President’s Message

from Linda Napoli

Now that there’s a hint of warmth in the air, let’s look forward to a wonderful Spring full of interesting and fun activities.

There are still more stimulating classes coming up offered by some of our most accomplished members. See below for details. Thank you to Mel and Barbara Haber for their hard work.

We are also planning more discussions and workshops in the coming months and will let you know when they’ve been formulated. If you have any suggestions or ideas, let me know.

The annual YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) Sunday will be on March 13th. During its 25-year history, many of our Sunday School graduates have gone into the youth group and taken the next step into a more mature view of living an ethical life. Their yearly Sunday platforms have always been informative and interesting.

A special thank you to Stacy Leon who has been setting up the coffee hour offerings almost on her own for the past few weeks. Please offer her a helping hand if you can.

One person can make a difference...

Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen for coffee hour; see Stacy Leon.

Some of our members need a ride to our Sunday meetings. Please contact Lois Blatt of the Caring Committee if you can provide a ride.

Notes from the Board

The plans to improve our audio/visual capabilities are progressing. Money has been allotted and Liz Seegert is getting estimates. A small knowledgeable group is involved in the planning and will report to the Board next month.

A free energy audit of our building will take place sometime soon to be sure our usage is as efficient as possible.

Pledge income is coming in slowly. Thank you to those who have made part or all of your contributions for 2016.
Our Youth Programs

Humanist Sunday School

This month the children have been learning about ethical heroes. They each created their own superhero. For example, Ryan created “Drive Man” whose super power is the ability to set up food drives, clothing drives, and toy drives. We have also been learning about the life of Felix Adler. Last week we discussed his early life, and how he learned to be an ethical hero early because he went with his mother to bring food to the poor immigrants on the lower East side. During March we will continue to learn about him and how he started the Ethical Culture movement. We will also be learning about other heroes of ethical culture.

The Sunday School children would like to thank everyone who contributed to the hat, scarf and mitten drive. All donations were brought to Bethany house.

We are looking forward to Spring planting soon, the children will be starting seeds indoors during March. We hope to help with the garden this year!

Once again, please feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or ideas for the Sunday school. I can be reached at ccl1311@aol.com.

Thank You,

Christine Lamattina, Sunday School Director

Y.E.S. Youth of Ethical Societies

As we draw closer to March 13th, the preparation for the Y.E.S group platform begins to come to an end. The group selects an idea/ concern that most affects them or the environment they are surrounded by in order to address the different approaches in which one can bypass or overcome this concern. They also take their questions to the streets and interact with people and get different views on the topic. This year they have chosen "Role Models: The Criteria Through Generations" for their theme. We are excited to share this presentation with the society and hope to see you all there! — Mayra Fournier

For more information or for a meeting schedule, contact: Mayra Fournier: (631)624-3297, mfournier12@hotmail.com or John Waters: (516)366-7074, h2os82@hotmail.com

March 13, 11:00 a.m: Y.E.S. Platform. Please come!
Social Action

Amnesty International, USA Group 74
A Renewed Effort

We are relaunching our Amnesty International chapter, USA Group 74. This chapter of the Nobel Prize winning international human rights group was founded in January 1976 and over the years worked on dozens of cases of individuals who were imprisoned because of their beliefs and had not advocated violence. Our group (associated with EHSLI) was responsible for a number of releases of prisoners of conscience, notably in The Philippines, Kenya and Uruguay.

You can get involved! We are looking for people who are willing to write one letter a month on behalf of a prisoner of conscience whose cases are provided to us through Amnesty International USA. Group #74 will hold letter writing campaigns periodically on Sunday mornings.

Glove, Scarf, and Mitten, and Hat Drive

It took a long time for winter to arrive, but it did. Please bring in hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for people of all ages to go to Bethany House. Make someone’s winter a little warmer.

Food Drive

Also, we are always collecting food for the INN. Remember that people go hungry on Long Island every day. Bring nonperishable food items to the basket in the lobby.
M.E.D. Rx (Medication • Education • Disposal • Repurpose)

Bring in those empty pill bottles! Matthew Berman, our Young Activist Grant winner, is having the bottles professionally washed and then donated to the Malawi Project. There are few, if any, medical resources for medications in Malawi, where medicines are simply wrapped in scrap paper to give to patients. Matthew will be at the Social Justice Leadership Award dinner on March 31 to describe his project to us in person.

Matt now has collection boxes at some local pharmacies, an assisted living facility, and community centers. Remember that it is our Young Activist Grant that has allowed Matthew to do this work, benefitting our local environment and the people of Malawi. We at EHSLI make a difference at home and around the world.

Social Justice Leadership Award Dinner

March 31 at the Nassau Bar Association

The Social Justice Leadership Dinner
Thursday March 31, 2016—6:30 p.m.
Presented By
THE ETHICAL HUMANIST SOCIETY OF LONG ISLAND
Honoring
ERIC ALEXANDER, SMART-GROWTH PLANNER
ESTHER FORTUNOFF, BUSINESSWOMAN/PHILANTHROPIST
PATRICIA SHIH/STEPHEN FRICKER, MUSICIANS/HUMANITARIANS
And Youth Honoree
MATTHEW BERMAN, YOUNG ACTIVIST GRANT RECIPIENT
To Be Held At
THE NASSAU COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
15th & West Streets, Mineola, NY 11501

awardsdinner@ehsli.org
516-741-7304

We have a beautiful evening planned. Don’t miss it!
What’s Going On?

Let’s get dirty: Spring clean-up on March 6

We admit it wasn’t the worst of our winters, notwithstanding one nasty storm, but winter still has left its debris and litter on our lawns. Please help us roll out the welcome mat for spring by raking the debris, leaves and trash. Our intrepid gardener Heidi Mann (in photo) will lead us in getting it done. Bring tools (rakes, shears, gloves, etc.) and be ready to get dirty! Immediately after our Sunday meeting on March 6, we’ll start in the front of the building and do a second clean-up out back on another day.

from days gone by...
SPICE*

*Splendid Parties In Congenial Environments

SPICE is a fundraising tool that allows members to get together for fun outings or get-togethers for a small fee. All proceeds are donated to EHSLI. Not only does EHSLI earn a little money, but members have the opportunity to deepen their friendships with other members. Sorry, folks, it’s a “member only” activity. Missing out? Consider joining EHSLI! Thanks to Mel and Barbara Haber for getting this together.

Board Game Afternoon

Join us for an afternoon of board games - We'll play Scrabble, Monopoly, Life and other classic board games in a friendly, only-a-little competitive atmosphere! We can host 12 at our home in Glen Cove. Bring along a dip and we'll provide the chips and a few starter dips.

DATE: March, March 19 - 3 - 5:30pm
LOCATION: Sarah and John Waters
8 Park Ave.
Glen Cove, NY 11542
516-707-1430

FEE $16
PARTICIPANTS 12

The 1960 Kennedy-Nixon Presidential Debate

Join Richard Rapp as he discusses events leading up to the 1960 election, events during the campaign, and events leading to the final results. In addition, Richard will discuss certain things that happened after the election was over.

DATE/TIME: Monday, March 21, 2016, 7:30 p.m.
HOST: Richard Rapp
LOCATION: Ethical Humanist Society
PARTICIPANTS: any
FEE: $16
Classes for Enrichment
Open to everyone!

Ten Stress Management Techniques
This class will present ten stress management techniques. The format will include teaching the techniques and how to practice them, discussing the experience of the in-class practice, and answering questions about using the techniques so as to strengthen participants’ ability to modulate their stress and gain more control over it.

DATE/TIME: March 6, 2016, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.
PRESENTER: Barbara Haber, 718-279-4940
LOCATION: Ethical Society, Room 201
PARTICIPANTS: 10, no children
FEE: None

Let’s Remember....

Women's History Month
In March we celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of the many women who have made a difference in the world throughout history. Some are famous and some are not. Leaders of nations, scientific researchers, captains of industry, heads of social movements and creators of safe and healthy sanctuaries for the needy, women have always been in the trenches and in the forefront of social change. As the song says, “We were there.”

Not only that, we have stood by and supported the men who do the same. But the most important thing to remember is that we are all heroes in our own lives and though many of our contributions are small, we to make a difference.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island

is 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. Learn more at www.ehsli.org.

Contacts

38 Old Country Road • Garden City, NY 11530

516-741-7304 • www.ehsli.org

Office Manager: Phyllis Herschlag: ethicalsociety@optonline.net

Programs

Sunday morning meetings begin at 11:00 a.m. for approximately one hour. A blend of music, poetry, mediation and a informative presentation, our Sunday mornings are the centerpiece of our week.

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.

Humanist Sunday School 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.

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.

AHA Meetings. The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island's chapter of the American Humanist Association will be meeting on the last Monday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for February 29 at 7:00pm in the 2nd floor meeting room. For questions or information email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com or leave a message for Sharon or Heidi Mann at 516-741-7304.

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

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 Zeigler at 516-538-2687. Leave a message and he'll return your call.

Free Vinyasa Flow Yoga Classes. Join Sylvia Silberger for free vinyasa flow yoga classes at the Ethical Humanist Society. The classes are on Wednesdays from 5:45 - 7:00 pm. If interested, contact Sylvia at matsbs@yahoo.com to be put on her class confirmation list.

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.
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. Non-profit organization only to apply. Inquire through the office, 516-741-7304.

Social Media:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LIEthical
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

EHSLI is a member society of the American Ethical Union and a Chapter of the American Humanist Association.

The Ethical Humanist
EHSLI
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

Create a Caring World