



CENTRAL VALLEY ALLIANCE  
OF ATHEISTS AND SKEPTICS

A SECULAR VOICE IN THE VALLEY

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PRESS RELEASE

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## Announcing the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Heretic's Barbecue

The Central Valley Alliance of Atheists and Skeptics is hosting its tenth annual "Heretic's Barbecue" on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30 am to 5 pm at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District. This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Richard Carrier. Other speakers include Aron Ra and Bill Zuersher. Also performing is musical guest, Joey Fabian. Tickets are \$19.00, free for children under 12. Tickets available online at [CVAAS.org](http://CVAAS.org). Catering is by Maw & Paw Barbecue of Clovis.

Fresno, CA ([cvaas.org](http://cvaas.org)) – The Central Valley Alliance of Atheists and Skeptics announces our 10<sup>th</sup> annual **Heretic's Barbecue**.

All Heretic's Barbecues have a theme, and this year it's "Mythology." The best places to discover modern myths are in the pages of supermarket tabloids! We will discover why we so often confuse myth with reality and why myths are so compelling.

This is a celebration of critical inquiry and supportive of the secular and skeptical community along with their friends and supporters. Whether you are a freethinker, humanist, atheist, agnostic – the label isn't important. If you cherish rational thought then you will enjoy this event.

CVAAS also invites other organizations and vendors to host a table at this event. Availability is limited. Details at [cvaas.org](http://cvaas.org)

**The Keynote Speaker is Dr. Richard Carrier**, who will present "Mythmaking Jesus: Yesterday's Fake News Gave Us Today's Religions."

Dr. Carrier received a Ph.D. from Columbia University and is a published philosopher and historian, specializing in contemporary philosophy of naturalism, and in Greco-Roman philosophy, science, and religion, and the origins of Christianity. Dr. Carrier has authored many books including, *Sense and Goodness Without God*, *On the Historicity of Jesus*, and *Proving History*.

**Speaker Aron Ra** has been a political activist for more than a decade. He is an international public speaker, advocating science education, skeptical thinking, humanist values, and secular policies all over the country and in twenty other countries. Aron Ra is the author of the book, *Foundational Falsehoods of Creationism*. He is also director of the Phylogeny Explorer Project – an effort to depict the entire phylogenetic "tree of life" as a navigable online encyclopedia.

Ra has been the Texas Director of American Atheists and recently stepped down as president of the Atheist Alliance of America in order to focus on running for office as a Texas senator.

**Activist Bill Zuersher** is a strong advocate of preventing the entanglement of religion and government. Zuersher is a popular speaker for secular audiences and has authored the book, *Seeing Through Christianity*. Zuersher studied economics and government at Yale and then worked for two decades in the energy industry before dedicating himself to teaching and writing.

**Bassist, instructor, and producer Joey Fabian** created a cover of, *It Ain't Necessarily So* for the CVAAS Podcast. Fabian has performed almost every conceivable genre of music from Soukous to Samba-Reggae, Blues to Bluegrass. He is best known in the Bay Area for a slew of projects with guitarist Chris Rossbach and a 13-year association with fusion band, The Bartron Tyler Group.

Currently, he plays bass with BMA nominated singer Paula Harris & "the Beasts of Blues", rock outfit, "Winterland" and has launched a solo career as an interpreter (and fledgling composer) of science and skeptical songs via, "The Skeptic's Jukebox."

**About:** The Central Valley Alliance of Atheists and Skeptics is a nonprofit educational organization that promotes secular viewpoints in public discourse, educates the public on the use of rational inquiry and positive secular philosophy, discourages church-state entanglement, and urges camaraderie and cooperation among the secular community and their supporters.

Find our Electronic Press Kit with Logos, Images, and other useful press information in the "About" section at [cvaas.org](http://cvaas.org).

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Aron Ra



Bill Zuersher



Joey Fabian