

# The Atheist Voice

**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPLEX ATHEISTS**

**Q1 2017, VOLUME 14, NUMBER 1**

## **MA Goes To Church**

On Feb 22nd MA was invited to Tate Springs Baptist Church for a Q & A on atheism. Representing MA were Jim Hall, Mark Moore and Courtney Stewart. This was the third week of a five week series hosted by Brady Blevins and James Walker of Watchman.org. This is the second such series we have participated in. Of course, the following week is spent countering our remarks to keep the flock under control and make sure there are no cracks in their delusory religious beliefs.

The questioning covered a broad range of topics and was followed by a lively discussion between atheists and church members in smaller informal groups. This was definitely a well brainwashed group and trying to discuss anything with them was met with total rejection and closed mindedness. But we must keep doing these types of things if for no other reason than to show believers that atheists are humans too.

## **Camp Quest Campership**

Metroplex Atheists is raising money to fund a campership for the upcoming Camp Quest summer camp. The goal is \$800. We have been doing a fundraiser every Wednesday night at our meetup at J. Gilligan's and have raised about 15% of our goal. The fundraiser is a cash drawing that split's the proceeds 50/50 between the winner and the Camp Quest fund. The tickets are \$1 apiece or 6 for \$5. Please come help us send a needy camper to Camp Quest and win some money for yourself.. We do a new drawing every Wednesday night. Please come visit us for the social interaction even if you don't want to participate in the drawing.

Camp Quest is a secular summer camp for kids that includes the normal fun things kids do at camp - swimming, games, friends, etc. - with a focus on critical thinking weaved in.

## **MA Book Club Meetup**

Metroplex Atheists had the first meeting of their fiction book club in March at Dr. Jekyll's Beer Lab! As with most book clubs there was good food, great food, and the conversation flowed freely! We covered covered everything from the book we had just read to other topics completely! The book discussed was *Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal* a comedy by Christopher Moore. The next book we'll be discussing is *The Pilgrimage: The Book of the People* by Zenna Henderson, originally published in 1961. It is a piece of speculative fiction following a species of aliens that look like humans as they find themselves here on Earth after their interstellar vehicle crashes. We will meet to discuss this on June 11th, 7pm at Dr. Jekyll's Beer Lab in Arlington, Texas. The book for September's book club will get to be decided by those in attendance at the next meeting! All are welcome to attend and we hope to see you there!

### MA Membership

Metroplex Atheists membership enrollment is now accessible on our web site. Membership is not required to participate in any MA event but by joining, at any of the membership levels we offer, you help us to continue to provide a wide variety of events and other services to the non-believing community in the Metroplex.

You can also join by filling out a membership form, available from an officer of MA at any of our events or social gatherings, and return it to an officer or mail it in when completed.

### MA at UTA

On February 8th, Britt Baker (President of MA) participated in a Q&A panel for a social work class at UTA. The panel included 8 people total, 7 of which were representing different religions, while Britt was invited to answer questions about atheism. The main purpose of the panel was for the students to ask any questions they might have about various belief systems, especially in the context of a counselor/client relationship.

### Separation of Church and State

Possibly the most important initiative of Metroplex Atheists is the fight for the complete separation of church and state as well as “religious” civil liberties for non-believers under the Civil Rights Act.

Please report any violations of separation of church and state or religious civil liberties to Metroplex Atheists at [director@metroplexatheists.org](mailto:director@metroplexatheists.org).

## Metroplex Atheists Business Meeting Location

**METROPLEX ATHEISTS MEETS AT 1:00 P.M. THE MEETINGS ARE HELD ON A SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

**THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED AT:  
Irving, Texas—monitor Metroplex Atheists Meetup announcements for the exact date and location**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**



## TEMPTED?

Go to [www.metroplexatheists.org](http://www.metroplexatheists.org)

### Gilligan's Discussion Topics

The following list of topics were discussed at our weekly meetup at J. Gilligan's on 2/8. The list was compiled by Jim Hall in real time. As you can see we cover a broad range of territory which looks more like chaos than a logical discussion among reasonable atheists but fun nevertheless.

The progression of conversations at the atheist meetup tonight: Language apps - email security - Blocking calls - Phone OS - Apple vs. Android - Deism/impersonal god - Lunar eclipse - Past solar eclipses - Meteor showers - Patriarchy - Anal fissures/meat consumption - Ex girlfriends/cunnilingus - Antidepressants - When we became atheists - Alcoholic drinks - Youtube monetization - How to run a license plate check - NSA surveillance - Getting out of tickets - What different alcoholic drinks are made out of - Corrupt cops - American Atheists recent activities - Jeff Sessions confirmation - Firearms - Trump is illiterate - How to evaluate IQ tests - Nina Hartley - Flat caps - The Eagles used to play for Linda Rondstadt - UTA/where is Britt? - Flu/Brandy - Virus/evolution/mutation - Vegetarianism - Minimizing suffering/maximizing well-being - Youtube debates - Christopher Hitchens vs Sam Harris - Krauss/universe from nothing - Omnipotent divine mind vs. - Product of divine mind - .... wants to see my penis - Presuppositional apologetics - Giant crucifix in Amarillo - Cameras/processors/computers - DVD menu options - Having to sit through previews on DVD - Summer musicals - Hotel Texas/JFK - "Hot and humid, just like my crotch" - War stories - Iraq - Election/how Trump won - Driverless cars - Entrenching tools/Vietnam - Open carry handgun license - Psychopaths - The clitoris..."nature's Rubiks Cube" - Orgasms - Sex reassignment surgery - Technical esoterica/vinyl records - Maslow's Hierarchy of - Needs - Drone strikes - Missheard song lyrics - Best places to live in Texas - Best beaches in U.S.

### Support Secular Values

MA is an endorsing organization for the Secular Coalition of America (SCA) which is a secular values lobbying group. SCA has an option for email Action Alerts to contact your local representatives about specific legislative concerns - secular.org. This is very important to all of us based on the current political climate. It is time to resist!!!!

Town Hall Project is a simple website where you can type in your zip code and it will list when/where any local, upcoming town hall meetings are happening - townhallproject.com.

### Metroplex Atheist Volunteers Needed

We are an all volunteer organization so the number and robustness of activities and events MA can do for the local non-theist community is totally dependent on the level of volunteerism we have at any given time. If interested please contact Randy Word at 972 342 7958.

*THE ATHEIST VOICE* is a quarterly publication of Metroplex Atheists.  
For more information, please visit our website: [www.metroplexatheists.org](http://www.metroplexatheists.org)  
To submit an article or letter to the editor, please email us.  
*The Atheist Voice* Editor: [editor@metroplexatheists.org](mailto:editor@metroplexatheists.org)

## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

‘Because we must. Because we have the call. Because it is nobler to fight for rationality without winning than to give up in the face of continued defeats. Because whatever true progress humanity makes is through the rationality of the occasional individual and because any one individual we may win for the cause may do more for humanity than a hundred thousand who hug superstition to their breasts.’

– Isaac Asimov, when asked why he fights religion with no hope for victory



**Metroplex  
Atheists.org**  
**NO STRINGS ATTACHED.**

**Metroplex Atheists is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organized for the purpose of education, maintaining Constitutional separation of government and religion, protection of atheists' rights and to provide social meetings for those of similar worldviews. We are affiliated with American Atheists, Secular Coalition of America and the Dallas Fort Worth Coalition of Reason.**

### Contact Info

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