



For Immediate Release
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RED BANK HUMANISTS FOUNDED

Red Bank Humanists, a not-for-profit, educational organization founded in September 2003 by Ron Steelman and Eric Seldner, both of the Red Bank area, announces its first meeting. The meeting is open to the public and will be held at the House of Coffee, 10 Bridge Avenue, in Red Bank (in the Galleria), at 11 a.m. Sunday, November 9, 2003.

The goal of Red Bank Humanists is to create an atmosphere of stimulating discussion and non-religious fellowship for the growing number of Americans, now 14.1%*, who adhere to no religion. In Monmouth County that translates into 86,000+ residents. Humanists and other open-minded, curious people are welcome to attend the meetings. It is hoped these meetings will begin to provide a new sense of community for this large segment of the population.

"Our meetings are structured to provide a creative forum for the exploration of Humanism and its relevance to our daily lives," said co-founder Eric Selder.

Attendees are invited to openly share their thoughts about developing a personal moral code, one not based upon supernatural beliefs. The "Affirmations of Humanism - A Statement of Principles," set forth by the Council for Secular Humanism and found at:

www.secularhumanism.org/intro/affirmations.html
will be used as a study guide.

(more)

("Red Bank Humanists Founded" - continued)

Fred Edwards, noted Humanist author, defines the philosophy: "Humanism is a philosophy for those in love with life. Humanists take responsibility for their own lives and relish the adventure of being part of new discoveries, seeking new knowledge, exploring new options. Instead of finding solace in prefabricated answers to the great questions of life, Humanists enjoy the open-endedness of a quest and the freedom of discovery that this entails."

Co-founder Ron Steelman said, "Although Humanism is a philosophy, we are not planning the stereotypical, heady philosophical lectures. Rather, we hope to create an atmosphere which allows personal expression and levity."

The following names represent but a few of the many noted people who have adopted the Humanist philosophy: Epicurus, Albert Einstein, Albert Schweitzer, Linus Pauling, Kurt Vonnegut, Isaac Asimov, Faye Wattleton, John K. Galbraith, Andrei Sakarov, Erich Fromm, James Thurber, Ted Turner, Carl Sagan, Frank Lloyd Wright, Leonardo Da'Vinci, Stephen J. Gould, Margaret Sanger, Gene Roddenberry, Clara Barton.

Meetings will be held on the second Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. at the House of Coffee in Red Bank. Following the meeting, attendees are invited to continue the discussion during a social hour.

* In America 14.1% of the population adhere to no religion, according to the latest American Religious Identification Survey, 2001 ("ARIS 2001") released by The Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

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