President’s Message

“Be Kind, Be Useful.”

Hello Everyone,

Blue skies and surprisingly mild weather framed my visit to Arizona and it looks like we’re being visited with the same here as we begin our Long Island summer.

As we enter the last month of our regular season, it’s good to look back at the great speakers, delightful festivals and interesting post-meeting activities we’ve had this year. Everyone’s contribution to make each one happen is what made these programs successful. Thank you to all.

To me, what we should also treasure is our vibrant community, which allows visitors to feel so welcome that they become members, often within a couple of months. This open attitude has been commented upon by a number of people, so let’s keep it up.

Right now, we’re looking forward to Summer Sundays, which are informal sharings presented by various members. These mornings are great opportunities to get to know each other better. See below for the dates, speakers and topics.

This is my last President’s column as I’m ending my term. It’s been a great four years and I hope I’ve helped to develop the Society both internally and externally. Thank you to a wonderful Board and others who supported my vision.

Here’s some parting advice to our members, both old and new: Be sure to speak up if you have ideas or suggestions. Be part of the change you’re asking for.

Linda Napoli
June 02: Richard Koral, *What is an apology worth?*

Richard Koral was installed as leader at Ethical Humanist Society in January 2018. He is a longtime member of the Ethical Culture Society of Westchester and has held positions in the American Ethical Union, the national federal of Ethical Societies. In addition to his position at the Ethical Humanist Society of LI, Richard also serves part-time as a Leader at the New York Society for Ethical Culture.

June 09: Lisa Tyson, *Building Community Wealth on Long Island through Worker Ownership and building a Cooperative Society.*

Lisa Tyson is a powerful, and passionate, advocate for progressive change on Long Island. Since joining LIPC in 1995, Lisa has won important victories around a policy agenda aimed at social, economic and racial justice. As Director, she formulates policy, lobbys, campaign strategy development, raises funds, and manages staff in support of that ambitious program. Her successes are legendary: Passing publicly financing of elections in Suffolk County, major affordable housing wins; writing and passing Nassau Counties Living Wage Law; Demanding fair elections by lobbying successfully for optical scanners in voting; And anchoring a statewide campaign to change the statewide education formula to be based on students’ needs. Tyson is a founding member of the Working Families Party where she plays a crucial role in endorsements. She was named one of 2010 Long Island Press’s 50 Most Influential People on Long Island. In 2017, she was named as one of Long Island Business News Top 50 Women on Long Island. In 2018, Lisa was named as one of the *City and State New York’s Long Island Power 50.*

“There is such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.” M. L. King, Jr. This talk addresses the moral imperatives of working for peace and fostering communities of peace.

Andrea S. Libresco is Professor of Social Studies Education and Director of the Minor in Civic Education at Hofstra University and, perhaps by the time she gives this talk, Director of the Minor in Peace and Conflict Studies. She serves on the advisory boards of the Center for Civic Engagement the Institute for Peace Studies, which includes the direction of the Peace Fellows program. She was named Distinguished Teacher of the Year in 2005.

She is past president of the board of the Nassau Chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union and president of the board of the Long Island Alliance for Peaceful Alternatives.


Taylor Raynor is an American and British citizen who was born in Brooklyn, NY. Her father, Raulston, served in the military and her mother, Towana, devoted her life to law, justice and education. Taylor learned the game of chess around age 4. She and her sister, Sydney, became nationally ranked chess players who practiced and competed seven days a week. Taylor credits the game for developing her strategic approach to problem solving, which has served her well in every endeavor she has embarked on.

Taylor has devoted her life to the field of psychology. She attended her dream college, Spelman, at 16 years old and was accepted into a Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program at age 19. She eventually transferred to Hofstra University and became an Industrial Organizational Psychologist. She worked in several industries creating and implementing systems to increase efficiency, productivity and profitability. However, the growing needs of her community began to require her attention.

Taylor’s sister soon gave her a challenge and said “you get paid to fix things, fix our community.” Today, Taylor is a crusader for inclusion, equity and economic and social justice. It is Taylor’s greatest honor and privilege to represent the 18th Assembly District of New York.
June 30: Lyn Dobrin-panel moderator, *Through the decades with the Peace Corps.*

Former Peace Corps Volunteers, all members of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Long Island, will talk about their experiences as volunteers, telling what motivated them to join, what they did in their country of assignment, lessons learned and how the experience impacted their lives.

Panel members are Bette Bass of Massapequa (Ethiopia 1966-69); Kathy Williams Ging of Huntington Station (Peru 1971-73); Mary Watros, of Huntington Station (Dominican Republic 1985-88); Bradley Broder of Manhattan (Kenya 1999-2001); and Christina Gasiewski of Deer Park (Grenada 2004-2006). Westbury’s Lyn Dobrin (Kenya 1965-67) will moderate.

Since the founding of the Peace Corps in 1961, more than 235,000 Americans have served as volunteers in 141 countries. The mission of Returned Volunteers is to use the knowledge and skills they learned as Peace Corps Volunteers to help Americans understand the people and cultures of other countries.

OFFICE HOURS:

Leader Richard Koral: By Appointment 516-741-7304 or leader@ehsli.org.

Office Manager Phyllis or assistant, Tina: 516-741-7304 Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. First Sunday of the month 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.
Announcements

Membership Meeting & Board Election: JUNE 2

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island will take place at the Meeting House on Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 12:30, right after Platform. On the agenda will be the election of Trustees for the Board as well as a proposed resolution to adopt revised By-Laws.

The proposed revision of the By-Laws institutes some changes, the most significant of which is to reduce the size of the Board from 12 to 9. The smaller size will be more realistic for filling all the positions and it will simplify the yearly process of voting. Each Trusteeship will have, as now, a 3 year term and six consecutive years remains the limit of anyone’s service. Each year, 3 positions will come up for renewal. A copy of the draft By-Laws has been sent to all members. Please check your email or snail mail for details.

Your attendance at the membership meeting is both necessary and appreciated. If, for some reason, you cannot attend, please submit your proxy.(see below) It must be received at the Society office no later than June 2, 2019 at 12:00 noon in order to be valid.

SUMMERTIME SPEAKERS

We still need additional members to speak on a Summer Sunday, on any topic of interest to them. Contact Pat Spencer, program coordinator, 304pms@gmail.com.
ETHICAL HUMANIST SOCIETY OF LONG ISLAND
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JUNE 2, 2019

PROXY

If you cannot attend the Annual Membership Meeting on June 2, 2019, please participate by signing and submitting this Proxy to the Ethical Humanist Society Office, 38 Old Country Rd., Garden City, N.Y. 11530 no later than June 2, 2019 at 12:00 noon.

I hereby appoint Linda Napoli (or ___________________________ ) as my proxy to vote

1. _______ in favor, or _____ against
the Official Slate of nominees for Trustees of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island as submitted by the Nominating Committee.

2. _____ in favor, or ______ against
the resolution as follows: Be it Resolved that the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island adopt the proposed revised By-Laws presented by the Board as its official By-Laws.

Signature: _______________________________________ Date: ______________ , 2019

Print Name: _______________________________________

[Reproduce as needed]
All members are invited to a Pot Luck Party

and Speaker Planning Meeting.

Sunday, 6/9/2019 at 2PM

Location: Home of David and Alice Sprintzen.
16 Southwoods Rd. Syosset.
(GPS may say they are in Woodbury)
516-364-2178

RSVP to Phyllis 516-741-7304 plus dish you are bringing
Our Affiliated Group:
Humanists of Long Island

This year, all the groups of the Secular Coalition for America, decided to have a “Week of Secular Action” which also coincided with the “National Day of Reason” as an antidote to the “National Day of Prayer.” All the member groups, including the American Ethical Union and the American Humanist Association were encouraged to participate in any activity that would spotlight the great work that humanist groups like our own often do.

For the Secular Week of Action, Sylvia Silberger suggested that we clean up a bike path, and we picked Saturday, April 27 as our cleanup day. It was a sunny, but very windy day. Our task was to pick up the garbage, the litter that is left daily along the western side of Eisenhower Park, along the bicycle path. Our small, but mighty group of people did our best and had a lot of fun doing it! Participants included Sylvia Silberger, Christopher Stanley, Sharon Stanley, Bill Larsen, David Sprintzen and Kiam Larsen-Silberger. https://thehumanist.com/news/aha_news/humanists-were-busy-during-secular-week-of-action

Continuing our “Secular Week of Action,” Sylvia, David and I visited Senator Kevin Thomas’s office to discuss the “Fair Elections” campaign. We urged him, through his assistants, to support legislation to pin down the details of the small, matching donor program this session and to speak with involved leadership about choosing strong appointments that are both experts and supporters of the “Fair Elections Campaign.” Here is a link to an article with information about this subject. http://www.gothamgazette.com/state/8414-state-budget-a-mixed-bag-on-election-ethics-and-campaign-finance-reforms
On May 19, 2019, Matthew Bulger, Legislative Director of the American Humanist Association spoke at the Sunday morning meeting at the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island. His topic was: “A Beacon for Ethics on Long Island.” He highlighted the major initiatives the AHS is working on, such as separation between church and state and social justice initiatives. His talk was interesting, informative and fun. Matthew is our “gift;” once a year the AHA sends one free speaker to any of their chapter groups and Humanists of Long Island was proud to share our “gift” with our friends at the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island.

In attempting to include more people across the United States, this year the American Humanist Association’s annual conference will be offered live and online, in three locations. On Saturday, June 8, the location will be in Brooklyn. So far, four of us are going. There is no cost to attend, either online or in person.

Sharon Stanley met Zabby at the Ethical Culture Society of Suffolk when she spoke there on May 5. She runs an interview show from a public access radio station at Stony Brook University. She is looking for guests to speak about Humanism and other secular issues. Sharon is scheduled to be on the air on Monday, June 10, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. I think Richard has been a guest on this show not too long ago. For more information on this radio series, Women’s Perspectives in Politics” here is the station’s website. http://www.wusb.fm/node/59

Our next meetings are scheduled for June 24, and July 29. All our meetings are at EHS www.ehsli.org and begin at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome because we are all humanists of Long Island.

Sharon Stanley
News from the American Ethical Union

The American Ethical Union condemns the passage and signing into law of the Alabama “Human Life Protection Act.” This law, far from honoring human life, profoundly restricts the bodily autonomy of pregnant people; is a bill of rights for rapists and abusers; puts the lives of pregnant people at risk; upends basic moral principles; and continues an assault on reproductive freedom which has been waged for decades. Read full statement

If government of the people is to be by and for the people, then we, the people, need to reclaim it before it slips away. Marginalized groups and women already are denied equitable influence in social polity. Voter suppression targets people of color, women are underrepresented, and money in politics threatens democracy by giving corporate interests such as the NRA disproportionate power. As Ethical Humanists, we commit ourselves to democratic process in our lives, our local societies, and our global community. Join us at the AEU’s 104th Assembly to consider the issues and the strategies to reclaim democracy—for all. And join us on social media with #ethicalassembly.

REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN:
Thursday, June 20, 7pm to Sunday, June 23, 3pm ET
Our Youth Programs:

Kids Ethics Program Long Island

June greetings from the kids program!

Summer is just around the corner, and we are wrapping up the program for the school year. We will start up again in September, so look for information in the newsletter and on our Facebook page.

It has been an interesting year! I was able to work with some amazing children, and I hope to see you all next year so that we can continue our journey.

I’d like to thank each and every family that participated in the program. Your children have been inspiring, and I have learned so much from them, and so to Adrian, Ryan, Max, Leo, and Justin I say Thank You! To the children who attended the program but I haven’t seen in a while, I’d also like to say thank you, it was wonderful to spend time with you, and remind you that you are always welcome to join us downstairs!

If anyone has any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the office at 516-741-7304 and they will forward your information to me. - Have a great summer!!

Christine Lamattina
Director of Children’s Education

Please like us on Facebook:
Kids' Ethics Program Long Island

Bring Your Children - our free Kids’ Ethics Program for children aged 6 to 12 is a fun way to learn to be an open-minded, honest and kind person. Classes are held in a spirit of inquiry by our experienced,
Members of our YES group and Ryan Keane came out in soggy weather to assist the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers with their bicycle and sewing machine drive. Over 100 bikes and 35 sewing machines were donated.

The students helped process the bikes by removing the pedals and strapping them to the bikes, and lowering the seats and handle bars for better packing. The bikes and sewing machines will be combined with other donated bikes from other drives, to be shipped to a developing country.

Thanks also go to Lyn and Arthur Dobrin for their continued involvement and commitment to the Peace Corps, and for bringing us this project.
Ryan posing with the processed bikes.

Sophia, Adam, Maggie and Becky stay out of the rain.

Didi works on a bike.

Not hard if you had muscles!

Some of the 35 sewing machines that were collected.

Aarti, Saanvi, and Didi process a bike.

Angelique Lucien  Assistant Youth Advisor

Lorraine Zeller-Agostino

Alison Pratt
Society News:

POTLUCK PLANNING: JUNE 9
Bring your ideas, feedback, and food. We’ll have fun and get lots done. (see Announcements)

MEN’S NIGHT OUT - JUNE 13
Please RSVP to Richard Koral at: leader@ehsli.org
When: Thursday evening, JUNE 13, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
Where: Hunan Dynasty
2292 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow, NY 11554

LEADER’S LUNCH - JUNE 20
RSVP office@ehsli.org
Join the EHS-LI Leader, Richard Koral, for a lunchtime gathering every month for a group discussion on a chosen topic or a featured article. We’ll meet at 12:00 noon in room 201. Bring a brown bag lunch. The article to be discussed will be announced in the weekly newsletter.

BOOK TALK: JUNE 30
The question of whether power is bound to corrupt forms a central theme of Naomi Alderman’s fascinating new novel, The Power.

Be part of the discussion following the Sunday meeting on June 30.
SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

• Linda Joe – Newsletter Editor
• Stacey Leon & Ellen Mihok – Coffee Hour Queens
• George Roemer – Grocery purchaser
• Deborah Strube – Presider Coordinator and all the presiders
• Pat Spencer – Speaker Coordinator
• Alison Pratt & Lorraine Agostino – Youth Group Advisors
• Lois Blatt – Caring Connection Contact
• Mel and Barbara Haber – Pot Luck Plus Coordinators
• All our Poetry Readers
• And everyone else who has helped out once, twice or even three times.

THANK YOU TO OUR EMPLOYEES

• Phyllis Hershfeld and most recently Tina Keane for their efficiency and talent in running the office.
• Kelly Schmidt for the beautiful music she provides every week.
• Christine LaMattina for her knowledge and steadfastness in teaching the children each Sunday.
• Angelique Lucien for being a great Assistant Youth Advisor.

MONTHLY QUOTE

“The Question is,” said Alice, “whether you can make words mean so many different things.”

Lewis Carroll

MONTHLY QUESTION

Do you always mean what you say?

SAVE THE DATE

The annual Women’s Retreat will be held on October 20-21 2019 at St. Josephat’s Retreat House in Glen Cove. Email Delorie at Rodel48@aol.com for more info.
House of Hamill

Friday, June 21 at 8 PM

Philadelphia-based Irish/Folk duo House of Hamill takes the stage at Our Times Coffeehouse on Friday, June 21. Both members Rose Baldino and Brian Buchanan are accomplished traditional fiddle players and classical violinists, with over 25 years of writing and performance experience between them. Together, they write unusual new fiddle tunes and exciting, unpredictable original songs while breathing new life into traditional and contemporary songs.

Both are confident and unique lead vocalists, and the blend of their two voices in harmony is hypnotic and irresistible. Whether House of Hamill is playing songs from their debut album “Wide Awake” (2016) or stomping through a set of original jigs and reels from their follow-up “March Through Storms” (2018), their chemistry onstage is always engaging and often hilarious.

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/

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

YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18. YES meets weekly. The YES group hosts a Sunday morning presentation each year. Join their Facebook group at Long Island Y.E.S.

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.

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

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, please contact Phyllis or Tina at ethicalsociety@optonline.net

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 or Tina 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