

Membership Form:

(Please print clearly!)

First Name	
Last Name	
Email:	
Phone:	
Mail addr 1	
Mail addr 2	
City	
State	
Zip	

If you are purchasing memberships for more than one person, please fill out separate personal information for each person.

You may copy this form, or send the extra information on a separate paper.

Detach this and mail it with your money order to:

CVAAS / Membership
438 E. Shaw #221
Fresno, CA 93710-7602

Memberships may also be given to a CVAAS membership officer during any CVAAS business meeting.

The Central Valley Alliance of Atheists and Skeptics (CVAAS) promotes secular viewpoints in support of the non-theists who live throughout the California Central Valley. We urge camaraderie among the secular community and their supporters, and encourage joining or forming affiliated non-theistic groups so that we may pool our resources together to further our mutual goals. We accept that rational scientific inquiry has proved to be the best way to understand the natural world in which we live; and that ethical questions are best answered when based upon sympathy and empathy for our fellow humans.

Our Voice: Atheist, Agnostic, Secular Humanist, Rational, Freethinker, Bright – the label isn't important. Our voices are dismissed, or drowned out by the overwhelmingly religious environment in the Southern Central Valley. We are here to remind the religious that they do not and they *cannot* speak for everyone.

We speak up when we see human rights abused in the name of religion. We speak up when pseudoscience is passed off as real science. We speak up when religions try to reinterpret or revise the Constitution of the United States for their own purposes. Freedom *from* religion is as important as freedom *of* religion.

Central Valley Alliance of Atheists and Skeptics
438 E. Shaw Ave #221 Fresno, CA 93710-7602

(559) 335-FACT or (559) 335-3228
Email: info@cvaas.org



New Member Application

www.CVAAS.org

Members of the Central Valley Alliance of Atheists and Skeptics have been known to walk on water.

Literally.

During our second annual "Heretic's Barbecue" members of CVAAS filled a small pool with water and then added some corn starch. This created a "Non-Newtonian Fluid" that acted like pure water in some conditions, and acted like a solid in others. CVAAS members walked across the surface of the pool, and in doing so showed that science is no miracle!

People in the San Joaquin Valley tend to be more religious than those in the rest of California. So much so that religious Valley residents often forget to include the rest of us.

Valley residents are diverse, and so it can be irritating to many residents when religious people assume that everyone supports their religious proclamations about marriage, prayer, or God.

CVAAS and its members are a "Secular Voice" in the Central Valley. We speak up for diversity, for the non-religious, and we remind Valley residents that religious people do not, and can not speak for everyone.

In doing this, we are also promoting the basic human rights of equality and of fairness. And we remind residents that the United States Constitution also protects everyone in regard to religion. The First Amendment guarantees the Church and the State remain separate - because when the State stops being absolutely neutral toward religion then some citizens are favored over others.

CVAAS members also educate the public about rational scientific inquiry, and speak out against pseudoscience. We keep our eyes open for junk science and take that as an opportunity to teach.

Local media is one way that CVAAS speaks to the public. Members have been interviewed on the local NPR affiliate and in local television news. Members have successfully encouraged local newspapers like the Fresno Bee and the Hanford Sentinel to print more rational follow-up stories to counter earlier credulous reporting on pseudoscientific topics.

We want you!

If this sounds like something you want to be a part of, please consider becoming a member.

CVAAS could be your community. We get together in friendly discussion, and to get out and learn more about science and rational thought. We have gone fossil hunting, explored caves, and used telescopes and the planetarium to learn about the universe we live in.

Members support public science lectures given by university professors, and have helped organize and participated in debates and lectures given right here in Fresno by some of the biggest names in skeptic and atheist circles.

We get together monthly to share books, to watch movies, and just to have a drink and some lively discussion.

Become a member, and help us grow!

Membership Rates:

Yearly membership is \$20 per year.

In order to vote or run for CVAAS office, you must hold a valid current membership. General elections are on the first Sunday in September.

A low-income / student membership is available for yearly rates. Please see a CVAAS officer to qualify.

Life Long Learning Membership \$10 per year.

CVAAS does offer a low income membership.

In order to qualify, please clearly write a short description (200 words or less) explaining why you believe you qualify for a low income membership.

High school, undergraduate education, and retired fixed income are all examples of valid qualification.

Include the detachable membership form and a check or money order for \$10, and mail it to:

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438 E. Shaw #221
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A CVAAS officer will review this and decide if you qualify. If you do not qualify, your check will be returned.