

Planning For A Weekly EpicureanFriends Zoom Meeting in 2022

Post by "Cassius" of December 24, 2021 at 9:59 AM

One project I would like to see us tackle for 2022 is to have a weekly video Zoom meeting for our regulars here at the forum. Let's use this thread to brainstorm the possibilities:

1. Day and Time. At times in the past when this has been discussed, I think the consensus tends toward a weekday evening, probably Sunday through Thursday nights, and probably no later than about 8:30 or 9:00 East Coast USA time so that our friends on the West Coast have a reasonable late-afternoon / early-evening hour. Tentatively I would suggest Tuesdays at 8:30 for no reason in particular. Please let us know your suggestions for alternate dates and times.
2. Participants. I think the consensus is that we would like to use this to introduce new members into the group and talk about initial questions about the philosophy, so I suggest that we make the existence of the group public, but that we require some level of participation on the forum before invitations are extended. Conversations on the forum (and on Facebook) are visible to the public, so there's plenty of opportunity for people who solely want to lurk to participate in writing, and anyone interested enough in participating in a zoom meeting ought to be willing to say so on the forum so as to be sent an invitation.
3. Video / Sound. Unless someone has a special reason lets strongly urge each participant to use video, but not necessarily real names unless the participant prefers that on an individual basis.
4. Agenda / topics. We want to devote some time to questions and open discussion, but we don't want every session to turn into a general "bull" session. We can use the [Principal Doctrines](#) and Vatican Sayings as an initial topic list for at least some part of each meeting. It would also be good to ask participants to bring up for discussion any Epicurean books or materials that they are currently reading for discussion. And most of all I would like to see us devote time to what we are doing online (primarily in EpicureanFriends makes sense, of course) so we can coordinate our online activity there and in other locations. So that we are always focused on Epicurean philosophy, in general it would be best for discussion of books written by non-Epicurean writers to be limited to times when it's clear we have extra time on the zoom meeting. It also probably makes sense to have a time limit for the meetings, probably not much longer than an hour.
5. Moderators. If we go to weekly there are likely to be times when I cannot be present myself, though I hope that will be rare. For that reason we probably ought to have a moderation "panel" to lead the discussion in the event I am away (and this is a good idea even if I am present - we could rotate among panel discussion leaders from week to week

- but keep things on track by having a pre-planned agenda.)
6. Name: Maybe someone has something more creative than "The Weekly EpicureanFriends Zoom Meeting."
 7. First Event: First week of January 2022.
 8. Expectations: We have to expect that for the first weeks and even months we will have only a few people, but I suspect that over time we'll find that a certain segment of people on EpicureanFriends and even from the Facebook group will become regulars who prefer Zoom to posting in written form.
-

Post by "Godfrey" of December 24, 2021 at 10:44 AM

Maybe Online Garden of Epicurean Friends pr something to that effect?

This sounds like a good template for local in-person meetings when they eventually start popping up, so as it develops that would be good to keep in mind. I assume you're already heading in that direction, Cassius.

Post by "Don" of December 24, 2021 at 10:47 AM

You're welcome to plan, but I'd advise against this. A weekly commitment is one of the reasons I'm taking a sabbatical from the podcast.

One of the things that makes the 20th special is the connection it gives us to our Philosophical ancestors. It is truly an Epicurean event. Diluting that with more online meetups makes me a little sad. Even the Sunday recording sessions started to feel like church (that's not a positive association btw).

Maybe we need a more "formal" agenda for the 20ths? Open up to more people? I like your number 4 above as a start. Plot out 20ths ahead of time? Epicurus's birthday is coming up too I believe. Jan 9 or 10 (7 Gamelion) <https://www.hellenion.org/calendar/>

https://www.epistemeacademy.org/calendars/yearly_calendar.html?ccyear=2022&vADBC=AD&CCode=Attic

Post by "Cassius" of December 24, 2021 at 1:08 PM

I understand your concern Don but I think it's a matter of individual preference. Those who wish to attend will do so, those who don't won't.

I definitely agree that many of these points apply to how we do the 20th.

But as to whether this would help or hurt a connection with the real Epicureans of the past, I think that the authentic ones of the Greco Roman period were likely immersed in each other's company most of the time.

As for those in the intervening centuries who saw the topic as one limited to being fit for writing and thinking about the subject - I don't see them as very worthy models for emulation. I would always have advocated that the goal be full restoration of a philosophical community and continuity.

If we find the philosophy inviting then it's something to pursue as strongly as possible, and if this helps only a few who want to invest more time in it then it's probably worthwhile for those.

Post by “Don” of December 24, 2021 at 1:41 PM

All good points! Thanks (and sorry to be the wet blanket)

Post by “Cassius” of December 24, 2021 at 5:09 PM

No issues as to wet blankets! Caution is a good thing.

I received a private comment asking if we would be able or willing to post the audio publicly for others to listen to. That question raises several issues we can include in the discussion. As it is, I spend a lot of time editing the Lucretius Podcast to cut out the silent sections and any unproductive tangents, and I doubt that I would have the time to do that for a second program. I do see the desirability of allowing others to listen, but I don't know that we can assure the kind of quality that would make that work without editing. We can discuss that as part of planning, and some of my concerns might be alleviated if we split the duties and had others besides me curate a section of time.

Post by “Kalosyni” of December 24, 2021 at 8:23 PM

A weekly meeting is great idea. Yet I would suggest waiting to start it till the second week in January.

I can see how a weekly event might be better geared toward "novices" rather than for "sages"... I myself would probably fall into the middle area of "devotee" (neither novice nor sage) but would greatly benefit from weekly meetings.

The 20th could be always in honor of sages and contain more advanced material, which novices and devotees could learn from, but they might take more of a "listen and learn" while the sages discuss more complex philosophy. Yet perhaps the 20th would be only for devotees and sages, and novices would be referred to join the weekly meeting. But maybe this labeling is complicating things...just throwing out some ideas. After all, how does one determine if someone is a devotee? or a sage?

Post by “Joshua” of December 24, 2021 at 8:23 PM

For my part, there is a great deal of looming uncertainty as to how much of my free time will be taken up by the online professional coursework that I'll be starting in January.

I don't think I'll know for sure until at least the first week of January. But I like the idea on the whole!

Post by “Cassius” of December 24, 2021 at 8:42 PM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

After all, how does one determine if someone is a devotee? or a sage?

Maybe that depends on how much a person likes to think of themselves as an ancient Greek!



More seriously maybe we just have some kind of basic reading list "test" and trust people to rank themselves by how much they have read.

But even more practically, we probably just need to keep something of a tight reign from the beginning using moderators, and then as we see how people actually do over time the moderators can allocate time based on subjective views of how much people are actually contributing. That might sound harsh but it's probably necessary and we can find ways to do it diplomatically and supportively.

If we primarily use the invitation method of vetting participants we will probably be ok because we should be able to tell beforehand if we are running into any problem personalities.

Post by “Cassius” of December 24, 2021 at 8:44 PM

As for the free time requirement we probably need to find ways to structure this so that for most of us we don't find it a burden or something we need to spend much time in preparation for or editing anything afterward.

Post by “Kalosyni” of December 24, 2021 at 8:45 PM

Another idea...(under the enjoyment of a Christmas Eve "Three Creeks - FivePine Chocolate Porter)...

...A once a month Zoom meeting that is not on the 20th. It would definitely be geared toward people who have very little understanding. Maybe 2, 3, or even 4 people could each give a short presentation on material and then those same people would discuss it, and then, at the very end open it up to questions. The flyers would need to be very specific as to what it is and whom would benefit (free thinkers and science-minded folks) and people would need to register through Epicurean.com

And on a different week of the month maybe have an hour long very informal planning meeting for "core" people where we would come up with ideas for future meetings and events, and also check in to say 'hi' to each other (yet I see that some might have upcoming busy schedules).

Post by “Kalosyni” of December 24, 2021 at 8:48 PM

oops...regarding flyers...people could put up flyers in their cities at coffeehouses or libraries, or colleges, announcing the zoom meeting...and how to sign up

Post by “Cassius” of December 24, 2021 at 9:55 PM

You are being ambitious but that is the only way to grow! When we stop adding / replacing atoms we start to die.....(I am pretty sure is somewhere in Lucretius!)

But ambition is good! (I say as I listen to Rienzi and read the book on which it is based) 😊

Post by “Kalosyni” of December 24, 2021 at 10:13 PM

It would require a dedicated few to work together.

Now, in a more sober mind (of non-alcoholic ginger-ale) I do realize that it would be wise for me to put more time into studying Epicureanism, so as to be sure that I understand it correctly. I think it would very important to understand the key differences between Epicureanism and Stoicism, as well to understand the differences of understanding between the *telos* of EpicureanFriends.com vs. the *telos* of the most common scholarly understanding.

Post by “Cassius” of December 24, 2021 at 10:50 PM

Ha -- "the telos of Epicureanfriends.com" 😊

I would describe that as a combination of the attitude of (1) Lucian in "striking a blow for Epicurus" and pursuing the attitude exhibited in "Alexander the Oracle-Monger" and of (2) Lucretius in using smart technology (his poem, our internet) to present the full meaning of Epicurean philosophy in its most fundamental form.

Sometimes I also think it can be expressed in thinking about how Epicurean philosophy differs as much from what is conveyed by "hedonism" as the stoics would say they differ from

"stoicism." They deny that they are apathetic, and I would deny that a narrow focus on immediate physical gratification has much of anything to do with Epicurean philosophy.

Epicurus taught a full worldview, in which "pleasure" is only one part, and not what is generally conveyed by "hedonism" at all. As I see it, Epicurus used "pleasure" as a catch-all term for all agreeable feelings, mental and bodily, and on that level "pleasure" is a sweeping term that corresponds to and opposes "virtue" (as that is set up by the stoics and platonists) and "piety" (as that is set up by all those religions who suggest we should worship supernatural gods).

I think that's what both Lucian and Lucretius saw - a full worldview - and that really has very little to do with strategies for eating and drinking and relaxing. Those are significant but secondary to the deeper issues of where we spend eternity, whether we have free will, whether we need to worry about heaven and hell, and how to understand what knowledge is and our means of obtaining it, and how we organize our lives to attain maximum success in pursuing happiness through a proper understanding of (and action based on) those issues.

Post by "Kalosyni" of December 24, 2021 at 11:05 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Epicurus taught a full worldview, in which "pleasure" is only one part, and not what is generally conveyed by "hedonism" at all. As I see it, Epicurus used "pleasure" as a catch-all term for all agreeable feelings, mental and bodily, and on that level "pleasure" is a sweeping term that corresponds to and opposes "virtue" (as that is set up by the stoics and platonists) and "piety" (as that is set up by all those religions who suggest we should worship supernatural gods).

--human as a naturally evolved material animal, coming from pleasure and going ever onward toward pleasure

-----vs-----

--human as dualistic (body & spirit) created by god(s) and who must toil for perfection and to strive to please god(s)

Post by "Kalosyni" of December 24, 2021 at 11:08 PM

it would seem these two world views are like oil and water and do not mix

Post by “Kalosyni” of December 24, 2021 at 11:12 PM

The point being that the continuation and modern expansion of the Epicurean philosophy must navigate through and in the midst of the religious landscape of modern times.

Post by “Joshua” of December 24, 2021 at 11:24 PM

Regarding the *telos* of the forum (😊), we have had a few interesting threads that might be worth looking at;

September 2019:

Thread

[How Would You Answer Someone New Who Asked You: "What Is Epicurean Philosophy All About?"](#)

If you met someone who asked you to explain to them what Epicurean Philosophy is about, how would you introduce them to it, and what are some examples of how it can be applied in everyday life?



Cassius

September 1, 2019 at 8:08 AM

July 2020:

Thread

[Musings on A Quick Statement of "What It Means to Be An Epicurean"](#)

My mind is distracted tonight and going in too many directions,, and in times like this it seems I always turns back to the fundamental issue of "what it means to be an Epicurean."

I do not expect to make any changes at the moment, but I am toying with the idea of deleting

the quote from Lucian of Samosata (about "striking a blow for Epicurus") currently at the top of the home page. New people probably don't recognize that quote, and i am thinking it might be beneficial if we replaced it...



Cassius

July 13, 2020 at 10:57 PM

Post by “Marco” of December 25, 2021 at 1:28 AM

The ‘Personal Outlines of Epicurean Philosophy’ are also worth looking at.

Post by “Cassius” of December 25, 2021 at 4:00 AM

Quote

The point being that the continuation and modern expansion of the Epicurean philosophy must navigate through and in the midst of the religious landscape of modern times.

I suspect it was much the same in ancient Greece and Rome, but yes.

Post by “Cassius” of December 25, 2021 at 6:53 AM

Ha I just came across another way of stating the telos of the forum:

The goal of Epicureanfriends.com is to be a friend to the friends of Epicurus.

Post by “Kalosyni” of December 25, 2021 at 2:19 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Ha I just came across another way of stating the telos of the forum:

The goal of Epicureanfriends.com is to be a friend to the friends of Epicurus

And this supports the Principle Doctrines 27 and 28:

27) "Of all the things that wisdom provides for the complete happiness of one's entire life, by far the greatest is friendship."

28) "The same judgement produces confidence that dreadful things are not everlasting, and that security amidst the limited number of dreadful things is most easily achieved through friendship."

Post by "Scott" of December 25, 2021 at 8:22 PM

As recently mentioned, I am what I would call an "Epinoob" - I don't know much yet! I'm just reading and listening. But in that vein, I'd be interested in a recurring meeting for newer peeps. I have a small amount of hesitation like Don expressed, with having another "meeting" to attend. Life is busy and many of us have other commitments. OTOH, I am won over by Cassius's point that if the goal of this Epicurean Garden is to be taken seriously, meeting frequently is the really the only way to go, and posting in Facebook is NOT ideal. IMO the best tool for a **remote** group to learn and share - and even further, to develop relationships - is through web meetings, with video strongly encouraged, if not required. Without doing the best we can to get to know each other as people, the exercise remains academic. Not what Epicurus was talking about, unless I completely misunderstand.

Post by "Cassius" of December 26, 2021 at 7:04 AM

Yes I think you are right, boyh0wdy, in emphasizing Don't point that whatever this turns into it cannot turn into a burden. Some amount of "commitment" is probably an inevitable part of any project, but we need to make it easy for people to be absent without feeling guilty, as I would think that marks the line between burden and enjoyment.

it needs to be something that is dominantly pleasurable or it won't become a habit to be there when possible. that's one reason I do think it needs to have a set format (such as reading and talking about a particular doctrine as part of each episode) so we can always expect to learn something from each meeting.

I know in my own experience that what needs to be avoided is the right balance of time between hearing what "new people" have to say vs points from more experienced people. That's where it's going to be necessary to have some way to ensure something of a "minimum quality" to the discussion. But as long as the discussion is 'sincere' I think all of us can get a lot out of it, especially when we think about how we ourselves were just starting at one point, and also when we think about the fact that "if this question is arising in this person's mind then it is something that we can work on improving our presentation of the issue" so that we develop good places to point new people on common questions.

Post by “Scott” of December 26, 2021 at 9:20 AM

Completely agree, Cassius. I've led various groups and I'm aware of the issues you bring up. An appropriate amount and type of structure and content is important to keep the group from just wandering off in all different directions chasing butterflies. It is to everyone's benefit to avoid that

...not that there isn't ever a time to chase butterflies 😊

Post by “Cassius” of December 28, 2021 at 6:57 PM

This past weekend Martin and I had a chance to discuss a number of aspects of a weekly Zoom meeting, and here are a couple of our current thoughts:

1. Video preferred but optional
2. Don't record the session by video or audio, generally, unless there is a special presentation. We want the discussion to flow freely and recording can be an obstacle to that.
3. We won't push too hard to turn on video.
4. We want to be sure to make clear that there is no obligation to attend, as otherwise a weekly option can turn into a commitment that too easily becomes an obligation and then a burden.

5. Martin reminded me that there is a German word for regular gatherings of friends for a meal: stemtisch (correction: stammtisch). And of course that reminds me of the subject of one of [DeWitt's essays- Epicurean Conturbernium](#).
-

Post by “Martin” of December 29, 2021 at 9:31 AM

Corrections:

Stammtisch

The emphasis is in most cases on drinking, talk and laughter but they come in all types of regular gatherings.

Post by “Don” of December 29, 2021 at 9:39 AM

Sounds similar to a good ole συμπόσιον symposium 😊

Post by “Cassius” of December 31, 2021 at 1:25 PM

I have been reminded in a private conversation that there is a significant issue in the use of Zoom and video meetings which we have not already discussed, and that is the issue of safety and security of the participants when new and unknown people are allowed to participate.

I think most and maybe all of this in this thread have been proceeding under our past well-established pattern that our meetings are essentially "invitation only" and that invitations are issued to new people only after a significant period of "getting to know you" time communicating publicly on the forum.

Maybe there will come a time in the future where we have totally open meetings for anyone and everyone to be able to participate, but we aren't anywhere near that point at this time.

So definitely one of the issues to be resolved before we proceed with more regular meetings will be "who gets an invitation."

We'll work through it as we have done in the past, but it's definitely a point to remember. And it dovetails in with our forum policy of allowing "anonymous" accounts. We don't expect people to divulge their personal details in order to participate in written conversations, because we can determine from what is written whether the conversation is within our forum guidelines, and easily remove it if not. As we move to more direct communication, we'll need to implement procedures to maintain that same kind of security and consideration for personal privacy.

Post by “Cassius” of December 31, 2021 at 1:57 PM

Also we have been talking recently about the long-existing project of writing personal outlines. It might well be a good idea to condition participation in some of the more advanced activities here on people participating in that project as a means of clarifying their own thoughts and getting constructive commentary from others on aspects that they might be overlooking: [Personal Outlines of Epicurean Philosophy](#)

Post by “Titus” of January 4, 2022 at 4:03 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

8:30 or 9:00 East Coast USA time so that our friends on the West Coast have a reasonable late-afternoon / early-evening hour. Tentatively I would suggest Tuesdays at 8:30 for no reason in particular. Please let us know your suggestions for alternate dates and times.

That's around 3am in Central Europe! For our participants staying in Europe and Africa it would be worth thinking of a second panel (and theoretically a third for the Far East and Australia).

Post by “Cassius” of January 9, 2022 at 9:45 PM

I may have the time to try a Zoom meeting Tuesday night if anyone is interested. We have not yet made any decisions on a weekly format but we can discuss that as the main agenda among

whoever is available.

One thing we have not finalized is how 'open' to make this. For now, let's do this on the basis of "if you are interested, message Cassius and he will check with those who are established regulars and coordinate introductions" basis.

In other words, if you would like to participate but have not previously joined a live meeting, please message me and we will follow our existing procedure of letting those who are regular attenders decide how fast to expand the circle.

For planning purposes let's pick 8:30 PM Eastern Time (USA) but if someone requests an adjustment we can consider that.

Post by “Godfrey” of January 9, 2022 at 10:25 PM

I'm interested but won't be able to make this one.

Post by “Joshua” of January 9, 2022 at 10:35 PM

I'm getting on a plane Wednesday morning, so this probably won't be top of my list Tuesday night, unfortunately.

Post by “Godfrey” of January 9, 2022 at 11:18 PM

Funny, I'll be getting off a plane Tuesday night...

Post by “Scott” of January 10, 2022 at 9:46 PM

Well so far it doesn't seem like we would have much attendance for this one. In any case, should this event happen, I am still interested.

Post by “Kalosyni” of January 10, 2022 at 10:32 PM

Yes, I am interested 😊

Post by “Cassius” of January 11, 2022 at 5:51 AM

OK later today I will send a link to those who respond affirmatively to this thread. Might be just before 830 pm eastern that I send the link, but it will come.

Post by “Martin” of January 11, 2022 at 8:04 AM

I will try to join, mostly for listening while at work.

Post by “Cassius” of January 11, 2022 at 5:17 PM

If anyone else is interested let me know.

Post by “Matt” of January 11, 2022 at 5:27 PM

Sadly I'm working....

Post by “Pacatus” of January 12, 2022 at 12:34 AM

I think I'd be interested in the future, just to get to know people a bit better. I don't "Zoom" -- but my wife has, and could help me get set up. Anyway, it seems like a good idea.

Post by “Scott” of January 12, 2022 at 12:48 AM

[Pacatus](#) , I think you will find Zoom pretty easy to use. It is designed to be user-friendly. I hope you are able to join in.

Post by “Pacatus” of January 12, 2022 at 12:52 AM

[Scott](#)

Thanks. I am a "techno-peasant" -- but I'm willing to give it a go.

Post by “Cassius” of January 12, 2022 at 6:45 AM

We had four participants last night - thanks to all who attended. I don't see any reason not to do this again next Tuesday night at the same time, so let's tentatively plan to do so.

But let's consider this only tentative for the moment as we still have lots of things to figure out.

Post by “Cassius” of January 12, 2022 at 9:07 AM

One lesson that seems pretty easy to draw is that when we have just a few people who know each other well, we can be more "free-form" and probably satisfy everyone that their time is

well spent. And when we have just a few people plus a small number of "new" people we can take the time to have general conversation to learn about their background.

But the more people we have who attend, the more important it's going to be to keep things more organized so that everyone knows what to expect, we have people participating in a "fair" or at least "appropriate" way, and we keep a tighter rein on the conversation so that people don't think their time is being wasted on topics they didn't come to talk about.

We always want to be considerate of peoples' time and that they don't feel like at the end of a session that their time has been wasted.

Post by “Pacatus” of January 12, 2022 at 2:16 PM

[Cassius](#)

A suggestion from a "newbie": You might try having a "Newbie Night," say once a month, to start. Eventually some of the new people will become better-known regulars as you go. Just a thought.

Post by “Cassius” of January 12, 2022 at 2:18 PM

That is a VERY good suggestion. I presume you're including the idea of inviting them to ask questions in addition to introducing themselves, and probably other things make sense as well. Thank you!

Post by “Pacatus” of January 12, 2022 at 2:20 PM

[Cassius](#)

Yes. It would give us newer folks a chance to become more acclimated too for awhile, in a cordial moderated atmosphere.

Post by “Cassius” of January 12, 2022 at 2:30 PM

[Quote from Pacatus](#)

Yes. It would give us newer folks a chance to become more acclimated too for awhile, in a cordial moderated atmosphere.

Almost like, in addition to the "Welcome Post," we need a "Welcoming" committee to coordinate new participants.

Post by “smoothiekiwi” of January 12, 2022 at 2:49 PM

That sounds great! I'd love to participate in something like that, but I'm scared to participate in a call with the "big" minds of philosophy here on the forum. Looking at you, Lucretius Today, and his participants 😊

Post by “SimonC” of January 14, 2022 at 5:37 PM

I'd at least listen in, but I'm in Europe and the time is bit too late. Just mentioning it in case there are enough others.

Post by “Cassius” of January 14, 2022 at 9:06 PM

So to be reasonable for Europe we'd have to do maybe 2 or 3 eastern time at the latest, which would put us into the morning on the west coast. I am thinking Europe is generally about six hours ahead of the USA, right?

Post by “Cassius” of January 17, 2022 at 9:50 AM

I should be available for another Zoom meeting tomorrow night (Tuesday the 17th) so if you're available and interested please reply here.

Post by “Cassius” of January 17, 2022 at 7:50 PM

What would be a good topic for Tuesday night? Kalosyni is suggesting that we talk about the personal outline project.

Post by “Godfrey” of January 17, 2022 at 8:27 PM

I'm going to skip Tuesday and attend Thursday... if I do both my wife will think I've joined a cult 😬

Post by “Cassius” of January 17, 2022 at 8:35 PM

LOL tjhank you!

Post by “Don” of January 17, 2022 at 8:48 PM

I'm going to have to miss Tuesday and Thursday at that time is our regular Skype call with our daughter. Family takes precedence in the hedonic calculus 😊

Post by “Kalosyni” of January 17, 2022 at 9:54 PM

I will attend Tuesday night Zoom. Topic of personal outlines...and other topics...

And have the following questions to discuss then...or if anyone else wants respond to the following questions, please respond in this thread if you can't attend the Zoom:

--what are best topics for a Zoom/in-person Epicurean study group...what topics might draw people to attend?

--to create an agenda or to not create an agenda?

--alternative times for meetings?

Post by “Scott” of January 17, 2022 at 11:56 PM

I plan to attend. Discussing personal outlines is a fine topic IMO. We could also have "Q&A" time, in which anyone can pose a question on their minds about EP and everyone can discuss. I'm pretty sure everyone has questions they could ask, and there would be plenty of discussion, and hopefully some answers to questions posed. Cassius, I have no doubts you would be able to gracefully facilitate and keep things within the EF forum guidelines if things strayed off course. (If no one really knows the answer to a posed question or there is no consensus on the "answer", someone could be assigned to try to go after finding out more and bring that back to the group next week?)

Post by “Cassius” of January 18, 2022 at 6:54 PM

As I write this we're 1.5 hours away from having another "weekly" zoom meeting mainly for discussing anything that might be on people's minds and continuing planning for the future. If you are interested in attending please post in this thread and I will be sure you get a link by direct message (the conversation feature).

Post by “Cassius” of January 18, 2022 at 8:06 PM

I am thinking that Scott and Kalosyni and perhaps Martin (not sure) have indicated they can participate tonight so I will start a new conversation and send a link. If any others would like to attend please post here and I will get you the link.

thanks

Post by “Scott” of January 18, 2022 at 9:45 PM

It was great chatting with you. Nice to have an informal, relaxed opportunity to discuss ideas and questions. I hope this continues. 😊

Post by “Cassius” of January 18, 2022 at 10:10 PM

Thank you for joining us tonight Scott and I enjoyed it too. I am getting used to zoom and we will definitely continue this for anyone who has the time to join us.

Post by “Kalosyni” of January 18, 2022 at 11:04 PM

Some of the topics that came up in tonights Zoom meeting...I am not a very good note taker, and there was so much good stuff that came up...and there was a lot more than this:

-Epicurean physics: why does it matter?

---it is part of an alternate theory of where the world came from - a worldview not created by supernatural gods/god.

-Can you know anything or not, confidence in your conclusions

-when it is appropriate to take a position on the things you can't ever know

-senses don't lie, but your understanding can (?)

-the problem of civilization, seeking wealth as the road to pleasure, Wall of Diogenes of Oenoanda.

-Platonic absolutes, some absolute standard to conform to...but Epicurus says no...grounded on feelings and senses, and in the understanding of the way things are.

Post by “Martin” of January 19, 2022 at 8:05 AM

Sorry for missing out because I needed to focus on work to catch up with some backlog and forgot to carry my headset.

Post by “Cassius” of January 24, 2022 at 8:49 AM

Ok I am going to try to start using more of the Calendar function so people can check the agenda and indicate participation.

I have set up an agenda so please comment on it there:

[epicureanfriends.com/wcf/calendar/event/1394/](https://www.epicureanfriends.com/wcf/calendar/event/1394/)

Post by “Cassius” of January 25, 2022 at 2:31 PM

I added to the calendar that we'll post a Zoom link in the Calendar thread 30 minutes or so before start time

Post by “Cassius” of January 25, 2022 at 8:10 PM

Cassius Amicus is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

In order to space out our meetings a little better, the Tuesday status meetings we have held recently are being moved to Wednesday at 8:00 PM eastern. Please check the calendar for events as we will keep that updated. Thanks!

Post by “Scott” of February 22, 2022 at 7:52 PM

OK to be sure I understand correctly, the next meeting is tomorrow then, right? We're doing a Wednesday evening meeting this week, yes?

Post by “Cassius” of February 22, 2022 at 7:57 PM

Yes until further notice our public Zoom meetings to which all our regular participants here are invited are:

- (1) Every Wednesday night a status conference / open discussion of anything on anyone's mind about the forum.
- (2) Every Sunday night a session of the "A Few Days In Athens" book review
- (3) Every twentieth of the month, no matter what day of the week it arises on, our Twentieth Zoom Commemoration. If the twentieth occurs on a Wednesday, or on a Sunday, we will combine the Twentieth Commemoration with the other event.

I say "all our regular participants are invited" only because it would be courteous if anyone who wants to join for the first time would let us know on the forum that they plan to attend, because when someone new attends we want to greet them properly and it would be helpful to know a little about them first.