President’s Column

On May 3rd we will be having our Spring Membership Meeting at 10:15 AM. On that Sunday there will not be a Colloquy. We will meet together, pass on a slate of candidates for the Board and discuss the financial situation of the Society and other matters. At 11 AM, Westchester Society Leader Bart Worden will present our morning talk.

As co-Presidents, both Pat and I have worked hard to stabilize the Society. Working with our Board has been a wonderful experience as each Board member has contributed their time, talent and energy to improving the Society. When we approve a new slate of Board members at our May meeting, I trust that they will serve the Society as wholeheartedly as our present Board.

May is actually a busy month for our EHSLI. On May 14th we will be hosting our second Social Justice Leadership Dinner at the Nassau County Bar Association. This year we are honoring our own David Sprintzen, former Newsday journalist Bob Keeler and Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel. Each of our honorees is a distinguished leader on Long Island. By now, you should have received your invitation to attend. Hopefully many of our members will attend, as it is truly a lovely event.

Plan to come to both the Spring Membership Meeting and the Social Justice Leadership Dinner, we need the support of all our members.

Finally, almost all the snow has melted from our front lawn and I am beginning to see and feel signs of spring. How welcome that is!

Joan Beder
Co-President

Our condolences go out to Mary Sherman and her family on the death of her mother Mary Vallone, following a long illness.

Congratulations to Carol Pincus who is home from the hospital after a brief stay. Carol says "get well cards are appreciated, please hold off from phone calls at this time due to other illness in the home."
Please note: Journal ads due by April 17th, dinner reservations due by May 1st.

Please Save This Date!

The Social Justice Leadership Award Dinner
Thursday May 14, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

Presented By
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island

Honoring
Robert Keeler, Journalist
Michelle Schimel, Assemblywoman
David Sprintzen, Activist

To Be Held At
The Nassau County Bar Association
15th & West Streets, Mineola, NY 11501

awardsdinner@ehsli.org
516-741-7304

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530
Create a Caring World
Social Justice Leadership Awards

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is honoring three Long Islanders for their commitment to the betterment of the world—activist David Sprintzen, journalist Bob Keeler and legislator Michelle Schimel.

On Thursday, May 14th, the three will receive the Ethical Society’s Social Justice Leadership Award at a dinner to be held at the Nassau County Bar Association, 15th and West Streets, Mineola at 6 PM.

The Social Justice Leadership Award was created by the Ethical Society, located in Garden City, to honor 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. Their work reflects the values that Ethical Humanists cherish, including the fervent desire for peace among nations, the recognition of the dignity and worth of each individual, and the obligation of each of us to work for societal change.

About the honorees:

David Sprintzen is both an activist and scholar. He is the founder and served as the co-chair of the Long Island Progressive Coalition, an organization that for 35 years has advocated for affordable housing and health care, decent and well-paying jobs, a clean environment, respect for individual differences and a clean, safe and attractive community. Sprintzen is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Long Island University. He is the author of four books, including Critique of Western Philosophy and Social Theory. Sprintzen is a long-time member of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island. He lives in Syosset.

Bob Keeler is a consultant to the Hagedorn Foundation, which focuses on issues such as children and families, immigration, voting rights and civic engagement. Before that he worked for Newsday for nearly 42 years, including more than 11 years on the editorial board, specializing in editorials about politics and government in Suffolk County, the environment, immigration, religion, and regional transportation. The stories that won him the Pulitzer Prize was a series focusing on the life of a Catholic parish, which appeared in 1995 and was later published as a book. In 2013, Newsday’s editorials on the recovery from Hurricane Sandy—including his work—were among the finalists for an editorial-writing Pulitzer. Today Keeler resides in Stony Brook.

Michelle Schimel is now serving her fifth term in the New York State Assembly for the 16th Assembly District. A full time legislator, she is recognized in her community for her passion on the issues that affect New York, particularly the prevention of gun violence and protecting the environment. For two decades, she served on the Board of New Yorkers Against Gun Violence (NYAGV), the largest citizens’ group in New York State dedicated to reducing gun-related violence. The Environmental Advocates of New York has recognized Schimel as a leader on the environment. She has also been outspoken in her opposition to hydrofracking. She lives in Great Neck.

For information about this event, you can visit http://www.ehsl.org or call 516-741-7304.
Dear "Ethicals"  3.24.15

Arthur, Sharon, Stanley, Linda, Napoli, all the "Old Timers" will remember me. I feel guilty when I get your excellent newsletter by mail. (I sold my computer at age 92 it beyond me.

To ease my conscience I donated my piano to the Ethical Society in Philadelphia.

Many pictures in your newsletter have the wall-hanging behind the speaker's desk on them. I made that in memory of my husband, Ted Katz, who was president for a couple of years. (To Annie Kleinman's suggestion)

My regards to those who remember me, especially those who visited me here. I live in the best "Retirement Community" ever. Keep very, very busy here. My brain "ain't what it used to be" but I get by with a little help.

I enjoy your news. The Ethical Society in Philadelphia is good, but I need a walker, they have many steps.

Fondly, my best to all Helga
Other EHSLI Activity/Committee Reports

LI AHA Chapter

The Long Island Chapter of the American Humanist Society has been meeting on the last Monday of every month at 8 PM. We will be joining the Long Island Progressive Network after Sharon’s enthusiastic report on the meeting she attended. The point of the Progressive Network is to allow like-minded groups to learn about each other and help advertise events sponsored by these groups. At least one representative of the LI AHA will attend their conference in November of this year as well.

We are looking into the possibility of sponsoring a movie on the backlog of rape kits at the Huntington Arts Festival. More details on this event to follow.

Additionally, every month we will choose a topic and write a letter to the editor of Newsday or other appropriate Long Island publication on that topic. The letter will be signed by the author as a member of the LI AHA. This month, Elissa wrote an excellent letter to Newsday on the fairness of Oregon’s new voter registration law. Everyone who gets a driver’s license or otherwise registers a public service in Oregon will be automatically registered to vote at the age of 18 unless he or she proactively opts out. We will publish these letters in this newsletter, if not published for intended audience.

For questions on the LI AHA, email Sharon at LIHumanist@gmail.com.

Submitted by Sylvia Silberger, LI AHA Member

Social Action Committee

In light of the police shooting of the unarmed Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO and the subsequent choke-hold killing of unarmed Eric Garner in Staten Island and the social unrest that has followed, the Social Action Committee has decided to look into Nassau County Police relationships with poorer communities in Long Island. Several members met with Commissioner Krumpter to discuss what Nassau county is doing to ensure that unfortunate accidents like that do not happen here. As a result of that meeting, Arthur Dobrin was invited to attend a citizen’s police academy. He will report on his experience in a later newsletter.

Submitted by Sylvia Silberger, SAC Member
April Sunday Meeting Schedule

**April 12:** Melissa Boo. *Renewable Energy in Long Island*

*Bio:* Melissa is Communications & Outreach Coordinator, EmPower Solar and Founder, Locally Long Island, whose mission is to connect Nassau County’s green living resources with each other and with the community.

**April 19:** Spring Festival, Led by Linda Napoli and Kelly Tanza

**April 26:** Risco Mention-Lewis. *Community Based Intervention: Creating a Beloved Community.*

**May 3:** Bart Worden, Leader.

---

**Note from the Editor**

*Newsletter Editor: Sylvia Silberger*

Please email comments and suggestions for additions to future EHSLI newsletters to me at [Sylvia_silberger@yahoo.com](mailto:Sylvia_silberger@yahoo.com). Submissions due by the 15th of the month for the next month’s newsletter. All submissions are subject to editorial modifications and approval of tone and content. Printing is also limited by space constraints.
AEU Seeking Candidates for AEU Board Positions

The Board Development Committee of the American Ethical Union is seeking candidates to run for election to positions on the Board of Directors and/or as Officers at the next AEU Assembly in June. Participation by the broadest range of member organizations in the AEU will help assure the vitality of the Ethical Movement and the effectiveness of its democratic institutions. We ask you to disseminate this information within your community and to encourage your most active and talented members to participate in AEU activities.

The Board of Directors is the principal governing body of the American Ethical Union outside of the annual Assembly of organization delegates. Directorship is a responsible position bearing fiduciary duties and requiring fidelity, confidentiality, non-conflict of interest and prudence under both the by-laws and the laws of the State of New York, under which the AEU is organized.

The Board of Directors is composed of nine elected members who each serve for a three year term. (Two additional Directors are appointed by the National Leaders Council.) Three positions are up for election each year at the annual Assembly. A Director may serve up to two consecutive terms.

Participation on the Board will require attendance at seven meetings a year. Travel, lodging and meal expenses are not automatically reimbursed at this time, so each Director must be prepared to bear these costs. Such expenditures may be tax deductible to the Director. To the extent resources permit, some expenses may be reimbursable to someone residing far from the East Coast if that would encourage participation. Meetings by electronic means have occasionally been employed and it is expected that its use will be expanded in the future. In addition, there are conference call meetings and email correspondence. It is expected that Directors will be generally proficient with the use of email, computer/ electronic communications and the internet. There is an expectation that all Directors will be committed and engaged and that they will participate in committee activities and make funding contributions to the organization as well.

For any member in good standing whom your organization may recommend for nomination to the Board, please send a letter, a resume and contact information to the AEU Office, Attn: The Board Development Committee, at its main offices at 2 West 64th St., New York, N.Y. 10025 or to the email address lmiller.aeu@gmail.com no later than May 19, 2015. The Board Development Committee will assemble a slate of candidates that may include more than the slots that are open, in which case the delegates attending the Assembly will choose among them.

In addition, an individual may run independently of the official slate for election to the Board as a Director or as an Officer (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer). Persons seeking to present themselves as independent candidate for a Board of Director's position must submit a petition containing ten (10) signatures of Society members. Persons seeking to present themselves as independent candidate for an Officer's position must submit a petition containing fifty (50) signatures of members representing at least five (5) different Societies. Officers must also be Directors. Petitions would have to be submitted to the AEU office prior to May 19, 2015.

By clicking on the links below you will be able to view and download the Board Application Form and the Requirements & Expectations overview of a Board Member Requirements/Expectations as well as the Petition form Petition Form for those interested in representing themselves. For any additional information or clarification you may require, please do not hesitate to contact the AEU Office by calling Law’rence (L) Miller at (212) 873-6500 or writing to lmiller.aeu@gmail.com

AND DON’T FORGET - - there are committees which need your help, too. Bring your expertise, interest, energy and passion to the whole Ethical Movement by joining an AEU committee! Encourage your membership to call or write to the AEU office and inquire today!

The following Societies will already have a representative on the AEU Board at the time of the next election and will not be eligible to nominate another candidate:

- Ethical Culture Society of Westchester
- Baltimore Ethical Society
- Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
- New York Society for Ethical Culture
- Ethical Society of St. Louis
- Ethical Humanist Society of the Triangle
Goings on at and Announcements from EHSLI

**eBay SPICE Fundraiser** — The SPICE committee and Bill Larsen are organizing an EHSLI eBay account as a fundraiser for the EHSLI. Email Bill Larsen at EHSFundraising@gmail.com with descriptions and pictures (if possible) if you have something you think might be worth donating. Email Bill for more detail on item specs needed. Our eBay seller ID is EHSLI fundraising. Come visit our Ebay sales site here: [http://myworld.ebay.com/ehslifundraising?trksid=p2047675.l2559](http://myworld.ebay.com/ehslifundraising?trksid=p2047675.l2559)

**Spring Festival:** Spring festival, April 19th, 11:00 AM. Join our community for an intergenerational morning of song, poetry and activities. We look forward to seeing you at our community celebration.

**AHA Meetings:** The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island’s chapter of the American Humanist Association, which previously met on the last Tuesday of the month, will now be meeting on the last Monday of each month. The meetings is scheduled for April 27th, at 8:00 PM in the second floor meeting room.

For questions or information leave a message for Sharon or Heidi at 516-741-7304 or email Sharon at lihumanist@gmail.com.

**Our Times Coffee House:** On April 17th, 2015, Our Times Coffee House presents **Modern Man** (comedy). A cross between Crosby, Stills & Nash and the Marx Brothers - David Buskin, Rob Carlson and George Wurzbach are three celebrated singers and songwriters, "terrific instrumentalists with gorgeous voices and hilarious wits." Together they quickly redefined something or other and delighted audiences as they interwove themes ranging from God to Godzilla, from manliness to cluelessness, from ESPN to the FBI with a vocal blend that has not been heard since Ella and F. Scott Fitzgerald went their separate ways.

For more information visit [http://www.ourtimescoffeeshouse.org/](http://www.ourtimescoffeeshouse.org/).

Doors open at 7:15 PM and the show starts at 8 PM.

Tickets: Adults $15, Students (w/school I.D.) $10, Children (under 12) $6. (Very young children are free.)

**YES Meeting:** The YES group did an excellent job with their April platform! They were incredibly impressive and got some good conversation going among the audience members. Hard work pays off! The next YES group meeting will be on April 19th at 11 AM at the diner (Park City Diner, 101 Herricks Road). Dan has some good discussion topics planned! Enjoy some time off!

**Spring Clean Up:** Yes, spring is here and about time too! We are holding our Spring Clean Up after Our meeting on April 12. All are welcome to help in ways big and small. We will supply garbage bags to collect all the trash around the property and drinks for the thirsty. If you can bring: garden gloves, shovels, garden trowel, rakes, pruning shears. The more the merrier and easier the work! Come check out our growing garden and lets keep our property neat and clean. Many of us have overgrown plants in our gardens and perennials to thin out. We are happy to accept donations to our garden at EHS. Please speak with Heidi or Stacy.

Continued on Page 9
Goings on at and Announcements, Continued

Continued from Page 8

**Free Vinyasa Flow Yoga Class:** Sylvia’s free yoga class will resume on Tuesdays at 5:45 PM. If interested in attending after that, contact Sylvia at matsbs@yahoo.com to be put on her class confirmation email list.

**Rebirth and Reorganization of the Social Action Committee:** Plans are afoot to organize an active and current committee that will involve the Society and various voluntary members in Social Action activities. To keep abreast and/or join the committee, please read this newsletter and follow the announcements at Sunday platforms. For more immediate information and answers to your questions or to become a vital part of this committee call Richard Rapp at his home phone (718) 767-3610 or his cell phone (718) 314-8135. You can also email him at nydonkey1@aol.com.

**Board Meeting Time Change:** Starting in January, the board will be meeting on the third Monday of every month, rather than the second.

**Ethical Friends of Children:** Ethical Friends of Children is looking for volunteers to help man the free store on Wednesdays, 10 AM—1 PM. Contact the EHSLI office if interested.

**Weekly Food Drive:** Members of the EHLI are collecting food items for INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network). Please bring non-perishable food items to the basket in the lobby.

**Movie Group:** For info on the movie group contact Al Zeiger at 516-538-2687. Leave message and he’ll get back to you.

**The Caring Connection:** Our commitment to taking care of those of us who are sick or in need. We encourage involvement from all. This is core to who we are as Ethical Humanists.

**Suggestions for Sunday Speakers:** If you have heard any speakers whom you would like to recommend to the Sunday Committee, based on their excellence and subject matter including ethical issues, for consider for next season, please send suggestions to the office to be forwarded to committee members.

**Sponsor a Coffee Hour:** $15 and, with enough advanced notice, add your name and message to the Sunday Meeting bulletin! Contact Phyllis at ethicalsociety@optonline.net.

Visit EHSLI Online!

**EHSLI Website:** [http://www.ehsl.org](http://www.ehsl.org)
**EHSLI on Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/ehsli](http://www.twitter.com/ehsli)
**EHSLI on Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/LIEthical](http://www.facebook.com/LIEthical)
**K.I.D. on Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/KidsInDeed](http://www.twitter.com/KidsInDeed)

**Leader emeritus Arthur Dobrin** is blogging weekdays at [arthurdobrin.wordpress.com](http://arthurdobrin.wordpress.com)

**Photos:** [picasaweb.google.com/LIEthical](http://picasaweb.google.com/LIEthical)
**EHSLI on LinkedIn:** Under the name “Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island”
Opt-Out of Paper Newsletter Mailings

To save resources and postage costs, we encourage you to email Sylvia at matsbs@yahoo.com if you would be satisfied with an email-only version of this newsletter rather than a paper copy.

Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island

Phone: 516-741-7304  Fax: 516-741-7305  Ethicalsociety@optonline.net  http://www.ehsli.org

Haven’t heard of us? Come see what we are about some Sunday! Sunday Colloquia start at 9:30 AM and Sunday Meetings at 11 AM.

Create a Caring World

The Ethical Humanist

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Rd. Garden City, NY 11530