



THE
HUMANIST SOCIETY
OF NEW MEXICO
NEWSLETTER

December 2016

A Chapter of the American Humanist Association

<http://humanistsocietyofnm.org/>

<http://hsnm.wordpress.com>

president@humanistsocietyofnm.org

HSNM Meetings in Albuquerque

HSNM meetings are free and open to the public (unless otherwise noted.)

Saturday, December 10th

HSNM Human Light Party 11am - 1pm

Copper Canyon Restaurant

5455 Gibson Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, NM

It's our annual Human Light Party!!! Come enjoy good food and company!

Saturday, December 17th

HSNM Topical Discussion 10:00AM – Noon

Post Election America – What Do We Do Now?

Special Collections Library 423 Central Ave. NE

Saturday, December 24th

No Speaker Meeting this month

Meetings by HSNM Affiliates are held throughout the month.

For more information please visit their websites.

Atheist Skeptical Kingdom of Albuquerque (www.meetup.com/ASK-Atheist-Skeptical-Kingdom-of-Albuquerque)

Freedom From Religion, Albuquerque (www.meetup.com/FFRABQ)

New Mexicans for Science and Reason (www.nmsr.org)

Roswatheists (<http://www.meetup.com/Roswatheists>)

Santa Fe Atheist Community (<http://www.meetup.com/Santa-Fe-Atheist-Community>)

President's Message

by Randall Wall

The end of the year is finally here and what a year it's been! What seems like the longest election season ever is over and the results were surprising to say the least. After eight years of President Obama and his support for many of the values Humanists share are we about to see it all get swept away? Are we witnessing the Religious Right Strikes Back? We'll have to wait and see. What can we possibly do against what seems like the inevitable outcome of this election? This month's topical discussion will deal with exactly these kinds of questions.

Please come and join us for our annual Humanist Light Party on Saturday, December 10th, starting at 11am. Find us at the Copper Canyon Restaurant. You know it's going to be a good time with great conversation!

The Humanist Society of New Mexico
A Nonprofit Corporation

A Chapter of the American Humanist Association
Member of The New Mexico Coalition of Reason

The purpose of HSNM is to promote ethical, naturalistic,
democratic Humanism among its members and within its
community.

Officer/Committees

Randall Wall: President

Tara McCaughin: Vice President/Speaker Programs

Cynthianne Yabut: Secretary

Ananda Parnell: Past President

Richard Grady: Treasurer

Cheryl Gatner: Member-at-Large

Jeanette Smith: Member-at-Large

Subscription to HSNM Newsletter, published monthly, accompanies HSNM Membership or can be obtained by nonmembers for \$20 annually, HSNM membership is \$20/year (\$30 for two adults in the same household. Send subscription or membership request to: Humanist Society of New Mexico, P.O. Box 27293, Albuquerque, NM 87125-7293

Send Newsletter submission to: Editor, Randall Wall, Paragon2012@comcast.net. The deadline for Newsletter submission is the third Friday of each month. Website submission may be send to president@humanistsocietyofnm.org. HSNM dues are now paid separately from AHA dues, visit www.americanhumanist.org for more information about the American Humanist Association.

Humanism is an ethical philosophy that derives its principles from science and reason rather than theology. It asserts the worth and dignity of every person, advocates personal liberty tempered by social and environmental responsibility, and promotes democracy, compassion, and justice. It sees human beings as natural organisms, whose values arise from culture and experience and holds humanist responsible for its own affairs.

**HSNM Financial Statement
YTD 2016 Through Nov 20,
2016**

Balance at 1/1/16	7,231.60
Revenue:	
Dues and Contributions –	1,960.79
Expenses:	
Insurance	315.00
Annual PO Box Rental	126.00
Postage, printing, misc.	711.75
President reimbursement for Orlando Trip	1,000
Babs Mondschein reimbursement for AHA convention	1,000.00
State corporation commission	10.00
Total Expense	3,162.75
Balance at 11/20/16	6,029.64

November's Topical Discussion Meeting
by Richard Grady

I don't actually know what the official name of the topic for the recent meeting was, but I would title it "What, if anything, is the soul?" We seemed fairly evenly split between the thoroughgoing materialists (that includes me) who reject the existence of the soul (it is all just the brain doing its thing) and those who believe that there is something (soul, spirit, or whatever) non-material that is part of who we are. No conclusion was reached (not surprising), but the discussion was lively and interesting and fun, ranging from science to gurus to sex.