JOIN US SUNDAY OCTOBER 2ND AT 10AM AT ST. SCHOLASTICA'S SOMERS LOUNGE FOR A PANEL DISCUSSION ON FREE WILL

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Free Will

PANELISTS

DAVID COLE received his PhD in Philosophy from the University of California, San Diego. He has taught at San Diego State University, the University of Delaware, and UMD. He has written on philosophy of language, epistemology, cognitive science and artificial intelligence.

E. OTTO JOHNSON, Ph.D., has more than 20 years of experience studying the epidemiology and genetics of drug addiction, HIV, and related phenotypes. He has published more than 130 peer-reviewed articles. He is the former Chair of the Behavioral Genetics and Epidemiology Study Section and has chaired and served on numerous other NIH review and advisory panels.

JIM LYTLE Ph.D., is a past Chairman of LSF. He is a member of Mensa, the City of Duluth Charter Commission and the Clan Lyttle Society. He has taught at Long Island University, Penn State, and UMD. He has been cited in numerous Journals and other publications. He also speaks to academic and community groups about the use of humor, Harvard Case Method teaching and the History of Freethought.
JOIN US FOR
Happy Hour

4:00-6:00 pm Thursday,
October 6th at Mexico Lindo,
Fitger’s Brewery Complex

Meet your new favorite freethinkers
at our old haunt: Mexico Lindo within the
Fitger’s Complex. We’ll be there from
4:00 pm until 6:00 pm to share stories,
questions, and TexMex food choices or
just some half-priced drinks. Park in the
public garage and bring your ticket.
The server will validate your parking
and we will validate (some of) your
unusual ideas. Why not bring a friend?
OCTOBER SOCIAL DINNER

Join us Wednesday October 19th at 5:30pm for our October Social Dinner at Blackwoods, 2525 London Road, Duluth
Next Pavilion Party October 22nd

Pavilion Parties continue on the fourth Saturday of each month at the home of our “Flounder”, Bill Van Druten.

Plan to arrive at 1pm. Bring a food item you have made, or maybe an interesting libation to share with other attendees. We’ll talk and laugh at Dr. Van Druten’s home: 2931 Greysolon Road in Duluth. Park anywhere on Greysolon Road but not on 30th Avenue!
Stephen King

Best-selling suspense novelist Stephen King was born in Portland, Maine on September 21st, 1947. King's parents split when he was a toddler, and he and his older brother were raised by their mother, who struggled financially. Though he grew up attending a Methodist church, his doubts about organized religion began at an early age. In a 2013 interview with National Public Radio on whether he believed in God, King said "the jury's out on that," adding that while at the moment he chose to believe, he reserved the right to change his mind.

He sold “The Glass Floor,” his first professional short story, to Startling Mystery Stories in 1967. He attended the University of Maine at Orono and wrote a weekly column for the school paper, served as a member of the Student Senate, opposed the Vietnam War and graduated in 1970 with a B.A. in English. In 1971 he married Tabitha Spruce, whom he met while working at a library. King taught English at Hampden Academy in Hampden, Maine, and pursued his writing in the evenings and on the weekends. King’s first novel, Carrie, was accepted by Doubleday & Co. in 1973. Due to its success, he was able to leave his teaching job and write full time.

King has published 60 novels, including seven under the pen name Richard Bachman, and five nonfiction works. He has written over 200 short stories, most of which have been compiled in book collections. His books have sold more than 350 million copies, and many of them have been adapted into feature films, TV movies and comic books. Many of his books contain overt religious themes, which prompted America's Dark Theologian: The Religious Imagination of Stephen King (2018), by Douglas E. Cowan.

King and his wife, also a novelist and philanthropist, annually give away about $4 million to libraries, fire departments, schools and organizations supporting the arts. They have a daughter, Naomi, who is a Unitarian Universalist minister in Florida, as is her domestic partner Thandeka, whose name means “beloved” and was given her by Bishop Desmond Tutu. Their sons, Owen and Joseph, are both writers.

“But as far as God and church and religion ... I kind of always felt that organized religion was just basically a theological insurance scam where they're saying if you spend time with us, guess what, you're going to live forever, you're going to go to some other plain where you're going to be so happy, you'll just be happy all the time, which is also kind of a scary idea to me.”