

The Hoosier Humanist

Herald

FreeThought Fort Wayne, Inc. Newsletter

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Message from the Technology Director

There are not too many new updates this month, so I will keep this short and sweet. We have successfully setup FTFW as an official nonprofit charity on Facebook, so if you wanted to "[do a fundraiser](#)" for your birthday or some special event, you may now select FreeThought Fort Wayne as your preferred charity via Facebook. We also now have a Donate button beside our Facebook cover photo. As stated last month, PayPal Here is officially setup and functional, giving folks like you more options (using cards instead of cash) when it comes to making in-person purchases of merchandise, memberships, and donations. Our treasurer, Karen, has also setup a new, female-friendly branch of FTFW in the form of BABS of Fort Wayne (described in detail below). FTFW continues adding services and features to better serve our members and the community, so it is a very exciting time!

Chris Rex, Technology Director of FTFW

FTFW CafePress Shop

The [CafePress storefront](#) for getting your own piece of FTFW merchandise is open! We have a number of shirts/hoodies and stickers/buttons/magnets/signs currently available, with more products to come! FTFW gets a small commission from each purchase, so we greatly appreciate your contribution!

Karen's Corner

Happy Pride!



Karen Mizner, Treasurer of FTFW

What is BABS of Fort Wayne?



WE ARE ALL WONDERWOMEN!

FTFW has a new “group” called BABS of Fort Wayne. It’s a women’s group we named “Bad-Ass Babes Society of Fort Wayne.” It originated from some comments on a Facebook post about what’s happening to women’s rights in America right now. Many of us were very concerned and felt we wanted to talk about it. Our group will be loosely based on the consciousness-raising groups of the late 60’s that some of us attended.

Our intention is to provide a safe place for women to vent if we need to, offer support to one another, and perhaps find ways to make a positive difference in our community. We plan to meet on Tuesdays about twice per month at one of our Allen County Public Library branches from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you are interested, please send an email to fortwayneaha@gmail.com with a subject line of BABS.

Karen Mizner, Treasurer of FTFW

Amazon Smile



Do you make purchases on Amazon? Did you know that FreeThought Fort Wayne is now a charitable organization listed on Amazon Smile? Simply use the link on the Amazon Smile logo above or look up the charity, "American Humanist Association," in New Haven, IN (on Amazon Smile) to have Amazon contribute 0.5% of your Amazon purchase (at no cost to you!) to FTFW. You can also find a link to contribute to [our Amazon Smile](#) on the FTFW website under the "Stores" menu.

FTFW Member Community News

In this section of the newsletter, we give you updates/information about fellow FTFW members: where they are, what they are doing, and what is going on in their personal lives. All information is willingly given to us for publication in this newsletter, so if you have an update and/or a picture that you would like to post here, then please submit your contribution using the instructions stated below, under the "Newsletter Submission" section.



I was fortunate enough to be selected to teach for the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth for three weeks this summer in La Jolla, California. Having never visited California (or the west coast region, at all), it was an incredible, novel experience. Although I may not be as much a movie aficionado as our president, Chris Woods, I felt like everywhere I went, I saw a scene straight from a movie (as many films are recorded right there in California; pic above).



They were nice enough to provide me with free board at a dorm on the University of California, San Diego campus, where I shared a large suite (with full kitchen) with

two administrators for the program. Upon entering campus and waiting to check into my room, I was greeted by a cute Western Fence Lizard on some steps on campus (pictured above), which was a pleasant surprise.



My classroom was located in a Physics classroom at the upper (high) school on La Jolla Country Day School campus, which was located a mere 8 miles away from the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar (which was the original setting for the movie, Top Gun). I taught 11 students (pictured above) who had just finished third or fourth grade a course entitled, [Through the Microscope](#). These students ended up gaining more experience with microscopes (both dissecting and compound) than most students do until grad school, so this was an incredible opportunity for them to get a leg-up on their future careers in biology, science, or medicine. I would love to be able to do this again next year and every year after, as these students and my fellow faculty/staff members were absolutely incredible!

Chris Rex, Technology Director of FTFW

Letter to the Editor and Newsletter Submissions

**Have a story to tell?
Have something to say?
Want to write a letter to the editor?**



Put your thinking cap on, grab your laptop and pen an article for the "Hoosier Humanist Herald" monthly newsletter. Just 200-300 words and you can be published writer! Submissions due by the 16th of each month. Submissions may be edited for length and content.

Send submissions to: fortwayneaha@gmail.com

Here's your chance! Have an idea for our group? Have a question for us? Have you experienced frustrations as a non-believer? Do people question you about what Humanism means? Just want to vent a bit? Have a funny story to share? Have a question for our Celebrant, Victoria Gipson? The Hoosier Humanist Herald committee will do its best to respond to your concerns. Submit your letter via e-mail to fortwayneaha@gmail.com with the subject line of "Letter to the Editor" or "Ask a Celebrant," then watch for a response in our next month's newsletter! Alternatively, if you wish to discuss current events or an interesting article, feel free to submit your thoughts as an article in the newsletter! Please note that submissions may be edited for clarity and space (200-300 words).

Meeting of the Minds Commentary



At the Meeting of the Minds gathering on July 10th, the topic chosen for discussion was "[The Global Crisis in Conservatism.](#)" It was based on an Op-Ed piece in the July issue of the Economist magazine. The gist of the article was that what passes for conservatism today is really a nationalist populism and repudiation of the world order since the mid-20th Century.

The article cited the trends toward nationalist populism in Europe, particularly in Spain, Italy, Hungary, and Poland. Other examples were Britain's attempt to divorce from Europe by Brexit, the U.S. and immigration/trade under Trump, and Brazil under a right-wing president.

It also points out how the new right denies science, tolerates the conduct of Donald Trump, and how angry, reactionary nationalism kindles suspicion, hatred, and division. In spite of all this, the new right is clearly winning its fight against Enlightenment conservatism. The new right is implacably hostile to classical liberalism. Without a balance between Left and Right, voters may be left without a choice.

Bob Brandt, Former President of FTFW

Fort Wayne Movie Club (FWMC) Movie Buzz List

[Fort Wayne Movie Club](#) (FWMC) is a social group on Meetup.com and Facebook, intended mostly to watch and discuss movies, and explore events in Fort Wayne and the surrounding area with other movie lovers, mostly on big screen, but also other

venues as opportunity arises.. FTFW President, Chris Woods, has shared his [Movie Buzz List](#) of movies from March through September 2019.

Upcoming Events

FTFW Regular Wednesday Meetup

July 3, 2019 (Wednesday): 6:00-8:00 pm at TBD

This is a recurring event for FTFW every first, third, and fourth Wednesday (every Wednesday that is not Meeting of the Minds), whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

Ark Encounter Protest

July 6, 2019 (Saturday): 10:00-1:00 pm at The Ark Encounter (1 Ark Encounter Dr., Williamstown, KY)

This protest is hosted by American Atheists.

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup

July 7, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

BABS of Fort Wayne

July 9, 2019 (Tuesday): 7:00-9:00 pm at TBD (Fort Wayne)

This is a recurring event for FTFW every month on the second and fourth Tuesday, whereby women get together for a safe place to vent, offer support, and find ways to make a positive difference in the community. Please contact Karen Mizner (FTFW Treasurer) for event location and further details.

Meeting of the Minds

July 10, 2019 (Wednesday): 7:00-8:30 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne on 5310 Old Mill Rd.

This is a recurring event for FTFW every month on the second Wednesday, whereby folks get together for an open discussion on a particular topic of interest, as moderated by FTFW ex-president Bob Brandt. Be sure to bring your suggested discussion topic ideas and we will vote as a group on which one(s) to talk about.

Three Rivers Festival

July 12-20, 2019 (Friday & Saturday) at Headwaters Park (333 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne)

The Three Rivers Festival draws nearly half a million visitors each summer that come together to have some fun, savor tasty treats, and catch up with old friends, all while making new friends and creating great memories! As a not-for-profit entity, Three Rivers Festival generates its revenue from sponsorships, vendor participation fees, ticket sales, gate admission at the Festival Plaza, souvenir sales, and refreshment sales. The Festival strives to keep events at a free or minimal admission fee to keep the festival accessible to the community! Three Rivers Festival offers everything from food to fun. Bring your family and friends and enjoy Food Alley, Art in the Park, the Bed Race, the Three Rivers Festival Parade, Trivia Night, Children's Fest, and so much more! Details can be found [here](#).

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup

July 14, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

FTFW Monthly Board Planning Meeting

July 14, 2019 (Sunday): 1:30-3:30 pm at Taqueria La Pinata on 6121 N Clinton St (Fort Wayne)

Current dues-paying members are welcome to join the FTFW board of directors at their monthly planning meeting. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

FTFW Regular Wednesday Meetup

July 17, 2019 (Wednesday): 6:00-8:00 pm at TBD

This is a recurring event for FTFW every first, third, and fourth Wednesday (every Wednesday that is not Meeting of the Minds), whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup

July 21, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

BABS of Fort Wayne

July 23, 2019 (Tuesday): 7:00-9:00 pm at TBD (Fort Wayne)

This is a recurring event for FTFW every month on the second and fourth Tuesday, whereby women get together for a safe place to vent, offer support, and find ways to make a positive difference in the community. Please contact Karen Mizner (FTFW Treasurer) for event location and further details.

FTFW Regular Wednesday Meetup**July 24, 2019 (Wednesday): 6:00-8:00 pm at TBD**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every first, third, and fourth Wednesday (every Wednesday that is not Meeting of the Minds), whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

Fort Wayne Pride Fest**July 26-27, 2019 (Friday & Saturday) at Headwaters Park (333 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne)**

Supporting the LGBTQ community, Pride Fest is a two-day event that features live entertainment, vendor market, a beer tent, food plaza, workshops, tournaments, KidSpace and fun with the Fort Wayne community. Details can be found [here](#). FTFW will have a table setup on Saturday, July 27, 10 am to 7 pm to engage with people, hand out information, collect email addresses from interested parties, and "possibly" sell our FTFW t-shirts. Prior to working the table, we will be participating in the pride march/parade through downtown Fort Wayne at 11:15 am. Stay tuned for more information and please contact a Board member if you would like to volunteer to "work" the booth for a shift (10-1 pm, 1-4 pm, 4-7:30 pm) or march in the parade (as we need at least two people to hold the FTFW banner).

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup**July 28, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

FTFW Monthly Board Meeting**July 30, 2019 (Tuesday): 6:30-8:30 pm at the Georgetown Branch of the Allen County Public Library**

Current dues-paying members are welcome to join the FTFW board of directors at their monthly meeting. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

FTFW Regular Wednesday Meetup**July 31, 2019 (Wednesday): 6:00-8:00 pm at TBD**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every first, third, and fourth Wednesday (every Wednesday that is not Meeting of the Minds), whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

National Immunization Awareness Month**August 2019**

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages.

Communities across the country use the month each year to raise awareness about the important role vaccines play in preventing serious, sometimes deadly, diseases across the lifespan. It is a great time to consult with your doctor or family physician to stay on top of your routine vaccinations, including tetanus, which should be boosted every 10 years for adults. Details can be found [here](#).

FTFW Annual Picnic**August 3, 2019 (Saturday): 11:00-3:00 pm at Foster Park (Pavilion #2) on 3900 Old Mill Rd. (Fort Wayne)**

Come one; come all to FTFW's Annual Picnic, which will be a family affair for all members and their families, as well as the general public. The food/drink for this free event is provided by the guests, themselves, so please bring a dish or non-alcoholic beverage (alcohol is prohibited) to contribute! Kids are welcome to join us, as there is a small playground and restrooms nearby. We will have games and fun activities for everyone, including giant bubbles, lawn bowling for kids, Jenga, paper airplanes ready to be colored, water balloons, and squirt guns for those who want to participate. Join us for a fun time with friends and families!

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup**August 4, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

FTFW Regular Wednesday Meetup**August 7, 2019 (Wednesday): 6:00-8:00 pm at TBD**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every first, third, and fourth Wednesday (every Wednesday that is not Meeting of the Minds), whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends. Details can be found on our Facebook

pages as well as our website calendar.

National Book Lovers Day

August 9, 2019 (Friday): all day

National Book Lovers Day harnesses all the excitement bibliophiles feel about books into one celebration on this day. A day for all those who love to read, National Book Lovers Day encourages you to find your favorite reading place, a good book (whether it be fiction or non-fiction) and read the day away. From the scent of a rare first edition book found in an old time book collection, to a crisp, fresh book at the local supermarket, the very sight of a book can bring back memories. Reading as a child, enjoying the short stories, the long books and the ability to lose yourself in a story so powerful that at the end your asking yourself where to get the next book in the series. This is for the reader in all of us, the celebration of Book Lovers Day! Details can be found [here](#).

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup

August 11, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

FTFW Monthly Board Planning Meeting

August 11, 2019 (Sunday): 1:30-3:30 pm at TBD

Current dues-paying members are welcome to join the FTFW board of directors at their monthly planning meeting. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

Meeting of the Minds

August 14, 2019 (Wednesday): 7:00-8:30 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne on 5310 Old Mill Rd.

This is a recurring event for FTFW every month on the second Wednesday, whereby folks get together for an open discussion on a particular topic of interest, as moderated by FTFW ex-president Bob Brandt. Be sure to bring your suggested discussion topic ideas and we will vote as a group on which one(s) to talk about.

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup

August 18, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

FTFW Regular Wednesday Meetup**August 21, 2019 (Wednesday): 6:00-8:00 pm at TBD**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every first, third, and fourth Wednesday (every Wednesday that is not Meeting of the Minds), whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

FTFW Regular Sunday Meetup**August 25, 2019 (Sunday): 11:00-1:00 pm at The Lucky Turtle Grill on 622 E. Dupont Rd. (Fort Wayne)**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every Sunday, whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends in the back room.

FTFW Monthly Board Meeting**August 27, 2019 (Tuesday): 6:30-8:30 pm at TBD**

Current dues-paying members are welcome to join the FTFW board of directors at their monthly meeting. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

FTFW Regular Wednesday Meetup**August 28, 2019 (Wednesday): 6:00-8:00 pm at TBD**

This is a recurring event for FTFW every first, third, and fourth Wednesday (every Wednesday that is not Meeting of the Minds), whereby folks get together for open-ended, casual discussions among friends. Details can be found on our Facebook pages as well as our website calendar.

TBD Movie Showing**April 22, 2020 (Wednesday): TBD (Fort Wayne)**

This event, co-hosted by FWMC, will be a showing a movie TBD with a brief discussion afterwards.



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