

-----Public Demonstrations Once in a while, we grab picket signs and cameras and hit the pavement in public on issues of importance to us. Usually these can’t be scheduled far in advance, so announcements about demonstrations will likely only be heard at regular membership meetings. Our last demonstration was at the State Capitol Building on 11th St. In Austin, to protest the National Day of Prayer. It went well, and we feature two reports about it in this issue.

The Atheist Community of Austin PO Box 3798 Austin TX 78764 Voicemail: (512)371-2911 Website: www.atheist-community.org

>>> Summer Solstice ~ June 21, 7:26 A.M. ET<<<

>>> We'll have a booth at the Austin Gay & Lesbian Pride Festival (www.pridetexas.org/), Saturday, June 10th at Waterloo Park. Please let us know if you’d like to volunteer.<<<
The 2006 national convention for the Atheist Alliance was held in Kansas City, Missouri, and we feature a report from an Atheist who went, on page 8. No word yet on where their 2007 convention will be held. www.atheistalliance.org

The 2006 American Atheists national convention was held at the Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, Texas and it was a blast! Also, look for photos of the convention at the American Atheists convention site: www.atheists.org/convention

According to the American Atheists website, the 2007 AA convention will be held in Seattle, Washington. www.atheists.org or (908)276-7300.

The American Humanist Association’s national event was the 2006 AHA CONFERENCE: “The Wave of Reason.” It was the 65th annual Conference of the AHA, and was held May 11-14, 2006 at the lovely Tampa Airport Marriott in Tampa, Florida at the Tampa International Airport. The American Humanist Association’s Washington DC office: (800) 837-3792

In Council for Secular Humanism news, the Center for Inquiry will be taking a cruise!

CFI Cruise -- May 28 - June 4, 2006, The Alaskan Explorer Experience Exclusive Skeptics and Secular Humanists Cruise

Join Paul Kurtz, Barbara Forrest, Mark Bowen, and Joe Nickell, for an adventure with Holland America’s Alaskan Explorer cruise into the Inside Passage and spectacular glacial wilderness where eagles, whales, and minds roam free.

“I’m an atheist. So there you go right there. I can’t be elected to anything because polls all say that people won’t elect an Atheist”

Ron Reagan Jr., June 2004
Recently a Tucson Podiatrist got to sound off on his Atheism and Atheism in general in the online version of the Tucson Star Newspaper, and he’s received lots of good comments on it. So here it is, reprinted with Dr. Shapiro’s permission.

Atheism is a liberating world view.

By Dr. Gilbert D. Shpiro, of Tucson, Arizona

Atheists are “seen as a threat to the American way of life by a large portion of the American public,” according to a national survey conducted by the University of Minnesota.

The research, reported in April’s American Sociological Review, sadly confirms to me that many of our citizens are uninformed and undereducated. The conclusions are an insult to an estimated 30 million Americans who are honest, rational, moral and unfortunately far too quiet.

It is therefore time for atheists to “come out of the closet” and shout out loud the famous line, “I’m mad as hell and I’m not going to take it any longer!”

I certainly do not speak for all atheists, but I think I can briefly clear up some misconceptions and clarify a few atheist positions.

Let’s first affirm that atheism is not a religion. It is quite simply a fundamental world view that asserts that to date there has been no evidence for the existence (reality) of gods. Logically, it is therefore incumbent on believers to support their claims rather than the reverse.

The evidence that we do have argues quite strongly that the Judeo-Christian deity does not exist. For example, God is traditionally described as all-powerful, -knowing, -present and -good and not of time or space. Like square circles and married bachelors, it is an incoherent statement on its face and proven so by a simple reality check.

Scientific research just published in the American Heart Journal has found that praying for someone’s health to improve is ineffective. Miracles (events that violate natural laws) have never been documented. Indeed, there has never been confirmation of a divine intervention or, for that matter, anything supernatural.

Spirituality, regrettably for many, has never been shown to be anything more than just heightened human awareness. The suffering and misery resulting from tsunamis, earthquakes, famines, etc., are testimonies that nature is exquisitely indifferent to all living things.

Evolution, a nondebatable scientific truth (like gravity), denies the divine character of man as portrayed in the Bible. Faith, the underpinning and the engine that runs religion, is defined as belief without reason. In the rational world, if one has supportable reasons for a position, then one would not need faith. For atheists therefore, all belief has to be based on reason, logic and rational thought.

Atheists have observed that the deeper the religious belief the more there is a lack of intellectual integrity.

Whereas atheists would change their position the minute there was evidence for a god or for the supernatural, religionists are so hard-wired and vacuum-sealed in their beliefs that they freely admit that their position is not even open for discussion.

Atheism is the liberating view incorporated in the philosophy of secular humanism. Its central theme is that man alone is solely responsible for his destiny on earth. Morality has been shown to be a product of human development over thousands of years; no deity is necessary to counsel us about right and wrong.

Atheists are continually amazed that Americans can reason with such clarity and critical thinking on most aspects of life except when it comes to God and religion. God, faith, religion, and the supernatural are, in the atheist’s world view, the causes of the delusional wishful thinking that has at best, wasted man's time and at worst, been responsible for his most awful behaviors.

A Letter to the editor about a recent episode of The Simpsons by ACA Member Tracie Harris

It may have been a repeat, but I’d never seen it. It was about ID in the classroom--that went into a spoof of Inherit the Wind. The Xian prosecutor had a "scientist" on the stand with a degree in "Truthology" from some Xian university. It was hysterical, and, I thought, really well done.

At one point the Xian prosecutor had a fawn on his lap drinking from a bottle he was holding. He asked it, "Bambi--who killed your mother?" And then he answers himself out loud and says, "What? Evolution killed your mother?" And everyone in the court starts grumbling about Evolution. It was ridiculous--but a point about the emotional nature of the Xian arguments.

But what I really liked was when Marge decided to read Origin of Species and determined that the arguments are well-thought-out and make a lot of sense. Oh--and it all started when Ned went to the museum of Natural History and saw an exhibit on the "Origin of Man"; he protested "How can you have an exhibit on the Origin of Man with no mention of the Bible?" The curator told him they have a special exhibit for that. It showed a big hand coming out of the sky, and everywhere it hit the inside of the exhibit window, something sprang up--like a tree or an animal or a person. The whole time, the background music was the Doobie Bros, "What a Fool Believes." Ned was appalled and tried to tell Rod and Todd that God makes people. Rod says, "You said the stork brought me?" And Ned says, "Well, it was God in the form of a stork!" And then he turns to see Rod praying to a stuffed stork in one of the exhibits and has to tell him to "stop praying to that stork!" (Then Todd asks, "Who brings baby storks?"

Anyway, it was pretty cute. Kudos to Matt Groening!
The ACA is making an impact on the world.

By Don Baker, Vice-President of the Atheist Community of Austin

May 14, 2006

The ACA is making ripples! We're having an impact on the world through our various efforts. The Internet is certainly helping to make that possible.

Let's take a look at some of the things we've done in recent years:

Looking back to 2004, one of the ACA's more notable accomplishments was our participation in a "friend of the court" brief for the Supreme Court in the Michael Newdow pledge case. While his case was thrown out on a frustrating technicality, he will likely be back before the Supreme Court on the pledge issue in the next few years. Perhaps we can re-file the brief for that case when it happens. ACA member Jeff Dee was a major contributor to the brief on the ACA's behalf.

A number of our members have also testified before the Texas State Board of Education to try to improve the textbooks used in schools throughout Texas. We like to think our testimony in 2003 helped keep Intelligent Design out of the biology textbooks under review that year. Unfortunately, in 2005 the health textbooks were already censored of much of the contraceptive information before the state reviewed them. They've gone to press as "damaged goods", as far as we're concerned.

One of the cool things on the Internet is an audio syndication mechanism called "podcasting". Our Atheist Experience TV show and Non-Propheets Internet Radio show have been podcast for a number of months now. Both shows are easily found in well-known audio syndication hubs and both now have an international audience. The Atheist Experience has had kudos from as far away as England and Canada. A recent note from American Samoa has us a little taste of atheist life there. Letters to the Non-Propheets have come from Canada, Scotland, and Australia. A universal theme to these letters seems to be a sense of amazement at just how crazy those religious nuts are in the US. We agree with them! And that might be why they like our shows so much. Another common theme is that they love what we're doing and they wish they could join us for dinner! Both of these shows are high caliber efforts that rival much of the other atheist media out there. We're lucky to be host to these excellent programs.

Atheist Eve is a monthly cartoon by ACA member Tracie Harris that is carried on the ACA web site. ACA member Don Baker lends an idea here and there to the strip. Atheist Eve was picked up in November 2005 by the Icelandic site Vantru. Her strip appears here, though you'll have to know some Icelandic to read the page. Vantru, which means disbelief in Icelandic, is an Iceland-based group promoting the separation of church and state in their country. Sadly, in Iceland there is no notion of separation of church and state. And, according to Vantru member Hjalti Runar Omarsson, the Icelandic constitution states that the state must "support and defend" the Evangelical-Lutheran National Church--the state church. This is despite the fact that over a quarter of the population doesn't believe in Gods. We certainly hope that Tracie's humor translates to Icelandic to help bolster the esprit de corps among atheists there.

More recently, by Freethunk.net, a freethinker humor web site run by Jeff Swenson has picked up Atheist Eve. Jeff is a cartoonist himself who saw the need to bring together other cartoonists under the same umbrella. He came up with the nonsense word Freethunk to refer to all freethinking entertainment that could be considered part of the new, emerging pop culture--from net radio to comics to fiction. There's certainly enough of us freethinkers to warrant a good humor site. Check out Atheist Eve and a host of other cartoonists featured there. Freethunk is gathering momentum and we wish them well.

Other ACA members have had an impact with their writing efforts. Many of our members have web logs, or blogs. Russell Glasser's Kazim's Korner has excellent postings concerning atheist issues. Lately, Russell has been busy with his graduate school classes, so he's not writing quite as frequently. Don Baker has his Christianity Meme web site, where he looks at Christianity from the perspective of memetics.

ACA member David Kent had an article published in the November 2005 issue of Freethought Today, the publication of the Freedom From Religion Foundation titled "The Lethal Mix of Religion and Torture" concerning the long association between religion and torture. Don Baker wrote the February 2006 feature article for Internet Infidels, titled "ID, Gaps, and Vats", a tongue-in-cheek look at the intelligent design movement and the logical consequences of intelligent design theory. While these are widely viewed publications, we have a handful of ACA members who have had publications, such as letters to the editor, which are read by hundreds to thousands of people.

If you know of anyone's efforts we've missed, send us an e-mail and we'll give them credit.

Give the gift of life at the ACA Blood Drive

Every eight weeks the ACA has a blood drive at The Blood & Tissue Center of Central Texas at 4300 North Lamar Boulevard. Each drive is on Saturday at 10 am. The schedule throughout 2006 is:

* June 3, 2006    * July 29, 2006    * September 23, 2006    * November 18, 2006

For more info about this event, e-mail joezamecki@atheists.org or call (512)382-9283.
A Report on the Atheist Alliance National Convention 2006, Kansas City, Missouri

By Dwain Deets, Reprinted with his permission.

Friday: Festivities got underway with a “hell-fire-and-damnation” sermon by Dr. Lee Deitz, former fundamentalist Baptist evangelist. Clearly, he has seen the error in his former ways as he ridiculed the foolish beliefs of those that still the holy book near and dear.

The eBay atheist, Hemant Mehta, was next to the podium. Hemant is a very sharp young person, and an excellent speaker. He recounted his recent experience which gained considerable media interest, and presented a friendly face of atheism to the American public. His carefully considered steps that brought considerable interest to his listing on eBay, inquiry from key reporters, a feature story above the fold in Wall Street Journal, and the way he got the word out through press releases which brought on a clamoring for interviews on many of the major TV and cable news programs. Quite a feat!

The highlight of the evening was a report from Lori Lipman Brown, our first lobbyist in Washington. The “our” meaning the Secular Coalition for America, representing atheists, humanists, secularists, and all those other good folks. She is a delightful speaker. She showed one short clip of her being interviewed on Bill O’Riley show, and getting the better of O’Riley. She told of her ability to lobby jointly with other groups on specific church-state issues. Thus, she can join forces with Baptists on one thing, and with ACLU on another. All of the church-state issues find this joining in forces of assorted lobbyists, but for one exception. That exception, Boy Scouts of America. When it comes to raising questions about government support to BSA, she finds herself very alone. No one else wants to take on Apple Pie and 4th of July.

One of those to the microphone during the Q&A after Lori’s speech was a mother and her 4th grade daughter from Lawrence, KS. They told of the intimidation the girl got when she choose not to use the words “under god” during the pledge of allegiance in school. Two girls, her classmates, got her afterwards in the playground and slapped her about the face, up against a fence. The teacher, later, took the side of the tormenting girls, and further humiliated the young freethinker in front of the class.

Saturday: Following a good hearty breakfast, we all learned some of the heritage of Kansas City. Dr. Fred Whitehead, co-editor of Freethought on the Frontier (1992), provided interesting commentary on some of the early characters, many with more connections to Freethought then most are aware. For example, four of Abolitionist John Brown’s sons were freethinkers, which probably says something about how they were raised.

Following morning breakout sessions in four topical areas, it was time for lunch and more speakers. The first was Clark Adams giving an update on “Atheism and Religious Satire in Popular media.” This included several video excerpts, such as Alan Alda playing Sen. Vinick in a recent West Wing episode. Alda’s lines in response to a question from a reporter would probably be music to the ears of any atheist. The AAI and SSA audience applauded loudly. Interestingly, Adams commented that those lines were written by Penn Jillette. A number of other entertainers, as well as series (e.g., South Park poking ridicule at Scientology) were given words of endorsement, as well as interesting behind-the-scenes commentary.

Featured lunch speaker was Matt Cherry, Executive Director of the Institute for Humanist Studies. He spoke from the perspective of the president of United Nations (UN) Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief. Those words, “religion or belief,” importantly to us, turn out to encompass atheism in a very major way. It is well established in the UN that non-belief is a protected human right under the expression “religion or belief.” A number of examples from different parts of the world were given to illustrate the importance of this committee’s charter.

Two more sets of four each parallel break-out sessions then allowed matching the subject matter to the interests of the individual conference goers. The real quandary was when something had to be eliminated even though it was high on the list of druthers. (Time to get the DVD of the conference.)

Saturday evening festivities got underway with SSA awarding their Secular Student Alliance Award to Larry Jones, President of the Institute for Humanist Studies (HIS). Jones accepted the award with some thoughts on some possibilities for humanism to play a much larger role, with great benefit to society.

A short time to stretch the legs before the main event made everyone aware of a horrendous hailstorm battering the windows of the hallway. Everyone did manage to break away from the excitement and get back to our seats.

Now, it was time for the primary event, the AAI Richard Dawkins Award. Margaret Downey, normally taking a key role in the award presentation could not be found. Sue Strandberg filled in for Margaret, doing a beautiful job in providing background. It almost seemed as if Sue had an inkling Margaret may not be available to do her part.

Somewhere in the middle of all this, a klaxon went off, followed by the frightening words warning of a tornado. We were all instructed to go immediately to the basement shelter. We wound our way down, actually to the subbasement, surrounded by huge clothes washers and bins of dirty laundry. Just what we all needed, a good sweat!

Finally the all clear sounded, and we all filed back to our seats. Now, back to the program. Let’s see, what was going on? Sue was now introducing the Nun Wendy, a takeoff of Sister Wendy of the PBS series, “Sister Wendy’s American Collection,” to provide commentary and interpretation. Low and behold, Nun Wendy presented a beautiful painting with a resemblance to the picture “Mona Lisa.” This one, however, had the face that looked more like actress Julia Sweeney. Then, in another, a likeness of Julia and Richard reminded all of Grant Wood’s “American Gothic,” the one with the pitchfork. Some may have noticed a particular wit characteristic of Margaret Downey showing through the Nun Wendy character. Nun Wendy is soon introducing Richard Dawkins, and his voice then takes over through the very clear audio system, captivating the audience with his carefully chosen words. His face looking at us from the screen, we listen as he tells us how courageous, how important as a role model, those very tentative words of Julia from her play, “Letting Go of God,” as she first tries to put on the atheist glasses and very tentatively look around a little. When Julia finally came out to the standing ovation, she first expressed the awesome feeling of hearing “her words” read by Richard Dawkins. But then, she quickly made light of the tornado alert event. I pass along Richard Russell’s description of this moment. “We figured for sure that Julia would find a way to work this into her act: “So there I was, getting set to accept an award as the Atheist of the Year, when all hail broke loose and this big voice boomed out from above telling us all to get out of the room NOW ...”.
Julia gave us a delightful account of how her family and friends reacted to her after she had come out as an atheist. There were those that wanted to shut her out of their lives, but there were also some who told her (very private) that they completely agreed with her. Nevertheless, they remained doing what they always had done. Kept their private thoughts to themselves, and gave the pretense of believing in the religion of their family.

__________

A Report on May’s National Day of Prayer Picket

A Report by ACA Member Joe Zamecki

Well the National Day of Prayer picket we just had went very well. We didn’t get quite the turnout that we got last year, but those who did show up had a great time.

We had nine people, which is down from last year’s roughly 18. Now the up side of that is that, apparently we outnumbered the Christians! A couple of passers by said that there was a small group inside the Capitol building praying and making some music, but when we sent our own Chuck Clark in to recon the situation, he emerged saying that he couldn’t find any NDOP anything! He asked around inside, and someone pointed at the third floor, but when Chuck went up there, once again he couldn’t find any NDOP event. It seems that they either wrapped up their prayer event early, or had it away from the Capitol. Either way, it actually felt good to picket a non-event, this time.

We passed out all of our fliers, and several pamphlets, and got several thumbs-up and positive honking of horns in support of our cause. One notable passer-by was a jogger who voiced her support loudly. We realized right away that she did the same thing at last year’s NDOP picket. Talk about having a good memory, and talk about a popular location for free speech.

We only had a few negative reactions, as is usual. One lady walked by with her family and had several negative things to say to us, but had laryngitis, and couldn’t really be heard, even just a few feet away. We just figured that her god was on his lunch break too, otherwise he would’ve helped her get her message across.

We got some good video and still photos, and I’ll try to put some of the pics in a report about this in the next Atheist Community News newsletter.

We’re debating on how or even whether to do this again next year. It’s entirely possible that the NDOP event next year may also be so hard to find, that it won’t warrant a picket. We’ll have to see.

Many thanks to Chuck Clark for bringing lots of signs and thanks to Don Baker for taking photos and bottled water.

On the right, Thomas Van Orden visited our picket and said thanks to us in the ACA for helping him in his lawsuit against the 10 Commandments monument that still sits on the northwest side of the Texas State Capitol Building lawn.

There are several other religious and quasi-religious monuments on and around the Capitol area. You could make a day trip out of inspecting that attraction for all of its religion and documenting it. It’s always interesting to learn about the legitimate cultural history of our state, and find out about the irrational baggage attached to it.
Here is the letter I sent to Dr. Dobson and Shirley Dobson........

To Dr. James Dobson and Shirley Dobson,

My name is Patrick Greene. I have been researching the Congressional Law and President Reagan's proclamation, to find out what they had in mind with the National Day of Prayer. Here is the quote from President Reagan: "On our National Day of Prayer, then, we join together as people of many faiths to petition God to show us His mercy and His love, to heal our weariness and uphold our hope, that we might live ever mindful of His justice and thankful for His blessing." President Ronald Reagan, 1988-MAY-5.

I have created a website to expose your corrupt organization. You have betrayed everything the National Day of Prayer stands for. You have excluded all non-Christians, and have stolen the National Day of Prayer.

http://www.geocities.com/peewee_91762/focus1.html

is the web address.

President Reagan and Congress meant to have that day for all faiths, not just Fundamentalist Christians. I will remove my website when you explain to the public that you were wrong, and you will begin including all faiths joining together, the way it was intended by Congress and the President......................

Here is the letter I sent to the Mayor of San Antonio,

April 30, 2006

Dear San Antonio, Texas Mayor Hardberger and all Councilmembers,

On Thursday May 4th you will be participating in the National Day of Prayer. But, there is something all of you should know. The group that sponsors this day of prayer is Christian only. They will not allow any other faith to join in the observance. The co-chairman of the National Day of Prayer Task Force informed me that this is NOT inter-faith. Which makes this event fraudulent. They have betrayed Congresses and President Reagans intentions for the observance of the National Day of Prayer.

Here is the quote by President Reagan when he signed the proclamation designating the first Thursday of May as the National Day of Prayer.

"On our National Day of Prayer, then, we join together as people of many faiths to petition God to show us His mercy and His love, to heal our weariness and uphold our hope, that we might live ever mindful of His justice and thankful for His blessing." President Ronald Reagan, 1988-MAY-5.

The Christians who sponsor this event have betrayed the wishes of the Congress and President Reagan. Focus On the Family sponsors the event for the entire country. They exclude all other faiths, because of the "Lausanne Covenant". So, if you carry out your support for this event on May 4th, you will be supporting only the Christian faith and excluding all other faiths. Because you are all Christian, which President Reagan was also, I am sure that you would want to carry out his intentions, by not participating in the event. It completely excludes non-Christians. I have created a website exposing this fraudulent event.

http://www.geocities.com/peewee_91762/focus1.html

Thank you,

Patrick Greene

If you have a letter to the editor, letter to a politician, poem, short story, testimony, rant, rave, open letter, big long article, or just a little anecdote, please send it in. We’d love to print it in this newsletter. We’d like to showcase talent from our membership, but of course you don’t have to be a member of the ACA to get something printed here.

Here’s something to think about, and possibly write in about:

Would you like the ACA to have office space? Would you attend regular membership meetings in the ACA office? Would you support the idea of the ACA spending a reasonable amount each month to pay rent on a small office space? Wouldn’t it be nice to have a store front and a small sign on the front of our office?

E-mail your answers to: jomezamecki@hotmail.com

Anonymous replies welcome.
A message from our new ACA President,

Matt Dillahunty

Life comes at you fast.

Just a few short years ago, I began a thorough period of investigation - hoping to find rational justifications for my religious beliefs. This critical examination of the evidence for and against religious and supernatural claims continues, though my mind was freed from the shackles of religion, superstition and other flummery, long ago. I can't recall a particular moment when I decided to adopt the "atheist" label, but I do recall considering the question and deciding that there were a great many labels which fit my beliefs, and "atheist" was one of them.

A little less than 2 years ago, I was discussing religion with a co-worker during a break and she recommended that I tune into a public access TV show called "The Atheist Experience". Fast forward to the present and I'm not only the host of that program, I'm the newly elected President of the organization that sponsors it! I'd like to thank the members of the ACA for this demonstration of confidence and I'll do my best to properly serve, improve and represent the Atheist Community of Austin.

The Board has a President?

Despite the change from co-chairs to President and Vice President, the ACA Board includes many of the same members and will continue to function as before. We're not planning any grand, sweeping changes, but we do have a number of ideas to improve the organization. The Board exists as an administrative body to serve the membership and we're genuinely interested in learning what you'd like the ACA to be doing. There are also a number of committee positions open and we encourage all members to visit the web site and/or contact a board member if you'd like to participate.

One primary area of focus, this year, is membership. I'd like to see us double the number of members before next year's elections. That's not an easy goal, but I believe it's attainable. This isn't about proselytizing, it's about outreach. How many Darwin fish and anti-religion bumper stickers do you see while driving around town? Those individuals are not only potential members, they're likely to be some of the more active members. Some of us already know atheists who aren't ACA members. It's time to get the word out: If you're an atheist in Austin, there's an organization for you!

There are many things we can do to assist us in reaching that goal and I'll be working with the Board to see as many of the following initiatives in place, as possible: - Membership information featured more prominently on "The Atheist Experience" and "The Non-Prophets" programs

- More "fun" group activities
- More opportunities for activism
- Cost-effective advertising
- Charitable, public-relations events
- Membership discounts on merchandise and activities

One of the best attended events from the past year was the tour of Inner Space Cavern. Joe Zamecki suggested and organized the event, provided us with a great tour and I heard nothing but positive comments from those who attended. We've been discussing a number of similar outings for the coming year, and we welcome any suggestions.

The Atheist Community of Austin is a fantastic organization. Our members possess a wealth of knowledge, energy, interests and ideas. It's high time that this became public knowledge.

Matt Dillahunty

President, Atheist Community of Austin
This is just a list of some businesses we Atheists ought to know a few things about. This is not a call to boycott anyone. We just need to be aware that it’s very easy to accidentally contribute to causes we would never knowingly support. Of course, there are plenty more businesses out there which fit right in this category, national, state and international businesses owned and/or operated by Christians. If you know of a business like that which is not listed here, please e-mail me at: joezamecki@hotmail.com I’d like to do a follow-up article on this topic, with more listings and hopefully some reaction from readers. By the way, we know about the Shepherd’s Guide, and that’s mostly local business listings. It would be great to have an “Atheist’s Guide” to Atheist-owned and/or operated businesses.

Alaska Airlines  According to: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alaska_Airlines

Unique among airlines, the company traditionally distributes prayer cards to its passengers along with their meals. This has prompted some complaints from non-theists, and has brought the airline brief attention from travel sites and newspapers

Chick-fil-A From the official Chick-fil-A website at www.chick-fil-a.com/Company.asp

“Our official statement of corporate purpose says that we exist ‘to glorify God by being a faithful steward of all that is entrusted to us and to have a positive influence on all who come in contact with Chick-fil-A.’"

Chick-fil-A is also known for putting their money where their mouth is, by staying closed on Sundays.

Domino's Pizza Inc.  according to: http://dominos.com/Public-EN/Content/Secondary/Inside+Dominoes/Our+Heritage/

In 1998 Domino's Pizza founder, Tom Monaghan, announces retirement and sells 93% of the company to Bain Capital, Inc. In 1999 David Brandon is named Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Domino's Pizza. No other information about Mr. Monaghan is given on the Domino's Pizza Inc. website after this entry in their "Our Heritage" section. But we also have this update on Mr. Monaghan from Adam Reilly of The Boston Phoenix:

At Ave Maria, the university he’s building in southwest Florida, things will be different. Monaghan said in a speech that in a few years, the median SAT score will be higher than that at any other Catholic institution; even better, the dorms will be single-sex, a quarter of the classes will be taught by 'wholly orthodox' priests, and students will be urged to become priests and nuns.

Bold talk — but the most dramatic part of Monaghan’s speech is yet to come. Ave Maria won’t be just a university, he continues. It will also be a new town, built from scratch, in which the wickedness of the world will be kept at bay. "We’ve already had about 3500 people inquire on our Web site about buying a home there — you know, they’re all Catholic," Monaghan says excitedly. "We’re going to control all the commercial real estate, so there’s not going to be any pornography sold in this town. We’re controlling the cable system. The pharmacies are not going to be able to sell condoms or dispense contraceptives." A private chapel will be located within walking distance of each home. At the stunning church in the center of town, Mass will be said hourly, seven days a week, from 6 a.m. on. "So," Monaghan concludes, with just a hint of understatement, "it’ll be a unique town."

It is very important to note that Domino’s is no longer run by Tom Monaghan, though he retains 7% interest in the company. We were not able to determine if this means that any of Domino’s profits go to any religious group, but it’s safe to assume that profits among Mr. Monaghan’s 7% does.

eHarmony.com - From Wikipedia again: eHarmony founder Dr. Neil Clark Warren, an evangelical Christian with strong ties to the conservative Christian community, attributes much of the initial success of eHarmony to its being promoted through James Dobson's Focus on the Family radio show. After having been closely associated with Focus on the Family for four years, in 2005 eHarmony sought to distance itself from the group and Dobson, largely in an effort to broaden the market share of Warren's books and that of eHarmony according to Warren. The services offered by eHarmony are consistent with the social values of the Christian Right. For example, eHarmony does not offer services to those seeking same-sex partners.

GayHarmony.net - From Wikipedia again, in October 2005, GayHarmony.net, was launched as the internet's first gay Christian matchmaking site, and seems promising, though it targets only Christians.

Hobby Lobby - From the official Hobby Lobby website: Statement of Purpose In order to effectively serve our owners, employees, and customers the Board of Directors is committed to: Honoring the Lord in all we do by operating the company in a manner consistent with Biblical principles. Offering our customers...continued on the other page over there------->
an exceptional selection and unbeatable value. Serving our employees and their families by establishing a work environment and company policies that build character, strengthen individuals, and nurture families. Providing a return on the owners' investment, sharing the Lord's blessings with our employees, and investing in our community. We believe that it is by God's grace and provision that Hobby Lobby has endured. He has been faithful in the past, we trust Him for our future.

**Interstate Batteries** - (car batteries) From Wikipedia again: The company's current owner and Chairman, Norm Miller, is a born-again Christian, and enforces these values within the corporate culture.

**Tyson Foods** - John H. Tyson, CEO of Tyson Foods, says, “My calling and my responsibility was to create an environment of permission for people to live their faith.” The Rev. Alan Tyson oversees 109 chaplains who work for the company. Rev. Mark McDonald of Tyson Foods said, "The appeal of being a chaplain in the workplace is the opportunity to step out of the pulpit and work one-on-one with people whom they would never see in church." Apparently this company feels that an overwhelming percentage of its workforce needs some kind of psychological help, not just religion. Well a lot of what they do happens inside slaughterhouses, so I can almost see the need. But religion isn't a solution, as we all know.

**Marriott Hotels** - Run by J W "Bill" Marriott, they're real fine and fancy hotels, and did a great job for us at the American Atheists convention in San Antonio. I also understand that they did well for the Atheist Alliance convention in Kansas City, Missouri. But being Mormon-owned, it's likely that at least some of the money they take in makes its way to that bizarre and obnoxious church. However Marriott Hotels itself doesn't seem to tout religion at all, other than placing the Book of Mormon in each of their rooms, alongside the Bible.

**Jet Blue Airlines** - Run by CEO David Neeleman, a devout Mormon. Jet Blue didn’t get back to me with information about this, so we can’t determine what the effect of patronizing this business is.

**In-n-out Burger** - From Wikipedia again, In-N-Out prints discreet references to Bible verses on their paper utensils. The print is small and out of the way, and only contains the book, chapter and verse numbers (e.g., "Proverbs 3:5"), not the actual text of the passages.

- Burger and cheeseburger wrappers: Revelation 3:20—"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."
- Beverage cups and antenna toppers: John 3:16—"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."
- Milkshake cups: Proverbs 3:5—"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."
- Double-Double wrapper: Nahum 1:7—"The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; He knows those who take refuge in Him."
- Paper water cups, or "R-9's": John 14:6—"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

**The Washington Times Newspaper** - Owned by Sun Myung Moon, leader of the Moonies, aka the Unification Church, out of South Korea. It's a good newspaper, but it's also somewhat influenced by Moon. Moon enjoys visiting America, marrying total strangers by the tens of thousands, buying up vast amounts of real estate in America, and calling himself the ruler of all humanity, sent by none other than God himself. It's a Christian denomination, make no mistake, just one of those really bizarre ones. Here's a quote from the man himself: "I founded The Washington Times as an expression of my love for America and to fulfill the Will of God, who seeks to establish America in His Providence," he said. M'kay…

### Dishonorable Mentions

**Whataburger** - Several Whataburger restaurants have been seen sporting posters in their window that say "God Bless America."

**Wendy’s Hamburgers** - Right after 9/11, some Wendy’s restaurants’ marquees displayed the message “God Bless America.”

I'd like to thank the following Atheists for their assistance in compiling and editing this article: James Huber, Shelley Hattan, Patrick Draper. We must also note that several other businesses were brought up for this article, but no information about their attitude on religion has been found. In the interest of fairness and journalistic integrity, verification is necessary, so we're not even going to name those ambiguous businesses here. Again, if you’d like to submit info about another business, please e-mail: Joezamecki@hotmail.com
The Christian Cross is Just Another Version of the Swastika

By Joe Zamecki, ex-Christian

Recently an Atheist made the claim that the Christian cross was used to show that someone died LONG before it was ever used to torture and kill people. I can’t see why someone would use the cross as a symbol of someone dying, before it was ever used to cause death. That wouldn’t make sense, not to me anyway. But this got me to thinking...!

I understand that the cross being used as a torture/execution device goes back several thousand years, long before the Jesus story supposedly took place.

Of course it’s a symbol that someone died, but in the case of crosses in America today, it’s a symbol that Jesus Christ died. Being used as a symbol that someone else died seems to be an evolutionary way that the Christian religion is adapting to challenges to its authority, by expanding itself. This is just another way to get Christian crosses erected all over the world, by simply adding a new reason to put them up.

Yes, they mean Jesus AND someone else died when those crosses are put up by modern American Christians. We understand that. But what they and people of other religions need to understand is that symbols mean more to some people than others. They mean different things too.

Example: Once the swastika was extremely popular, and for a few years, not many people complained about it. Then some terrible things were done under the swastika, and it took on new meaning. Peoples’ opinions changed on that symbol, and in a radical and understandable way.

Now the swastika symbolizes hate and murder to millions of people, but obviously not everyone. I like to compare the Christian cross to the swastika like this: In Germany, the Nazis were in the majority for several years, and it was looking like they were going to be in control for a long longer. They’re not now, and their main symbol, the swastika is incredibly unpopular, again for a very good reason. But there are still hold-outs who love that symbol, and particularly Jews have a good reason to demand that that symbol be eradicated from view in most public places. Few people disagree out loud, but there is always a consistent group which supports the swastika.

Now, since the Nazis were and still are all Christians, I equate the cross with the swastika by reminding everyone that even if the Nazis killed 10 million Jews, the killing in the name of the Christian cross around the world and by the hands of a great many different Christian societies greatly overshadows what the Nazis did, and even encompasses what they did. The Nazis just acted relatively fast. Why, even right here in America, in Texas, a Christian holocaust took place. There were once millions of native American Indians in many many different tribes living in what’s now the continental United States. Where are they now? We look around and it’s hard to find a bona fide Indian. We have to go to a reservation or Indian casino to see what’s left of a once dominant society. It boggles the Atheistic mind to then realize that some Indians converted to Christianity. In fact a lot of them did. A lot of good it did them too. The Christian cross is to Manifest Destiny what the swastika was to...Manifest Destiny in Europe. Ethnic cleansing to acquire power, wealth and land from infidels and heathens, all in the name of the Christian God, and to profit the handful of humans who run the show.

The Christian cross of today is just another version of the swastika, or if you like, vice versa. If Hitler had been a clergyman by profession before becoming a sensation, instead of a soldier turned radical malcontent, his symbol would’ve undoubtedly been the Christian cross. Heck, that would’ve endeared him to millions of radical Christians here in America!

The cross is a very popular version of the swastika, but that does not eliminate from the past what has been done by carriers of the cross, nor does it eliminate those from our society who understand the evil that has been done by both of those groups, for the same god.

So why should Jews in America be ignored and even taunted when they complain that someone put a swastika on their lawn or on their car, or on a big sign in their neighborhood? It’s the very same argument for us Atheists, except imagine seeing a giant swastika on the lawn of our Texas State Capitol building or on the necklace of the police officer you just called. Can you say...awkward!

There’s got to be an episode of the Twilight Zone just waiting to be written here somewhere. The Atheist is like the Omega Man, or the last human to be normal. We Atheists take time to read between the lines, and ignore denial as a defense mechanism. The truth for the truth’s sake isn’t going to be symbolized logically by a torture device. And the swastika used to be a popular symbol for the sun. It’s not even a torture device. You’d have trouble killing someone with a wooden swastika. The cross is tried and proven, at killing. Isn’t it bizarre to think about something so ugly like that? “The blood of the lamb...” and other such absurd and graphic nonsense drive so many in their slavish directions. Meanwhile millions of Muslims get onto the ground everyday and act like the Morlocks from H. G. Wells’ The Time Machine. It’s a dark and sticky underground, their habitat. Few churches have clear windows to the outside, and it’s no mistake. They want you to forget, for just a while, that reality rules. Long before moving picture cinemas, the churches were pushing their crosses as if those crosses were weapons themselves. I’m just glad we can walk away from movies like The Passion, of our free will. That’s thanks to humans who have made an effort to improve humanity. That’s Atheistic Humanism. :o)
Here are some pictures from our first board meeting since our recent board election. We have our monthly board meetings at the Schlotzky’s on South Lamar just north of Barton Springs Rd. All members are invited to attend board meetings, but only board members may vote at those meetings. We need your input on ways to run the group better. Schlotzky’s is also quite a nice place to hang out. They have a rooftop deck and Texas Limestone walls.

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Sunday Morning with Graham Clark

Recently, a friend of this editing team turned us on to a website where, if you have a good computer, you can watch and hear the MadTV skit on Atheism which aired some time ago. It’s hilarious, as is the standard for MadTV.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmRRsthamaw

Also recently, your editor has found a large display of Abraham Lincoln with the following quote: “I don’t see how anyone can look up at the sky at night, and think that there is no God.” I’d like to verify this quote and determine once and for all whether it’s a valid quote or not.

Meanwhile, I’ve heard a lot of Atheists attribute this to Lincoln: “The Bible is not my book and Christianity is not my religion. I could never give assent to the long complicated statements of Christian dogma.”

Abraham Lincoln was the American 16th US President (1861-65), who brought about the emancipation of the slaves. He lived from 1809-1865.

If you have info about either of these quotes, please e-mail: joezamecki@hotmail.com

ACA Meetings & Our Board

Above from left to right: Joe Rhodes, Ashley Perrien, Chuck Clark, Mark Loewe, Don Rhoades, ACA President Matt Dillahunty, Steve Elliott, Don Baker, Joe Zamecki, down below, Keith Berka and Shelley Roberts. Ashley and Shelley aren’t board members, so this shows how inclusive we are. :o)

Thank to Mike Emmert and Don Baker for the pics.

ACA President, Matt Dillahunty

In our next issue...

----ACA Booth Tabling Report w/Pics!
----More ACA History
----More ACA Social Events
----New Atheist Group Projects

Also if you know of any religious roadside memorials in and around the Austin area, we’d like to know about them. We’d like to document them. As you may know, there are several Atheist groups and individuals around the nation who are removing the religious clutter from certain highways and byways. Cleanliness is better than godliness. :o)
philosophical diversity that exists in our beautiful city, Austin, Texas.

side of things. You can think the very valuable cultural and
be heard. So now you hold in your hand an example of the atheist
that’s a large enough minority group in America, that it deserves to
religions Americans make up about 14% of the population, and
liberty — to include a real existence of freedom FROM religion. Non-
include a real existence of freedom from religion, and a free and open level of religious
government and religion, and a free and open level of religious
better. We advocate a rational and necessary separation between
Athens in the Austin area, and to help the public understand us
Atheist Community of Austin is a non-profit educational and

Atheist Community News
The Newsletter of the Atheist Community of Austin
PO Box 3798, Austin TX  78764