

New York City Atheists Inc.

Serving the Tri-State area

An affiliate of American Atheists, Atheist Alliance International & Center For Atheism

WEB: NYC-ATHEISTS.ORG COOPER STATION - Box 93, NY, NY 10276-0093

JANUARY 2008

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KENNETH BRONSTEIN

PRESIDENT'S "SERMON"

Commitment to Atheist Activism: The Year of Living Hectically

What a productive year 2007 was for New York City Atheists! We grew, both in membership and repute (who did CBS-TV call for an opposing comment when the Pope blasted Atheists? NYCA!) We engaged in an unsurpassed torrent of activity and education—leading American Atheists' president Ellen Johnson to dub NYCA "the most active affiliate in the nation.

We drew top Atheist speakers at our monthly events, often filling our meeting rooms to capacity. Who can forget lawyer HENRY MILLER, who in May treated us to a booming, emotional portrayal of Clarence Darrow just as he had portrayed Darrow in his Off-Broadway show? Or in January, MATT LACLAIR, the New Jersey teenager who caught his teacher on tape proselytizing for Jesus in a public school? Matt got worldwide acclaim, and survived local disdain, for reporting it to the School Board.

Topnotch speakers

In February, DR. PHILIP KITCHER, the Columbia University Darwin scholar, was amazed that he completely sold out of his book, *Living With Darwin*, at our Brunch. Mark Twain scholar PROFESSOR MICHAEL PRATT of Elmira College filled our May meeting to the gills with both members and media, including *Scientific American* magazine. In July, DR. RANDALL BALMER, an Episcopalian priest with progressive ideas, got a resounding ovation from NYCA members for his forthright criticism of the religious right—and he too sold all of the books he'd brought with him.

A.J. JACOBS, author of *The Year of Living Biblically*, didn't bring any of his books with him to our November meeting—inspiring a number of our members to run out to a nearby bookstore to buy the book so Jacobs could autograph it! And who can forget the elegant, eloquent MARGARET DOWNEY, president of Atheist Alliance International (AAI), who told us in March about her organization, the biggest Atheist coalition in the world.

In February LORI LIPMAN BROWN told us about lobbying for the Atheist cause in Congress. She preceded her father, MEL LIPMAN, a legendary humanist who was our guest in December. WARREN ALLEN SMITH, author of *Who's Who in Hell*, dazzled us in April. And in June, the young Atheist Just-Marrieds RICH AND TINA COTTER told us about their romantic non-religious wedding performed not by a minister or rabbi but by an Atheist "Celebrant."

First Time Events

Who can forget the unusual NYCA events of 2007: the notorious ABC-TV NIGHTLINE DEBATE in May, when NYCA members turned out *en masse* to back Philadelphia Atheists Brian Sapien and "Kelly" in their word-duel with two fundamentalist evangelists? Or the first ever NYCA OCEAN CRUISE in August, when some 30 of us enjoyed a floating seminar under the tutelage of renowned evolutionary biologist MASSIMO PIGLIUCCI on a fun ship that sailed from New York to Nova Scotia and back.

Our solidarity was cemented on the trips we took as a group to the THOMAS PAINE MUSEUM in New Rochelle in January and to GOVERNORS ISLAND in August for a picnic lunch. And for the first time this year, we held a TOWN HALL MEETING (or *Speak Out*) in June, urging members to come and offer their ideas. You came, you spoke, and new ideas sizzled.

We Donate Blood, We Convene

In April, a delegation of NYCA members attended the Seattle AMERICAN ATHEISTS CONVENTION and reported on it in our newsletter. In September, an even bigger delegation of NYCA members attended the AAI CONVENTION in Washington, DC, and our report on it, written by our newsletter editor Jane Everhart and published in our

October newsletter, was evidently so interesting that it was picked up and reprinted by other Atheist publications as far away as California.

There were also the events that we do every year. We annually fight the so-called “National Day of Prayer” in May by doing something active for humanity—like donating blood—instead of praying. The year 2007 marked our most successful BLOOD DONATION PROGRAM ever. This year, Brian Sapien’s *Rational Responders* kept track online of the number of blood donations reported by Atheists nationwide: At the end of the “Day of Prayer,” Atheists had donated more than 1,000 pints of blood and counting.

We Celebrate

Some annual events are more popular every year. Each July, we go by train and car to scenic Chappaqua not far from the Clintons’ home, for our FOURTH OF JULY BARBEQUE at the home of NYCA members Eric and Elaine Stone. Afterwards, we go together to watch the fireworks in New York. On HALLOWEEN, we dress as Atheist “monks” (dig the irony?) to march in the famous New York Halloween parade in Greenwich Village, then we party afterwards. Our winter SOLSTICE PARTIES often feature an Atheist comedian—this year at the 160-foot Japanese Buffet, it was our very funny member KENNY NIPP. And on New Year’s Eve, our board member Harvey Osgood throws his annual New Year’s Eve get-together for Atheists.

And there are our three weekly CABLE TV SHOWS, those in-your-face half-hours on MNN that are our signature on the tube. In the warm months, we do our TABLING on Saturdays in Columbus Circle, where we pitch a tent and enjoy the weather while recruiting new members. And if you’re a subscriber, every Friday FOCUS will arrive in your email, listing all the important articles about Atheism that have been published this week.

O, the Controversies...

Every year a number of interesting controversies arise that cause excitement and often arouse more interest in our cause. When the new POPE’S ENCYCLICAL blasted Atheists in December, we were invited to comment on CBS-TV and we blasted him back. We also sent out a press release to the media, suggesting that the Pope was covering up the failures of his church by blaming all the troubles of the world on Atheists.

In November, my “SERMON” saying that churches are a business and should be taxed set off an avalanche of letters to our newsletter, many of which said that we should petition to get a tax break because we are Atheists. It may also have inspired an article in the *Wall Street Journal*, we think, about churches as businesses.

What’s Coming Up

My New Year’s resolution for the year 4,500,002,008 is a commitment to activism for NYCA. I believe we need to get even more in-your-face about Atheism. We need to increase our TV, radio and print presence to reach more of the estimated 30 million closeted Atheists in this country. I think we will do it primarily through TV, since Cable TV is readily available to us. To that effect I, personally, promise to be more in the faces of our citizenry and I hope many of you will join me.

I think we need to lobby our legislators more, both in Albany and in Washington DC, and there are plans in the works for us to do both. Look for a big BUS TRIP TO ALBANY coming up, with, hopefully, scores of Atheists crowding onto our bus, eager to learn how to lobby en masse.

I think we need to RECRUIT COLLEGE STUDENTS into Atheist organizations and there are plans in the works to do this. We have acquired a college recruiter and you will hear more about this person and his or her task soon.

First Atheist Support Group

I think we need to know better how to deal with being a minority in a religious nation and to that effect, we have instituted the first ATHEIST SUPPORT GROUP in the nation, led by a secular psychologist, to start on January 7th. I hope many of you will join us in this innovative step.

We are planning a law suit against a government agency that, we have learned, has broken the separation of church-and-state rule. However, this is now in the discovery stages, so you will have to wait until later in the year to hear more about this exciting action coming up.

We are on a roll! I am committed to a bigger, better, even more active NYCA, and hope you will join me in this. We have a national election coming up this year and we will need members to actively back the candidates who will do the most for our freedom and our right to be Atheists. I hope you jump on the bandwagon with us—or on the bus—and make your Atheist activism a priority in 2008. It’s fun, it’s fulfilling on a personal level, and it will help build a better world for secular people. ☐

Looking at Life and Death Through Atheist Eyes

Dear Editor,

Are Atheists afraid of death?

-- Troubled in Tribeca

Dear Troubled,

Some Atheists are afraid of death, some aren't. There are as many different attitudes toward death as there are Atheists. I think it depends on how thoroughly you were brainwashed as a kid, how much they scared you with stories about hell, how well it stuck and how you interpreted it as an adult. It's amazing how that early conditioning sticks in your subconscious mind. That's why we at NYCA are starting a Support Group for Atheists in January; we hope to help people deal with some of that early negative conditioning.

There's no doubt that a lot of Atheists have a fearful attitude toward death. It is a fear of the unknown, the nothingness, the end. My daughter, then age 7 and raised free from religion, displayed that uneasiness when she asked me, "Mommy, what is it like after you die?"

I thought for a long time and then I responded, "Do you remember what it was like before you were born?"

"No," she said.

"Well, that's what it's like after you're dead," I said.

To this day, I have not been able to find a better answer than that. What wisdom or vision did I, an Atheist who did not believe in an afterlife, have to offer her? She wanted answers and I had nothing but questions. It takes courage to be an Atheist. We have no placebos like heaven or hell to give you.

The church, it is said, gives believers a lot of comfort with its promise of life after death. But can one really take comfort in *something that is so patently a lie*? No one has ever come up with a shred of evidence that there is life after death. As Atheists, we have nothing in our history or science or logic to give you comfort about death: We refuse to lie to you. Generally speaking, Atheists don't believe you end up anywhere else after you die. Life just ends.

I personally believe that *death is the price you pay for having lived*. With death, the meter has run out. We each have just so many years to live—though science is expanding those years every day—and the quality of those years is what we should, and must, focus on.

But I confess I do have some negative feelings about death. Number one is, *I don't want to do it*. I see death as a damned inconvenience. To anyone who enjoys life and its challenges, its changes, its beauty, its nuances; for anyone who feels they have important work left to do in life, death is one helluva interruption. I will not "go gently into the night," as the poet T.S. Eliot suggested. I will fight with every scientific weapon available: Bring on your CAT scans, your MRIs, your chemo, your intensive care, your rehab, your nostrums and elixirs! But once death is inevitable, I think I will feel: What the hell, I've had a pretty good run.

So, my feelings about death vary from "Wait! I don't want the party to end!" to "I'm not finished living yet," to welcoming the Great Nothingness. In the end, I think death is not a big deal. Everybody does it eventually. I envision myself in the end saying, without distress or regrets, to my friends and family, *Toodle-oo, that's it for me, folks*.

I often think the earth under us must be quivering with millions—perhaps billions—of dead people buried and disintegrating in it. It harbors so many we thought were immortal—like John Lennon and Princess Diana, Jack Kennedy and Jackie Onassis; John-John Kennedy, who died much too soon—and even Anna Nicole Smith, whose very flesh seemed so alive—now, all dead and rotting in the soil—except for John-John, who was buried at sea, the very sea that killed him, and was no doubt eaten by fishes. As Shakespeare said, life is but a stage... we strut and pose on it for only a moment. I hope you all have a long run, like a successful Broadway show. But honestly, would you want even a good show like *Les Miserables* to run for eternity?

--Jane Everhart, Editor

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Publisher – Kenneth Bronstein
Editor – Jane Everhart

When asked by a believer, “What happens to you [Atheists] when you die?” Madalyn Murray O’Hair responded as follows:

“Death is the cessation of vital functions of an organism. In the human animal, when the brain is permanently impaired or ceases to function through the death process, the unique individual personality of that person disappears. Its existence ceases. The body immediately begins to rot and that is the end of it. We see this everywhere about us. Leaves die on trees. Flowers and bushes die. Weeds die. Our pets die...Members of your family die. You will die, too. You can’t escape it.”

The same believer tells Madalyn, “My soul is going to unite in heaven with Jesus,” and asks her what will happen to her soul. Madalyn responds:

“Let me give you an example of soul. You have a tape recorder, don’t you? [Yes, he says.] You record music on it. The music on that tape could, perhaps, as an analogy, be called a “soul.” When you erase the tape, what happens to the “soul,” the music? If you happen to drop the tape in a fire and it burns and is destroyed, where has the music gone? When the physical basis of the human body no longer exists, the memory bank or the chemical and neuron tracking patterns of the brain are destroyed; what you call

your “soul” is gone...It is utter nonsense to talk about your soul uniting with anything.”

“Doesn’t it scare you that you aren’t going anywhere [after death]?” another believer asks.

“Religion has put such terror in you that you are very concerned with where you might be going [after death] and you want—at all costs—to avoid hell... All Atheists want to maintain life. But when that is finished, it is all over. There is nothing else. Therefore, you will find Atheists everywhere guarding life, taking care, planning so that they may have many years of life. And we are always on the side of peace.”

To a christian who says he “knows where he’s going [after death],” Madalyn says:

“...That is the only reason for your being alive—to reach toward the goal of a continuation of a life after death?... Whereas I have hundreds, thousands, of reasons for living. The most compelling of these is that life, intrinsically, is good and worthwhile. That satisfies a reasonable person. I do not care to change my options for yours...I intend to live life fully, richly, totally, beautifully, here and now. I’m sorry that your life is so miserable that you would bet on another one being better.” □

Madalyn Murray O’Hair’s comments above have been excerpted from a book titled All the Questions You Ever Wanted to Ask American Atheists, a compilation of her call-in radio shows in Austin, Texas, in 1986. The book can be ordered from American Atheists, P.O. Box 5733, Parsippany, N.J., 07054-6733.

ANNOUNCEMENT



New York City Atheists congratulates our Board Member Dr. Massimo Pigliucci on his engagement to Ms. Gillian Dunn. Dr. Pigliucci is professor of evolutionary biology at Stoney Brook University. Ms. Dunn is Director of Emergency Response at the International Rescue Committee, a humanitarian organization that was started at the instigation of Albert Einstein. The wedding is planned for July.

We have a winner in our midst: our champion letter-to-the-editor writer, Dennis Middlebrooks, who has had no less than seven (7) letters to the editor published in 2007. He has also sent out two more letters this year, which may yet get published as we go to press.

Middlebrooks' letters were published in such prestigious newspapers as *The New York Times* and the *Daily News*, and in such scholarly magazines as *American History* and the *Skeptical Inquirer*. Since NYCA's president, Kenneth Bronstein, has promised to award \$100 to any member who gets a Letter-to-the-Editor published in a recognized publication, Middlebrooks, an NYCA member for three years, can revel in each *ka-ching!*

Middlebrooks, whose daytime job is loan examiner for a foreign commercial bank in Manhattan, was born and bred in Brooklyn, where he still lives. He has a degree in history from Brooklyn College and an MBA degree from Pace University. Raised catholic, he has been an Atheist since he was about 16, he says, when he became interested in astronomy and the science writings of Isaac Asimov.

Middlebrooks' first published letter appeared in the *Daily News* in 1968, he reports, and dealt with poor service on the subways. He was 17 years old at the time. "I compared subway cars during rush hour to the Black Hole of Calcutta," he says.

Can you figure out why Middlebrooks' letters are so publishable? If the words "short, punchy and clever" jump into your mind, you're catching on. Tune in next month to this page; Middlebrooks has promised to do a piece for us on *How To Write a Letter-To-the-Editor That Will be Published*. Meanwhile, here are some of Middlebrooks' letters that were published this year.

Published in THE NEW YORK TIMES on February 20, 2007, under the heading THE COSMOS AND RELIGION:

To the Editor:

Re "A Familiar and Prescient Voice, Brought to Life" (Feb.13): I resent Dennis Overbye's description of Carl Sagan as "one of the world's most famous and eloquent unbelievers." Why should religion be the basis for defining unbelief?

Carl Sagan believed in reason and the use of the scientific method as the best way to open new vistas into the wonders of the universe. He believed that humanity is part of nature, and not the product of some divine whim.

The true unbelievers are the majority of the American people, who, according to opinion polls, reject the discoveries of science as to the origins of

humankind and the age of the solar system and cosmos, embracing instead a discredited biblical view.

DENNIS MIDDLEBROOKS
BROOKLYN

Published in AMERICAN HISTORY MAGAZINE in August 2007 under the heading ONE NATION UNDER GOD? was the following letter:

As an atheist, I appreciate Jon Meacham's insights into the church-and-state debate in America ("In Good Faith and Good Will," April 2007). However, I take umbrage at his remark that "the atheist side is equally wrong by saying that nothing exists." This canard of belief in nothing has been directed at atheists since time immemorial. Neither I, nor any atheist I have ever known, believes in "nothing." Atheists certainly believe in the existence of a vast, possibly infinite universe governed by the laws of nature. We also adhere to ethical beliefs derived from human reason and experience rather than divine fiat. I for one believe that justice, tolerance and rationalism form the foundation of any civilized society. Although Mr. Meacham may disagree with my point of view, this is a far cry from believing in nothing.

Dennis Middlebrooks-- Brooklyn, N.Y.

Published in SKEPTICAL INQUIRER magazine, Sept/Oct 2007 issue under the heading HITLER AND "ATHEISM":

The Rev. Ian Alterman, in his letter to the editor (May/June 2007), excoriating Chris Vokay's criticism of religion, includes Hitler in his pantheon of "committed atheists," along with Stalin, Mao and Pol Pot, who murdered "over one hundred million people" in the twentieth century. Alterman notes that "Hitler was not a Christian; he simply used Christianity to further his agenda."

How, pray tell, does the learned reverend know this? The facts are that Adolf Hitler was raised in the fervent, anti-Semitic Roman Catholicism of rural 19th century Austria, and he never renounced his religion, nor was he ever excommunicated despite the magnitude of his crimes. He referred to God repeatedly in *Mein Kampf*, and his first order of business when he seized power was to outlaw all of the Freethought groups in Germany. He had widespread support among the Catholic and Lutheran clergy of Germany, many of whom were dues-paying members of the Nazi party. The puppet ruler of fascist Croatia, a Nazi ally, was a Catholic priest who was later executed for war crimes. Hitler

required German officers to swear loyalty to him “bei Gott,” and his soldiers went into battle with “Gott Mit Uns” (“God with us”) emblazoned on their belt buckles. There were chaplains in all branches of the German armed forces, including the murderous Waffen SS. Some atheist!

No, it is not historical evidence on which Alterman and others have based the accusation that Hitler was an atheist. It is quite simply a matter of religious propaganda. Anyone as evil as Hitler and his followers (including Goebbels, a Catholic who received communion weekly with his family) simply had to have been atheists, who, after all, have no moral compass, lacking a belief in a Sky Father. In a related vein, I have heard people say that the September 11, 2001 terrorists were in fact atheists and not fanatical Muslims; god-fearing people would never commit such foul acts. Only atheists. As Goebbels himself said, a lie repeated often enough becomes a truth.

By the way, Rev. Alterman, are you aware that Stalin was once a seminarian in the Orthodox Church and was educated by Jesuits? Why then, shouldn't Christianity shoulder the blame for his murderous deeds?

Dennis Middlebrooks
Brooklyn, New York

*Published in the DAILY NEWS on October 3, 2007
under the heading “OPEN SHOP”:*

Brooklyn: Memo to Sen. John McCain: Limiting the presidency to Christians would have barred John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln from the White House.

Dennis Middlebrooks

*Published in THE NEW YORK TIMES on October 18,
2007 under the heading ROMNEY AND THE RIGHT:*

To the Editor:

Re “Gingerly, Romney Seeks Ties to the Christian Right” (Political Memo, front page, Oct. 16):

The fact that Mitt Romney, or any presidential candidate, should find it necessary to appease the Christian right is a sad commentary on our times. It is clear that a broad segment of the American people, and the feckless politicians who pander to them, have rejected the constitutional prohibition against religious tests for public office and believe that only “people of faith” are qualified to be our leaders.

In such an environment, even the most outstanding atheist or agnostic could never aspire to public service.

DENNIS MIDDLEBROOKS
Brooklyn, Oct. 16, 2007

*Published in Voice of the People, the DAILY NEWS
online news, on November 11, 2007, under the heading
THE PAT AND RUDY SHOW:*

Brooklyn: Now that Pat Robertson has endorsed Rudy Giuliani for President, maybe he can help Rudy's campaign by using his inside track to God to get Bernie Kerik off the hook.

Dennis Middlebrooks

*Published in the Daily News on December 10, 2007,
under the heading FAITHFUL:*

Brooklyn: Religion is essential for freedom, Romney states. If that's correct, theocracies like Saudi Arabia and Iran must be bastions of freedom.

Dennis Middlebrooks □

Letters-to-the-Editor

Building a Secular Society

*This letter is a response to Ken Bronstein's
December “Sermon” titled, “Atheism, Phase II:
Building a Secular Society.”*

To the Editor:

Until we [Atheists] have some programs that the public is aware of, and an actual building structure, we will not be able to move forward. At the moment, we don't do anything for anybody except provide intellectual stimulation. Your article outlines what *should* be our goals but “*where's the beef?*” (That phrase comes from a burger chain commercial about 20 years ago.) The public will not take us seriously because we are not visible: No grand structure (have

you seen the Mormons' grand, beautiful edifice in Harlem?) and no social programs. I have a few suggestions to get us started:

REHAB & EDUCATION PROGRAMS (promoting ourselves through our good work): Center for Inquiry (CFI) is promoting the Secular Organization for Sobriety (SOS). It is very effective, I've been told. Our society needs an alternative to that god-fearing 12-step program. You did read that Scientology has bought a building in Harlem and will have literacy and drug rehab programs on site? Scientology will not be mysterious to the Black community once they

get housed in their \$10 million structure on 125th St. surrounding the 125th St. Library.

STRUCTURE: CFI has a building fund for New York City. Your group needs to have an office in it. We all need to contribute to purchasing a building. I would give to a building fund if your organization had one.
--Sibanye, Harlem

With your background, Mr. Bronstein, [*Ed. note: Bronstein has an M.A. in Education from Columbia Univ.*] why not start a charter school? I'm a member of the Association of Black Educators (ABENY), but they are not organized to take on such a project even though it is our children who are being miseducated. When I first started with them, I thought I was attending church. Thank goodness, ABENY is focused today.

POVERTY PROGRAMS: We need to set up economic cooperatives in the poor neighborhoods. This is not rocket finance. These programs build wealth and empower people. Minorities are at the mercy of this capitalist system. I have plenty of information on Mexicans and other groups pooling their money for the common good.

Pope Bashes Atheists

These letters are responses to NYCA's press release, "Pope Bashes Atheists to Deflect Blame for Failures of Church," which was sent to the media and our membership on December 3, 2007.

To the Editor:

This [press release responding to the Pope] is really, really good. Truly a public service. Thanks!

Catherine Clare, Manhattan

To the Editor:

Wonderful! Thank you. I will pass it on.

Sheila Schwartz, Manhattan

UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS

January 7, 2008 Monday 7:00 P.M.
WHAT: New York City Atheists Support Group

WHERE: Call Ken Bronstein 212-535-7425

COST: Free, but participants must be members of NYCA. Limited to 15 participants; first come, first served.

Got a Problem? The Atheist Support Group may help you solve it.

January 13, 2008 Sunday 12:00 P.M.
NYCA Brunch and Book Club

Location: Kennedy's Restaurant
327 West 57th St. (8th/9th Ave.) – Rear Room
Brunch Cost: \$20 includes tax and tip

Brunch Meeting Program

Brunch Speaker: Two ex-Jehovah Witnesses
Subject: *Our Road to Atheism*
You think that you had problems becoming an Atheist?
An event not to be missed.

Book Club

After the brunch meeting, we go to the NYCA Library located on East 79th Street.
Book: Christopher Hitchens' "god is not Great."
First three chapters – 42 pages / Need have not read the assignment to participate.

January 15, 2008 Tuesday 7:00 PM
NYC Atheists Social Gathering (Meetup)
Location: Stone Creek Bar and Lounge
140 East 27th St. (3rd/Lex)

Casual Conversation and drinks with your fellow freethinkers.

Cost: Free (cash food and bar)

Register at www.meetup.com

January 31, 2008 Thursday 6:30 PM
NYC Atheists Town Hall / Annual Meeting
Location: SLC Center (16th fl.)/ 352 7th Ave. (29th)
2007 Review (What we did- good, bad or indifferent)
2008 Plans (Exciting new events being planned)
Elections of 2008 Board

**ATHEISM IS A CONCLUSION
NOT A BELIEF**

PROUD TO AN ATHEISTS

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

JANUARY 2008

Jan.	7***	Monday	7:00 P.M.	NYCA Support Group
Jan.	13*	Sunday	12:00 P.M.	NYCA Brunch and Book Club
Jan.	15**	Tuesday	7:00 P.M.	NYCA Social Gathering (Meet-Up)
Jan.	31****	Thursday	6:30 P.M.	NYCA Town Hall / Annual Meeting

FEBRUARY 2008

Feb.	4***	Monday	7:00 P.M.	NYCA Support Group
Feb.	10*	Sunday	12:00 P.M.	NYCA Brunch and Book Club
Feb.	19**	Tuesday	7:00 P.M.	NYCA Social Gathering (Meet-Up)
Feb.	28****	Thursday	6:30 P.M.	NYCA Monthly Meeting

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- * Kennedy's Restaurant – 327 West 57th St. (8th/9th) – Rear Room
** Stone Creek Bar and Lounge – 140 East 27th St. (3rd/Lex)
Register at <http://atheists.meetup.com>
*** To Be Announced
**** SLC Conference Center – 352 Seventh Ave. / 16th Floor - (29/30th St.)

WEDNESDAYS

THIS WEEK IN ATHEISM

6:30 PM (Manhattan Cable # 57)
Live Streaming: WWW.MNN.ORG

THURSDAYS

NYC ATHEISTS CABLE SHOW

7:00 PM (MANHATTAN CABLE CH 67)
LIVE STREAMING: WWW.MNN.ORG

THURSDAYS

ATHEISTS BOOK CLUB

7:30 PM (Manhattan Cable # 67)
Live Streaming: WWW.MNN.ORG

NYCA
Cooper Station
P.O. Box 93
NY, NY 10276-0093

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RENEW YOUR NYCA MEMBERSHIP

Through our programs and activities, we work to bring awareness of our principles, our vision and, above all, of our existence as atheists to all New York citizens. We do it through our website, our meetings and events, our cable shows, our library and book club, our street tabling and our newsletters --all of which are funded by your membership.

With the continued growth of our membership, we gather strength in numbers and will more effectively counteract the threat of a looming theocracy.



NYC ATHEISTS — 2008 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

First Name: _____ Last Name _____

Street Address: _____ Apt No.: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

NYC Atheists Inc. is a non-profit (501-C3), non-partisan, educational association with these 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 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 2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Basic __ \$ 25 Friend __ \$ 100 Sustainer __ \$ 250 Patron __ \$ 500 Benefactor __ \$ 1000

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**CHECK PAYABLE TO: NYC ATHEISTS INC. - SEND APPLICATION TO: NYC ATHEISTS INC.
MEMBERSHIP - COOPER STATION P.O. Box 93 NY, NY 10276-0093**