President’s Column

On November 23rd we have scheduled our Fall Membership Meeting. It is at this time that members are invited to vote on the proposed 2015 budget. It is also a time for us to gather as a community and to review the accomplishments/concerns that members have about the Society.

From my vantage point as one of the Board Presidents we have had a good year. I have experienced an exceptional level of support and activity from Board members. The range of issues that we explore on behalf of the Society at our monthly meetings has been substantial and meaningful. We have initiated many cost-saving strategies. Yes, expenses always continue (we have a second new boiler to complement the one bought last year; we have had several rooms painted to enable office rentals; and we have had to purchase new doors and floor mats within the building). Let’s hope we don’t have another snowy winter as the costs of snow plowing were very high this last year. But, by and large, we have been able to afford the repairs and expenses of running the building.

We have added several new members this year, which has helped our overall financial picture. Pledges are the bedrock of our budget, supplemented by fund-raising events and rentals. It is therefore essential that all members pledge and honor their pledges as the year unfolds.

So, (in true idiomatic English) come on down on November 23rd. Arthur Dobrin, Leader Emeritus, will begin the morning with a presentation about Colloquy and soon thereafter, we will begin our meeting. We need your input and voices.

Joan Beder, co-President

Annual Membership Meeting

On November 23rd we will be having our fall membership meeting as part of the program at 11 AM. At this time we will be asking the members to discuss and vote on the 2015 budget for the Society. Members should have already received the EHS LI 2015 Budget via email by now. Please let Pat or Joan know if you haven’t gotten it. The Board has studied the budget and has voted to accept this budget. The next step is for the members to approve the budget and we move on from there.

Special thanks to our Treasurer, Mary Sherman, who has prepared the budget and will be discussing it at the meeting on the 23rd.

Please plan to attend this meeting. At 11 AM, Arthur Dobrin, Leader Emeritus, will be making a presentation and the membership meeting will begin at about 11:40 AM.

Joan and Pat, co-Presidents
**Attracting the “Nones”**

The latest studies, as conducted by Pew Research, indicate that 16.1% of Americans identify themselves as “non-affiliated” with any religion. The term the “nones” was coined to describe these individuals. This does not include Unitarian Universalists or Ethical Humanists. These fall under a different category called “Liberal Religions,” which encompasses 0.7% of the population.

The group identified as the “nones” include atheists, agnostics, and people with no affiliation at all, secular unaffiliated and religious unaffiliated.

Here are some interesting facts about the “nones,” as pointed during a workshop at the American Ethical Union’s 2014 Assembly, by James Croft, Ethical Culture Leader-In-Training.

1. Most of these people are “young,” in their 20s and 30s, which is a common time to be questioning religious upbringing and researching other world views.

2. They are not looking to join a religion, although they are quite diverse in their beliefs and world views.

3. They are unlikely to join a Sunday morning congregation.

Imagine The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island as an active humanist hub with a variety of activities for a diversity of people of all ages! Right now we are the only humanist group on Long Island fortunate enough to have a building. Not only will it contribute to the growth and viability of our society, it also furthers our common goal; to make the world a better place.

Sharon Stanley
EHSLI Chapter of AHA
Co-Chair

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**A View from the AEU**

As a new member of the American Ethical Union Board, I’m excited to report all the wonderful activities we’re putting together for our members.

Since its founding in 1889, the American Ethical Union (AEU), the national organization of Ethical Societies in the United States, has helped form new Ethical Societies, supported existing Societies, and worked to provide a national presence for Ethical Culture. A significant part of the AEU’s activities are geared toward national conferences, such as the annual Assembly, and toward training for ethical leadership.

This year there will three conferences in the fall:

1. A workshop will be held October 24-25 at the Ethical Culture Society of Westchester featuring a professional fundraiser to familiarize Societies with effective approaches to running annual pledge campaigns that engage members.

2. The Annual Ethical Education Conference will be held at beautiful Stony Point in Rockland County, New York from November 7-9. Those involved in ethical education for children at their Societies will meet Dale McGowan, our new National Ethical Education Director. Dale is a knowledgeable, personable and experienced individual who has published on this subject. Having been involved in (what was called) religious education almost from the outset of my connection with Ethical Culture 33 years ago, I can attest to how informative and meaningful this program is not only to the RE Directors and teachers, but to the families who attend and find others who are raising their children with the same values they are. There is nothing comparable to a young family meeting, sharing and making friends with other families from different Ethical Societies.

3. There is also the annual YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) Conference November 14-16 in New York. Teens scattered throughout our various locations will get an opportunity to meet and share their views and concerns, both personal and social. Trish Cowan, the YES Coordinator, organizes the conference with assistance from the teens and advisors of our Societies, and support from the AEU office. An outgrowth of this group is Future of Ethical Societies (FES) for college

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### November/December Sunday Meeting Schedule

**November 16:** Arthur Dobrin, Leader Emeritus EHSLI, *Thinking About Ethics.*
Arthur will explore ethical problems he has faced. This will involve audience participation.

**November 23:** Arthur Dobrin, Leader Emeritus EHSLI, *Colloquy.*
The Annual Membership Meeting will be held after the platform.

**November 30:** Joe Chuman, Leader of the Bergen Ethical Culture Society, *How America's Values and Institutions Shape Our Influence Abroad.*

**December 7:** Dina Santorelli, Freelance Writer, *Ethical Dilemmas, Fiction Writing, Self-Publishing.*

**December 14:** Thomas Roser, Department Chair, Collider-Accelerator Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, *Personal Ethical Perspective and Thoughts on Energy and the Impact on Society and Civilization.*

**December 21:** Winter Festival

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

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### A View from the AEU, Continued

*Continued From Page 2*

Age students whose commitment to building a better world is only starting to mature as they grow older. FES will have its conference in May 2014.

Our National Director of Ethical Education, and YES Coordinator are the dedicated and inspired individuals the AEU pays to run these annual conferences as well as to support all involved in our youth education throughout the year.

To continue on the path of lifelong ethical education there is Lay Leadership Summer School, a one-week course at a beautiful location in North Carolina. Created almost 20 years ago by Ethical Culture Leaders Joy McConnell and Jone Johnson, this program is underwritten by the American Ethical Union as a way to train individuals in communication, organizational development and ethics, allowing them to go back to their Societies with enhanced skills to help them flourish. As a first year student and then an instructor at Lay Leadership Summer School, I can assure you of the transformative nature of this experience and its value to the over 200 members who have taken part in it.

The AEU supports every Society with information and advice. There are active national committees that correspond with your local committees in membership, ethical action, communications, finance, and leadership. The AEU office, located at the New York Society for Ethical Culture, is a group of dedicated individuals who are always ready to answer questions, direct calls, and issue communications to all of us. When inquiries come in from all over the country regarding forming new Societies, the AEU goes into action to develop a support system for the fledgling group. Its most recent activities have been with a coterie in Silicon Valley.

In addition to this, it is well to remember that the American Ethical Union is our national voice on social issues of the day. Along with other major groups, we speak in favor of or in opposition to matters that concern all of us as Americans and citizens of the world.

Lastly, and most importantly is the AEU Assembly, which is held in a different city each year to give members an opportunity to meet, commiserate, discuss, and learn through workshops and meetings. In June 2015, we celebrate the 100th Assembly of the American Ethical Union in Stamford, Connecticut. It is a noteworthy occasion not just for historic reasons, but also for its continued vitality and dedicated mission to meet the needs of you, its members.

Linda Napoli
AEU Board Member
Member, EHSLI
In Memoriam: Howard B. Radest (1928-2014)

This Article Originally Appeared in *The Humanist*, written by Joseph Chuman • 31 October 2014

Dr. Howard Radest, a former member of the Humanist magazine’s editorial advisory board and longtime contributor, died on October 11 at the age of eighty-six.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Radest lived the life of a humanist. He was a visionary who believed that if humanism was to thrive it needed to be sustained by solid institutions. He primarily associated and was identified with the Ethical Culture movement but embraced the wider humanist ecumenical project.

With a BA from Columbia University and a master’s from the New School, Radest became the first leader of the Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County, New Jersey, in 1956, a position he held until 1964. Under his leadership the society grew quickly, laying the foundation for the thriving humanist community it remains today.

After serving in New Jersey, Radest became the executive director of Ethical Culture’s federated organization, the American Ethical Union. He was an activist director who broadened the scope and influence of the AEU and reached out to form coalitions with other humanist groups, including the American Humanist Association. He assumed a shared role with Paul Kurtz, then editor of the Humanist, in the publication of the magazine. It was at this time that Ethical Culture joined with the AHA and the Unitarian Universalist Association to hire a professional lobbyist to push forward humanist interests on Capitol Hill. A related action undertaken by Radest, a life-long pacifist, along with his colleague, Edward Ericson, was to leverage conscientious objector status for humanists. This was achieved through a series of face-to-face meetings with General Lewis Hershey, then director of the Selective Service.

While serving as executive director of the AEU, Radest completed his doctorate in philosophy at Columbia and authored *Toward Common Ground*, which still stands as the definitive history of the Ethical movement in the United States. It was during his tenure at the AEU that Radest became president of the International Humanist and Ethical Union, which Ethical Culture helped found in the early 1950s. It was through his stewardship of the IHEU that many of us learned that humanism was indeed a global phenomenon, and Radest was pleased to introduce us to many of our soon-to-be colleagues at IHEU congresses held in Amsterdam, London, Oslo, and, more recently, in the developing world.

Radest moved on to become one of the original professors at Ramapo College, an arm of the state university system in New Jersey. He left the university to become the director of the Ethical Culture Schools, a position he held for twelve years, ending in 1991. In was during this phase that he established a moral education center at Columbia, a project that continues to explore ethical pedagogy to this day.

After leaving the directorship of the Ethical Culture Schools, Radest officially retired, and with his wife, Rita, relocated to Hilton Head, South Carolina. But he did not retire from his work on behalf of humanist causes. He was a cofounder, together with Sherwin Wine, of the Humanist Institute, which educates lay members from the Ethical movement, the AHA, the UUA, and the Society for Humanistic Judaism in the foundations of humanist thought and in related skills to become more effective spokespersons and activists for the humanist cause. As the first dean of the institute, Radest charted its course and helped shape its scope and direction by recruiting mentors for each of its classes, refining its curriculum, and ensuring its financial solvency.

In his new home in South Carolina, Radest taught medical ethics and comparative religion at the local branch of the University of South Carolina while chairing the ethics committee of the South Carolina Medical Association.

Out of his work in the humanist world and related fields, he found the inspiration to author nine books and innumerable articles for various journals of opinion. (His last article for the Humanist was a review of Kristen Stewarts’s, *The Good News Club: The Christian Right’s Stealth Assault on America’s Children* in the March/April 2013 issue.)

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In Memoriam: Howard B. Radest, Continued

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Radest’s last major organizational commitment was as a founder and chair of the board of the Ethical Charter School located in Jersey City that carries forward the values that lie at the center of Ethical Culture and its philosophy of life.

This long list of accomplishments cannot by itself convey Radest’s dedication to the humanist cause. His devotion to humanism was not merely reflected in his serving on boards and committees, and for being an articulate, indeed brilliant, spokesperson for the values to which he was deeply committed. Nor was it even manifested in his founding of a raft of humanist organizations. Rather, having brought such organizations into being, he stuck with them. He made sure that he brought the most talented people with him. He oversaw serious and well managed organizational structures. And he knew the importance of providing a strong financial basis to ensure that each of the organizations he brought into being would have a viable future. And he did this not in short term, but persistently for years and throughout his long and productive life.

Without bombast and without high drama, Howard Radest stood as a giant of the contemporary humanist movement. He influenced for the better the lives of countless women and men who shared his convictions about humanism and what it takes to create a decent and humane world. The ideals that he loved and that inspired him, and the contributions that emerged from them, will live on as testaments to his thought, his dedication, and his deeds.

Howard Radest is survived by his wife, two sons, two daughters-in-law, and five grandchildren. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2014 at the New York Society for Ethical Culture.

Don’t Miss It!

Joe Chuman, author of this article and Leader of the Bergen County Ethical Culture Society, will be the speaker at our November 30th Sunday Meeting.

See page 3 for our other November/December Sunday Meeting speakers.

Note from the Editor

Newsletter Editor: Sylvia Silberger

Please email comments and suggestions for additions to future EHS LI 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.
**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. Visit our sales at [http://myworld.ebay.com/ehslifundraising](http://myworld.ebay.com/ehslifundraising).

**AHA Meetings:** The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a member society of the American Ethical Union and a chapter of the American Humanist Association.

Beginning September 30th, 2014, Heidi Mann and Sharon Stanley began co-chairing the EHS/AHA Chapter, meeting monthly at 7:00 PM. Meetings will be held on the last Tuesday of each month at the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island, 38 Old Country Road, Garden City, NY 11530. We will meet on the 2nd floor in the Board Room. The next two meetings will be on November 25th and December 30th. These meetings will consist of a mixture of discussion, social action and socialization. Preliminarily, the focus will be on current social action activities of the American Humanist Association, such as the struggle to keep church and state separate.

Come out and join the group! Your participation will be a wonderful contribution in our efforts to make the world a better place.

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

**2014 LICG Crafts Fair:** SAVE THE DATE!!! The 2014 LICG Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 15th, 10 AM - 4 PM at the Ethical Humanist Society, Garden City, NY. We are pleased to present our second annual craft fair, a juried show featuring original work in glass, clay, fiber, metal and more, created by our most talented local artists.

**Our Times Coffee House:** Our Times Coffeehouse Presents Sultans of String on Friday November 21st at 8 PM.

2010 JUNO Award nominees and "Canada's ambassadors of musical diversity" Sultans of String thrill their audiences with their global sonic tapestry of Spanish Flamenco, Arabic folk, Cuban rhythms, and French Manouche Gypsy-jazz, celebrating musical fusion and human creativity with warmth and virtuosity. Fiery violin dances with rumba-flamenco guitar while a funk bass lays down unstoppable grooves. Acoustic strings meet with electronic wizardry to create layers and depth of sound, while world rhythms excite audiences to their feet with the irresistible need to dance.

The suggested donations are $15 adults; children under 12, $6. Tickets will be on sale at the door; sorry, no pre-sales are available. Doors open at 7:15 PM. For more information, visit [www.ourtimescoffeehouse.org](http://www.ourtimescoffeehouse.org) or call 516-741-7304.

The Our Times Coffeehouse, staffed entirely with volunteers, has been presenting live music for 24 years. OTC is dedicated to supporting affordable folk music on Long Island, and over the years has hosted hundreds of outstanding performers in a warm, intimate setting. The Our Times Coffeehouse is a joint project of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island (EHS) and the Long Island Progressive Coalition (LIPC), with the assistance of the Research and Education Project of Long Island (REP-LI).

**Save the Date!** EHSLI is having a New Year Day party for members, their family and friends, time and information to follow.

**Change for Change:** Linda Napoli is looking for a large clear pickle type jar that can be used for our "Change for Change" campaign. If anyone has a jar please bring it to the office.

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**Board Meeting Minutes:** We will no longer be posting the board meeting minutes in the monthly newsletter. The minutes will be available to members upon request. Contact Phyllis in the main office if you’d like a copy of a particular month’s minutes. You may email her at office@ehlsli.org or call her at (516) 741-7304.

**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.

**Small Group Connections:** The Small Group Connections will be meeting every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. The meetings will begin promptly at 7:30 PM in the Board room. The topics will be announced in the weekly emails. Please join us if you have not attended a meeting and would like to see what they are all about. We would love to have you. Contact Linda Napoli at vequa45@yahoo.com if you have questions.

**Discussion Group:** Arthur Dobrin is holding a discussion group meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 12:30 PM on Ethics and the USA Foreign Policy.

**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.

**Free Vinyasa Flow Yoga Class:** Join Sylvia for a free vinyasa flow yoga classes at the EHSLI on Wednesdays at 5:45 PM. (Please note the change in time.) If interested, contact Sylvia at matsbs@yahoo.com to be put on her class confirmation email list.

**Diogenese Roundtable:** Discuss your thoughts with us, as we probe the deeper questions of life and have a few laughs along the way. Every month we will explore a different topic in philosophy and learn from the ideas of great thinkers. For meeting times e-mail AnHonestManEHS@gmail.com, or talk with Liam Stephens or David Sprintzen. All are welcome.

**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 ethicsociety@optonline.net.

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**Visit EHSLI Online!**

EHSLI Website: [http://www.ehlsli.org](http://www.ehlsli.org)

EHSLI on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/ehsl](http://www.twitter.com/ehsl)

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)


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](http://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.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