President’s Message

By Linda Napoli

“Be Kind, Be Useful.”

Welcome to our 2018-2019 season!

Our Summer Sundays were a big success this year with talks that were both varied and interesting. Thank you to our members who shared their thoughts and expertise.

Our sense of a vibrant community has grown even more this past year, especially with the addition of some wonderful new members and, of course, our part time Leader, Richard Koral.

The Planning Committee already has a number of wonderful speakers lined up for this year interspersed by our seasonal festivals and other special Sunday events. The theme this year is “Be Kind, Be Useful,” a quote from Barak Obama, which couldn’t be more timely and important. It fits in perfectly with our Ethical Humanist philosophy, as well.

Opening Sunday is September 9th.
I hope to see you all on that day.
Our community is here for you.

Linda Napoli, President
Presentations

Sept. 9: Wendy Webber, Community Service: Why and How.
As a humanist charity and service organization, Foundation Beyond Belief’s programs are grounded in and directed by humanist ideals. In addition to discussing FBB’s philosophy of service, Wendy will discuss her own path to humanist service and hopes for its future.

Wendy is a graduate of Yale Divinity School, where she was a founder of an atheist, agnostic, and multifaith community that continues to foster interbelief dialogues and initiatives on campus.

At Foundation Beyond Belief (FBB), Wendy spent a year with Pathfinders Project, an international humanist service project designed to find the location to launch FBB’s own Humanist Service Corps. She then served as the Humanist Disaster Recovery Coordinator and Beyond Belief Network Coordinator for FBB, and Humanist Service Corps: Ghana Co-Administrator. Wendy is now back in the US serving as the FBB’s Programs Director.

When struggling with what to do with my life, my grandfather gave me some of the best advice ever which was to “leave things in better shape than what you found them”. I have tried with some success and some failure, to do that and to continually strive to achieve that goal.

Tom is a retired NYPD Detective. He currently serves as President of Tom Verni LLC, Law Enforcement Consultant, engaged in Community Relations, Diversity & Inclusion & Police Training, and Media Relations.
Bodkin will talk about his cartoon creation process, his personal guidelines on what can and can’t be done, and the ethical conflicts he has to resolve along the way. Bodkin says, “I’m there to cause trouble but there are still limits.”

Award winning cartoonist Matt Bodkin is a member of the American Association of Editorial Cartoonists. His work can be seen weekly in *The Long Island Business News, Blank Slate Media* and Saturdays in *Newsday*.

Nandini Rao is a part of the feminist movement in India. She strongly believes that political and collective resolve can bring about societal change and is committed to contributing to make a change.

She has been working in the development field for more than 25 years. She is a women’s rights trainer, counsellor and writer. Her work focusses on gender and disability, sexuality, masculinity and women’s leadership & empowerment. Nandini also works on the issue of sexual harassment at the workplace (SHW) and the law that enables workplace equality. The groups she works with include team members from international and national NGOs, several Indian and multi-national companies and organizations, students, as well as grassroots community workers.

Nandini’s work takes her across India and into neighboring South Asian countries too. She was recently invited by a human rights organization in Japan to talk about the women’s movement in India. In addition, she has given lectures in many universities in the US.
Leader’s Message

Felix Adler, the founder of the Ethical Culture movement, explained that each of us should instill a strong ethical standard into all aspects of our lives. He believed that we should be mindful of our duty to uphold ethical standards of conduct as we interact on all levels of society.

Society, he believed, was built on a foundation composed of families, work associations, and political divisions like building blocks and strata of increasing complexity. He wrote that we have an obligation to incorporate ethics in all of these relations, in other words, we are to “ethicize” our families, our work relationships and political organizations.

So, what would Adler say about the challenges we face today? What would Felix do? There seems to be no category of corruption that the present administration in Washington is neglecting. Only murder remains - and of that Mr. Trump often jokes. Two Cabinet secretaries have already been discharged over money scandals, and a third has been accused of stealing from business partners. Conflicts of interest. Self dealing. Hiring of politically favored people without credentials. Compromised individuals handling state secrets. Cruel and immoral treatment of vulnerable refugees. Dark threats against the news media. Strange and unaccountable favoritism shown to the most corrupt and authoritarian foreign leaders. Criminal investigations at the highest levels of government.

And that’s all before we might discuss the policy choices made by the current administration.

Felix Adler certainly knew about corruption. In his time, the late 19th and the early 20th centuries, New York City was experiencing its most corrupt era of all time under Boss Tweed. As a youth, he saw the Grant administration which was legendary for its corruption. He lived through the Harding years and Teapot Dome. He saw America undertake a war of colonialism against Spain and then join a war between global, imperial, colonial powers. So, Felix Adler was certainly no detached idealist. He was a man of his time and in his world.

Even with all that he went through and all that he saw, Adler persisted in his faith in the improvement of humanity. He believed that humankind was on an irrepressible upward arc of ethical and moral growth that would inevitably lead to ethical perfection, eventually.

As I listen to the mayhem in the Supreme Court confirmation hearings today and hear...
about the underhanded treatment that senators of one party deliver to those of the other party, it is hard to hold on to the hope that we are going anywhere at all. We seem to be spinning in smaller and smaller circles. Circles of backbiting. Circles of resentment and paybacks. Circles of accusations and recriminations. Money likely talking beneath it all. No progress apparent here.

So, that’s why human transcendence and perfection are matters of faith, more than evidence. Based on the knowledge that humanity has triumphed before and achieved great accomplishments – the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Charter, The United States Constitution – we know that we are capable of great things. With effort and persistence and the upholding of standards, we can get back on that ascending arc once more and do great things. I hold onto that faith in people as hard as I can.

Dr. Richard Koral

OFFICE HOURS:

Leader Richard Koral: 516-741-7304
Thursday 10:30 am to 3:00 pm and other times by appt. Always call to confirm before coming.

Office Manager Phyllis: 516-741-7304
Monday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Sundays. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Announcements

OPENING SUNDAY – SEPT. 9th

This year’s opening will be different in that we will have an outside speaker. Wendy Webber, Programs Director for the Foundation Beyond Belief, a humanist social action organization will discuss “Community Service, Why and How.”

Weather permitting, we will meet in the back garden. Richard Koral will preside and the Sunday program will be followed by a luncheon. Please be on time.

An information sheet of discussions, workshops and other after program activities will be available on Opening Sunday.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE – SEPT. 9

Ethical Friends of Children is requesting society members to bring in school supplies on Opening Sunday.

NEWCOMER’S WELCOME – SEPT. 16th

Visitors are invited for an informal conversation following the Coffee Hour to introduce themselves and learn about the Society.
Students: Grades 8 to 12
What makes you a better person?
What makes the world a better place?

Y.E.S. Youth of Ethical Societies
Open House for Students and Parents
Sunday, September 16, 2018
10:30 to noon
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road • Garden City, NY 11530

Y.E.S. is a humanist high school group that meets for service projects and fun

- New friends and experiences
- Hands-on community service activities, discussion
- Field trips to events and service projects
- Community service letters for college & resumes
- Meets on Sundays from 11 to noon

We care about: Social Responsibility • Racial Inequality • Peace • Poverty and Homelessness • Arts and Social Change • Environmental Action • Dignity
And what are we going to do about it?

Web: ehsli.org
On Facebook: Long Island Y.E.S.
Create a Caring World
COMBATING THE CLIMATE CRISIS: LONG ISLAND WORKSHOP

THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ARE ALREADY HERE ON LONG ISLAND & WE NEED A JUST TRANSITION TO 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY NOW. WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT HOUSING, HEALTHCARE, & WORKER’S RIGHTS ARE CLIMATE ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED TOGETHER.

HELP US BUILD A MASS MOVEMENT FOR CLIMATE ACTION

SEPTEMBER 22ND | 11AM - 3PM*

SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH
1725 BRENTWOOD ROAD
BRENTWOOD, NEW YORK 11717

RSVP
ONLINE AT BIT.LY/2NW6UDT
OR BY EMAIL RMADDEN@LIPC.ORG

*ARRIVE AT 10AM FOR A TOUR OF A COMMUNITY SOLAR ARRAY

WE RESIST WE BUILD WE RISE

EVENT HOSTED BY THE LONG ISLAND PROGRESSIVE COALITION AS MEMBERS OF NY RENEW - A COALITION OF 140+ GRASSROOTS, STATE, & NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AIMING TO MAKE NY’S LEADER IN TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS. WE ARE LABOR UNIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS, FAITH COMMUNITIES, AND MORE.

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL RMADDEN@LIPC.ORG OR CALL 516-541-1006 EXT. 13
VISIT NYRENEW.ORG | @NYRENEWFundTheFuture

LONG ISLAND COALITION MEMBERS
Our Affiliated Group:
Humanists of Long Island

Humanists of Long Island came back from their brief hiatus ready for a very busy autumn!

On Saturday, September 22, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., there will be a day of Climate Action Workshops, sponsored by the Long Island Progressive Coalition, called “Combatting the Climate Crisis”. A few of us have gone to LIPC workshops before and they are really great! This program is free and open to anyone from the Ethical Humanist Society of LI and Humanists of LI. Here is the link if you’d like to sign up:


On Wednesday, September 26, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., the Ethical Society and HoLI are cohosting a forum called “GENDA 2018.” This forum is an invitation for the public to help inform and “normalize” the transgender experience; a “Transgender 101” information session. After an informational audio/video presentation, there will be a panel of trans, non-binary and intersex people to speak about their lives. Apparently, the trans community does not have the social and employment protections that straight and gay individuals have. A transgender person can lose their job or their home without the ability to defend themselves. I think this is a critical issue. The event is free and open to the public.

On Monday, October 22, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., Humanists of LI, The Ethical Humanist Society of LI and Long Island Atheists will be sponsoring a movie night at the Ethical Society. We will be showing Julia Sweeney's one woman show, “Letting Go of God.” Ms. Sweeney discusses her journey from devout Catholic to atheist in this humorous, one-woman monologue. This event is free and open to the public.

Our next meeting is on Monday, September 24th at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend!

Sharon Stanley
On **Thursday, September 20, 2018**, a group of us are going out to dinner for a great cause! California Pizza will give 20% of our bill to the American Humanist Association. A few of us plan to meet for dinner at 7:00 pm on Thursday, Sept. 20 at California Pizza, 1256 Old Country Rd., Westbury, NY 11590

Anyone who comes during the day on Sept. 20th to that California Pizza, anytime between 11 a.m.-10:00 pm. and says they are with "Humanists of LI" will get 20% of their bill sent as a donation to the **American Humanist Association**. You can go anytime during the day to help. Let's have a night out, or at least lunch or dinner brought out for a great cause.

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**News from the American Humanist Association**

**Secular America Votes (voter drive):**

The AHA along with American Atheists, Center for Inquiry, FFRF, and Secular Student Alliance have joined forces with the Secular Coalition for America in launching the Secular America Votes initiative. The goal is to increase the visibility of humanists, atheists, agnostics, and freethinkers as a united political force by holding voter registration drives all across the US.
Our Youth Programs:

Kids Ethics Program Long Island

September greetings from the Ethics Program for Kids!

Our program runs all school year, every Sunday from 11:00 to 12:00 in the downstairs children’s room. I am looking forward to another great year!

At the Ethics Program for Kids, children learn about ethical culture through games, role playing and art in a child centered environment. Please feel free to message me if you have any questions, or if you, or anyone you know would like to visit. My email is ccl1311@aol.com.

The kids will once again be collecting school supplies this Fall. There will be a box in the lobby beginning September 9th. The supplies will be donated to the Ethical Friends of Children here at the society.

I will be in the children’s room early on September 9th if anyone would like to stop in to discuss the program! Hope to see some new faces this year!

Christine Lamattina
Director of Children’s Education
cc1311@aol.com

Please like us on Facebook:
Kids' Ethics Program Long Island
YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18.

Look for us on Facebook: LONG ISLAND Y.E.S.

Lorraine Agostino and I are so pleased to welcome Angelique Lucien as a part-time advisor for our Y.E.S. (Youth of Ethical Societies) program.

She is currently an adjunct instructor in African and Caribbean Culture at Nassau Community College. Her educational background is in Political Science, Africana studies, and International Relations from Stony Brook University. She studied abroad in Florence, Italy, and while there, volunteered at a women’s refugee center for African immigrants to Italy.

Angelique has extensive experience in staff training and development at Stony Brook’s campus recreation center, and created and ran programs to promote an understanding of diversity in Long Island via education, events and awareness.

Angelique will be an incredible asset to the Y.E.S program. She brings with her boundless passion and skills for social justice issues on Long Island and beyond. Our teens are going to love her. We are truly looking forward to a great year with Angelique on board.

YES OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, September 16, 2018
10:30 to noon
Society News:

MEN’S NIGHT OUT - Sept. 13th

Join the men of the EHSLI for another night out at a local diner for conversation, collegiality and dinner.

When: Thursday evening, September 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
Where: The Park City Diner, 101 Herricks Rd., New Hyde Park

Please RSVP: To the Society office@ehsli.org so we will know how big a table to reserve

LEADER’S LUNCH - Sept. 27th

We’ll meet in the Leader’s office at 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 26. Bring a brown bag lunch.

The 2 articles we will be discussing are: “The Online Gig Economy’s ‘Race to the Bottom”

and “The Internet Is Enabling a New Kind of Poorly Paid Hell”

BOOK DISCUSSION – Oct. ??

Has anyone read anything really terrific and discussable this summer? We are looking for your feedback on what we’ll read and discuss in October. We like taking turns choosing a book - Jean Bobick, Wayne Rudin and Linda Napoli have already chosen so it’s someone else’s turn.

Our guidelines are simple: Pick a book that is not super new because it’s harder to find at a library. Choose something pretty short. We will read either fiction or non-fiction.

The book discussion will take place on a Sunday, and begin at 12:30 pm.
MONTHLY QUESTION
How do you let others take care of you?

MONTHLY QUOTE
“Be yourself, everyone else is taken.”
Oscar Wilde

WOMEN’S RETREAT - Oct. 13-14

Plan to attend the Women’s Retreat at St. Josaphat’s in Glen Cove. Sign up sheets will be available on the back table or contact Delorie prior to October 1. We need volunteers to lead discussion groups and activities. Email Delorie at rodel48@aol.com with your suggestions.

USING THE CONFERENCE PHONE
Here are the instructions on how to listen to the EHSLI Sunday morning talk over the conference phone if you are unable to attend a Sunday meeting.

- Access Code: 266123#
- Say your name when prompted
- The listener will hear music playing and then the Sunday Morning Program.

What is important is that you, the listener, puts your phone on MUTE by dialing *6; this prevents noises from your homes being heard.
Garden City Rental Space Available

Do you need private office space? Are you looking for meeting rooms to accommodate up to 194 people for religious services, seminars, trainings or offsite events?

Non-profit organizations like ours often have a need to find affordable space to rent. The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island has great office space available for your long term leasing. Available are one individual office, a board room for meetings up to 50 people and a large auditorium that you use for larger events. In addition we have ample free parking and we are a short walk from Winthrop University Hospital, the Nassau County Seat and the Mineola train station.

The rental spaces can be seen on our web site under Resources/Rentals: www.ehsli.org/ceremonies/building-rental/

For further information about renting affordable space please call: 516 741-7304 or email ethicalsociety@optonline.net
Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway open the fall season at Our Times Coffeehouse, performing as “Deeper Than The Skin.” This special evening, called “Building Bridges with Music,” is one of sharing and reflection, a journey with two friends through their experiences with race and its impact on their lives. Thea Hagepanos of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington, NC, states, “To be invited into their lives to share their deepest concerns and memories is a rare privilege. . .This is two hearts asking us to gather and share our histories, our reflections on where we’ve been and where we want and need to go.”

Greg and Reggie, using the power of music and storytelling, take audiences on a journey following their divergent backgrounds. Along the way, audience members have the opportunity for self-reflection, are united through musical participation, and have the chance to dialogue with the musicians and each other about their own experiences. Reggie and Greg are incredibly talented performers who provide an entertaining evening of music filled with messages of justice and hope.

Suggested Donations For This Performance: Adults: $20, Students (w/IDs): $15
Children under 12: $6 (very young children are free)
Tickets on sale at the door.
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/](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 at a diner 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. Facebook: [Kids Ethics Program Long Island](http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/)

**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. Join their Facebook group at [Long Island Y.E.S.](http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/)

**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. Find them on Facebook at [Humanists of Long Island](http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/)

**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](http://www.ehsli.org)  
Office Manager:  
Phyllis Herschlag  
[ethicalsociety@optonline.net](mailto:ethicalsociety@optonline.net)  
more at [www.ehsli.org](http://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: Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
            Kids Ethics Program Long Island
            Long Island Y.E.S.
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
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

Create a Caring World