

New York City Atheists Inc.

Serving the Tri-State area • An affiliate of American Atheists

July 2004
Vol. I Issue No. 7

WEB: NYC-ATHEISTS.ORG

P.O. Box 1187, New York, NY 10013

212-330-6794

FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

JULY

July 1	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
July 4	Sunday 12 P.M. – 5 P.M.	NYC Atheists Barbecue — See page 3 for details.
July 8	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
July 11*	Sunday 12:30 P.M.	NYC Atheists Sunday Brunch.
July 15	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
July 17	Saturday 10 A.M.–7 P.M.	Street Fair Table — Waverly Place (Broadway – 5 TH Ave.)
July 18	Sunday 12:30 P.M.	Harbor Cruise/Pier 63. West 24 TH St Hudson River. See page 3 for details
July 20**	Tuesday 7 P.M.	NYC Atheists Meetup.
July 22	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
July 29	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)

AUGUST

August 5	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
August 8*	Sunday 12:30 P.M.	NYC Atheists Sunday Brunch.
August 12	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
August 17**	Tuesday 7 P.M.	NYC Atheists Meetup.
August 19	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
August 26	Thursday 8 P.M.	NYC Atheists Cable Show (Manhattan Cable Ch. 67)
August 26***	Thursday 6:30 P.M.	Bob Morgan — Forum of Atheist Issues.

* **Brunch Location:** EURO Diner at 126 East 28TH Street. (Between Lexington and Park Avenue.)

Brunch Cost: Order from Menu — Reservations not required.

** **Meetup Location:** Call 212-330-6794, 2 Days Before the Event.

*** **Meeting Location:** 352 7TH Avenue (Between 29 and 30TH Street at the *Source of Life Center* on the 16TH Floor.)

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NYC Atheists Inc. is a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational association. Its meetings and membership are open and all are welcomed (both nonbelievers and believers), *i.e.* atheists, agnostics, humanists, free thinkers, skeptics, separation-of-church/state advocates, and individuals who are questioning and searching beliefs.

SPECIAL YEAR END MEMBERSHIP OFFER

SEE PAGE 2



Ken Bronstein

PRESIDENT’S SERMON
SPECIAL YEAR END MEMBERSHIP

No more excuses — NYC Atheists is offering a special \$ 10 year-end membership

You are either with us or against us (George W.) They (you know who) are circling their wagons around us. Excuses like: I am not a joiner, I want to know the people better before I join, I want to know more about the group, I belong to too many groups already—are no longer acceptable. Join now or send us a donation for at least \$10. The clock is running down, stop complaining, get involved.

WE NEED YOU — YOU NEED US.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: SEE PAGE 8 (back page)

Contact me with your comments: Ken Bronstein at NYCATHEISTS@AOL.COM or 212-535-7425.

JUNE EVENTS MEETINGS

June 6 — Street Fair Tabling

Rain in the morning did not diminish our spirits. By the end of the day, we had two individuals enrolled as new members.

June 13 — Sunday Brunch

Twenty three hungry people attended our second Sunday brunch. We all want to thank Edith Amster for rearranging the tabling. Two individuals submitted applications for membership. All said that they had a good time and look forward to the next Sunday Brunch on July 11th.

June 14, Protest Demonstration

Even though we learned about the U.S. Supreme Court’s Newdow decision around noon, twelve of our members attended the NYC Atheists protest demonstration at the U.S. Court House (Foley Square) near City Hall that evening. We were interviewed by WWOR-TV (Channel 9) and seen on their 10 P.M. news. (See photo page 8)

June 15, Meetup

This month, our Meetup meeting returned to the Manhattan Lounge, located in the Yorkville /Upper East Side. Over drinks we had a lively discussion about our protest against the U.S. Supreme Court decision to dismiss Michael

Newdow’s lawsuit to remove “*under god*” from the pledge of allegiance.

June 24, Thursday NYC Atheists Cable Show

Our first Thursday cable show debuted on Manhattan Ch. 67 RCN Ch. 110 from 8:00 to 8:30 P.M. This was one of television’s finest half-hours. Already people are talking about the possibility of winning an *Emmy*. Dennis Horwitz, our host, began the program by giving a brief history of NYC Atheists, discussing our goals and purposes, our open membership policy and our outstanding website.

Ken Bronstein then covered our upcoming events and meetings. Finally, Dennis interviewed Ken about his path to Atheism. After the show Dennis left quickly (slipping out the side door) to avoid the waiting press and cheering admirers. He told the staff to donate any and all flowers to the non-believer’s *Faithless Shelter*.

We have learned that the show got a respectable (-3) share for its time slot. Tune in every Thursday evening at 8:00 P.M. Our next cable show will be July 1st. (See page 3 for guest info)

June 27 — Monthly Meeting

Our July monthly meeting featured Gerry Dantone, director of the

Long Island Secular Humanists. Dantone described the differences in the foundation and practices of morality from the Humanist and Religious perspective. We concluded the meeting with a showing of our first cable show. Details in the August Newsletter.



Ron Reagan Jr., Atheist

Ron Reagan Jr. (President Reagan’s youngest son) Says He Is an Atheist

On the June 24th Larry King show, Ron jr. stated three times that he was an Atheist. He also said that anyone not believing in evolution has a problem with reality. He attacked the Bush administration for using god in their quest and rationale to change the world. When asked if he ever thought of running for public office, Ron Jr. responded that he has not, and that no one would vote for him because he was an Atheist.

**SPECIAL YEAR END MEMBERSHIP OFFER
SEE PAGE 8**

FUTURE EVENTS

July 1, (Thursday) Cable show:
8:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Manhattan Cable: Ch. 67 RCN
Ch. 110

Guest: Jeremy W. Hubbell

Subject: Religion and Politics

Hubbell received his BA from the University of Minnesota and a Masters degree from the University of Aberdeen. For his Masters degree, he studied Enlightenment Aesthetics. Currently, he is a Ph.D. candidate at SUNY/Stony Brook. This fall, he will be teaching a course at SUNY/Stony Brook titled: *Race, Religion, and Ethnicity in US Politics, 1900 to the Present.*

July 4, (Sunday) Barbecue:
11:30 A.M. – 6:30 P.M.

Eric and Elaine Stone (American Atheists members) have invited our group to their home in Chappaqua (Westchester County) to be their guests for a July 4th Atheists barbecue. Our special guest will be Joe Dixon, an Atheist comic, describing his road to Atheism. We will meet at 11:30 A.M. at the round Information Booth in the great hall of Grand Central Station.

Train schedule: Leave Grand Central 11:48 A.M. Arrive back in NYC: 6:35 P.M.

Fare: On board train \$17 (\$9 senior) Grand Central – \$14 (\$9 senior)

Members: Free

Non-Members Guests: \$10 (can apply to new membership)

Driving Directions: 212-535-7425

July 8, (Thursday) Cable Show:
8:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Manhattan Cable: Ch. 67 RCN
Ch. 110

Guest: Jeremy W. Hubbell

Subject: The Trend of Spiritualism/Exorcism

**July 11, (Sunday) NYC Atheists
Brunch: 12:30 P.M.**

Euro Diner, 126 East 28th St.
(Park/Lexington)

July 15, (Thursday) Cable Show:
8:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Manhattan Cable: Ch. 67-RCN
Ch.110

Guest: TBA

**July 17, (Saturday) Street
Tabling 10 A.M. – 7 P.M.**

Waverly Place: Broadway/5th
Ave. (Street on the north side of
Washington Square Park)

**July 18, (Sunday) NYC Harbor
Cruise and Picnic 12:30 P.M.**

The July monthly meeting will be a three-hour NYC Harbor Cruise and Picnic on the retired New York City Fireboat Harvey. Be on board and experience the Fireboat Harvey's eight water monitors pumping 18,000 gallons of water per minute. A once in a lifetime opportunity.

Location: West 24th
Street/Hudson River (Pier 63)

Directions: Take the M23 or M14 Bus straight to Chelsea Piers or take the C, E to 23rd Street. Walk west and cross West Side Highway at 22nd Street. Head around the northern corner of Basketball City for Pier 63.

Paid parking lot — Southbound on West Side Highway — right at 24th Street.

Cost: \$25 Members and Member Guests. \$35 for Non-Members (Save \$10 by becoming a member)

July 22, (Thursday) Cable Show:
8:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Manhattan Cable: Ch. 67 RCN
Ch. 110

Guest: TBA

July 29, (Thursday) Cable Show:
8:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Manhattan Cable: Ch. 67 RCN
#110

Guest: TBA

**President or Pope: Should an
Elected Secular Leader Play a
Spiritual Role?**

By Ron Widelec

Religion has always played an important role in American life and politics. Candidates are asked questions about their personal beliefs, their positions on Church and State separation, and often refer to 'god' in their speeches. However, the role of president or any other elected official is defined in secular terms. With these titles come responsibilities that are limited to more worldly events. In recent years, this idea has been challenged vigorously by an administration that boldly claims to be "saving Americans, one soul at a time."

As part of this crusade, President Bush and Congress declared May 6, 2004 a national day of prayer. In his declaration (linked below) the President stated that the government "encourages Americans of every faith to give thanks for god's many blessings...." He even gives all the reasons we should pray:

1. To praise god for *his* mighty works, *his* gift of freedom. *His* mercy and his boundless love.
2. To acknowledge the sovereignty (supremacy of authority) of god.
3. Because scripture says (Christian scripture, of course—Psalms 145:18-20) "the lord is near to all who call upon *him*...*he* also will hear their cry and *save* them."
4. For the brave men and women of the US Armed Forces.
5. That the people of Iraq and Afghanistan may live in safety and freedom.
6. To ask god's blessings for our nation, granting us strength and wisdom.

In this Declaration, President Bush and Congress have overstepped their bounds. They have taken their secular, tax-funded positions and used them in a religious fashion—namely, telling people when to pray and what to pray for. These acts fall squarely outside the range of secular government and into the realm of family, church, and personal choices. All Americans, religious and secular, Theist and Atheist, should have serious misgivings about this out-of-bounds declaration. While there are historical precedents, such days of prayer, this does not automatically make these actions legal. Previous violations of the first amendment do not validate current or future ones. There is, also, significant evidence that many of the Founding Fathers had reservations about the use of days of prayer (Several examples are linked below from the website of Americans United for a Separation of Church and State.)

The National Day of Prayer Task Force, with its pseudo-connections to government, even goes so far as to recommend prayer positions: "...during your prayer time, use different worship postures: kneel, lift your hands, and fall on your face before Him [god]." This of course comes from the Christian Bible: "I spread out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land" (Ps.143:6). While this Task Force is not part of the government, it does receive significant support from government officials. Where in the Constitution does it allow the government to pressure Americans into praying, dictating when to pray, how to pray, and for what reasons to pray? Don't bother looking, such a statement is completely absent from the Constitution, and was not omitted by accident!

Quotes from our Founding Fathers on Official days of prayer:

http://www.au.org/site/PageServer?pagename=resources_founding_NDP

President Bush's proclamation of a Day of Prayer:

<http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/2004GovProcs/Presidentialproclamation.pdf>

Questions or comments... Email me at Beowolf88@aol.com.

My Road to Atheism

by *Dennis Jackson*

The roots of my atheism stretch far back into my childhood, when I attended a Roman Catholic grammar school. I clearly recall that in the first or second grade, I was not able to understand a number of concepts put forth as unquestionable "truths" in my catechism. Specifically, the assertion that there is but one god, who exists in three persons — *i.e.*, father, son, and holy ghost, was too weird. After a good deal of thought on the matter, I gave up, considered the concept incomprehensible and let it go at that. The catechism held that god always was, is now, and always will be, which sorely tested my ability to understand the concept of eternity. I mean, how could anything have no beginning or end, how could it have always existed or continue to exist no matter how far one turned back time or advanced it into the future? It baffled me then and still does.

The notion of transubstantiation of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ never made any sense, either. (The communion host, to me, was tasteless and insisted on stubbornly clinging to the roof of my mouth. It didn't taste like anyone's body!) You get the overall idea: the notions and assertions of Catholicism had to be taken on faith, because they're



James Watson (Nobel Lauriat) is the co-discoverer of the structure of the DNA molecule. He has acknowledged that he is an Atheist.

patently ridiculous on any logical or rational level.

It was suggested that I attend Catholic high school, but I politely declined. Nine years of parochial school was all I could stomach. I needed to escape from the clergy and nuns. The seeds of doubt were deep in my mind but I kept them on the shelf until I reached sophomore year. At that point I stopped attending weekly religion classes. By then, I had acquired a degree of science and biology understanding, so the bible references and assertions of the parish pastor who taught the religion class seemed less plausible than ever. He was an aging, rabid anti-Communist and John Bircher. He also tried his damndest to convert my mother from being a lapsed, non-churchgoing Methodist to being a Catholic. No such luck; she knew better.

I parted ways with religion for good when I was a nineteen year-old college student by abandoning Sunday mass to pursue more worthwhile, worldly things.

"I think, therefore I am." — Descartes

"Did god invent man, or did man invent god?" — Nietzsche

Freed from the Burden of Fear and Guilt

By Rick Calissi

Like most folks, I had Catholicism, or religion, beaten into my head at an early age, whether it was by the nuns threatening to slap me or the folks dragging my sister and me to church. I remember, when I was six years old, sitting in church thinking: "There's so much more I could be doing." I also recall thinking at that time that the whole world went to church on Sundays and worshiped the statue of a man hanging on a cross. I never got any straight answers to my questions as to who Jesus was and why I was there every week listening to the priest talk. I wasn't getting any satisfaction worshipping a statue so my inquisitiveness grew. Inquisitive children equate to dangerous thinking in the Catholic church.

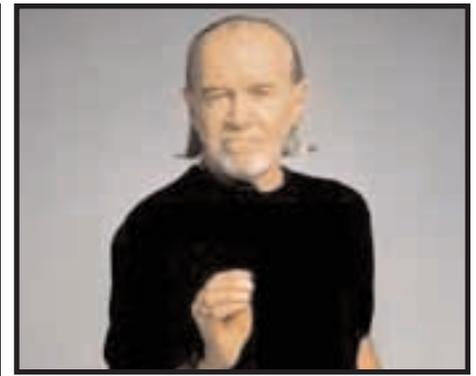
I was dragged to confession starting when I was six years old. I remember holding my father's hand, walking to the confession booth in an empty church in Ridgewood, NJ. I didn't know what I had done wrong, what confession was all about, or what to say. That was a scary moment and that's where the fear factor all began ("Am I going to hell for this?"). I also remember clearly, like it was yesterday, laying awake at night, making shadows on the ceiling with my little flashlight, thinking: "I wonder how smooth my life is going and is God mad at me?" I pictured a corporation profit & loss bar in my head and thought: "Gee, it went down, the bar is bent. Oh, I remember I swore at my sister last week, but then it went back up again, didn't it?" These are not things a six year old should be up at night worrying about! But it happened to me because of those lies and stolen stories drilled into me that I now know are a carbon copy of

Mithraism. A friend once said to me, "Religion is based on guilt and fear; it's the ultimate thought police." He was right.

In July of 2000, a summer semester of Philosophy & Religion at the local community college proved to be my awakening. I had no idea what Philosophy meant at the time, but I had to take the course to graduate. Professor Abanza's class changed my life. All the answers I was looking for were there. I thought to myself one day in his class: "I can make up my own mind! I can do this! I get it! I understand The Three Realms of Thinking and The Universals. I don't have to fear retribution or hellfire, because those are concepts derived from archaic ideas. No more believing in a mystical force that supposedly controlled the Earth. What a joke!" I don't have any more use for a figment of the religious folks' imagination that controlled my thoughts for too long. (That deity didn't exist in 800 BCE, but appeared out of nowhere?)

The old rules, as Prof. Abanza said, "Just don't jibe." I aced his class and have my writings to prove it. Coming from a "C" student, I felt very proud. Since then, I've studied the writings of Socrates and Aristotle and Anaxagoras and the ancient Egyptians. I spend a lot of time at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in N.Y.C. with my girl, staring in awe at the actual marble sculptures of a people that lived long before the Year One.

I am a member of NYC Atheists Inc. I speak with people on many on-line forums for free thinkers, and I'm planning a trip to Wisconsin to visit the Free Thought Hall. You see, the gates have opened, the chains have been removed, the bricks have been lifted from my shoulders. There's no more burden of fear or guilt. I



George Carlin — Comedian

often wonder now, how much easier my childhood would have been had I been exposed to Philosophy when I was six rather than those archaic fabricated stories. Since 2000, I have based my conclusions on facts, logic and reason, not on myths. I have developed my responsible thinking process skills that everyone needs to re-learn. Thanks to philosophy and my open mindedness, my critical life training began in 2000.

Atheist Has Anyone Seen God? *A Short Story by Allen R. Gardner*

It was a hot and rainy night when the call came in about 1:30 A.M. I was working the graveyard shift in missing persons for the first time. It was a demotion. I guess I pissed off quite a few bureaucratic deities in my time and this became my just desert. The banishment into this hell hole became my current and eternal place of residence.

My collar was drenched by the humidity and perspiration was oozing through my pores. Incidentally, I hate iced tea—always have and always will.

Failing to find any degree of comfort and denied any relief from the fan that was just blowing hot air, I accepted the call that was forwarded to my department. I picked up the receiver and stuck it betwixt my chin and shoulder. "Hello, sixth precinct, Detective Goad here, what can I do for ya?"

“He’s gone, I can’t find him, he’s gone,” came the panicky voice over the line.

“Gone? Who’s gone? Calm down. I’m right here.” From my training in how to negotiate these matters, I tried to calm down the caller as I reached for a pad to scribble some notes.

“God! God is missing,” he whispered.

“What do you mean, God is missing?”

He said that he had been praying and that none of his prayers have ever been answered and he was wondering if God had been kidnapped.

“Well, how long have you been praying?” I inquired. It was incredulous what people would do at this time of night, as if there were nothing else they could find to amuse themselves other than to call the police with such factitious ideas. Like he couldn’t find god and it was the job of the police to find god.

“I have been praying my entire life and I have never gotten an answer to any of my prayers. I know he exists because someone who is that famous has to exist, doesn’t he?”

“Yeah, Yeah, I guess so.” I rolled my eyes and began to ask the caller for the pertinent information so I could fill out the Missing Person form.

“Ok, How old is he? What is his description? Any particular markings or what have you? Are you a family member? What is your interest in him? Question, have you gone to your parish, your church or synagogue? You know sometimes these old geezers show up days later after all-night binges.”

But the caller’s voice only grew graver and more desperate. “Yes,

that is where I learnt about god, in church. All the wondrous and wonderful things purportedly ascribed to god. Do you think he could be overworked, tired and just ignoring me?”

“That could be a possibility,” I rejoined.

“Perhaps he’s mad because we are always asking for things? It’s just so hard to tell if I’m doing the right or wrong things.”

My only reply was to give him a word of encouragement without giving him false hope: “Don’t worry if he’s out there, we will find him.”

He didn’t sound too convinced. Neither was I. “If he is out there, he probably stepped out to take a leak. I guess even god has got to take a piss.”

“Perhaps you are correct.” I began to sense that he was calming down now that he had someone to talk to.

“Now, look, give me his address. I’ll fill out this Missing Person form and I can begin looking for



Penn Jillette of Penn and Teller (magicians and authors). Penn (on left) is an very vocal Atheist, but because Teller has never uttered a sound...?????

him. We usually wait 24 hours but by your estimation, he has been missing for quite a while. Am I correct? I’ll make it retroactive.”

“Yes, yes, that sounds good.” He was growing calmer by the second. “His address is Seventh Heaven Drive, across from El Dorado Road. It’s the house with the pearly white gates and cotton-cloud paved flooring.”

After hanging up, I was going to bury the file, deep-six it in the file cabinet, but thought better of it. Perhaps there was something to this missing god thing or perhaps it was a long and lonely night and I needed some amusement.

A few phone calls later left me with nothing and I left word that if any one sighted the missing deity to notify me. Only a few crank calls came in. One claiming to be a J. C. or something.

Gulping my sixth cup of java and my sixth donut in six hours I began to ponder why a deity who had gone to such extremes by creating the universe would then pull a J.D. Salinger, suddenly go awol and abdicate his throne?

I began to make the rounds and ask priests and nuns why they would give people so much grief because of human frailty but give a supernatural being a free pass. I mean, if we aren’t perfect, whatever that means, then we need to lighten up on people and criticize the real problem. I mean, if big daddy has all the power, shouldn’t the big guy own up and take the blame instead of disappearing and leaving others to take the fall?

But no, people punish other people for their weaknesses and failings and give the big guy a pass. That is nothing more than pretzel logic. Or perhaps people bend to the one who carries the

bigger stick, right or wrong. What kind of morality is that?

Three days later, we still aren't privy to the whereabouts of the big guy. Some have suggested that he skipped town. The department budget isn't large enough to continue the search. We have other cases to work on, I have been informed quite explicitly.

I figure, if the big daddy in the sky did exist, he would show up soon enough on his own time schedule. Or perhaps I should turn this one over to homicide? Who would want to kill god? The perfect crime? First we would have to prove that god existed. Then it would help if we found a body, although we could get a conviction with circumstantial evidence if the circumstantial evidence is overwhelming and if we are able to hide the exculpatory evidence.

Well, the case went into our unsolved mystery folder. Perhaps someday it will appear on Fox TV as a cold case. Until then it will be buried in the archives along with the lost cases and lost causes.

I will assume that the crime was committed against god by some



Marlon Brando, Atheist

perpetrator who is probably some low-life immoral atheist. That would be my guess.

But I always had my belief that that entire case was nothing more than a hoax perpetrated on the people by those with unscrupulous characters and evil intentions. That maybe man and god are the real perpetrators themselves. Man is the perpetrator in creating god for those who need an explanation and a reason to do the things they do and to justify their actions.

But what can I do, I'm just a detective sitting in this hell-hole on the graveyard shift, trying to find missing humans. Can't waste my time trying to find someone who may just be the figment of someone's imagination.

Joe Zamecki's reply to Mr. Becklin, 2:39 pm PT, Tuesday, Jun 15, 2004

Ron Reagan Jr. — An Atheist Preaches Against Religion In Politics

By Dennis M. Becklin

Publisher/

SouthernOregonNews.com

regarding Ron Jr.'s comments:

Mr. Becklin,

In your editorial about Ron Reagan Jr.'s comments, and his Atheism, you said:

"But what I find really demented is the willingness of the conventional media in America to pick up young Reagan's comments and to parade them to the American public as if they validated American political secularism. The media has an obligation to let America know that the atheism of Ron Reagan Jr. underlies his opposition to religion in the American body politic. It is calloused beyond comprehension that the opinions of an atheist could be embraced by the American media without such a disclaimer."

Are you trying to say that Atheists don't have valid opinions on the issue of religion because they don't have any religion? Do you really think that secular thinking with regards to politics needs to be validated? Why?

I think Ron echoed the sentiments of millions of American Atheists. I think the only disclaimer Ron needs to issue before he speaks about religion in America is that he's a thinking American.

Maybe that's what intimidates Christians so much about us Atheists.

We, too, think about these things, and have a valid right to issue our opinions on religions that we don't embrace. That we pay taxes, and churches don't, ought to enlighten you to our perspective just a little.

If you are so inclined, there is information about Americans who are Atheists here: www.Atheists.org

Joe Zamecki

A Proud American Atheist

SPECIAL

YEAR END

MEMBERSHIP

OFFER

SEE PAGE 8

RECENT NYC-ATHEIST ACTIVITIES



May 9 — Sunday Brunch

Members of NYC Atheists enjoying our second Sunday of each month at Brunch.



May 27 — Monthly Meeting

Bob Simon from “End of Life Choices” our guest speaker.



June 14 — Demonstration

Members of NYC Atheists protesting the U.S. Supreme Court’s Newdow decision.



June 24 — Cable Show

NYC Atheists Cable Show which airs every Thursday at 8 P.M. on Manhattan Cable Channel 67.

NYC ATHEISTS: SPECIAL 2004 YEAR END MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

First Name: _____ Last Name _____

Street Address: _____ Apt No.: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____@_____ Phone: (____) _____ - _____

NYC Atheists Inc. is a non-profit (501c), non-partisan, and educational association with the purposes and goals:

1. To promote the total and absolute separation of church and state
2. To educate and inform the public about Atheism
3. To provide a forum for examination and discussion about Atheism
4. To develop and engage in educational, cultural, charitable, and social activities that are beneficial to the members of NYC Atheists Inc., the Atheist community, and the community at large.

YOUR 2004 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

\$ 10 — SPECIAL 2004 YEAR END MEMBERSHIP — \$ 10

DONATION: \$ _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**CHECK PAYABLE TO: NYC ATHEISTS INC. – SEND APPLICATION TO:
NYC ATHEISTS INC. — MEMBERSHIP P.O. Box 1187 — NY, NY 10013**
