

Restoring Science Integrity in Washington

Mike Stebbins, Ph.D.

Michael Stebbins will be discussing the formation of Scientists and Engineers for America (seafora.org), a grassroots group of scientists and concerned citizens dedicated to electing public officials who respect science and understand the importance of using scientific and engineering advice in making public policy. He will discuss the ongoing issues with the politicalization of science in the Congress and the Administration and the challenges for the upcoming Congress.

Michael Stebbins is on the Board of Directors for Scientists and Engineers for America. He is also the Director of Biology Policy for the Federation of American Scientists and the author of *Sex Drugs and DNA: Science's Taboos Confronted*. He has worked as a policy fellow at the National Human Genome Research Institute and was a Legislative Fellow for US Senator Harry Reid (D-NV). He has worked as a journalist and is currently a science policy columnist for *Seed* magazine. Stebbins is a Science Advisor to ScienCentral News, a television production company that produces stories for the ABC and NBC affiliates. He has

appeared as a commentator on NPR's *All Things Considered*, *ABC World News*, *BBC News* and numerous other print and broadcast outlets. Before coming to Washington, he was a Senior Editor at *Nature Genetics*. He earned his B.S. in Biology from SUNY at Stony Brook and received his Ph.D. in genetics while working at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory.

2:00 - 3:30 pm,
Saturday, January 13,
2007

Bethesda Library,
7400 Arlington Rd.,
Bethesda, MD

FREE admission – Everyone welcome, members and non-members

For more information, call the 24-hour NCAS Skeptic Line recording at 301-587-3827.
E-mail: ncas@ncas.org
www.ncas.org



National Capital Area Skeptics Public Lecture Series

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Shadow of a Doubt

THE MONTHLY CALENDAR OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA SKEPTICS

JANUARY
2007

The Amazing Meeting 5: Skepticism & the Media

Thursday, Jan. 18, 2007 12:00 a.m. to Sunday, Jan. 21, 2007 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time Zone
Riviera Hotel & Casino 2901 Las Vegas Blvd.
South Las Vegas, Nevada 89109 USA 800-634-6753

According to the James Randi Educational Foundation website (<http://www.randi.org/amazingmeeting/>), "The last **Amaz!ng Meeting** was the most successful ever, and this year we're again aiming to outdo ourselves. We invite you to join us in exciting and—still—decadent Las Vegas, January 18 to 21, 2007, this time at the *Riviera*, when The James Randi Educational Foundation will host 'The Amaz!ng Meeting 5.' Our theme will be: 'Skepticism and The Media.' Our speakers and the usual 'extra' attractions will—as always—entertain, edify, and educate you. Speakers and guests will include **Michael Shermer** of the Skeptics Society, the provocative **Christopher Hitchens**, UK savant **Richard Wiseman**, the **Mythbusters'** **Adam Savage**, and Wiseman's secret twin brother **Phil Plait**. To entertain us, of course **Jerry Andrus** and the inimitable 'Bullshit' Boys **Penn & Teller**, will be in attendance. **Eugenie Scott** of the National Council on Science Education will tell us the latest news on the battle to teach science in our schools.

Peter Sagal, of NPR's 'Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me!' will be addressing us, and **Neil Gershenfeld** of MIT's **Media Lab** will discuss his views on how the media treat the sciences. We'll have **Nick Gillespie**, Editor-in-Chief of **Reason Magazine**, discussing 'The kids these days and other news narratives you shouldn't believe.' Perhaps contrasting views on the media will

be exchanged by **Scientific American** editor **John Rennie** and the editor of **The Onion**, **Scott Dikkers**. And a very special guest will be **Lori Lipman Brown**, lobbyist to Capitol Hill from the **Secular Coalition for America**. (We may even have a very, very special guest who's put a town in Colorado on the world map.) Back by popular demand, your emcee for the weekend will be **Hal Bidlack**, now retired from the US Air Force. Hal promises to be even more witty and profound now that he's a civilian!

The always-popular workshops will be back and this year we'll give you two to choose between: Workshop 'A' will be **Grassroots Media Training** with **Margaret Downey**. Due to numerous requests for a workshop geared toward educators, Workshop 'B' will be **Getting Critical Thinking into School Curricula**, with **Robert Todd Carroll**, **Diane Swanson** and **Ray Hall**.

We've got some great shows lined up for you this year. **Jamy Ian Swiss** will blow your mind with a show called **Heavy Mental**. **Banachek** will confound and amaze you to the point you might reconsider whether psychic abilities really DO exist. And **Hal Bidlack** will become **Alexander Hamilton** right before your eyes, with **Julia Sweeney** and **Jill Sobule** following in a stellar double-feature." ☺

Time to Renew—at 1987 Anniversary Rates!

Check your mailing label. If the renewal date has passed, please send to the NCAS address below \$20 (for 1 person) or \$30 (for 2-member households) for a 1-year renewal. Only dues-paying members can be sent postal mailings of the *Shadow of a Doubt* and the *Skeptical Eye* newsletter. ☺

