Sunday, April 15th was a particularly rich and notable morning at the Ethical Humanist Society. First, thanks to Muriel Neufeld for her work in arranging for the Playback Improv Theater, who provided an engaging, thoughtful and moving Sunday program. I hope we'll have a chance to work with them again.

Then, of course, I was pleased to have my children, Alyson and Jan, visiting! As a dad, it is always great to see Jan perform. What fun! And Jan was particularly pleased to be able to perform and talk about his upcoming Clowns Without Borders trip to Indonesia. He was deeply appreciative of your support: passing the hat collected $230 to support his trip and the Clowns Without Borders mission. He left from the Society for a dash across the country to catch a plane in San Francisco Thursday night. He made it! You can get on his trip his Facebook page and on his website, JanDamm.com.

Thanks to everyone for your warm welcome and support!

I am particularly looking forward to Founder's Day on May 6th. We will be honoring Christopher and Sharon Stanley, who, when you think about it, have honored EHS with their skills, talents, time and enthusiasm over and over again throughout the years. And, due to a particular alignment of circumstances (and maybe stars!), we will incorporate Gabriel's Coming of Age celebration into the proceedings. The title for my address at the 11:00 AM meeting is "Twenty-Three Hundred Years and Counting." It will be a great day!

— Calvin O. Dame, Religious Director
**Kids In Deed**

The Kids In Deed class continues to thrive. In March we did a lesson on voting, and learned that while our country is founded on democracy, black men were not allowed to vote until after the Civil War. Not long after that, many laws were passed that made it nearly impossible for blacks to vote even though they had the legal right. These were called "Jim Crow" laws. Martin Luther King and others led protests to change these laws. President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act in 1965 that made it illegal to have tactics to prevent people from voting.

Women of all races did not have the right to vote until 1920. Many women were jailed and beaten for demanding the right to vote. We learned about voter rights and history in advance of the voter registration drive that the KID class is hosting on April 29 in Hempstead. We filled out sample voter registration forms and made signs encouraging people to register to vote. We discussed the importance of voting as a way of creating a more just society for everyone.

Our role in the Spring Festival was fun! We did the ABC's of Life. Each child took turns holding up a large alphabet letter while members of the audience read life quotes corresponding to each letter. Some audience members were invited to come to the stage, hold up their letter, and to spell out a secret message: FELIX ADLER.

You won't be seeing us for the last two weeks in April. We will be at the Bayside Marina Clean-up on April 22, picking up litter along the shoreline of Little Neck Bay. April 29 is our Voter Registration Drive in Hempstead. Both events are also being attended by the YES group.

We are always looking for new members, or for families who used to attend to come back. If you know of interested families, please forward these newsletters to them. I'd be happy to speak to interested parents and have them come along on an event.

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**The 5th Annual Teen Art, Music, and Poetry Festival Brings Teens from over 15 Different Schools in Celebration of the Arts**

Students from over 15 schools in Nassau County, including Garden City High School, Sewanhaka, Baldwin Middle School, Herricks, New Hyde Park Memorial, Floral Park Memorial, Hicksville High, Notre Dame, John Lewis Childs and others came together on March 31st to celebrate the arts in our 5th annual festival. Over 110 pieces of art, 75 poems, and 15 musical and dance performances filled the room during the afternoon event. Musical performances ranged through classical guitar, violin, trumpet, saxophone, pop vocals, rap, and rock. Irish step dancers also graced our stage. The enthusiastic audience cheered the teens as the event raised money and awareness for the St. Bernard Project in New Orleans (where Tara and two teens traveled the next day) and Ethical Friends of Children. Thanks to all of you who helped us: set things up with teachers and musicians, shopped for food, set up the room, donated raffle prizes, sold raffle tickets, placed an ad, did audio assistance and roadie help, greeted families, did the MC jobs, prepared food, sold food, or just showed up to enjoy the day. If you weren't there, why not? It was a memorable, enthusiastic, fun-filled day that raises awareness of EHSLLI in the community and creates a great day of artistic expression for local teens.

— Alison Pratt

**Photos on Pg. 3**
**2012 Teen Art, Music and Poetry Festival Photos**

- **Baldwin Middle School Collages**

- **Rap music from Leslie and Melissa of Sewanhaka High School**

- **Art and poetry from Sewanhaka High School**

- **Orion Marchese (Glen Cove High School)**

- **Emma Chilleli (St. Anne's), Kylie Woo (Sewanhaka) and Delia Thornton (Floral Park Memorial High School)**

- **Conor Larkin (Hicksville High School)**

- **David Gambino (Sewanhaka High School)**

- **Part of "Why Gone Liam?" -- Danny Avalá, and Michale D'Addario, Hicksville**

- **A packed house!**

Art from Isabelle Brenes (Notre Dame), Holly Zeit (Herricks), Gabriel Stanley (Clark Middle School), Lin Ye, Reid Hetzel, and Peter Boldyrew (Sewanhaka).
Goings on at EHSLI and Around

Founder's Day: Join us on Sunday, May 6th, 2012 from 1—4 PM at the Ethical Society for an unprecedented Founder's Day Program/Luncheon honoring Sharon and Chris Stanley. We will also be celebrating Gabriel Stanley's Coming of Age. Donation -- adults $50, children $15. RSVP to the office ASAP.

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

Movie Group: The movie group will meet Sat., April 28th at 2:30 PM. The movies to be discussed are: The Kid With a Bike and Footnote. Join us for stimulating discussion & dinner at the Majestic Diner.

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

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

Teen Art, Music and Poetry Festival on Fios! If you get Verizon Fios Long Island, you can see their coverage of our Teen Art, Music and Poetry Festival! It is to air on a program called Push Pause on Thursday, April 26th at 12:30 PM, 4:30 PM, 9:30 PM, and Sunday, April 29th at 8:30 PM. Go to www.fios1news.com/LongIsland and search for the program Push Pause.

May 20th Sunday Meeting Speaker Bio: Laura Weinberg has been president of the Great Neck Breast Cancer Coalition since 2001, former chair of the Long Island Breast Cancer Network from 2003-2010, and a Board Member of the New York State Breast Cancer Network since 2002. She also served for five years on the Ecological Commission of the Town of North Hempstead, Long Island. She has been educating the public on the link between environmental toxins and cancer for nearly two decades through hundreds of presentations and articles. She has also worked for over a decade with legislators throughout New York State on breast cancer issues, especially to support legislation that reduces our exposure to toxins. In 2005, Laura and the Great Neck Breast Cancer Coalition spearheaded the Students & Scientists United for Breast Cancer Prevention Scholarship Program, which sends high school students to work with researchers who are studying the link between breast cancer and the environment. To date, 14 students will be interning at breast cancer prevention research facilities. Through a federal grant called Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Project, Laura and the GNBCC are working with researchers at Mount Sinai School of Medicine who are studying the link between breast cancer and the environment. To date, 14 students from Great Neck High Schools have participated in this program through the Great Neck Breast Cancer Coalition. In summer 2012 an additional eight students from three Nassau County high schools will be interning at breast cancer prevention research facilities. Through a federal grant called Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Project, Laura and the GNBCC are working with researchers at Mount Sinai School of Medicine who are studying the link between breast cancer and the environment.

Sunday Meetings

April 29: Russell Neufeld
Long Island Gangs and the Death Penalty

May 6: Founder's Day — Honoring Chris and Sharon Stanley; led by Calvin Dame
Twenty-Three Hundred Years and Counting

May 13: Mike D’Inncenzo, Hofstra Univeristy History Professor
The New Old Age: Ways Forward for Nonogenarians

May 20: Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel & Laura Weinberg, Community Partner at Breast Cancer and Environmental Program
The New Energy: Need vs. Dangers

May 27: Musical Program — Coordinated by Richard Rapp with member musicians and singers

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

Visit EHSLI Online!

EHSLI Website: http://www.ehsli.org
EHSLI on Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli
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

Exercise Classes for Seniors: Classes for seniors are led by instructor Sue Salko. Classes meet 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM MWF. Classes are geared to the needs of participants while addressing flexibility, balance, strength and endurance. Bring light weights, stretch bands (available from instructor), wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. Suggested contribution: $5 per class. For more information on class dates and times, email Sue at Sue.Salko@yahoo.com and for information about Sue, visit her website: www.SueSalko.com.

Free Yoga Classes: led by Sylvia Silberger, Wednesdays — Vinyasa-style yoga 5:30-6:45 PM and a Gentle/Restorative yoga 7-8:00 PM. Email Sylvia at matsbs@yahoo.com if you are interested.
**Betty Kornbluh**

**The Bayside Contingent – A Memory**

The passage of years dims and sometimes obliterates memories. People and faces usually remain in some abstract form but we forget much of what those people with those faces have done that keeps them within the scope of our ability to recall them. It is part of the human condition.

The Bayside Contingent, when my first wife and I became a part of it, consisted of three married couples from the Ethical Society of Long Island: the Berardi’s, the Braunstein’s, and the the Kornbluh’s. When the Rapp’s joined, it became a quartet, not of the ‘barbershop’ variety but of the kind that grew to be solid bulwarks completely devoted to the Long Island Ethical Society.

None were more dedicated than the Kornbluh’s, Sol and Betty, who both gave of themselves to the nth degree. The death of Betty Kornbluh recently (known as Betina to some of her closest friends, a singular name for a very singular lady) brought me to the realization that life suddenly ends, much too suddenly. As you grow older, your friends do not age with you. Some, unfortunately, complete their journey before you do.

Betty and I served together on the Board of Trustees of the Society for many, many years. I remember her as a small but strong and unwavering woman; she had absolutely no hesitation when it came to an expression of her beliefs which basically consisted of the successful and dedicated growth of her second home: the Long Island Ethical Humanist Society. Betty gave of herself, her time, her expertise; she was never ‘left waiting for the bus’ – she drove the bus if she had to in order to accomplish whatever had to be done. There is no pane of glass, no wooden slat, no coat of paint, no light bulb, no brick nor flower nor blade of grass that graces the Society that would have been there if it were not, in great part, for Betty’s unlimited, unwavering and powerful devotion.

Our relationship was not ‘peaches and cream’ all the time. We were able to argue and disagree, sometimes sharply on a given issue. However, when I became the President of the Society, I could always count on her ability to articulate a point of view that was never selfish but always, at its basic core, something that she believed was ‘good for the Society’. She was right far more often than she was not.

She and her husband, Sol, have been away from the Society for many years due to illnesses. Sadly, a great many of our members did not get to know either of them. As you inhabit our beloved Society, look carefully and perhaps you will see Betina Kornbluh nodding her head in appreciation that you too have found your second home and loving it and caring for it as she did.

— Richard Rapp

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**EHSLI Free Exchange and Classifieds**

**Patricia Spencer suggested we make room for a free “classified” section in the Newsletter. These classifieds should be for things you’d like to give away for free, or to request things you need. I will accept friendly (and clean) personals, as well. Please send classifieds to matsbs@yahoo.com by the 15th of the month for the subsequent month’s newsletter. — Sylvia Silberger**

**Many Thanks to the Improv Playback Theater:** On Sunday April 15th, IMMIGRATION, presented by IMPROV PLAYBACK THEATER attracted a huge audience of all ages and backgrounds, including Kids in Deed, YES, and several non-member visitors. It was a most enjoyable morning and the cast deserved the applause, as did our members and friends who participated by telling of their personal or family immigration experiences. I want to thank Natasha Brenner, Lyn Dobrin, Phil Segal, Pat Spencer, and the Kiptoo family for helping to make it a very special day. — Muriel Neuf

**Free Window Air Conditioner:** size 12 1/2 H X 20 1/2 W X18 1/2 deep. It has sides that will fit any window. Not sure how many BTU’s it has, but it will cool a room that is 20’ X 20’ or larger. You’d need to pick it up from my home in Hicksville. Available until May 31, 2012. — Pat Spencer 516-433-5019

**A SPICE Thank You:** Those of us that attended the High Line Park Event on Sat.4/21 sincerely want to thank our resident tour guide, Alan Cohen for all his efforts. The knowledge that he imparted about the history of the High Line and pointing out interesting buildings, along the route, added immeasurably to our enjoyment. The weather was perfect and we very much enjoyed our socializing & having a delicious lunch out as a group. Thanks also to all who attended and helped make this such a great SPICE. — The SPICE Committee: Alice Sprintzen, Pat Spencer & Lorraine Abrams
Some High Line SPICE Event Pictures

Note from the Editor

Newsletter Editor: Sylvia Silberger

Please send suggestions for additions to future EHSLI newsletters and comments to

Sylvia Silberger
96 Vermont Avenue
Hempstead, NY 11550
matsbs@yahoo.com

Submissions due by the 15th of the month for the next month’s newsletter.
April Board Meeting Minutes

ETHICAL HUMANIST SOCIETY OF LONG ISLAND
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2012 BOARD MEETING

PRESENT: Wayne Outten, Pat Spenser, Liz Seegert, Alison Pratt, Jim LoPresti, Mel Haber, Deborah Strube

ABSENT: David Sprintzen, Tara Klein, Carol Pincus

GUESTS: Calvin Dame

1. Need for new sign: Unfortunately, a person who attended a recent concert in our auditorium crashed his car into our sign at the side of our building and demolished it. We are in the process of trying to get reimbursed by the vandal. We got an estimate of $3,600 from a sign company to have it replaced.

2. Liz's report: The number of unique visitors to our site is up. There was an increase in visitors around the time of the Teen Arts Festival.

3. Alison's report: As to the Teen Arts Festival, this was the 5th annual event, and it was a great success. Many teens contributed art work, poetry, and musical acts. At one point, there was standing room only. We collected about four pages of names and email addresses in the guest book. These visitors will get a letter from our Society thanking them for coming and to tell them of upcoming Society events. The Garden City Patch sent a reporter to cover the event; the article is available online. Verizon FIOS Long Island sent a reporter, too, who did a video piece which will air at a later date.

As to fundraising, we have received some money from various sources. Some money was donated by several people, while some came from food and raffles. We need to do better at fundraising by getting sponsors of events and better raffle prizes.

The KIDs program has set up a schedule from early March all the way up to the end of April.

4. Jim's fundraising report: Jim will check with a company that does fundraising to see if it's worth our while for us to have them do fundraising for us. They would work for no fee, just a commission. It seems more likely that we would get money for Ethical Friends of Children and for the Teen Arts Festival, rather than for our Society as a whole.

5. AEU assembly in June: Calvin will be going to the Assembly in June.

6. AEU board: We thought of two people whom we recommend for the AEU Board.

7. Board nominating committee: We need to nominate people to replace three Board members whose terms expire in June: Mel Haber, Jim LoPresti and David Sprintzen. In addition, Don Morgenstern wants to resign in June as President. Three people volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee: Mel Haber, Jim LoPresti and Deborah Strube. Members of the Board should email suggestions to the Nominating Committee as to others who would be good Board members.

8. Summer meetings: Calvin asked for people to sign up to speak at Sunday platforms.

9. Financials: We have a $6,500 bill for boiler repairs, and so we need to be careful about spending money.

The meeting ended at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by
Mel Haber, Board secretary
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.