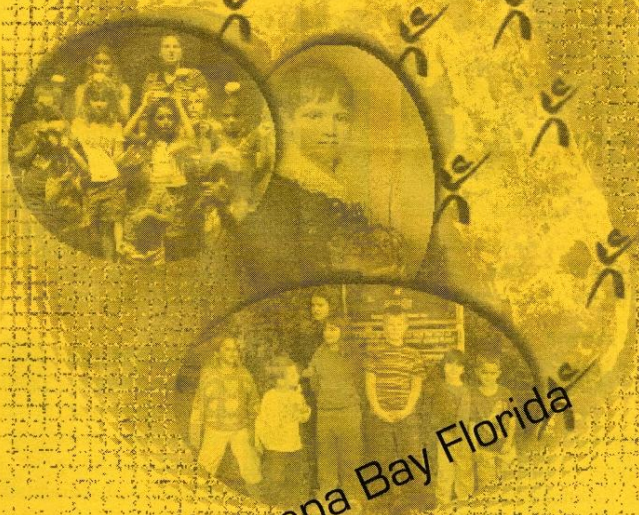


# Center For Inquiry-Florida Inaugural Conference

*The Evolution of Humanism:  
Entering a New Epoch*



Tampa Bay Florida

February 7-9, 2003



**CENTER FOR INQUIRY**  
*Florida*



## Biographical notes



**Don Addis** has been an editorial cartoonist for the Times Publishing Company (St. Petersburg Times and Evening Independent) for 38 years. In addition to artwork for *Free Inquiry*, his work—originals and reprints—has appeared in *Freethought Today* and *Skeptical Inquirer*.



**Norm Allen** is the Executive Director of African Americans for Humanism (AAH). He is also the editor of the groundbreaking book *African-American Humanism: An Anthology*, *AAH Examiner*, and an Associate Editor of *Free Inquiry* magazine.

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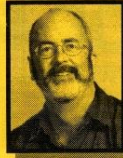
**Marjorie Appleman** is a playwright.

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**Phillip Appleman** is a poet and author, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Indiana University, editor of Norton *Critical Edition of Darwin*, 2003 recipient of the National Center for Science Education "Friends of Darwin's" award.



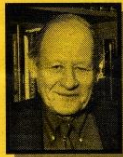
**Amanda Chesworth** is the Educational Director for CSICOP. She is also the creator of the Darwin Day Program. Her education is in Interdisciplinary Sciences with a focus on evolutionary biology, geology and astronomy.



**Bill Cooke** presently serves as the International Director of the Center for Inquiry in Amherst, New York. Previously, he was Senior Lecturer of the School of Visual Arts, University of Auckland at Manukau, Manukau City, New Zealand.



**Hervey Cunningham Peoples**, the award-winning author of *The Human Question*, is a scientist who has studied the question of human origins for over 25 years. Her unique background qualifies her to write about the complex and controversial subject of human origins.



**Dr. Paul Kurtz** (Ph.D. Columbia University, 1952) is founding chairman of CSICOP and Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He is on the editorial board of the *Skeptical Inquirer*, as well as Editor-in-Chief of the magazine, *Free Inquiry* and Chairman for the Center for Inquiry, parent organization of the Center for Inquiry - Florida.



**Dr. Gerald A. Larue** is Emeritus Professor of Religion and Adjunct Professor of Gerontology at the University of Southern California. He has authored and co-authored 17 books and is presently completing work on three more books.



**Richard Lead's** career as an Australian taxation consultant brings him into regular contact with financial scams. He has met hundreds of victims who believed complete strangers urgently wanted to make them wealthy. He also regularly encounters a number of money myths.





**Gary P. Posner, M.D.**, practiced internal medicine for 15 years before becoming a medical software company executive in 1995. He is executive director and founder of Tampa Bay Skeptics, and scientific consultant to CSICOP.



**Bob Steiner** is a noted magician, certified public accountant, psychic investigator, bunco investigator, and a quackbuster. He is a fellow of The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP), and the author of *Don't Get Taken*.



**Dr. Massimo Pigliucci** is an Associate Professor at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where he teaches ecology and evolutionary biology. His research is on the evolution of genotype-environment interactions, i.e. on nature-nurture problems.



**Jim Underdown** is the executive director of the Center for Inquiry - West in Los Angeles California. He currently lectures all over Southern California on behalf on the Center about paranormal claims and church-state issues.



**Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner** is the executive director of the Matilda Joselyn Gage Foundation. She is a nationally recognized lecturer, author and performance interpreter of woman's rights history.



**Diane Wilkinson** is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Philosophy at the University of South Florida (USF), Tampa, with core areas in ethics and theory of knowledge. She has taught courses on Contemporary Moral Issues, Social and Political Philosophy, Critical Thinking and Introduction to Formal Logic.



**Deborah Roffman** is a human sexuality educator and consultant. She is author of *Sex and Sensibility: The Thinking Parents Guide to Talking Sense about Sex* and *But How'd I Get in There in the First Place: Talking to Your Young Child about Sex*



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**Toni Van Pelt** is the Executive Director of the Center For Inquiry-Florida. She is a businesswoman with 30 years of experience in owning and running a private company. She is the past President of the Florida National Organization for Women and a feminist and humanist activist.



**Jan Loeb Eisler** is the chairwoman of the Center For Inquiry-Florida and editor of *Family Matters*. She is also a board member of the Center For Inquiry International.



**Andrea Steele** is the coordinator of the Secular Family Network, and founder of Families In Reason. As a mother of three, she is dedicated to raising her children to be independent thinkers. She is also the author of *"Your Preacher May Not Want You to Read This"*.



## Schedule of Events

### **Friday, 7 February**

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Registration**

7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**Reception & Program: A Magical Evening**

*Bob Steiner, Jim Underdown*

**Cash Bar**

### **Saturday, 8 February**

7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

**Registration & Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. to 8:15

**Welcoming Remarks**

*Toni Van Pelt*

8:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

**The Human Question: Where Did We Come From?** *Hervey Cunningham Peoples*

9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

**Africa and the Future of Humanism**

*Norm Allen*

9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Secular Ethics: Approaches in the face of Ethical Conflict**

*Diane Wilkinson*

10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. **Snack Break**

11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

**After Anthropocentric Conceit**

*Bill Cooke*

12:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

**Lunch**

**Scenarios for the Future: The Unmaking of America by the Evangelical Right or the Promise of Secular Humanism**

*Paul Kurtz*

2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

**Forward to the Past:**

**The Evolution of Financial Scams**

*Richard Lead*

2:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Snack Break**

3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

**Thinking Outside Pandora's Box:**

**Real Talk to Kids about Sex**

*Deborah Roffman*

4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

**My Evolution From "Believer" to "Skeptic."**

*Gary Posner*

5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

**Inquiring Minds**

*Amanda Chesworth, Andrea Steele*

7:00 pm **Cash bar**

7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**Inaugural Banquet and Awards**

**Dancing With Darwin**

*Marjorie and Phillip Appleman*

### **Sunday, 9 February**

**Breakfast on your own**

9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

**Feminism and Secular Humanism Evolve**

**Together: Gage, Darwin and an 1893 Expose of Sexual Abuse by the Priesthood**

*Sally Roesch Wagner*

10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

**"Design? Yes. Intelligent? No.**

**The "challenge" of the new ID movement."**

*Massimo Pigliucci*

11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Snack Break**

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Darwin and Humanist Ethics**

*Gerald Larue*

Photos courtesy of J. Steele Olmstead