President’s Message
By Linda Napoli

It’s a time of expectation as the golden days of September greet us. Young people are going off to college, the children are going back to school and our Society is preparing for the 2016-17 season. (We’re at sixty-six years and counting!)

On the memorable day of Sept. 11th, we’ll come together for an enjoyable morning planned by Leader Emeritus, Arthur Dobrin. Everyone will congregate outside at the beginning to meet and greet each other.

This year we’re making a special effort to have an Ethical Culture Leader speak each month with some of them giving a workshop afterwards. Joe Chuman, leader at the Bergen Society is our first visitor on Sept. 25th.

Sunday School and the teen group are starting up again on Sept. 18th. I encourage you to invite relatives and friends with kids to visit on those days if they’re interested in an alternative to traditional religion.

Our Special Programs are being planned with the first event to be held in October. These will be workshops, discussions and classes about various interesting topics. Specific information will be sent out soon.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Opening Sunday on Sept. 11th!
Announcements

Long-time member of the Long Island Ethical Society, Irma Zeiger died this month. Irma and her husband Al have been active in our Colloquy group and were involved in many aspects of our Society’s life.

Irma will be remembered for many things but especially her warmth and bright smile. She and Al have been married for over 50 years and traveled extensively over the years.

A memorial service to celebrate Irma’s life is scheduled to be held at the Society on Sunday September 25th at 1:15 pm.
Our Youth Programs

Humanist Sunday School and YES

The Humanist Sunday School will host an Open House on Sunday, September 18.

For Ages 5 to 13
Meet the Teachers: 10:30 - 11:00 am
Attend Class: 11:00 - 12:00 pm

Greetings from the Sunday School!

I hope you have all had a great summer. It’s hard to believe September is here already! I would like to welcome back our Sunday school children and families, and welcome any new kids to our group. We meet downstairs in the Sunday school classroom every Sunday from 11:00 to 12:00.

Our lessons are fun and engaging while the children learn about living an ethical life through our program of ethical education. Typically, a discussion of our current topic involves an interactive “read-aloud”, with the teacher encouraging questions and thoughtful participation, followed by the opportunity to create something artistic to express the children’s understanding of the lesson. We may also play a game, or further discuss our topic.

We will begin this year with a school supply drive. There will be a box in the lobby for anyone who would like to donate. The collection will be 9/18 and 9/25. All proceeds will be donated to Bethany House.

Our Sunday school open house will be on September 18th at 10:30 followed by our first lesson. I’d like to invite all of our Sunday School families to come, and bring your
friends!

Our Sunday school now has a Facebook page! The page name is Ethical Humanist Sunday School.

I will be updating this page throughout the school year. Please have a look, like it, and comment!

You can also reach me at any time through my e-mail ccl1311@aol.com. I am looking forward to a great year!

Thank You -
Christine Lamattina, Sunday School Director

Thanks to Christine Lamattina and John Waters who will be returning to work with our kids.

The YES opening day will be Sept. 18.
YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18.

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.
September Speakers

Sept. 11: Arthur Dobrin, Leader Emeritus will be presiding. On Opening Sunday, all will gather in the garden first, weather permitting. Arthur would like everyone to bring in a small gift to give to another member. Gift suggestions are for a jar of jam, a loaf of bread, a homemade card etc.

Sept. 18: “Ethics in Stage Management in the Professional Theater.” Diane DiVita LoPresti is a Production Stage Manager whose extensive Broadway credits include *Eclipsed* with Lupita Nyong’o, *Our Mother’s Brief Affair* with Linda Lavin, *Airline Highway* directed by Joe Mantello, *The Elephant Man* with Bradley Cooper, *The Trip to Bountiful* with Cicely Tyson, and many more. Diane has also worked extensively in regional and Off-Broadway theaters that includes extensive work at Manhattan Theater Club & Second Stage plus tours overseas. She is currently a long time lecturer at the Yale School of Drama program for Stage Managers in the Masters Program, and an adjunct professor at Columbia University in the Masters Program for Stage Managers.

Sept. 25: “We Did It Before, We Can Do It Again: How Ethical Culture Helped Save American Society.” Our society is in a state of crisis, divided by class, democracy compromised. From the last decades of the nineteenth century until World War I, American society suffered from the weaknesses and oppressions that looked very much like those we confront today. Joe Chuman, leader of the Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County and part-time leader of the NY Society, will take a look at Ethical Culture in its context.
Our Affiliated Groups

The American Humanist Association (AHA) Has Changed its Name

Our AHA chapter is changing its name to “Humanists of Long Island.” All meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com.

Meeting dates for the fall will be:

- Sept. 26
- Oct. 24
- Nov. 28
- Dec. 26

Our Times Coffeehouse

Toby Tobias and His Band

Friday, September 16th at 8 PM

Singer-songwriter: acoustic guitar, harmonica, vocals - contemporary folk with touches of gospel, blues, jazz and pop.

Born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, Toby has immersed himself in all genres of American Music of the last 50 years. His interest in African Rhythms & World Music, coupled with his keen ear for highly intuitive arrangements, has been the hallmark of his writing and performance styles, and he has garnered a strong following of listeners on Long Island and beyond. A graduate of the prestigious Rubin Academy of Music in Jerusalem Israel, he continues to search for material that stays as close to his musical roots as possible while at the same time reaching for new and exciting musical universes.

Join us for an exhilarating evening of great music in the intimate setting of the Our Times Coffeehouse
VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

by Sharon Stanley

On Sunday, August 21, Humanists of Long Island and the Long Island Atheists came together to set up tables, registration forms, pens, stamps and clip boards at the Stop and Shop in Hempstead to encourage registration for those who had not already registered.

Thomas Sheedy, of Long Island Atheists and myself stayed all day at the Stop and Shop on Fulton Street in Hempstead. In the morning we were joined by Sylvia Silberger, Bill Larsen, baby Kiam and Richard Schloss from the Humanists of Long Island and Long Island Atheist groups. In the afternoon, Joyce Wildemuth and Alison Pratt were our steadfast assistants. We collected 28 forms and met some wonderful and interesting people. A few people wanted to know more about our groups and Thomas and I each might have encouraged a new member to join us.
The idea was to register as many people as possible. It was a pleasant surprise to learn that most people were registered to vote. We gave people the choice to either let us mail it in for them, or they could take it home and mail it in themselves. Stop and Shop was chosen because their organizational philosophy is one that allows community groups of all kinds (Girl Scouts selling cookies, veteran’s groups collecting money and food, etc.) to set up tables and offer opportunities and services.

Many people don’t know how to register to vote. They have moved around and never registered their address changes. One woman asked for a form to register her college age daughter for an absentee ballot. It takes less than 5 minutes to fill out this form and yet is one of our most important responsibilities as American citizens. Quoting Richard Schloss, “Democracy isn’t a spectator sport!”

In my opinion, this is a valuable service that is needed, particularly during a contentious election year.

*Sylvia Silberger, Kiam and Sharon Stanley*  
*A happy and proud registrant!*
Ethical Friends of Children

Ethical Friends of Children was closed for August, but come September we’ll be back organizing donations and meeting the needs of parents. All of our items are donated and all of our items are given away at no cost to families.

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.

Contact Jim LoPresti at efoc@ehsli.org for more information.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

We are collecting school supplies again this year for Bethany House, an organization in Roosevelt that houses homeless women and children.

The dates are Sept. 18th and 25th for you to bring in notebooks, pencils, pens, markers, pencil cases and book bags which are especially needed.

Thank You! As we know, it’s expensive sending kids back to school.
Society News

LOOK FOR THESE CHANGES

The powder room on the first floor has been painted a lovely blue. Thanks to Jim LoPresti for arranging this.

Arrangements are being made to replace the piano in the meeting room. Its condition has been deemed to be poor by a few resident experts and we will be trading it in for a newer one in a much better state. This should happen before Opening Sunday.

SUNDAY POETRY

Our Sunday poems this year will be chosen by Lyn Dobrin. The theme will be Long Island poets, both past and present. One of Lyn’s goals is to have some of the poets themselves read their pieces at our Sunday meeting. It should be quite interesting!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!

The Summer Sundays program went very well this year with quite a good attendance. We are grateful to our talented members who presented: David Sprintzen, Steve Hetzel, Mel Haber, Heidi Mann, Ginger Hendler, Ken Feifer, Linda Napoli and Tara Klein, our former YES advisor.

OFFICIAL GREETERS

There has been some interest in establishing a group of Official Greeters for newcomers. If you are interested, please notify Linda Napoli. There will be some training involved.

JOIN US

There will be a meeting of the Sunday Morning committee at 12:30pm on Sunday, 9/25/16. We will talk about speakers for the coming year. All are welcome!!!
Women’s Retreat

The Women's Retreat will be Oct. 15 & 16 at St. Josaphat’s Monastery in Glen Cove.

For more information contact Delorie Cohan at 718-459-1380 or at rodel48@aol.com.

The setting is simple – a retreat house in Glen Cove! Come for the day and share the experience, or come for the overnight from Saturday to Sunday.

Saturday October 15th - Members are requested to arrive by 9:30 am to settle in. There are morning activities. Lunch is served and afternoon activities begin. Discussion groups are formed and experiences are shared. Before dinner, explore the grounds or whateva! After dinner activities are planned and free time for games and/or crafts. Don’t forget comfortable shoes and bug spray for the outdoor enthusiast.

Sunday October 16th - We rise quite early for a large group discussion in time to leave for the Sunday Platform. We close the weekend at around 10:00 am. All in all, a lovely weekend to share with members of your Society.

See Phyllis in the office for forms and cost. Costs include money for scholarships/gratuities and meals. Please send discussion topics with your check. Deadline is Oct. 9.

This-n-That

Ever miss a Sunday morning meeting?

We encourage everyone to come every week! But if you can’t make it, you can at least catch up on our great speakers – or hear them for a second time. Every talk is recorded… catch it via the link on our website. Go to http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/.
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 a informative presentation, our Sunday mornings are the centerpiece of our week.

*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.

*Humanist Sunday School* 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.

*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.

*Humanists of Long Island Meetings.* The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island’s chapter of the American Humanist Association, now known as the Humanists of Long Island, will be meeting on the last Monday of each month. For questions or information email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com or leave a message for Sharon at 516-741-7304.

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

**Contacts**

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more at [www.ehsli.org](http://www.ehsli.org).
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.

Free Vinyasa Flow Yoga Classes. Join Sylvia Silberger for free vinyasa flow yoga classes at the Ethical Humanist Society. The classes are on Wednesdays from 5:45 – 7:00 pm. If interested, contact Sylvia at matsbs@yahoo.com to be put on her class confirmation list.

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

Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli

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 meet-up 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.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
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