

FIG LEAVES

Volume 19 Issue 9

September 2010

September FIG Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 28 at 7:00 pm

A Night at the Observatory

Meet at the Cincinnati Observatory -
3489 Observatory Place
Cincinnati, OH 45208

In September, FIG will visit the Cincinnati Observatory for a tour of the building and an astronomy lesson. Dean Regas, Outreach Astronomer, will lead the tour and provide the history of the Cincinnati Observatory, which was originally established in 1842. Dean will also answer questions about Is Pluto a planet?, why do people think comets will hit the Earth in 2012, and many other interesting perspectives on astronomy. After the tour, FIG members will be instructed in the constellations most visible and provided an opportunity to look through the telescopes.

Cost: \$3 for FIG Members, \$6 for Non-FIG Members (Regular Adult Price for an Observatory Tour is \$6)

What's Coming Up...

Dinner at Marilyn and Giovanni's

Marilyn and Giovanni have kindly offered to not only host dinner, but prepare it all as well. If you've been there, then you know what a treat this is. If not, then you absolutely must do everything you can to be there! You will not be sorry! Since they are providing everything, I thought it would be nice if we can each donate (I'm suggesting \$10) to offset some of the expense of that fine Italian food and wine. Marilyn says, "We will have pizza and tiramisu and some salad. If anyone wants a special drink they can bring that." So please mark your calendars to be there on Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 6:30 PM at 1766 Yellowglen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45255. Phone - 513-474-5116, **RSVP by e-mailing FIG** (figmessage at gofigger.org -replace the word "at" with "@") **by Sunday, Oct. 10.**

Announcing a new social event for the Free Inquiry Group - Movie Night!

Each month we will get together to view a movie that contains secular humanist and other free thought themes. We will discuss the movie afterwards. We can experiment with places and times as we go.

Tim Saffles suggested the first movie. Suggestions for future choices are requested.

Movie Night - Monday, October 4, 2010 at Sharonville Public Library - Showing "The Invention of Lying," on Monday, October 4 from 6-8:30 pm.

This movie is a comedy set in a world where no one has ever lied, until a writer seizes the opportunity for personal gain. It is rated PG-13.

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Events

FIG Community Dinner

Tuesday, Sept 14, 2010, 6:30 PM
Bronte Bistro, 2692 Madison Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45208

RSVP by Sept. 12, to John Welte at
Welte@fuse.net.

September Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010, 7:00 PM
Cincinnati Observatory -
3489 Observatory Place
Cincinnati, OH 45208

FIG Movie Night - New

Monday Oct. 4, 2010, 6:00-8:30 PM
Sharonville Library

FIG Community Dinner Special!

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2010, 6:30 PM
Home of Marilyn & Giovanni
1766 Yellowglen Dr. Cincinnati, OH
RSVP Figmessage @ gofigger.org.

Upcoming FIG Elections

The upcoming elections have not been scheduled but will probably take place at one of the next meetings. Here are candidates for the open spots.

Upcoming elections - Running for the board, Terry Kassnel and Pamela McKenna and Dennis Davis. Running for secretary - Susan Davis.



FIG Picnic and Potluck 2010

FIG members gathered at Bryan Sellers home for a smokin' hot August picnic. . Thanks go out to Bryan for hosting this get-together. Great friends, great food and great conversation made for a great time. Due to the extreme heat, we played it cool by eating indoors in air-conditioned comfort.

The menu was terrific and highlighted the culinary skills of many of our members. Homemade cheesecake made by Steve was a big hit at the end of the meal.

Nobody could resist the starters. The Italian vegetable salad made by Susan was such a hit that there was barely a sniff left at the end. There was a terrific rye round with spinach dip; thank you, Pamela. Carolyn brought a complete array of lovely homemade condiments and relishes, adding spice to an amazing spread.



Marilyn and Giovanni's pasta platter had nothing left but the fine memories after FIG finished with the dish. Thanks to everyone who brought a potluck dish and to those who helped with set up and clean up.

Then there were the grills....Bryan had thoughtfully provided just about everything one might want. From the veggie grill,

there were Italian style no-meat sausages and veggie burgers, and from the traditional grill, there were burgers, metts and hot dogs.

Speaking of dogs, Phantom and Meme modeled for a photography session, (we tried to get them to model anyway), after Phantom had finished his picnic meal. We hope you enjoy the images.

- Reported by Fran Welte



FIG Leaves - Thoughtful articles, letters, reviews, reports, anecdotes, and cartoons are very welcome. Submit in Electronic format via the internet to figmessage at gofigger dot org; or on disk or typewritten via mail to Editor, FIG Leaves, P.O. Box 53174, Cincinnati, OH 45253. Contributions received before the first Friday of the month will be considered for publication that month.

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Memberships run from:

1 January to 31 December.

One year: \$25

Family: \$35

If you join during the year, you receive a \$2 discount for each month that has passed.

We request contributions above membership dues. Contributions are tax deductible.



THINGS TO DO....

THINGS TO SEE...



Science Book Club 2010 schedule

All meetings on 3rd Sunday of each month at 2:30 in room 3A of downtown Main Public Library unless otherwise noted.

** Note September change!

**Sept 19 - Darwin's Armada:

Four Voyages and the Battle for the Theory of Evolution; Iain McCalman. (We will NOT be discussing Robert Ornstein's *The Evolution of Consciousness*)

Oct 17 - *The Roving Mind*; Isaac Asimov

Nov 21 - *The Little Green Book of Awakening*; James George

Dec 19 - *Physics For Future Presidents: The Science Behind The Headlines*; Richard A. Muller



CFI Northeast Ohio Is Pleased To Present:

**A Special Session of the CFI Institute,
September 25th, 2010 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Crowne Plaza Independence Hotel,
5300 Rockside Road, Independence OH 44131**

Join Center for Inquiry Northeast Ohio (CFINO) for an examination of religion and its influence on our personal and public lives. Through presentations by and discussions with CFI naturalist philosopher John Shook, Islamic scholar Ibn Warraq, and theologian and biblical scholar Robert Price, we'll seek a richer understanding of religion's role and development throughout history and contemporary society.

Robert M. Price, PhD is professor of theology and scriptural studies at Johnnie Coleman Theological Seminary, host of the *Point of Inquiry* podcast, founder and fellow of The Jesus Seminar and The Committee for the Scientific Examination of Religion, research fellow at the CFI Institute, and host of *The Bible Geek* webcasts. His books include *Beyond Born Again*, *The Reason Driven Life*, *The Incredible Shrinking Son of Man* and *Inerrant the Wind*.

John Shook, PhD is director of education at the Center for Inquiry and heads the CFI Institute. He is a research associate in philosophy at the University of Buffalo, and has authored and edited more than a dozen books (including *The God Debates*, available in bookstores October 1st). He is a co-editor of three philosophy journals, and travels for lectures and debates across the United States and around the world.

Ibn Warraq, MA, an Islamic scholar and leader in Koranic criticism, is a Center for Inquiry senior fellow. He is the author of several books on Islam and the Koran, including *Why I Am Not a Muslim*; *The Origins of the Koran*; *What the Koran Really Says*; and *Defending the West: A Critique of Edward Said's Orientalism*. His work has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Guardian*, and he has addressed governing bodies throughout the world, including the United Nations Office at Geneva and the Dutch Parliament at The Hague.

Register by September 15th to take advantage of early bird pricing! *For more information on rates, directions, accommodations & local attractions, visit the CFI Northeast Ohio website.

General Admission: \$70 (\$60 before 9/15)

Friends of the Center: \$65 (\$55 before 9/15)

Students: \$30 (\$25 before 9/15)

Special discounts available for first-time Friend of the Center memberships combined with registration!

82010 Center for Inquiry | Northeast Ohio · P.O. Box 2379 · Akron, OH 44309, neohio@centerforinquiry.net

Announcing a new

Meetup for The Cincinnati Atheists Meetup Group!

When: **Monday, September 20, 2010, 6:30 PM**

Where: **Hofbrauhaus Newport 200 E 3rd St
Newport KY 41071**

Phone: **(859) 491-7200**

Meetup Description

Atheists, Agnostics, Humanists and Freethinkers meet here. Regular monthly gatherings are held on the 3rd Mondays. New people join every month, and we all wear name tags (no quizzes). Check the Message Board for current hot topics.

This is a purely social gathering. No agenda, no speaker, no rules of order. If you'd prefer a bit more structure, please check the calendar for lectures, FIG meetings, and other events.

If the weather is nice we will try to snag an area outside, if not we will sit inside. But either way the Hofbrauhaus is always fun.

Learn more here: <http://www.meetup.com/cincinnatiatheists/calendar/13791141>



Can Science Feed The World?

This question was on the cover of yesterday's journal *Nature*.

Responding to the question on its cover, "Feeding a hungry world" says the real challenge in the coming decades is to "expand agricultural output massively without increasing by much the amount of land used."

How can this be done?" What is needed is a second green revolution - an approach that Britain's Royal Society aptly describes as the "sustainable intensification of global agriculture." In his acceptance speech for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 Norman Borlaug, father of the Green Revolution, said: "There can be no permanent progress in the battle against hunger until the agencies that fight for increased food production and those that fight for population control unite in a common effort. Fighting alone, they may win temporary skirmishes, but united they can win a decisive and lasting victory to provide food and other amenities of a progressive civilization for the benefit of all mankind." Which leaves me deeply puzzled about why, in a special issue dealing with population, *Nature* left out any mention of population control?

The question was asked in the context of an estimate by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, that to accommodate a projected population of nine billion in 2050, world food production must increase 70 percent. Will they use the same calculus in 2050 to plan for a projected population of 12 billion in 2090? This is the catastrophe that the unfairly maligned Thomas Robert Malthus foresaw in his 1798 *Essay on the Principle of Population*: Species have far more offspring than are needed to maintain their numbers. It's an observation that Darwin would cite as one of the keys to natural selection. When the numbers exceed the available food supply there is massive suffering. Bob Malthus called for abstention from sex. That's 100 percent effective, but strongly selected against. Although a lot of people starved, remarkable advances in agriculture and transportation bought us a couple of hundred years to look for a better solution. It came in 1960 in the form of the Pill, the combined oral contraceptive. It offers an effective, if not quite perfect, technological solution to the population problem. Malthusian catastrophe had been averted - well sort of.

- *What's New* by Robert Park, 30 July 2010

How To Market A Book: Stephen Hawking's Idea.

Send copies to all the pompous nincompoops it will offend. That's it! They will sell it for you. *BBC News* today published their reactions to Hawking's new book in which he says that science can explain the origin of the universe without invoking God. This is "naturalism," the dominant philosophy of science in the 21st century. It restates the first law of science discovered by Thales of Miletus in 585 BC: for every observable effect, there is a physical cause. I don't have Hawking's book, so I don't know exactly how he said it, but I would have preferred to say: "invoking God would not help me to explain the origin of the universe." Hawking explains that the existence of gravity means the universe created itself from nothing. The first offended pompous nincompoop was Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks in *the Times*: "What would we do for entertainment without scientists telling us with breathless excitement that God did not create the universe as if they were the first to discover this astonishing proposition." Yes, and did you learn anything?

- *What's New*, Robert L Park, 3 September 2010

Are Zygotes Human Persons?

On Monday judge Royce Lamberth, appointed to the federal bench by Ronald Reagan, blocked the use of federal funds for research using embryonic stem cells on the grounds that extracting the cells kills human embryos. It is of course true that, for good or ill, every embryo has the potential to become a totally unique human being. The same is true of every zygote created by the fusion of gametes in an in-vitro fertilization Petri dish. One or more of the resulting embryos will be transferred to the patient's uterus a few days later. There will typically be many embryos left over. They are stored cryogenically in case a second transfer is necessary. By 2008 about 500,000 frozen embryos had accumulated in cryogenic facilities around the United States. That would be closer to one million by now, all of which retain the potential to become unique human beings. Does Judge Lamberth's decision mean that society must now assume responsibility for the continued viability of this growing population of potential people?

- *What's New*, Robert L. Park, 28 August 2010





Where Are All The Space Aliens?

The question of whether we are alone in the Universe gnaws at us. In 1950, in a discussion about whether advanced civilizations might exist elsewhere in the Milky Way galaxy, Enrico Fermi famously asked, "Where are they?" This has come to be known as the **Fermi Paradox**. If planets are a common feature of star systems, the naturalistic assumption would be that life exists throughout the Milky Way galaxy. Sentient beings with the capacity to develop advanced technologies would be expected to evolve. Implicit in Fermi's question was an assumption that advanced technologies would be capable of interstellar travel. Where are they? At home, as we are, interstellar distances are too great. Travel time is not the principal obstacle. The barrier is the energy it takes to accelerate a spacecraft to a reasonable fraction of the speed of light. I hope that's the end of the Fermi paradox, and the Dyson sphere, and all that science fiction nonsense.

- *What's New*, Robert L. Park Friday, 6 Aug 10

Arctic Thaw Generates Positive Feedback For Global Warming.

Stable systems rely on negative feedback to keep them that way. As the Arctic Ocean warms, however, methane produced by organic decay bubbles up from the seabed. Vast areas of melting permafrost will release large amounts of methane as well. Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas, 25 times more powerful than CO₂. This is positive feedback, like putting a microphone in front of the speaker. It will be unpleasant.

- *What's New*, Robert L. Park Friday, 6 Aug 10

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Quote

It must require an inordinate share of vanity and presumption too, after enjoying so much that is good and beautiful on earth, to ask the Lord for immortality in addition to it all. Heinrich Heine (1797-1856)

Unquote:

.....

"To consider mankind otherwise than brethren, to think favours are peculiar to one nation and exclude others, plainly supposes a darkness in the understanding."

--John Woolman, Quaker, 1720-1772

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New Meetup for

The Cincinnati Atheists Meetup Group!

What: Skepticon III: Annual Skeptic Meeting

When: Friday, November 19, 2010 9:00 AM

Where: Missouri State University

901 South National Avenue

Springfield, MO 65897

Skepticon is an annual skeptics convention held in Springfield, Missouri and taking place from November 19 to November 21st. This event will be featuring a long list of big names from both the skeptic and atheist movements. Already confirmed speakers include James "The Amazing" Randi, Joe Nickell, PZ Myers, D.J. Grothe, Dan Barker, Rebecca Watson, Victor Stenger, Richard Carrier, John Corvino, J.T. Eberhard, David Fitzgerald, Debbie Goddard, Amanda Marcotte, Brother Sam Singleton. More info on speakers can be found here: <http://skepticon.org/speakers/>

Further information about the conference can be found at: <http://www.skepticon.org/>

It is important to register early for this conference if you plan on attending, registration is FREE and can be done here: <http://www.skepticon.org/register.php>

Special hotel pricing can be found here: <http://skepticon.org/about/hotel.php>

This is a rare opportunity to see many of the biggest names in atheism for free and Travis should be able to arrange transportation to and from the airport for those who would like to fly. Please register on the skepticon page now if you are considering attending and Travis will publish further updates about this conference as it is announced. RSVP to this Meetup: <http://www.meetup.com/cincinnatiatheists/calendar/14162825/>



Quote

Religious controversies are always productive of more acrimony and irreconcilable hatreds than those which spring from any other cause.

- George Washington

Unquote:



Faith Not A Reliable 'Eco-Friend'

by Tom Flynn, 1 June 2010

Executive Director of the Council for Secular Humanism and editor of its magazine *Free Inquiry*

Q: The catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is a widening environmental, economic and political crisis. Is it also a moral crisis? How does religion influence our use and abuse of the natural world? Does religion help or harm the environment?

When it comes to the environment, traditional religion has given us saints and devils alike. Among Christians, an increasingly popular movement focuses on being better stewards of creation. Three cheers! On the other hand, Christianity has also given us its share of advocates modeled after James Watts -- people who respond to what is, sadly, the most coherent and popularly accessible argument that the environment is humanity's property, that we've been charged by God with not only the power but the *obligation* to do with nature as we see fit. The most dangerous three words in Genesis may be "subdue the Earth."

What worries me about advocates at both of these extremes is what they share in common. Ultimately, any primarily religious perspective on the environment comes down to what some human thinks God wants. Unfortunately, there's no way for men and women of good will to agree whether God exists, much less what God wants. So bringing religion to bear on environmental issues is above all an exercise in irrelevance.

What is best for the environment? Instead of looking to any body of legend, scripture, and alleged revelation for answers, why not look at the world itself? Why not give greater credence to those ways of knowing that are intersubjectively verifiable -- on which men and women at least theoretically *can* come to agree? The environment's best hope may lay in most of us deciding that it's too important to leave it up to faith. ☘



A young lady came home from her date feeling rather sad. She told her mother, "Anthony proposed to me tonight."

"Then why are you so down-cast?" Her mother asked.

"Because he also told me he is an atheist, Mom. He doesn't even believe there is a hell."

Her mother replied: "Marry him anyway. Between the two of us, we'll show him just how wrong he is."

No Two Christians Are Alike

by Herb Silverman, 2 August 2010

Silverman is Founder and President of the Secular Coalition for America, and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at the College of Charleston. Author Anne Rice said last week that she was "quitting Christianity." The once-lapsed Catholic wrote that she could no longer accept her religion's teachings on homosexuality, feminism, politics and birth control.

"In the name of Christ, I quit Christianity and being Christian," Rice announced on her Facebook page.

Can you leave Christianity and keep Christ? Can you be spiritual without being religious?

Christians are a lot like snowflakes--there are almost no two alike. I can think of only one common thread I've heard from liberal, conservative, and moderate Christians. They've all said about some other Christian: "He's not a *real* Christian." That's understandable, because the book they read is ambiguous and contradictory. It's not clear to followers what to take literally and what to take figuratively, and which passages may have been falsely attributed to the man or god or man/god called Jesus.

I have a friend, a former Christian, who now calls himself a "Jesusian." We differ on what happens after we die, but we agree on almost all social issues. Where I find good secular reasons, he finds interpretations from his Bible. I think we can tell more about people by which portions of a purported holy book they quote than from the religion to which they say they belong.

What Anne Rice and my Jesusian friend did implicitly, Thomas Jefferson did explicitly. When I see a televangelist open his Bible and say, "Let us pray," I think of Jefferson saying, "Let us cut." Reflecting the Enlightenment thinkers of his day, Jefferson cut out the superstitions and the miracle stories from the Christian Bible. He referred to what remained as "Diamonds in a Dunghill." Not surprisingly, Jefferson's diamonds reflected Jefferson's overall philosophy before he exercised his religious freedom to cut and paste.

I don't particularly care whether people call themselves Christians, believers, or spiritual. I'm an atheist, but I don't like labels. Atheists are a lot like snowflakes, too, since when you put two together you may get three opinions. The bottom line for me is this Jesusian quote: "What matters more than what we believe is how we treat one another." That might not actually be a direct quote, but I'm sure someone out there can find the one true interpretation to justify what I said." ☘





BOOK REVIEW

*There is No Freedom Without Bread:
1989 and the Civil War That Brought Down
Communism*

by Constantine Pleshakov

(New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009)

At issue is what brought down the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Russian communist empire in eastern Europe. For 44 years after the end of World War II the victorious Soviet Union dominated the countries of eastern Europe. Then each of the Warsaw Pact countries changed its government in a revolution and made its own independent international arrangements. Eventually, in 1991 the Soviet Union itself disintegrated into its constituent republics.

Americans have a tendency to credit President Reagan with pushing the Russians into liberalizing their system, and influencing Chairman Gorbachev. This author gives neither man much credit. Reagan was fundamentally ignorant and behind the times in understanding the Soviet system. "Reagan's vision of their society was hideously dated." (p. 126) His "view of Poland (or of any other Eastern European country for that matter) was at best simplistic" (p. 127). He gave good speeches and may have inspired some in eastern Europe, but he did not bring the cold war to an end.

Pleshakov's interpretation of Gorbachev is not much higher. By 1981 the Soviet army was firmly stuck in their Afghanistan morass, and military adventures or disciplining "satellite" states was no longer remotely possible. "Reagan did nothing to lessen the tension, and many argued that he made it worse (p. 128). Gorbachev, who had spent his life as a party hack, did not understand his own country and its discontents. *Perestroika* (restructuring) was not democratization, but a kind of reform with the main effort initially a campaign against alcohol and drunkenness. *Glasnost* (transparency) excluded information of the Afghan war and about Chernobyl. Ultimately his "reform" left the Soviet Union with neither law nor order. The ethnic republics, especially the Baltic states, were ready to revolt; the time was ripe for Yeltsin to take Russia itself out of the Union, which fell apart into its fifteen constituent republics. Gorbachev was left without power, personally dependent on his Western friends for succor and refuge.

Pleshakov interprets what happened in eastern Europe in 1989 as the separate fate of each country. By that time the Soviet Union was so weak, the satellites had already and largely escaped the tutelage of Moscow. Rather the people of each country overthrew their communist bosses. These had long ceased to be Moscow's puppets, but vigorous iron fisted rulers. The "freedom" of the satellites was in fact a domestic matter, the overthrow of local tyrants, no longer protected by the Red Army. A small civil war in Poland, a major battle in Rumania. A non-violent revolution in Czechoslovakia, and quiet transfers of power in Hungary and Bulgaria. Only the East German politbureau asked for Russian protection against its own people, but was refused. Pleshakov mentions that "George H. W. Bush, on whose watch the 1989 change happened, didn't do much to encourage or help it" (p. 236)

The greater part of Pleshakov's book is devoted to an analysis of the overthrow of communism in each of the seven eastern European republics. He describes in detail the beginning of these revolutionary changes, the actions of Lech Walesa and the Solidarity labor organization in 1980. Liberal intellectuals in the West couldn't appreciate this movement, as it was much too religious. At the time it was suppressed by the communists who brought a general, Wojciech Jaruzelski, to power. He ended the Solidarity rebellion, suppressed the labor union, and locked up Walesa.

Things changed in ten years. Pleshakov gives Karol Wojtyla, i.e. the Polish Pope much credit for persuading and pressuring the General to do the right thing for his country. Eventually an election brought a compromise government with a strong role for Solidarity to power.

When it became clear that Moscow would not interfere with Poland's democratic experiment the other six eastern European governments saw the end coming. Most gave up peacefully if not willingly. The East German dictator, Erich Honecker, begged and berated his Moscow friends to once more help him suppress his people. Liver cancer took him out of the way, while his rebellious people collapsed into the arms of the Federal Republic.

Pleshakov provides us with many facts of recent history, and careful analysis of what it meant at the time. Is this the final word on the end of the "cold war?" Of course not, many other historians will have their say and interpretation.

– Wolf Roder



FIG Community Dinners
 Tuesday Sept. 14, 2010 6:30 PM
 Tuesday Oct. 10, 2010 6:30 PM



Sept. Meeting
 Tuesday, Sept 28, 2010, 7:00 PM
Movie Night
 Oct 4, 2010 6:00 - 8:30 PM



FIG Is On Facebook
 If you have a Facebook account, become a Fan of FIG. To join you can type in this long weblink: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Cincinnati-OH/FIG-Free-Inquiry-Group-of-Cincinnati-and-Northern-Kentucky/306015475868> or it is much easier to search for "Free Inquiry Group" and find it the first option on the search page.
 By being a Fan you can receive FIG updates and meeting notices and RSVP for events such as the monthly FIG Community Dinners.

FIG Leaves
 P.O. Box 53174
 Cincinnati, OH 45253

FIG

Our Purpose

The Free Inquiry Group, Inc. (FIG) is a non-profit organization founded in 1991. FIG is allied with the Council for Secular Humanism as well as an affiliate of the American Humanist Association and of the American Atheists.

Though most of our members are secular humanists, we welcome to our meetings anyone interested in learning about or furthering our purpose.



To foster a community of secular humanists dedicated to improving the human condition through rational inquiry and creative thinking unfettered by superstition, religion, or any form of dogma.

In accordance with our purpose, we have established the following goals:

- To provide a forum for intelligent exchange of ideas for those seeking fulfillment in an ethical secular life.
- To develop through open discussion the moral basis of a secular society and encourage ethical practices within our own membership and the community at large.
- To inform the public regarding secular alternatives to supernatural interpretations of the human condition.
- To support and defend the principles of democracy, free speech, and separation of church and state as expressed in the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights.

For more information, write the Free Inquiry Group at the address above, e-mail - [figmessage at gofigger dot org](mailto:figmessage@gofigger.org), or visit our web site at gofigger.org or freeinquirygroup.org.