



The Separationist

Volume 22, Issue 2

February 2015

Martin Jones
Veganism: For your health, for the planet, for the animals
Sunday, February 15, 2015, 4 PM, Gage Hall, 4 Archdale St, Charleston

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About SHL

The *Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry* was founded in 1994 by a group of local non-theists in Charleston, South Carolina.

Our members are freethinkers of many kinds. We call ourselves agnostics, atheists, skeptics, secular humanists, rationalists and scientific naturalists. We welcome you and all who are interested in participating in our friendly community, either as members or observers.

The purpose of our non-profit, educational organization is to promote the non-theistic, human-centered viewpoint as a valid contribution to public discourse and to strive to maintain the First Amendment guarantee of separation of state and church.

Hear why one secular humanist believes most vegans are atheist and why he believes secular humanists should be vegan.

Diet has often been considered a personal choice. Everyone has the right to decide what to put into his or her body. However, factors including the impact of our food choices on the environment, on public health and the welfare of the farm animals themselves also need to be taken into account if we are to make an informed decision.

Is there a simple way to improve our health, heal the planet and live in a way consistent with our moral principles? Professor Martin Jones will argue that, fortunately, there is and it does not require the consent of world leaders, the creation of new laws, or the collaboration of governments. "Three times a day, we can choose to eat a plant-based, whole foods diet free of animal products," he says. "This is veganism, a philosophy of non-violence towards



Martin Jones has been a member of the College of Charleston Mathematics Department since 1989. He has lived in Vene-

non-human animals, social justice for other humans, and a vision of a healthier planet."

Martin Jones, who has won numerous awards and honors for making his statistics classes exciting and enjoyable to his students at the College of Charleston, will certainly be able to make this presentation interesting and compelling as well. However, even among our own members his conclusions are likely to be controversial. So, we expect there to be lively discussion following the presentation. And, after that, there will be a (hopefully vegan) potluck dinner at which we can socialize or continue to discuss this question and other topics of interest.

zuela and Costa Rica and has worked in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Mexico and China. He plays flute in the Charleston Flute Quartet, the College of Charleston Flute Ensemble and in several jazz groups. He is the advisor of the College of Charleston Vegan Club.

When: Sunday, 2/15/15 at 4pm
Where: Gage Hall, 4 Archdale Street
Cost: Free!

Join us after the presentation for a vegan potluck! See page 2 for details.

Sunday Quest

Sunday, February 15, 2015, 4 PM
Gage Hall, 4 Archdale St, Charleston

Sunday Quest, our humanist youth program, will provide our children an opportunity to learn about humanism and all of its life-affirming ideals. Modeled after the Harvard Humanist Learning Lab and other secular Sunday schools, our goal with Sunday Quest is to create a safe space for children to explore their developing worldviews, think for themselves, connect with their community, and build a strong ethical foundation. Each class will offer fun, interactive games and activities.

Scheduled during our third-Sunday monthly speaker presentation at Gage Hall, Sunday Quest will be



geared toward children ages 5-12 years old. This is a drop-off program,

and we welcome parents to attend the speaker presentation. If space allows, children older than 12 years old may attend as program assistants and children younger than 5 years old may attend with a parent. The program will last approximately an hour to an hour and a half.

Space is limited, so **pre-registration is required**. Please email president@lowcountryhumanists.org to register your child(ren) or for more information.

Post-Meeting Potluck

Sunday, February 15, 2015, 6 PM
Gage Hall, 4 Archdale St, Charleston



This month we will have a potluck in Gage Hall after the meeting. Because our topic is on veganism, please bring a vegan dish. For those who need some inspiration, here are some websites to get you started:

<http://happyherbivore.com/recipes/>

<http://ohsheglows.com/>

<http://www.theppk.com/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/heidrunkarin/vegan-community/>

SHL will supply the paper goods and beverages.

Pay it Forward

Do you have usable items that you no longer want or are you in need of an item? If so, join the [Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry Pay It Forward facebook group](#). This is a closed group for SHL members to post things they want to give away and for others to claim them. All items are free. Whether you are spring cleaning, looking for a few items for your apartment or dorm, looking for things you can make into crafts, or just want to free up a little space in your home, this is the place to post/find them.

JE SUIS CHARLIE



*Mohammed overwhelmed by fundamentalists
"It's hard to be loved by idiots"*



All is Forgiven

Upcoming SHL Events

Events sometimes get added after The Separationist is posted. Keep up to date with SHL events by signing up for our [email lists](#) or [meetup](#), or check postings on our [website](#) and [facebook](#) group.

Adopt-a-Highway

Saturday, February 7, 2015, 8:50am

Harborview Rd, James Island

Our second SHL volunteering event of the new year is an Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pick-up on our usual stretch of Harborview Road. We have bags, gloves, orange safety vests, and long handled "picker-uppers" provided by Palmetto Pride and the SCDOT. Kids are welcome (with parents), but the traffic is fairly fast along this road so parents should use their judgment.



We meet in the bank parking lot at 1011 Harbor View Rd (next to the Harris Teeter) to distribute supplies, and pick up from Darwin Street to Fort Johnson Road

where we are recognized on an SCDOT Adopt-a-Highway sign. We usually work from 9 -11 am, but if you need to leave earlier, that's okay. Hope to see you there!

Darwin Day for Kids

Saturday, February 7, 2015, 10:00am—3:00pm

Brittlebank Park, Charleston

Evolution of the Universe... in a Necklace!

The Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry is sponsoring this fun and kid-friendly event at the 2015 Charleston STEM Fest. This event is part of the Piccolo Darwin line-up of College of Charleston's annual Darwin Week.



A bead for the galaxies, a bead for our solar system, a bead for life, and a bead for us ourselves! Participants will be able to easily recount the story of life after making a beautiful necklace (or bracelet!) of beads highlighting the major evolutionary events. Join us as we retell of the origin of the universe from the big bang to you.

For all Elementary age children - No reservations required!

We will be in the College of Charleston tent.

For more information on this and the other Piccolo Darwin events, please check out Charleston Piccolo Darwin Week at <http://dillonr.people.cofc.edu/piccolo.html> or the 2015 Charleston STEM Fest at <http://charlestonstemfest.org/>.

Upcoming SHL Events, cont.

SHL Movie Club

Saturday, February 7, 2015, 7:00pm

Park Circle Film Society, 4820 Jenkins Ave, North Charleston

Join us for a viewing of the film *Advanced Style*. Following the movie we will enjoy drinks/snacks at a nearby restaurant.

Advanced Style is a documentary that shows the lives of seven unique New Yorkers whose eclectic unique style and vital spirit have guided their approach to aging.



Based on Ari Seth Cohen's famed blog of the same name, this film paints intimate and colorful portraits of independent stylish women aged 62 to 95 who are challenging conventional ideas about beauty, aging,

and Western culture's increasing obsession with youth, all the while being thrust into new found fame.

International Dinner Night

Monday, February 9, 2015, 6:00pm

Sweet Savor, 5060 Dorchester Road, Ste 280, North Charleston

Join us at the newly-opened Nigerian restaurant, Sweet Savor, for our next international dinner!

This dinner is open to anyone – men, women, brave children. We will make reservations three days before (Fri, 2/6), so please get your RSVP in and finalize any maybes by then.

You can check out their menu at <http://www.sweetsavorafricanrestaurant.com/menu-1/>



Although Charleston has many wonderful restaurants, there aren't as many options when it comes to good ethnic cuisine. This is our fifth international dinner, and we hope to continue to make this a regular event, enjoying a different ethnic cuisine every couple of months or so. Suggestions for future locations welcomed!

SHL Happy Hour

Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 6:00pm

Edmund's Oast, 1061 Morrison Dr, Charleston

Join us for a relaxing evening of stimulating conversation over drinks (alcohol is optional) and yummy food among old and new friends! No agenda, just fun.



Don't be shy — come join us!

Interested in an activity but don't see it listed? Let us know! Volunteers are always welcome to lead events such as bridge walks, bowling, billiards, biking, bocce, board games, etc. Contact president@lowcountryhumanists.org with your ideas!

Upcoming SHL Events, cont.

Girls Night Out

Monday, February 16, 2015, 6:30pm—9:00pm

Crystal Ice House, 104 East Doty Ave, Summerville

A fun night for secular girls to socialize! Nursing infants okay, but otherwise



All are welcome and we don't require attendees to have read the book. If you purchase from Amazon through the link on the SHL homepage, SHL gets a portion of the purchase price.

SHL is affiliated with the Amazon Associates program! Our organization earns up to a 15% commission on items purchased at Amazon.com through the links on our Website. So, if you are buying the book club book (or anything else from Amazon), this is a super-easy way to contribute to SHL! Simply use the link at

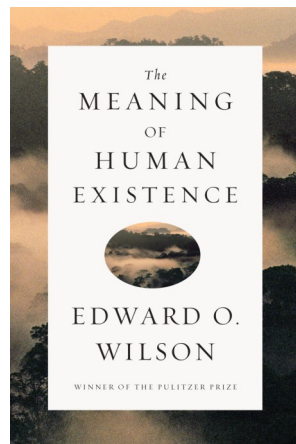
SHL Book Club

Sunday, February 22, 2015, 4:00pm

Barnes & Noble, 1812 Sam Rittenberg Blvd, West Ashley

Our next Book Club meeting will be on February 22nd at 4:00 PM at the Barnes and Noble on Sam Rittenberg Blvd in West Ashley. We will discuss our book selection until 5:30 then go to a local establishment to eat and have further discussion — bring your ideas for dinner (we usually vote for a relatively quiet venue so we can socialize).

The selection for February is National Book Award Finalist, [The Meaning of Human Existence](#) by Edward O. Wilson. How did humanity originate and why does a species like ours exist on this planet? Do we have a special place, even a destiny in the universe? Where are we going, and perhaps, the most difficult question of all, "Why?"



Team Trivia

Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 7:00pm

Steel City Pizza, 1440 Ben Sawyer Blvd, Mt Pleasant

Team Trivia Come out for a fun night of trivia and socializing! This is a team event and is free. The trivia questions begin at 7pm.

Our team Happy Humanists is officially registered, so our points will be going for season totals.

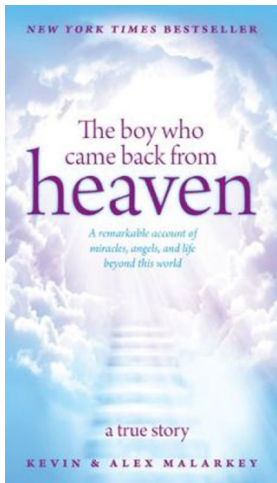
Team Trivia offers trivia nights at various places throughout the Charleston area on different days and times. Team members are welcome to play using the team name at any Team Trivia night.



Best-Seller About Journey to Heaven Is Pulled

Just a Bunch of Malarkey

NEW YORK — A best-selling account of a 6-year-old boy's journey to heaven and back has been pulled after the boy retracted his story.



Spokesman Todd Starowitz of Tynedale House, a leading Christian publisher, confirmed Friday that **Alex Malarkey's** "The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven: A Remarkable Account of Miracles, Angels, and Life Beyond This

World" was being withdrawn. Earlier this week, Malarkey acknowledged in an open letter that he was lying, saying that he had been seeking attention. He also regretted that "people had profited from lies."

"I did not die. I did not go to Heaven," he wrote. "When I made the claims that I did, I had never read the Bible. People have profited from lies, and continue to. They should read the Bible, which is enough."

"The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven" was first published in 2010 and told of a 2004 auto accident which left Malarkey in a coma. According to the book, co-written by Alex's father, Kevin Malarkey, he had visions of angels and of meeting Jesus. In 2014, Tyndale reissued "The Boy," which on the cover includes the billing "A True Story." As reported by Nielsen BookScan, which tracks around 85 percent of the print market, the book has sold nearly 120,000 copies.

The facts of "The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven" have long been disputed in the Christian community, which has challenged reports of divine visions in Malarkey's book and other best-sellers such as Todd Burpo's "Heaven is for Real." Last June, the Southern Baptist Convention passed a resolution declaring "the sufficiency of biblical revelation over subjective experiential explanations to guide one's understanding of the truth about heaven and hell." One of the leading critics has been Malarkey's mother, Beth. In April 2014, she wrote a blog posting saying that the book's success had been "both puzzling and painful to watch" and that she believed Alex had been exploited.

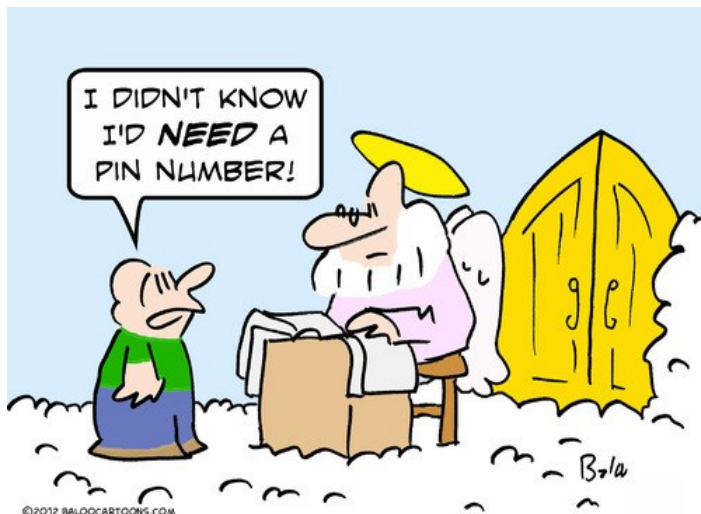
"I could talk about how much it has hurt my son tremendously and even make financial statements public that would prove that he has not received moneys from the book nor have a majority of his needs been funded by it," she wrote.

"What I have walked through with Alex over the past nine years has nearly broken me personally and spiritually. I have wept so deeply for what I have watched my children go through, been made aware of how ignorant I was of some things, how selfish I was, and how Biblically illiterate I was which allowed me to be deceived!"

Malarkey

[muh-lahr-kee] noun, Informal. Speech or writing designed to obscure, mislead, or impress; bunkum: "The claims were just a bunch of malarkey."

Tyndale, based in Carol Stream, Illinois, was founded in 1962. It's notable publications include the multimillion-selling "Left Behind" series of the 1990s and 2000s by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins and The Living Bible, a paraphrased edition by Tyndale founder Kenneth N. Taylor that has sold tens of millions of copies over the past 50 years.



"Oh, that's what those are for!"

Herb Silverman

Atheist or Agnostic — and Does it Matter?

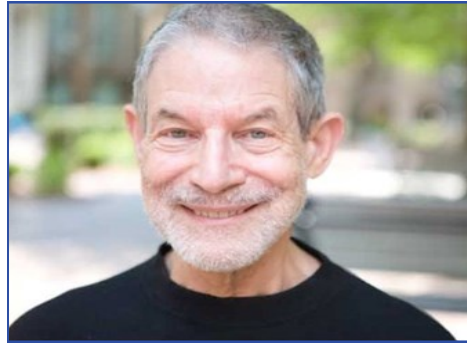
The divisions within the non-theistic community are almost entirely rhetorical.

Many people tell me they wouldn't mind if I were an agnostic, but that I shouldn't be so arrogant as to be an atheist.

I used to call myself an agnostic because I could not logically prove whether a god exists, so I took the agnostic position that the existence of any god is unknown — and perhaps unknowable. I was without belief in any gods and thought it highly improbable that any supernatural beings exist. When I learned that this view is consistent with atheism, I became an atheist.

So, my "conversion" from agnosticism to atheism was more definitional than theological. In reality, depending on how terms are defined and their context, I can accurately call myself an atheist or an agnostic, as well as a humanist, secular humanist, free-thinker, skeptic, rationalist, infidel, and more.

I'm curious about why people find "atheist" so much more threatening than "agnostic" when self-described "atheists" and "agnostics" often hold identical views about deities. As with atheists, agnostics almost never give equal merit to belief and disbelief. For instance, I can neither prove nor disprove the following claims.



Herb Silverman is founder and President Emeritus of the [Secular Coalition for America](#), author of [Candidate Without a Prayer: An Autobiography of a Jewish Atheist in the Bible Belt](#), and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at the College of Charleston.

Claim 1: The universe was created 30 minutes ago and the creator planted false memories in all of us.

Claim 2: Infidels who don't believe in the [Flying Spaghetti Monster](#) are condemned to burn for eternity in a vat of hot pasta sauce.

I assume we are all "agnostic" about these two hypotheses, but at the same time pretty certain they are false. (I'd also call myself an atheist with respect to such creators.) The burden of proof is on the person making the assertion — as it should be with any supernatural claim.

I've seen and participated in a number of debates about whether God exists, and they often degenerate into playground disputes. The theist says to the atheist, "Disprove God," while

the atheist says to the theist, "Prove God."

In such debates I'm sometimes told that I made my case for being an agnostic, not an atheist, because I didn't disprove God's existence. In future discussions and debates, I think I'll try a different approach.

When Christians insist that I'm an agnostic and not *really* an atheist because I can't demonstrate with absolute certainty that there is no God, I will respond: "Can you demonstrate with absolute certainty that Jesus is Lord? If not, then you are an agnostic, not really a Christian."

Perhaps these Christians (or those of other faiths) would understand that such certainty is an almost impossible standard of knowledge. I'm willing to call myself an agnostic atheist if they'll call themselves agnostic Christians.

The word "proof" or "certainty" means different things to different people. It doesn't work for me when Christians say they have unquestioned faith in God because Jesus came into their hearts, just as it wouldn't work for them were I to say I have unquestioned faith that there is no God because he didn't come into mine. The most I might say about faith is that I have faith in reason, the scientific method, and evidence — and the lack of

Herb Silverman cont.

evidence for any gods is why I'm an atheist.

Theists aren't the only ones who argue about atheism versus agnosticism. I've heard atheists refer to agnostics as gutless or cowardly atheists. I've heard agnostics denigrate atheists by charging that they go out of their way to offend religious people. Adding humanists and secular humanists into the mix further divides the nontheistic community.

To move beyond such disputes I helped found the [Secular Coalition for America](#), whose mission

is to increase the visibility of and respect for nontheistic viewpoints and to protect and strengthen the secular character of our government.

Here's an interesting distinction between Christians and secularists: Christians have the same unifying word, but fight over theology whereas secularists have the same unifying theology, but fight over words. At least our wars are purely rhetorical. Such "verbal" wars over terminology were [hilariously satirized in the Life of Brian movie](#), where people with common interests splintered into Judean People's Front, Jude-

an Popular People's Front, and People's Front of Judea — sometimes forgetting the name of their own group.

Fortunately, organizations in the Secular Coalition have stopped sparring over words and cooperate on the 95 percent of things our members have in common. We all disbelieve in the same gods and we want to be fruitful and multiply our community of reason.

This piece was originally posted January 14, 2015 on [herbsilverman.com](#)

Charity of the Quarter

SHL collects donations for a local charity each quarter, and donates the full amount under the name *Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry*. Our first Charity of the Quarter for 2015 is **Meals on Wheels of Charleston**.

Meals on Wheels of Charleston provides free, hot, nutritious meals and daily monitoring for seniors in need. This program serves low-income seniors who are homebound or have moderate to severe physical restrictions.

Through a network of staff and volunteers, MOW packages and delivers hot noon meals to housebound seniors. While there, the meal deliverers check to see if the clients are stable, comforta-

ble, and safe. Many of the clients live in substandard housing, have serious health conditions with little to no family support. Clients are referred by medical staff, family, friends, hospice, and other human services organizations.



MOW Charleston serves seniors in Downtown and the Charleston Peninsula, North Charleston, West Ashley, Ravenel/Hollywood, and James/Johns/Wadmalaw & Edisto Islands.

Four times a year SHL collects donations on behalf of a worthy local charity. You can donate by cash, credit card, or check at our monthly meeting or by mailing a check to

SHL
PO Box 32256
Charleston SC 29417-2256

Make checks payable to SHL and note COQ in the memo line.

Or securely [donate online!](#)

Time to Join/Renew!

It's time to pay your dues for the 2015 calendar year. Our largest expense is bringing in outstanding speakers for the monthly meetings. Although we usually balance things out with a handful of local guests who do not request travel or honorarium, the regional and national figures require us to pay travel costs and/or a small honorarium. We occasionally invest in sponsorships or marketing initiatives to hopefully reach potential new members such as setting up an informational table at the Flowertown Festival and sponsoring a light display at the Holiday Festival of Lights. Finally, there are smaller costs such as the rental fee for Gage Hall, credit card processing fees, meeting refreshments, PO Box rental, member perks such as stipends for attendance at Humanist/Atheist/Freethought events, and more.

We are proud of the fact that we do not require membership to attend our activities. Instead, we hope that

you see the great value in your annual donation to maintain a robust and active secular humanist organization in the Charleston area.

Membership is open to all who support the purposes for which this organization is founded. The available membership levels and corresponding dues (new members and renewals) are:

- Individual \$35.00
- Family \$50.00
- Sustaining \$100.00
- Benefactor \$150.00
- Lifetime \$500.00

Dues are tax-deductible, as we are a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. (As we like to joke, we are also a "non-prophet" organization!)

There are 3 easy ways you can join/renew:

- You can pay by cash, credit card, or check at our monthly meeting.



- You can also mail a check to:

SHL
PO Box 32256
Charleston SC 29417-2256

Make checks payable to SHL and note "Membership" and level in the memo line. Please include your name, address, phone number, and email address.

- Or securely [pay online](#) and select your membership level in the dropdown box.

Member Perk: Stipends

SHL offers five stipends annually to dues-paying members to help offset costs associated with attending an atheist/freethought conference or convention, or to attend a freethought summer camp. Some examples of eligible events are the American Atheists convention, Freedom From Religion Foundation convention, American Humanists convention, Camp Quest, and Camp Inquiry, among others.

Stipends are available to dues-paying members. A member may not receive a stipend two consecutive years, how-

ever different members of a family membership are eligible even if another family member received a stipend the previous year.

Stipends cover up to \$200 of registration, travel, and lodging costs. Food and drink expenses are not eligible for stipends.

A stipend request must be pre-approved before attending your event. To see whether your event qualifies or to inquire about stipend availability and to apply, or if you have questions

about the stipend program, contact treasurer@lowcountryhumanists.org.

Stipend recipients must write a short essay about their event experience and submit it along with their receipts to treasurer@lowcountryhumanists.org within 30 days of the completion of the event. The essay will be published in an issue of *The Separationist*. Parents may assist young children who attended camp with their essays but the essay should reflect the child's own words as much as possible.

Member Essays

SHL offers five stipends annually to dues-paying members to help offset costs associated with attending an atheist/freethought conference or convention, or to attend a freethought summer camp. Stipend recipients must write a short essay about their event experience. Over the next several issues we will publish essays from members who enjoyed an SHL stipend in 2014.

Dear Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry,

I wish Camp Quest was held every month rather than every year. I so want to go again. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to do something wonderful.

When we first arrived, we all gathered down at the pavilion, and Mr. Shawn had us play Mingo where we had a chance to meet new people.

I have never been to a sleep-away camp before, so the first night felt a little strange. Some of the other girls had glow

sticks hanging off their bunks, and it was entertaining to watch Emma's puppet show she made using her flashlight.

During movie night, I sat next to Miranda, and we sang along with the songs while she pointed out strange little things the Disney people had put in as jokes.

Over the week I made friends with a lot of new people, and I grew close to Megan, Miranda and Emma. I already knew Emma and Miranda, but they had been more like acquaintances. Megan lives in Florida, so I was sad to see her leave at the end of camp knowing I probably won't see her until next year. Miranda and Emma are local though, and I hope I will get to see them soon.

I have friends here at home, but (besides some acquaintances) they are all Christians. I was very glad to make some friends at camp who weren't Christians. Not that I wanted to replace my old friends; I am just glad to have a mix-up rather than all religious people.

Ms. Amy taught us about the Pledge of Allegiance. It was very interesting. She told us about the parts added during the Cold War, and about how some school teachers might react to us not saying the "under god" part in school. I learned I have the right to not say the Pledge, or to leave out the "under god" part if I want. I homeschool, so I don't have to worry about this at home.

The first day we took a swim test. Every day after that we went swimming after lunch, which I was very pleased with. I spent half the time in the shallow end with Miranda (who could not go to the deep end), and the other half in the deep end. On the last swimming day though, the counselors found a snake or something in the water, so we had a water balloon fight instead of swimming.

Another day we did zip line. The wind felt so good after the long hot day, and I could see Miranda fishing on the bridge on the canoe ride back. Miranda did not want to go on the zip line, so she chose to make her "lizard" dance



Camp Quest
South Carolina

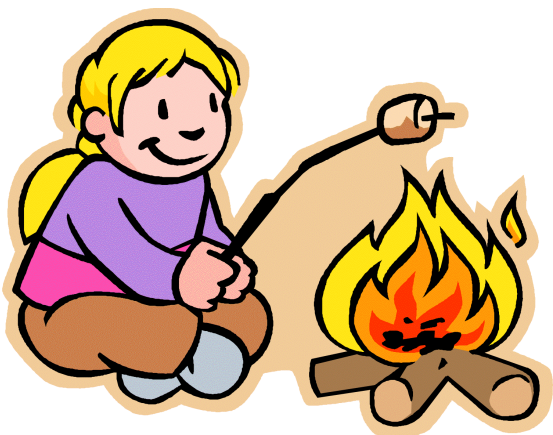
Member Essays, cont.

in the water instead.

The next day we did the climbing wall. Miranda made it to the top, but my hands were so sweaty and blistered from belaying, I only made it half way before I couldn't hold on to the rocks. I need to find a pair of climbing gloves for next year.

Then we went to Peanut Butter Swamp. It was hard trying to move twenty girls across since only two could fit two on each block, but we did it. Megan was awarded jelly shoes from the beginning, which seemed pretty cool, and I got jelly shoes too once I made it across the finish line. I learned you have to work as a team to solve the problem.

First place for enjoyable activity (tied with the talent show/dance night) was the majority of campfire time. The songs were wonderful, as were the creative team challenges given to us. I really look forward more of that next year.



Ok, so let's talk about the campfire. The songs and skits were funny, especially when Mr. Shawn and Mr. Harry did the "If I Weren't a Camper" song. I loved the s'more contest on the second campfire. When you were leaving the campfire ring, all you would ever hear was "I want s'more s'mores."

Ms. Valerie taught us about famous freethinkers during lunch almost every day. The one that stood out the most was Daniel Radcliffe. I am a Harry Potter fan. I like it that Harry Potter is a freethinker.

Almost every day during down time, all the G-3 three girls would get in a circle on the floor and play Apples to Apples. We laughed a lot at the cards people played. I enjoyed that very much.

Cabin skits! We did a "help homeless animals" skit. I was excited that I got to be a cat. Miranda was a gerbil, and Emma was a turtle. Megan adopted me. We had a wonderful creating time our skit, and we could hardly get our lines straight because we kept laughing.

It was fun watching the others cabins' skits to. I think B-3's was the funniest.

Charlie the Unicorn! We tried our best to win Charlie. We made shrines, drew pictures, wrote letters, reserved a spot for Charlie in the middle of our photo shrine, swept the floor, neatened our towels, smoothed out our bunks, folded our swimsuits, reserved Charlie a bunk, and cleaned up a bunch of dirty napkins from the yard. On the last day, we took all our swimsuits and towels and hid them in a giant bag under Megan's bed. We even used old glow sticks to try and clean out the cobwebs. But Inspector Smiles was unimpressed and we did not win Charlie. On the last day though, four different cabins came in second place, and G-3 was one of them! We loved our extra snack. It was delicious!

I loved electives! I was never quite sure what to do for the first set of daily electives because of all the wonderful choices, but on the second set – no question. I went to Acro-Yoga with Ms. Tori. I loved it! Three-level pyramid was the most complicated and fun structure, and then four-point was a close second despite that you only need two people rather than eight. I hope Ms. Tori comes back next year to teach Acro-Yoga again.

Invisible unicorns! No matter what we said, Ms. Elyssa always (which made it all the more fun) found an excuse to

Member Essays, cont.

"prove" they did exist. It was an entertaining challenge of sorts, trying to find ways to word our questions in such a manner that she couldn't answer us. I learned you cannot convince someone that their craziness is not reasonable.

Talent show/dance night was my other first-place favorite activity. Together Miranda and I sang "Let it Go" for the talent show.

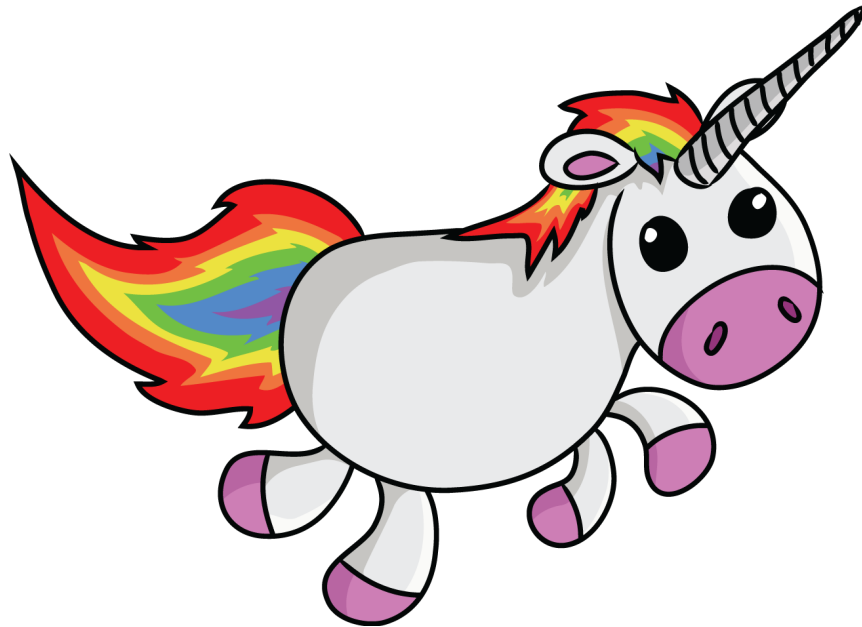
When the dance first started, Kat, Megan, Abby, Julie, Pamela, Phoebe, Miranda and I made a circle, and we linked hands and went around and around. Then little Analisa from G-4 came over and joined in, creating more fun when she broke the circle and pulled us as a chain in loops around the dance floor, until almost everyone in the room had joined the chain.

At the end of the dance, they told us it was time to go back to our cabins, and I thought, "It's over already?" I wanted to stay there forever.

The next day, after breakfast, all the campers went down to Morris Lodge to wait for our parents. Mom and Dad helped me carry my things to the car, and I found they had a candy bar and bag of chips waiting for me. I liked the surprise snack very much. When I got home there was another surprise waiting, a Carmen Sandiego computer game disk.

I loved going to Camp Quest SC, and I thank you very, very much for letting me participate. I hope I will be able to come again next year.

Happy unicorn hunting,
Gwendolen



Our Officers

President: Amy Monsky
Vice President: Herb Silverman
Treasurer: Garrett Gehlhausen
Secretary: Laura Kasman
Newsletter Editor: Sue Edward

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