

# A U S T I N Atheist

September 2010 • Newsletter of the Atheist Community of Austin 

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## A Day with the ACA Planned around the Bat Cruise

—by Don Baker

Our upcoming ACA Bat Cruise event is not just about having a leisurely boat ride and watching bats. We've added other events throughout the day to encourage atheists who would like to hang out with us to come to Austin, have some fun, and chat with other like-minded people. We especially encourage out-of-towners to come down for this great set of events. The date is Saturday, September 25, 2010. Full details are available on our Web site.

**Matt Dillahunty's lecture will be from 3-5pm.** From 3-5pm, our own Matt Dillahunty will give a lecture on "The Superiority of Secular Morality." The event will be at Howson Hall in the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Ave. The event is free. See the Web site for special instructions for those who would like to leave their cars at the church for the remainder of the day. **The Bat Cruise will be from, 6-8pm.** The boat leaves promptly at 6pm, so don't be late! Consider parking at the One Texas Center Garage, 505 Barton Springs Road and walking to the launch. The garage is behind Threadgills (see below) and free. The garage is also accessible from Riverside. Cruise tickets are \$25 and \$10 and may be purchased from the ACA's products page ([atheist-community.org/products](http://atheist-community.org/products)).

If you would like to snack or eat dinner on the boat, that's fine. No glass containers are allowed, however.

**Dinner at Threadgill's is from 8:15-9:15pm.** For those that didn't eat on the boat, Threadgill's is a convenient dinner spot that has done a great job accommodating our after-the-TV-show dinners. The restaurant is a short walk from the launch point, so there's no need to move your car. The location is 301 W. Riverside. We will get a headcount for dinner on the cruise so everyone will get a quick seat. If you're going to the next event, you'll need to watch your time.

**Comedy Show starts at 10pm.** The final event of the evening will be a comedy show at Esther's Follies, 525 E. 6th St., (512) 320-0553 at 10pm. Tickets are \$22 and are likely to sell out. Get yours at least two weeks before the event. If you haven't seen the show, you're in for a treat. It's a great mix of comedy, singing, magic, and satire—a perfect way to end the day. ■

### The 2010 Texas Freethought Convention

October 8-10, 2010, in Irving, Texas, near the DFW Airport. Speakers include Michael Newdow, George Hrab, Ed Buckner, and many others. Admission is \$90. See [www.texasfreethought-convention.com](http://www.texasfreethought-convention.com) for more details. A number of ACA members are planning to attend. ■

### ACA CALENDAR

#### THURSDAY, SEPT 2

• **7 p.m.-?:** *Happy Hour (Dog & Duck Pub)*

#### SUNDAY, SEPT 5

• **11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.:** *Regular Sunday Meeting (Romeo's)*  
• **4:30-6 p.m.:** *The Atheist Experience (Channel 16)*  
• **6:30 p.m.-?:** *Meet-up after The Atheist Experience (Threadgill's)*

#### THURSDAY, SEPT 2

• **7 p.m.-?:** *Happy Hour (Dog & Duck Pub)*

#### SUNDAY, SEPT 12

• **10 a.m.-?:** *Pre-lecture brunch meetup (Hickory Street)*  
• **12:15-1:45 p.m.:** *ACA Lecture Series (Austin History Center; Dr. James H. Dee on "The Second Wave of Secular Humanism: How Scholarship Undermines Religion; free)*  
• **2-3 p.m.:** *Board Meeting (Dog & Duck Pub)*  
• **4:30-6 p.m.:** *The Atheist Experience (Channel 16)*  
• **6:30 p.m.-?:** *Meet-up after The Atheist Experience (Threadgill's)*

#### THURSDAY, SEPT 16

• **7 p.m.-?:** *Happy Hour (Dog & Duck Pub)*

#### SATURDAY, SEPT 18

• **11 a.m.-12 p.m.:** *Adopt-a-street Clean Up (North Location; Jack-in-the-Box on the Northeast corner of Burnet and Anderson)*

#### SUNDAY, SEPT 12

• **11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.:** *Regular Sunday Meeting (Romeo's)*  
• **4:30-6 p.m.:** *The Atheist Experience (Channel 16)*  
• **6:30 p.m.-?:** *Meet-up after The Atheist Experience (Threadgill's)*

#### THURSDAY, SEPT 23

• **7 p.m.-?:** *Happy Hour (Dog & Duck Pub)*

#### SATURDAY, SEPT 25

• **3-5 p.m.:** *ACA Bat Cruise Lecture (Howson Hall in the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Ave. Matt Dillahunty on "The Superiority of Secular Morality"; free)*  
• **6-8 p.m.:** *ACA Bat Cruise (Capitol Cruises, 208 Barton Springs Road; Tickets \$25 via ACA's products page)*  
• **8:15-9:15 p.m.:** *Dinner after the Bat Cruise (Threadgill's)*  
• **10 p.m.-?:** *Comedy Show (Esther's Follies, 525 E. 6th St. Tickets \$22 in advance from the club)*

#### SUNDAY, SEPT 26

• **11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.:** *Regular Sunday Meeting (Romeo's)*  
• **4:30-6 p.m.:** *The Atheist Experience (Channel 16)*  
• **6:30 p.m.-?:** *Meet-up after The Atheist Experience (Threadgill's)*

#### THURSDAY, SEPT 30

• **7 p.m.-?:** *Happy Hour (Dog & Duck Pub)*

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 27

• **11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.:** *Regular Sunday Meeting (Romeo's)*  
• **4:30-6 p.m.:** *The Atheist Experience (Channel 16)*  
• **6:30 p.m.-?:** *Meet-up after The Atheist Experience (Threadgill's)*

### REGULAR LOCATIONS:

- **Austin History Center**, 9th and Guadalupe. Building opens at noon. Lectures are free and open to the public.
- **Dog & Duck Pub**, North of the Capitol, 406 W. 17th at Guadalupe, 512.479.0598. Informal gathering; food available.
- **Hickory Street**, 8th and Congress
- **Romeo's**, 1500 Barton Springs Rd. South of Town Lake.
- **Threadgill's**, 301 West Riverside Drive (at Barton Springs Rd.)

Unless otherwise indicated, events are open to all atheist and atheist friendly people, regardless of ACA membership status. Check the calendar on the Web site <[www.atheist-community.org/calendar](http://www.atheist-community.org/calendar)> for last minute changes.



**Atheist Community of Austin**

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**ATHEIST EVE**

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Just the fact that you spend so much time arguing your worldview speaks volumes to me. If you honestly don't secretly believe god exists, then why argue at all? Why would you even care what religious beliefs or ideas other people have? There is no reason religion or belief in god would even matter to you, unless there was something internal that compels us all to seek out god. Seriously, why do you have such a problem with religion? Can you please explain why you spend so much time worrying about what other people believe?

Atheist wear available at [www.cafepress.com/atheist\\_eve](http://www.cafepress.com/atheist_eve)