

Rationalists of East Tennessee Newsletter
September 2011 – edited by Ralph Isler

Announcement: The annual regional picnic sponsored by the Western North Carolina Atheists will be held on Saturday, September 17. Details are specified below following the calendar for RET activities.

Quote of the month: Where there is no vision the people perish. Proverbs 29:18

Cartoons of the month:

<http://news.yahoo.com/comics/non-sequitur-slideshow/#crsl=%252Fphotos%252Fnon-sequitur-slideshow%252F20110824-nq110824-gif-photo-050226674.html>

<http://news.yahoo.com/comics/non-sequitur-slideshow/#crsl=%252Fphotos%252Fnon-sequitur-slideshow%252F20110825-nq110825-gif-photo-050534030.html>

RET September 2011 calendar:

Freethought Forum

Every Tuesday 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Community Channel of Knoxville – Comcast Channel 12

The free streaming live broadcast can be seen at <http://ctvknox.org/> for those who do not live in Knoxville. These discussions feature “Faithless” Forest Erickson, Larry Rhodes, and Joe Barnhart. They can usually be found on YOUTUBE within a day or so.

Sunday, September 4 – Presentation.

Topic: "Convergent Evolution in Cichlid Fishes - What Is Really Known?"

Speaker: Professor Darrin Hulsey, from the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee, will discuss the scientific evidence for the evolution of characteristics in these distinctive fishes.

Time/location: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm, Pellissippi State Community College, Goins Bldg., Cafeteria Annex

Sunday, Sept 11 - Skeptic Book Club

Time and location: 4:00 to 6:00pm, Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 8029 Kingston Pike.

Book: "Religion and Science" by Bertrand Russell

In this timely work, Russell, philosopher, agnostic, mathematician, and renowned peace advocate, offers a brief yet insightful study of the conflicts between science and traditional religion during the last four centuries. Examining accounts in which scientific advances clashed with Christian doctrine or biblical interpretations of the day, from Galileo and the Copernican Revolution, to the medical breakthroughs of anesthesia and inoculation, Russell points to the constant upheaval and reevaluation of our systems of belief throughout history.

Sunday, September 18 No Meeting

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING THIS SUNDAY BECAUSE OF THE REGIONAL PICNIC IN NORTH CAROLINA ON SATURDAY.

Sunday, Sept. 25 – Reflections Group (potluck lunch)

Topic: "The Ethics of Buying and Selling Organs"

Time and Location: The meeting will start at 1:00 pm at the home of Carl and Aleta Ledendecker, 2123 Stonybrook Road Louisville, TN 37777. Call 865-982-8687 for directions

Regional Picnic Information:

The annual regional picnic sponsored by the Atheists of Western North Carolina will take place Saturday, September 17 from 12:00 noon to 7:30 pm at shelter #3 in Lake Julian Park, Asheville, North Carolina.

The picnic will be catered this year with both meat and vegan options available. It is requested that those wishing to attend RSVP and send advanced payment by September 10. The payment should be sent to

Darrell Lunsford
180 Maple St.
Clyde, NC 28721

Checks should be made payable to
Jennifer Lovejoy.

Directions:

Take I-40 from Knoxville into North Carolina – 109 miles
Take a slight right onto US-74E (signs for I-26E/Hendersonville,/Spartenburg) – 0.4 miles
Merge onto I-26E – 5.8 miles
Take exit 37 for N Carolina 146/Long Shoals Road toward Skyland – 0.2 miles
Turn left onto N Carolina 146E/Long Shoals Rd. – 1.3 miles
Destination is on the right.

Total travel distance is 133 miles, and estimated time is 2 hours and 25 minutes.

Please contact me (Ralph Isler) at risler1@comcast.net or 865-482-4680 if you wish to carpool. We will tentatively plan to leave from the parking lot at Pellissippi State Community College at 10:10 am.