



# National Capital Area Skeptics

## Building a scientifically-minded community in the Maryland-Virginia-Washington area

Founded as a membership organization in 1987, NCAS has worked toward three primary goals as part of an overall desire to build ties between those who value science and critical inquiry. We seek to:

- Promote critical thinking and scientific understanding;**
- Serve as an information resource regarding extraordinary claims;**
- Provide extraordinary evidence that skeptics are cool.**

## On-Line Library

Through the volunteer efforts of NCAS members, we have obtained permissions, scanned, edited and made publically available hard to find or out of print resources such as:

**Air Force/University of Colorado report on UFOs (1968)**

**Department of Energy report on Cold Fusion (1989)**

**University of Pennsylvania report on "Modern Spiritualism" (1887)**

## Public Lecture Series

Recent programs at the National Science Foundation:

### **Myths (and Realities!) About Hydrogen Fuel**

Rene Carlos, Advanced Composites Group, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

### **How Statistics are Misunderstood in the Media and Society**

Rebecca Goldin, Ph.D., STATS.org

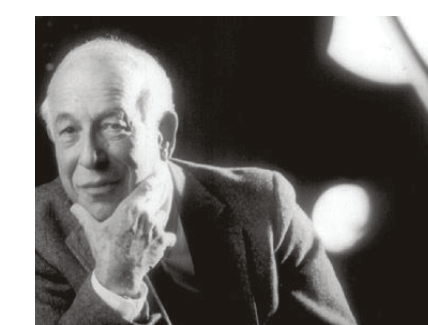
### **Autism & Vaccines: How Bad Science Confuses the Press & Harms the Public**

Steven Salzberg, Ph.D., University of Maryland, Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology



Programs are also made available through the NCAS YouTube channel:  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/NCASVideo>

## Philip J. Klass Award



Each year, in honor of NCAS founding member Philip J. Klass, we recognize outstanding contributions in promoting critical thinking and scientific understanding.

Recipients have been Paul Kurtz, Robert L. Park, James Randi and Michael Shermer.

## Membership activities

**NCAS-Share:** on-line discussion group

**Skeptical Eye:** member-contributed newsletter

**Local area science fairs:** volunteers judge and award special prizes to encourage students developing critical thinking and science skills.

**Drinking Skeptically:** 2nd Wednesday of each month at Jackie's Restaurant in Silver Spring, Maryland



## ...and other cool movie nights, workshops and social events to connect skeptics across the region

[www.ncas.org](http://www.ncas.org)