President’s Column

Hello Everyone,

Hope you're all having a great season. Our summer Sundays have been wonderful, both entertaining and stimulating with a true variety of topics. Attendance is better than ever and we look forward to the August events. The remaining Sunday platforms are listed on page 4.

Please take note of the Open House on August 23rd. It’ll be a great day to see other members if you haven't been coming and welcome the visitors we are expecting. Our publicity committee has done a wonderful job of putting out the word.

In the meantime, lots of plans are being made for the fall in addition to our Sunday meetings which will begin on September 13th. We've also hired two new teachers for our Humanist Sunday School. They will be great additions to our staff. Additionally, improvements to our grounds are in the works.

Our New York climate hasn't let us down, and we've had quite a few sultry days. Keep cool while trying to be as energy efficient as possible. Instead of turning on the air conditioner, eat an ice pop!

Linda Napoli
President

Congratulations Chloe!

Chloe won a Scholar-Art Award. She's currently away at SUNY Fredonia for the month with the Choral Institute, run by New York State Summer School for the Arts (she is one of 60 vocalists selected from all over the state), then home for 2 weeks and then on to East Carolina University.

Way to go, Chloe!
OPEN HOUSE FOR 
HUMANISTS AND THEIR FAMILIES*

Are you a humanist seeking a community?

COME TO THE ETHICAL HUMANIST SOCIETY OF 
LONG ISLAND OPEN HOUSE 
38 Old Country Road, Garden City 
(516)741-7304 

Sunday, August 23rd – 11:00 AM 

WE OFFER: 

Sunday Meetings for Adults 
Ethical Education Classes for Kids, 
A Teen Group, and 
A Welcoming Community for All Ages!

*BABYSITTER AVAILABLE
I was a first-time attendee of the American Ethical Union annual conference that was held on the last weekend in June in Stamford, CT. Our Long Island Society was well-represented. From our group, attendees included our President, Linda Napoli, Sharon Stanley, Bill Larsen, Sylvia Silberger, Joyce Wildermuth, Heidi Mann, Stacey Leon, Elissa Paulis, Tara Klein, and myself. Arthur Dobrin ran a workshop. One of the most surprising and inspiring elements was the caliber of the invited speakers. Ami Dar, the Keynote speaker, was the founder of Idealist.org, a website that connects volunteers to places in need of them. His talk was chock-full of ideas about using social media to connect people to make a positive difference in the world.

The American Ethical Union established the Elliott-Black Award in 1971 to give recognition and tribute to individuals or an organization that has made a significant ethical contribution to society at personal risk and hardship. This year’s award winner was Dr. Sandra Steingraber. Dr. Steingraber is a climate change scientist, author, and cancer survivor who writes about the connection between the environment and health. Her book, "Living Downstream: An Ecologist Personal Investigation of Cancer and the Environment" was the first to bring together data on toxic releases with data from the U.S. cancer registries. She co-founded New Yorkers Against Fracking and Concerned Health Professionals of NY. She has received many awards from prestigious organizations, has keynoted many conferences, has testified before European Parliament, participated in Congressional briefings, and testified before the EPA and United Nations delegates. She has lectured at many hospitals and medical schools and universities, including Harvard, Yale, Cornell, and others.

This talk focused on her recent activism at Seneca Lake in the Finger Lakes region of NY. She created the movement called "We are Seneca Lake" (website of same name) to protect the drinking water of 100,000 people who get their water from Seneca Lake. I had just seen the beautiful Seneca Lake in February on a trip upstate, so this talk was very relevant to me. A Texas company called Crestwood Midstreams uses the old salt mines on the shores the lake to store millions of gallons of natural gas that is trucked into the region. New train lines are being proposed as well, to create a northeast hub for natural gas distribution. There is danger of explosions and gas and brine pollution of the lake should an accident occur. Dr. Steingraber has organized peaceful protests that block the entrance to their facility, for which they get arrested (she herself getting arrested), and of course is lobbying our senators and the governor to shut it down. Her talk was riveting and inspiring. We were all ready to go to jail after hearing her. Her designation as this year’s Elliot-Black Award Winner was well-deserved.

Some of us who attended the workshop will be giving a Sunday morning presentation about our experiences there in September. Next year’s conference is in mid-July in St. Louis. Plan on going!

Alison Pratt
Summer Sunday Meeting Schedule
(Babysitting will be provided)


**August 16:** Kelly Schmidt, musician and musical director at the Ethical Society, *Music and Community.*

**August 23:** Open house for adults and children

**August 30:** Sylvia Silberger, mathematics professor, Hofstra University, *Math-o-Magic — a demonstration of some surprising mathematical card tricks and the math behind them.*

**September 6:** Heidi Mann, RN, *Is Death Outside Your Comfort Zone? — starting the conversation on end-of-life planning.*

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Sunday Meetings begin at 11:00 AM
Sunday Colloquies begin at 9:30 AM

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Meet our new Humanist Sunday School teacher, Christine Lamantinna.

Welcome to EHSLI Christine!!

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Newsletter Editor: Sylvia Silberger

Please email comments and suggestions for additions to future EHSLI newsletters to me at 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.
Let Us Remember

August 6th was the 70th anniversary of the U. S. nuclear bombing of Hiroshima. The bomb immediately killed 80,000 people and thousands more as a result of injuries and radiation sickness. Three days later, the U. S. bombed Nagasaki with an immediate loss of 40,000 lives. The rationale of these attacks was to force the Japanese to surrender and it worked, but it began an age of fear in this world which most of us have lived with all our lives.

After the first bomb was tested, Robert Oppenheimer quoted, "I am become death, the shatterer of worlds." Let us always remember that and hope the goal of nuclear disarmament is reached some day.

Linda Napoli
Goings on at and Announcements from EHS LI

**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 next two regular meetings are scheduled for August 31st and September 28th, at 8:00 PM in the second floor meeting room.

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

**Sail Away on the Great South Bay SPICE Event:** Don Obers has offered to give a Spice event for 2 - a two hour sail on the Great South Bay. His sailboat is docked in Lindenhurst. Date to be arranged. $30 per person. (516) 946-9361

**Our Times Coffee House:** On Friday, September 18th, Our Times Coffee House welcomes the Nields. Their 17th album, The Nields - XVII, is both their most personal and their most community minded. Well into their third decade as a musical partners and judging by this sublime album at the very top of their game, the Nields turn to meditations on time, and turning points, their roots and community - both musical and personal - but they also express joy in the present, faith in the future, and a whole lot of hope and promise. The Nields’ albums are often an eclectic mix of ideas and music styles, but clear themes emerge. Love and China (2002) was about the fragility of love and relationships. The Full Catastrophe (2012) explored the messy experience of raising a family. XVII has the Nields looking out from midlife, focusing on themes of time, love and community. The primary inspiration behind XVII was Nerissa and Katryna's hero, Pete Seeger, who died in January of 2014. His love of sharing music and his passion for justice had been a part of their lives since before they were born (their parents fell in love at a Pete Seeger concert). His death affected them profoundly. Pete is clearly on the album in songs like "Joe Hill" and "Wasn't That a Time," but the entire album is infused with his spirit. It's there in the Nields' delight in sharing music and in using it to build a community. And it's there in the title XVII: when compared to a career and life like that of Pete Seeger, they're not even out of their teens.

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

**Free Vinyasa Flow Yoga Class:** Join Sylvia on Wednesdays at 5:45 PM for a free vinyasa-style yoga class. If interested in attending, contact Sylvia at matsbs@yahoo.com to be put on her class confirmation email list in case she has to cancel for some reason. (Note: there will be no class on August 19th.)

**Annual Membership and Growth Conference:** Save the Date! October 23rd-24th, 2015 is the Annual Membership and Growth Conference, Growing the Movement Together, at the Bergen Ethical Society. Stay tuned; more information to come.
Goings on at and Announcements, Continued

Continued from Page 6

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 email Richard Rapp at nydonkey1@aol.com or call his home phone (718) 767-3610 or his cell phone (718) 314-8135.

New Board Meeting Times: The board meeting has been changed to the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM, which will be August 20th.

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 consideration 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 Phylis at ethicalsociety@optonline.net.

Visit EHSLI Online!

EHSLI Website: http://www.ehsl.org
EHSLI on Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli
EHSLI on Facebook: www.facebook.com/LIEthical
K.I.D. on Twitter: www.twitter.com/KidsInDeed
EHSLI on Meet-up: http://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.

Leader emeritus Arthur Dobrin is blogging weekdays at arthurdobrin.wordpress.com
Photos: picasaweb.google.com/LIEthical
EHSLI on Linked-In: 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.ehsi.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