President’s Message

By Linda Napoli

As the Spring season rolls around, I’m happy to report that we are seeing more newcomers who are returning. On February 12th, Darwin Day also brought a number of people who showed interest in the Society. Each of our visitors will receive a notice regarding the Newcomer’s Welcome that is being planned for March 5th. By the way, the talk by Dr. John Teehan on Darwin Day was quite stimulating. If you were not present, go to our website to listen. Other talks are also highlighted.

At the Vegetarian Pot Luck Supper, everyone shared delicious, healthy food. Enjoyable music was provided by Steve Hetzel, Alison Pratt, and Kelly Tanza. We also raised $50.00 for Planned Parenthood. Thanks to all who attended.

On March 19th, we will be having our first spring Visiting Leader Sunday. James Croft, the dynamic assistant leader from the St. Louis Society will be visiting. James is in charge of outreach there and has agreed to do a workshop on that topic after his talk. Be sure to come!

The need for action in this political climate is truly energizing our Society. In this newsletter, we’re sharing some websites which are worth visiting and will continue to keep you informed with this type of information.

Thank you to all the members who have stepped up recently to improve the Society’s functioning. Your time and dedication is greatly appreciated.
Presentations

Mar. 5: Roger Clayman, Workers’ Rights: An Ethical Perspective.
Roger Clayman is Executive Director of the Long Island Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, the fourth largest labor council in the country and the voice for 250,000 union members and their families in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The Long Island Federation has focused on gaining good jobs and housing in local communities; rebuilding Long Island’s infrastructure; and providing leadership training for the next generation of union leaders.

Mar. 12: Y.E.S Group, Transgender Rights: How far have we come?
A brief past, present and future look at transgender rights. The members of our Youth of Ethical Societies group chose the topic themselves. They will each present what they researched and wrote. They have videotaped an expert in the field of transgender rights. John Waters leads our YES group. He is a high-school librarian in Queens with two school-aged children and is a member of our Long Island Society.

Mar. 19: James Croft, What Would You Live For?
The story of the martyrs who sacrifice themselves for their community or values is prevalent across cultures: Socrates, Martin Luther King, and Jesus are all said to have given their lives for what they believed in. But what are the ethics of self-sacrifice, and is it more ethical to choose to "live" for your beliefs?
James Croft is the outreach leader of the St Louis Society and a leader in training.
Mar. 26 : Madeline Singas, A Modern Approach to Doing Justice. Nassau County District Attorney Madeline Singas will focus on recently-established units in the District Attorney’s office that dedicate special resources to protecting vulnerable communities. She will specifically highlight the office’s Elder Crimes Unit, Hate Crimes Unit, and Immigrant Frauds Unit, while discussing the opportunities and challenges facing local prosecutors as they work to keep our communities safe, support crime victims and ensure that offenders face justice in a system that safeguards their rights. Elected in 2015, District Attorney Singas serves as the chief law enforcement official serving Nassau County’s 1.3 million residents. She manages a staff of more than 350 attorneys, investigators, and support staff prosecuting and investigating approximately 30,000 criminal cases annually to ensure that Nassau remains one of the nation’s safest suburban counties.

Apr. 2 : Kate Lovelady, Portrayals of Women in Popular Culture. This platform address will look at data and ethical issues on representations of women in TV and films. Kate Lovelady has been Leader of the Ethical Society of St. Louis since 2005.

Winter hasn’t gone yet!
In case of inclement weather, check your email for cancellation announcements or call the office at 516-741-7304 that morning.
Used Bicycle & Sewing Machine Drive
(RAIN or SHINE)
Saturday April 1, 2017
11 am – 2 pm
The Ethical Humanist Society
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

We’re collecting adult and kids bikes to send to Nicaragua, Ghana, Albania, Fiji and Guatemala. Do your part to put unused bikes and sewing machines to good use in the developing world.

Bikes should be rust free. No children’s trikes, but bikes with flat tires in need of some repair are accepted. Portable sewing machines should be in working condition.

$10 minimum donation with each bike or sewing machine is requested for shipping. All material and monetary donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be provided on site.

SPONSORED BY: Long Island Returned Peace Corps Volunteers with The Ethical Humanist Society

For more information contact:
Bette (516) 606-1400
bettembass@yahoo.com

www.p4p.org -- lori@p4p.org -- 908-638-4811
Our Affiliated Group: Humanists of Long Island

Humanists of Long Island, our affiliate group of the American Humanist Association, has listed itself in the "Indivisible" web site (https://www.indivisibleguide.com/) which has helped plan our future social actions. Our group included a few of our original 10 members, and about 20 new people, eager to look for ways to lobby and advocate for our Constitution and our Bill of Rights.

Last month we had a Twitter training and a workshop on advocacy. We will be having another Twitter training on March 7 at 7:30 in the second floor meeting room of our Ethical Society.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m., when we will receive training from the Long Island Progressive Coalition on economics and income inequality. Everyone is welcome.

We meet on the last Monday of every month, with the exception of Memorial Day. For questions and RSVPs email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com. All are welcome!

Social Action: Ethical Friends of Children

ETHICAL FRIENDS OF CHILDREN has a new logo, thanks to students at Adelphi in their graphic design class!

Please donate children’s clothing and baby items. Diapers, wipes, and new baby items such as bottles are always welcomed. Your donations are completely tax deductible. All of our items are given away at no cost to families.

Contact Jim LoPresti at efoc@ehsli.org for more information.
Kids Bake Sale - March 5

The kids will hold a bake sale to benefit PAWS NY, an animal protection organization located in Brooklyn NY. Their mission is to help New York City’s most vulnerable residents remain with their pets by delivering critical programs and services through a community of partners and volunteers.

Pedals for Progress

On April 1 we are hosting the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers’ support for Pedals for Progress, which recycles bicycles and sewing machines to people in developing countries. This year, the bikes and sewing machines are going to Nicaragua, Ghana, Albania, Fiji and Guatemala.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We need volunteers that day to help us get the bikes ready for shipping. That means lowering the seats and possibly the handlebars (we will be shown what to do.) You’ll feel good when you see the stacks of bikes that are loaded onto the truck for shipping to help those who could really use a boost.

Arts from the Heart

Three members of our Society, Alison Pratt, Steve Heizel, and Kelley Tanza are participating in an event called Arts from the Heart, which is an afternoon of song performances by various people, and is a fundraiser for the INN. It's a free concert with donations welcomed. It will be held on Sunday, March 12 at 12:30 at the St. James United Methodist Church community hall, located at 11 St. James Place in Lynbrook. It is organized by Jean Stevenson, musical director of the Rockville Centre Community Chorus.
Society News

NEVER MISS THE MORNING TALK!

On 1/15/2017 we instituted a new program that allows members to call in on their phones and listen to the entire Sunday morning program at the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island, so you never have to miss the morning’s message.

Here’s How To Dial-In:

Between 10:50 and 10:55 AM
Call: 1-515-739-1285.
Access Code: 266123#
Say your name when prompted
The listener will hear music playing and then the Sunday Morning Program.

Remember that the listener must put their phone on MUTE by dialing *6.
This prevents noises from their homes being heard.

SAVING ENERGY

Following through on the extensive energy audit done last year, the Board has approved the revamping of the Society’s entire lighting system. The payment process will be done through The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority known as NYSERDA and PSE&G with the aid of PowerUp Communities. This will result in a savings of over $3,000 in energy bills annually with no additional cost to the Society. Additional improvements will include low-flo aerators and programmable thermostats.

UPCOMING MEETING

On March 12th at 12:30 p.m., there will be a meeting for members to discuss the value and viability of hiring a part time Ethical Culture Leader at some feasible point in the future. Input on this topic is important so please plan to attend.
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

In March we celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of the many women who have made a difference in this country’s history. From Sojourner Truth to Gloria Steinem to the Women’s March on Washington in January, women have stood up for themselves and each other. Let us remember to continue the fight to receive fair treatment and equality under the law.

DOING SOMETHING

It may seem overwhelming, but in this political climate, as an Ethical Society member, it is not enough to stand on the sidelines. Listed below are a few informative websites that share information about meetings, rallies, letter writing and petitions. Some are local; some are national. Some are specific, and others are broader in their scope. Do what you want, do what you can, but we urge you to do something!

Long Island Progressive Coalition - lipc.org
The Long Island Progressive Coalition (LIPC) is a grassroots community-based organization founded in 1979, dedicated to promoting sustainable development, revitalizing local communities, enhancing human dignity, creating effective democracy, and achieving economic, social & racial justice.

Citizen Action of New York - citizenactionny.org
Citizen Action of New York is a grassroots membership organization taking on big issues that are at the center of transforming society. We work to elect progressive candidates to office who are committed to these issues. Our power comes from the grassroots: people coming together to push the edge of the possible.
Peoples Action - peoplesaction.org
People’s Action and People’s Action Institute were founded in 2016 to ignite a movement of millions that captures the rising demand for change in our society. Formed from the merger of powerful national organizations, we also come from a storied history of innovation and success.

Planned Parenthood - plannedparenthood.org
Planned Parenthood is a trusted health care provider, an informed educator, a passionate advocate, and a global partner helping similar organizations around the world. Planned Parenthood delivers vital reproductive health care, sex education, and information to millions of women, men, and young people worldwide.

American Civil LibertiesUnion - aclu.org
For nearly 100 years, the ACLU has been our nation’s guardian of liberty, working in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and the laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country.

FOUNDER’S DAY LUNCHEON
May 7TH – 1:00 p.m.

Founder’s Day celebrations are a long held tradition at our Long Island and other Ethical Societies around the country. The first Sunday in May is designated because Felix Adler, founder of Ethical Culture gave his first public address in New York City on that day in 1876. In that speech, he introduced the idea of creating a “religion of the future,” based on deed not creed.

This year’s honoree is Alison Pratt who has been a vital force in our Society since she and her husband, Steven Hetzel, joined. Alison has initiated and worked on a number of projects including the Teen Arts Festival and Darwin Day. If you want to know more about Alison’s contributions and dedication, come to the Founder’s Day Luncheon on May 7th. This is a big fundraiser for the Society and a wonderful event to attend.
The next concert at Our Times Coffeehouse will be Mike Tedesco and Kirsten Maxwell, performing as a duo. Seeing these two super talented performers working together in the intimate setting of a coffeehouse will be a real treat for the audience.

Tedesco’s most recently released six-song EP, called “Put To Rest,” consists of meticulous piano playing, heartfelt lyrics and rich vocals that showcase Tedesco’s keen storytelling abilities.

Huntington native Maxwell was a winner of the 2016 South Florida Folk Festival Singer-Songwriter Competition. “It was love at first listen!” declared Joltin’ Joe of Radio Nowhere On WMSC. “Not just Kirsten’s gorgeous voice but her well-crafted songs about the intricacies of love and relationships.”

Adults: $20
Students (w/IDs): $15
Children under 12: $6 (very young children are free)
Tickets on sale at the door.
Our Youth Programs

Kids Ethics Program (a.k.a. Humanist Sunday School)

March Greetings from The Kids Ethics Program on Long Island!

I hope everyone enjoyed our Darwin Day presentation! It was fun!

During February the kids program was focused on Black History Month. We talked about some of our black ethical heroes such as Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King, and their impact on American culture. For the month of March we will take a look at some worldwide religious belief systems and compare them to Ethical Humanism. It should make for some interesting discussions!

On March 5th the Kids program is having a bake sale to benefit PAWS NY. The mission of PAWS NY is to help New York's most vulnerable residents remain with their pets by delivering critical programs and services through a community of partners and volunteers. PAWS NY envisions a society that honors the physical, emotional, and social benefits of the human-animal bond. If you would like to learn more about this organization please visit their website at pawsny.org or their Facebook page PAWS NY.

Please feel free to contact me at ccl1311@aol.com if you have any questions or suggestions for the Kids Ethics program.

Christine Lamattina -
Director of Education for the Kids Ethics Program
YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18.

EHS LI YOUTH
@YesLIehs
YES is a group of high school students determined to make the world a better place.

The Y.E.S Group is presenting the 11 am program on March 12 on a topic selected and researched by the group: “Transgender Rights: How far have we come?”

On April 1 we will be holding a bicycle and sewing machine drive for underdeveloped nations at the EHS parking lot as part of Pedals for Progress.

We will be having a bake sale on the same day.

See the flyer on page 4 of this newsletter for more information.

John Waters, YES Adviser

Humanism is a belief in the worth and dignity of all people. We teach children to do good for the sake of goodness alone. Humanist values are taught through stories, play, and service projects.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a welcoming home for people who think that nothing should be more important to people than people. If you value independent thought, stimulating presentations, a celebration of both science and the arts, the education of youth in the ideals of humanism, and a community of friends who work to create social change, you will find what you’re looking for with us.

**Programs**

**Sunday morning meetings** begin at 11:00 a.m. for approximately one hour. A blend of music, poetry, meditation and an informative presentation, our Sunday mornings are the centerpiece of our week. Every talk is recorded… Go to http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/

**Colloquy** is a time of shared reflection and nurturing. It’s an opportunity for people to meet in a small group, examine a particular aspect of life, explore and practice self-reflection. Colloquy meets at 9:30 a.m. before our Sunday meeting. We often lunch together after the general meeting. Everyone is welcome to join us!

**Kids Ethics Program** meets weekly at 11:00 a.m. for children ages 5 to 12 and covers topics of “what makes a good person?” Free babysitting is provided for younger children. www.facebook.com/kidsethicsprogramLI

**YES (Youth of Ethical Societies)** is for teens aged 13 to 18. YES meets approximately twice a month. The YES group hosts a Sunday morning presentation each year. Contact them on twitter @YesLlehs

**Humanists of Long Island** is the name of The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island’s chapter of the American Humanist Association. We meet on the last Monday of each month. For questions email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com or leave a message at 516-741-7304.

**Darwin Day** is our annual celebration of science, held in early February in honor of Charles Darwin.

**Contacts**

38 Old Country Road  
Garden City, NY 11530  
516-741-7304  
www.ehsli.org  

Office Manager:  
Phyllis Herschlag  
ethicalsociety@optonline.net  
more at www.ehsli.org.
Commemoration Sunday is our first meeting of each new year when we renew our core values of freedom, justice, dignity and compassion.

Ethical Friends of Children assists more than 2,500 children each year by providing them with clothing and infant furniture at no cost. Our “store” – staffed entirely by volunteers – lets families pick out the things they need, at no cost to them. Please contact director Jim LoPresti at EFOC@ehsli.org if you’d like to help.

The Social Justice Leadership Award was created by the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island to honor those individuals who have dedicated their lives to the betterment of humankind, recognizing people who have made significant contributions in the areas of peace, justice, human rights, or humanitarian causes.

The Young Activist Grant was founded to encourage Nassau County middle and high school students to develop their own humanitarian skills. The annual grant, awarded in the fall, offers $500 as seed money for a worthy project. See our website for an application.

The Movie Group. For information about joining the movie group, contact Al Zeiger at 516-538-2687. Leave a message and he’ll return your call.

Sponsor a Sunday Coffee Hour: For $15 you can sponsor a Sunday Coffee Hour and, with advanced notice, have your name and message added to the Sunday Meeting bulletin! Please contact Phyllis at ethicalsociety@optonline.net

Affordable Office Space for Rent
We have great office space available for long term leasing. Available are two individual offices (230+ sq ft each). Reasonable rates. Ample free parking and a short walk from the Nassau County Seat, Winthrop University Hospital and the Mineola LIRR train station. Non-profit organizations only may apply. Also on site and available for occasional rental are a conference room for meetings up to 50 people and a large auditorium that can be used for larger events. Inquire through the office, 516-741-7304.

Social Media:
Facebook: www.facebook.com/LIEthical
www.facebook.com/kidsethicsprogramLI/
Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli
www.twitter.com/YesL1ehs
Meetup: www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanist-Society-of-Long-Island/

This site lists a full schedule of our events. Support us by becoming an EHSLI meetup member.

Blog: Leader emeritus Arthur Dobrin is blogging weekdays at arthurdobrin.wordpress.com
Community Action: www.communitiesandpolicetalk.org

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a member society of the American Ethical Union and a Chapter of the American Humanist Association.
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Create a Caring World