



The Ethical Humanist

The Newsletter of The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island



Vol. 63, No. 10 -- June 2013

From Our Religious Director



Calvin Dame
Religious Director, EHSLI

Well, it is June already, and we are approaching our transition into summer mode; seems not that long ago that we were just getting the year started! But, we have some great programs coming up.

On June 2nd, Recognition Day, as is our custom, we celebrate with our children.

On the 9th, I am looking forward to sharing with you my experiences and thoughts on my recent trip to Israel: a fascinating and complex corner of the world. Following the program, there will be a Congregational Meeting.

June 16th Vincent Wright, photojournalist and professor, will share his photographs and talk about his work!

June 23rd is Transition Sunday, the last Sunday of our regular year. Joan Beder and Pat Spencer, the incoming Society Co-Presidents, and I will provide an opportunity for us to talk about the year that was and consider our hopes for the year ahead.

Events with Calvin

Ethical Café

Wednesday, June 12: Banning the Big Gulp: Public Health or Nanny State?

Ethical Café starts at 7:00 PM

We'll also have lunch outdoors, weather permitting, in our newly transformed back yard to help mark the transition.

Then, on June 30th, Linda Napoli will be the first of our speakers in the more relaxed summer format. She will be speaking on a topic dear to her heart: poetry!!!

We have a full slate of summer Sunday programs scheduled, some familiar faces and some new; details will be in the next newsletter. In the meantime, hope to see you!

Calvin O. Dame
Religious Director

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HAVE YOU MAILED IN YOUR 2013 PLEDGE TO EHSLI? OUR SURVIVAL DEPENDS ON YOU!

The Mideast Peace Process: Alive or Dead?

The Garden City Clergy Fellowship cordially invites you to join us for an important conversation, following our interfaith clergy trip to Israel.

DATE: Thursday, June 20th, 6:30 PM
PLACE: The Garden City Jewish Center
168 Nassau Blvd (at Newmarket Ave)

with special guest:
DANIEL EHRLICH
a leading Israeli educator
Educational Director at Keshet:
The Center for Educational Tourism in Israel



Pot Luck Dinner at 6:30 PM (Vegetarian please) Discussion to follow at 7:30 PM
Please call for inquiries: 516-248-5096
E-mail: gcjewishcenter@aol.com

Kids In Deed



Our 2012-2013 Kids In Deed program has drawn to a close with our Recognition Day on June 2nd. Pauline started our celebration with the announcement, "June is bustin' out all over!" We were then treated to the song "It's a Wonderful World" performed by Kelly Tanza on piano and vocals.

Tara Klein took the opportunity to say goodbye and good luck to two graduating seniors, Maggie Mann and Mackenzie Schroeder. Maggie will be attending SUNY Brockport next fall majoring in nursing. Mackenzie will be attending the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore. Dan Harding, now a sophomore at Tulane, took a moment to talk about the FES conference.

Our students then shared poetry and lessons from the year. Each student worked on a Powerpoint presentation. Didi presented our lesson about The Salem Witch Trials and our fundraiser for The Innocence Project. Not so different from women falsely accused of witchcraft, there are innocent people today who languish in prison. Our "Jump for Justice" fundraiser raised \$140 for The Innocence Project.

Kristen's presentation was about the meaning of Veteran's Day and our Valentines for Veterans project in which we made large Valentine posters to send to the VA Hospitals through the Town of Hempstead's program.

Rebecca and Pauline shared the lesson about Four Routes to Happiness and the Cupcake Project. Beneficiaries of cupcakes were none other than our own members at coffee hour.

Jordan put together our year-end slide show set to music that included so many of our year's activities.

After the presentation of lanterns and certificates to the children, we ended our program in what has become our traditional song for Recognition Day, "The Circle Game."

It has been a joy to teach the children this year. I wish everyone a glorious summer.



Alison Pratt
KIDS Director



The KIDS class of 2013! We are proud of them all!



Honoring Alison for a job well done!



Dan showing off the tattoo he got at the FES Conference



Pauline reading a poem during Recognition Day with Calvin Dame



Kristin giving her Powerpoint presentation on the Valentines for Veterans project during Recognition Day



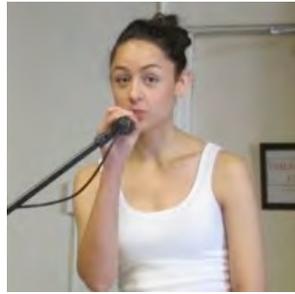
Everyone showing off the "thank you" certificates they got for the Valentines for Veterans project

YES Update

The YES group says goodbye for the summer, and goodbye to our two graduating seniors MacKenzie Schroeder and Maggie Mann. We will miss them dearly!

YES will reconvene this summer for a Sandy rebuilding weekend and the annual YES Beach Party. Our next meeting will be in September! To get in touch with the YES group, reach out to Tara and Derek at YES@ehsli.org.

Sincerely,
Derek and Tara



MacKenzie speaking at Recognition Day



Maggie speaking at Recognition Day



Tara, Amanda, Chloe, Ryan, Maggie, Eric, Reid, MacKenzie, Derek at Recognition Day



Dan at FES / St. Louis Society

10th Annual FES Conference, St. Louis, MO

Young adults ages 18-28 gathered in St. Louis over Memorial Day weekend for the 10th annual FES (Future of Ethical Societies) Conference. Long Island's Dan Harding and Tara Klein joined about 15 young people representing 9 home Societies who are passionate about the Ethical Culture movement. The weekend included discussions on the future of the movement as well as the role of the FES group itself in the movement, a service project at a senior center's community garden, presenting a platform at the St. Louis Ethical Society, and fun activities such as a trip to the City Museum. As the 10th Conference, FES "alumni" were invited back to discuss

that age group's role in the movement post-FES. Many creative ideas were shared and there is a great deal of energy to help reinvigorate our Societies!

FES will also have a presence at the AEU Assembly in Fairfax, VA in June.

To learn more about FES or to get involved, check out [facebook.com/EthicalFuture](https://www.facebook.com/EthicalFuture) or email fesconference@gmail.com.

Tara & Derek



Dan at FES



Community gardening at FES



Tara at FES / St. Louis Society

Goings on at and Announcements from EHSLI

SPICE Events — See [page 5](#) for **SPICE** events and updates.

Our Times Coffee House — Fundraising Performance for the Long Island Ethical Humanist Society:

The Our Times Coffeehouse has been bringing live music to Long Island for over 24 years as a joint project of the Ethical Humanist Society and the Long Island Progressive Coalition. All performances have been hosted at the Ethical Humanist Society in their building on Old Country Road. On Friday, June 21st the Our Times Coffee House will hold a benefit performance; proceeds of this performance will go directly to the Ethical Society to help them continue to offer programs and services that support our community and help create a more caring world. We're greatly appreciative of the artists who will be performing at this event. Performers include [Cathy Kreger](#), [Patricia Shih](#), [The Counterclockwise Ensemble](#), and the [Folk Goddesses](#). Your support, attendance and participation will help ensure The Our Times Coffeehouse a continued success. Performances starts at 8:00 PM, doors open at 7:15 PM. Come early and enjoy refreshments before the show. Donations: Adults \$15, Seniors (65 & Up) & Students (w/school I.D.) \$12, Children (under 12) \$6 (very young children are free). For more information on Our Times Coffee House visit <http://www.ourtimescoffeehouse.org/>.



Women's Retreat: EHSLI's annual Women's Retreat will be on October 19 - October 20, 2013. More information will be announced shortly. If you have any questions call Delorie Cohan at 718-459-1380 or email her at rodell48@aol.com.

Free Vinyasa Flow Yoga Class Returning: Sylvia Silberger is resuming her free vinyasa flow yoga classes on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM starting on May 8th. Contact Sylvia at Sylvia_Silberger@yahoo.com with questions and for class confirmation.

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.

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

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.ehsli.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

SPICE EVENTS & UPDATES

Pre-SPICE SPICE Event

— **Enjoy the Food of Kenya:** Dori Kiptoo and Lyn Dobrin will be hosting the **SPICE** on June 22nd at 6 PM. You are welcomed to a traditional Kenyan meal of Ugali, Mboga na Maharagwe (maize meal, kale and/or spinach and beans). Didi, Rebecca and Pauline will present a traditional African folk tale from the Tugen tribe of Kenya. To sign up email Lyn Dobrin at lynbdobrin@gmail.com. Please RSVP by June 17th.

DATE: Saturday, June 22nd
 TIME: 6:00 PM
 PLACE: 613 Dartmouth St., Westbury, NY
 LIMIT: 12 people
 DONATION: \$30 adults, \$10 children under 10

ebay SPICE Fundraiser Update

In Late 2012 The **SPICE** committee embarked on a new mode of fundraising: members donated their no longer useful or needed "treasures" and Bill Larsen sold them on eBay. In the month of April we made \$235.00 by selling two Rangers tickets and in May \$20 for selling a piece of jewelry, for a grand total of \$655.00 for the year. A big thank you to Bill for all the work he has and continues to do to make this ongoing fundraising project a financial success. The **SPICE** committee hopes this information will inspire you to look carefully around your home & find additional items to donate to the Treasures Project. (See below)

eBay SPICE Fundraiser

— The **SPICE** committee and Bill Larsen are organizing an EHS LJ eBay account as a fundraiser for the EHS LJ. 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 EHS LJ fundraising. Visit our sales at http://myworld.ebay.com/ehslifundraising?_trksid=p2047675.l2559

Have you seen our grounds recently??

They are beautiful!

Many thanks to Edward and Pat Morrison of EBM Construction for volunteering to help get our garden area looking beautiful. EBM Construction is a licensed and insured construction company that can be reached at 516-326-6826. And thanks to Stacy Leon for asking her friends to help out. That's Stacey on the right in the photo.



Announcements

Alumni News! Emily Helden Neuberger was a finalist in the 2013 International Book Awards, sponsored by the USA Book News, for her book *Show Me a Story: 40 Craft Projects and Activities to Spark Children's Storytelling*. Emily is a graduate of our Sunday School and former Sunday School teacher, who now lives in Massachusetts. Her parents, former members Steven and Roseanne Helden, now live near Emily. Her grandparents were the late Ruth and Joe Kaufman.

Sad News: Deborah Strube's father, Warren Weiner, passed away May 13, 1913 in Del Ray Beach Florida at the age of 95. He was formerly of Syracuse and Glens Falls, NY. Husband of the late Sarah (nee Felderman) (1) and Helene (Rosenblum) (2). He is survived by his four children: Jay, Norman, Stephen (Betty Ann), Deborah (Richard Strube) of New York, and friend Sara Zeff. WWII US Navy Veteran who served as radar man during the American campaign Asiatic Pacific. Long time member of Temple Adath Yeshurun in Syracuse. A quiet man who loved to sing, act, play bridge. Special thanks to Petrona. Donations may be made to Hospice of Palm Beach County, Florida. <http://hpbc.com> (877) 494-6890 Birnbaum Funeral Home.

Summer Sunday Meeting Schedule



June 9: Calvin Dame, "Enchantments & Complications: My Trip To Israel"
Annual Member Meeting after the Sunday Meeting

June 16: Vincent Wright, Photojournalist and Professor at CW Post, LIU.
He will exhibit his photography on the walls of our meeting room and give talk.

June 23: Transition Sunday
Joan Beder and Pat Spencer, the incoming Society Co-Presidents, and Calvin will provide an opportunity for us to talk about the year that was and consider our hopes for the year ahead. We'll also have lunch outdoors, weather permitting, in our newly transformed back yard to help mark the transition.

June 30: Linda Napoli, "Why Poetry Matters"
Join Linda Napoli for a discussion and sharing of poetry which has moved us all in a memorable way. Attendees are invited to bring in one poem that has meaning for them. If you have no poetry to share, come and share yourself!

July 7: Calvin & Friends, "A Music Sunday"
A day when we get to play and sing some songs that are fun and engaging

July 14: Joan Beder

July 21: Al Zeiger, "Why J.S. Bach Is Great"
Audience participation, come join the fun!

July 28: Alison Pratt

August 4: David Sprintzen
(with the music of Al Zeiger from the American tradition)

August 11: Liz Seegert, "A Brief Primer on the Affordable Care Act"

August 18: Sylvia Silberger

August 25: Calvin Dame, "Introduction to the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island"

September 1: Don Morganstern

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

May Board Meeting Minutes

ETHICAL HUMANIST SOCIETY OF LONG ISLAND

MINUTES OF THE May 1st, 2013 BOARD MEETING

PRESENT: Lois Blatt, Mel Haber, Bill Larsen, Jim Lopresti, Don Morgenstern, Liz Seegert, Pat Spencer, Deborah Strube

ABSENT: Joan Beder, Sue Feifer, Wayne Outten, Alison Pratt, David Sprintzen

GUESTS: Calvin Dame

1. **New board members:** Liam Stephens, Heidi Mann, Linda Napoli, and Delorie Cohen will become new Board members. For several reasons, there is no need to hold an election.

2. **Financial report:** We are doing okay. We have approximately \$28,000 left from the bequest we recently received. However, we are spending more money than we take in. As to the electrical work we had done a few years ago, we paid a company for what they did. That same company was supposed to do boiler repair work costing about \$8,000, but we didn't have the money then to pay them, and so they didn't do the work. We decided that we won't spend the money because of the great expense involved. The new Board president will bring the matter up again when the new Board takes over.

3. **Setting up a meeting place for socializing after the platform:** Lois suggested that we set up a place for socializing after each Sunday platform. We considered using one of the rooms downstairs for that purpose, but issues

relating to the Sunday School's future needs require that we hold off using any downstairs room for the time being.

4. **Liz's report:** The number of visitors to the web site is down, but those that do visit are staying longer and exploring more content. Liz, Jim and David drew up guidelines for submission of articles to our Newsletter and Web site. Liz will email the guidelines to everyone on the Board, and we'll vote on them at the next Board meeting. Finally, Liz announced that we have 100 followers on Twitter.

5. **Long term leasing sign:** Pat will put up a sign in Phyllis' office saying we have rooms upstairs for long-term leasing.

6. **Calvin's housing allowance:** The Board agreed to increase the set-aside portion of Calvin's housing allowance.

7. **New board officers:** The Board decided on new officers for next year who will start at our June Board meeting:

President: Joan Beder

Vice-president: Pat Spencer

Secretary: We put off deciding on a Secretary until the next Board meeting.

Treasurer: Joan will designate a Treasurer.

The meeting ended at 9:20 PM
Minutes submitted by Mel Haber,
Board secretary



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. 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.



Sylvia Silberger and Bill Larsen, Yosemite National Park

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

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Fax: 516-741-7305

Ethicalsociety@optonline.net

<http://www.ehsli.org>

Meet- Up: <http://www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanist-Society-of-Long-Island>



*An Ethical Culture Society
Affiliated with
The American Ethical Union*

*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