

Rationalists of East Tennessee Newsletter July 2002

Roundtable (Candy Factory, World's Fair Park Drive) NO JULY ROUNDTABLE

The normal date for the July Roundtable falls on the weekend of July 4. Many members will be celebrating the Freethought Advance at Lake Hypatia, Alabama. The August roundtable will be on "The Roots of Morality" August 4, 10:00 AM at the Candy Factory.

The Book Club (At Border's Books 202 Morrell Rd. across from West Town Mall) July 14, 5:00 PM

Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 14, for **Whittgenstein's Poker**, by Edmonds and Edinow. Even if you have not read the book, you are welcome at the discussion. Several related reading selections are available on the discuss list or from Massimo Pigliucci, pigliucci@utk.edu.

Philosophy Roundtable (Candy Factory, World's Fair Park Drive) July 21, 10:30 AM

The July Philosophy Roundtable will be on "Breaking the Code: Alan Turing in the Forest of Wisdom" Socializing and coffee will be available at 10:00 AM with the discussion beginning at 10:30. Bring any goodies you would like to share.

Camp Quest of the Smoky Mountains: It's Beyond Belief! June 1 - 8, 2003

The first Camp Quest of the Smoky Mountains was a rousing success. All attending campers want to return for next year's camp which will be held June 1 - 8, 2003. Mark your calendars now and plan to be a part of this movement. This year's camp had several RET members making excellent contributions. Homer Wilkins got things rolling with a presentation on A. A. Mine's "Ivory Door." His presentation was the basis for the humanist challenges for campers to meet in presentations given during the final evening of camp. John Bloor gave a very popular magic show and workshop. Chuck Janack gave a workshop on cameras and photography which had campers really thinking about their photographic efforts for the rest of the week. Dave Buck got campers into experimentation, while Karen Weigle collaborated with Dave on techniques of communication. Campers want more of both next year. Massimo Pigliucci spent several days at camp. He gave presentations on critical thinking, mind mapping and the very popular nightly Socrates Cafe. Meals during Massimo's stay were enlivened with presentations on philosophers. Roy Crawford captivated the campers with a session on code breaking and also taught recorders. Carl Ledendecker had a presentation on Atheist Baggage during one of the meals, as well. Edwin Kagin, founder of the original Camp Quest, paid two visits to the camp, challenging campers to disprove the existence of the "invisible" unicorns roaming the area. Edwin was duly impressed with with success of the camp. Campers also enjoyed hiking, swimming, crafts and cool science. Heartfelt thanks go to everyone who contributed, but especially to Mleeka Learn Houston who spent a precious week of her summer acting as a counselor.

Rotating Dinners

The July dinners are scheduled for Saturday, July 27. New diners are welcome, since the greater the numbers of participants, the more interesting the mix will be. Please contact Mellrose Flockhart at 681-0377 or EFlockhart@AOL.Com, if you would like to join. Call now if you are not already a registered diner and want to get in on the action for the next round.

Recognition for RET

RET is now recognized by the IRS as a tax exempt nonprofit organization. Your generous donations are welcome and can now be listed as a deduction on your tax return. Please give to RET by contacting treasurer, Ed Flockhart. See above for his number and address.

Minutes of Board Meetings

If you would like a copy of the minutes of monthly board meetings, please send a SASE to Melissa Brenneman, 3209 Orlando Street, Knoxville TN 32917.