



THE VOICE OF REASON

In this Issue

- 1** Camp Quest and Oklahoma Joe's BBQ
- 2** National Day of Reason Blood Drive
- 2** FreeOK 2013
- 2** Official Business - Board of Directors notes
- 3** Tulsa Pride Street Festival and Parade
- 3** This Month's Events
- 3** Contacts and Links



CAMP QUEST AND OK JOE'S

We want to thank everyone who has supported Camp Quest Oklahoma after the fundraiser at Oklahoma Joe's Barbecue restaurant was cancelled on April 8th. The cancellation of the fundraiser, which had already started, was due to the restaurant owner, Joe Davidson, claiming that supporting the camp was not compatible with his Christian values. Since the cancellation, Camp Quest Oklahoma received over \$5,000 in donations. These donations have come from Christians as well as members of the secular community. We have been especially heartened to see messages and donations from Christians like this, "I am Christian and read on Reddit what happened. Donated because what they did was ridiculous. Hope it helps."

The Stiefel Freethought Foundation matched Camp Quest Oklahoma donations with a \$5,000 grant supporting Camp Quest, Inc.'s national efforts. This broad community support will help Camp Quest Oklahoma, and the broader expansion of Camp Quest's programs.

We are disappointed that Mr. Davidson continues to claim that Oklahoma Joe's was not informed about Camp Quest. From the beginning of planning this fundraiser, copies of Camp Quest's brochure were provided to restaurant management. It's possible that this information didn't make it to Mr. Davidson. The restaurant also approved a flyer that clearly stated Camp Quest's mission. Mr. Davidson let his ignorance about secular people get in the way of honoring the commitment to hold the event and did something that is hurtful and discriminatory. We hope that Mr. Davidson learns that supporting children going to a camp, where they have positive adult role models, science activities, and are encouraged to think for themselves, is consistent with both secular and Christian values.

Camp Quest programs are open to campers from religious and non-religious families, and we do not label children with a worldview. Campers from religious families attend our camps and have positive experiences. We do focus on providing supportive community for children from non-religious families, because these families are often excluded from participating in other youth activities. It's important that children from secular families have a place where they can be themselves, and learn there are families out there like theirs. It's clear from recent events that this kind of safe space is particularly necessary in Oklahoma.

We look forward focusing on planning a great summer session for all of our campers. Camp Quest 2013 will be the biggest and best year yet!





FREEOK 2013 - OKC

NATIONAL DAY OF REASON

With faith-based initiatives giving preferential treatment to religious organizations, and strengthened attempts to introduce creationism in public school science classrooms, there has never been a better time in which humanists, atheists and freethinkers should affirm our commitment to the Constitutional separation of religion and government, and to celebrate reason as the guiding principle of our secular democracy.

As in previous years, this year's National Day of Reason is scheduled to coincide with the Congressionally-mandated and federally-supported National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2, 2013. ACT encourages all who value the separation of religion and government to join us in commemorating the Day of Reason, and in building awareness for this important cause.

As in the last 2 years, ACT will be holding its annual Day of Reason Blood Drive on May 7th (hey, we're celebratin all week!) at All Souls (39th & Peoria) from 5-8 and we still have plenty of spots available. Sign up through our Meetup page or on the Facebook event page.

www.nationaldayofreason.org

Thanks to all who made FreeOK 2012 a huge success! We had over 600 in attendance and hope to have even more this year! We are currently gearing up for the 2013 event in Oklahoma City on June 22nd at the Cox Convention Center.

We're very excited about this year's line up! Lawrence Krauss, Jamila Bey, Zack Kopplin, Seth Andrews, Dale McGowan, Sean Faircloth and Emily Boyer have all signed on to make this an unforgettable year in in speakers. With the new locale, new sponsor tables, t-shirts, and additional features such as on-site child care and staffed ASL interpreters, we think you'll want to be there.

Tickets are on sale now for \$20 until May 15th, and then they go up to \$25. We're anticipating sell-out crowds, so try and get yours early.

FreeOK could not happen without people like you, and there are many options available to contribute to making our event and our mission a success. With a \$20 donation, we have some snazzy bumper stickers, and we now present to you an opportunity to

become one of the League of Extraordinary Supporters with a donation of \$50 or more and you'll receive a t-shirt along with your bumper sticker that reflects your awesomeness.

We are also planning a fund-raiser in Tulsa later this month - we'll post it as soon as we get confirmation.

If you plan to bring children ages 4-12 with you to the event, FreeOK is offering affordable child care services all day during the convention. Planned activities include games, movie time and a field trip to Myriad Botanical Gardens across the street from the convention center. Parents must retrieve their children for lunch, but we will supply snacks throughout the day.

Due to space and staffing constraints, we can only offer 20 spots so you are encouraged to register for the service early. Cost: \$30 - 1 child, \$20 per additional.

See our Facebook and Meetup events for more info.

www.freeok.org



OFFICIAL BUSINESS *Online board motions and April 7th board meeting notes*

An online motion to approve having a table at the Tulsa Pride Festival was approved. Terry Waska is coordinating the table with Patrick French and Leah volunteered to coordinate the pride table volunteers.

The next ACT blood drive is scheduled for May 7 from 5-8 at All Souls.

How to control spamming on Facebook was discussed, and after some discussion it was agreed that the Facebook Admin group of ACT would discuss the issue further online and present a proposal for action by the Board.

Stephanie Fitch will be taking over as librarian of the ACT book library and will be bringing part of the library to membership meetings. We will also be creating a list of titles for sharing online so members can pre-order books of interest.

The board approved spending \$500 out of the ACT budget to support two half-scholarships at Camp Quest. The motion was further amended to allow Camp Quest leadership to determine appropriate recipients of the two scholarships.

Jesse Nelson was approved as chair of the Adopt-a-Highway Committee.

With Amanda stepping down as Secretary, the board has approved Tom taking over the secretary position, and Terry Waska has been re-appointed as a trustee. Our thanks go out to Amanda for all she has done for us!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

National Day of Reason

May 2
Everywhere!

Official Meeting

May 5, 1:00pm
Hardesty Library

Blood Drive

May 7
All Souls Unitarian Church

DWA

May 10, 7:30pm
Kilkenny's Irish Pub

Social Dinner

TBD

ACT Family Day

May 19
Mohawk Park

DWA

May 24, 7:30pm
TBD

Holy Rollers Bowling

May 26, 7:00pm
Sheridan Lanes

ACT with Pride!

June 1
Oklahomans for Equality

FreeOK 2013

June 22
Cox Convention Center
Oklahoma City, OKC

Camp Quest OK

June 22

BE SURE AND KEEP YOUR
EYE ON MEETUP AND THE
FACEBOOK EVENTS PAGES
FOR MORE INFORMATION



TULSA PRIDE 2013

The Oklahomans For Equality Staff and Tulsa Pride Team are gearing up for the biggest and best Tulsa Pride ever. Last year's 30th anniversary was an amazing success, with record turn out, great weather, and an amazing weekend. We're working to keep that success rolling right into 2013.

This year will be an entire weekend of Pride. They will be having all sorts of activities leading up to Pride Weekend with the Tulsa Pride Parade and Street Festival on Saturday, and the Picnic in the Park on Sunday. Look for the Pride Guide this spring along with the launch of the Tulsa Pride iPhone and Android App. We're doing everything we can to keep the community in the know about Pride.

This year ACT is proud to announce that we will be an official sponsor of the event. We will have a table and a float, and are looking for plenty of volunteers to help with both. Leah Havlik will be coordinating volunteers, so send her a message at Leah@actok.org if you are interested. Look for our logo in the Pride Guide (available at the event).

Contacts and Links:

Unholy Trinity:
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Secretary:
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General Questions:
Info@actok.org

Please visit the Atheist Community of Tulsa on:
Facebook
Meetup
www.actok.org

Other website for this issue:
www.campquest.org/locations/oklahoma
www.nationaldayofreason.org
www.freeok.org
www.okeq.org/tulsa pride/

FREEOK 2013

OKLAHOMA FREETHOUGHT CONVENTION
COX CONVENTION CENTER, OKC



JUNE 22ND

WITH SPEAKERS: LAWRENCE KRAUSS JAMILA BEY ZACK KOPPLIN
SETH ANDREWS DALE MCGOWAN SEAN FAIRCLOTH ... AND MORE!

TICKETS \$20 IN ADVANCE / \$25 AFTER MAY 15TH
ON SALE NOW! FREEOK.ORG

