



The Ethical Humanist

Newsletter of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
Create a Caring World



Sunday Talks

Begin at 11:00 am

December 4: Richard Koubek, The Challenges of Being a Prophetic Voice for Economic Justice in an Affluent Suburb.

December 11: Phil Nicholson, Reflections on an Imperfect Life in a Contradictory World.

followed by meeting to WELCOME NEWCOMERS

December 18: Kelly Tanza will lead us in our Winter Festival. Bring a small flashlight, led candle or other small light source for our journey.

December 25 : Closed.
January 1: Closed.

Colloquy

Every Sunday at 9:30 am

President's Message

By Linda Napoli

As December's chilly winds sweep in and the season of peace begins, the Society continues to be a place of warmth and welcome for our members and newcomers alike.

We are humming along with more ethical action and social gatherings. We urge you to be involved in both. See below for more information.



Our name is being seen more and more as we publicize our programs more widely. Partnering with other groups is enhancing this effect and the new political climate is bringing more people to our door.

There will be more Special Programs offered beginning in January, the first of which will be a three part series on racism in our nation. The purpose of this is to enlighten us and allow us to share our concerns. More details will follow.

Please support YES (our youth group) by attending their Dec. 17th Pasta Dinner.

Happy Holidays! And as the days grow shorter, remember the world is always turning toward the morning.

December Speakers



Dec. 4: "The Challenges of Being a Prophetic Voice for Economic Justice in an Affluent Suburb."

Richard Koubek, PhD, is Community Outreach Coordinator for Long Island Jobs with Justice. He facilitates the Jobs with Justice **AMOS Project**, an interfaith campaign for workers' rights and economic justice.



Dec. 11: "Reflections on an Imperfect Life in a Contradictory World."

Following the surprising outcome of our recent national elections, and amidst the great uncertainties about the future direction of our nation, attention is drawn once again to personal agency and responsibility.

The threats, fears, and dangers that have just been unleashed have caused this retired teacher/historian to ponder the choices he made in the past, the actions taken, the work that he did, and the risks that he took when he was faced with some of the fundamental contradictions in our national experience.

Were those choices wise, the actions prudent, the energy and costs expended all worthwhile? What else might he have done? Finally, and most important, what now?

Dr. Nicholson retired from Nassau Community College as a State University of New York Distinguished Professor. He is the author of many scholarly articles and two books: *Who Do We Think We Are? Race and Nation in the Modern World* and *Labor's Story in the United States*.

Dec. 18: Winter Festival. We gather, close to the winter solstice, to travel through an arc of light to darkness and back to light again through music, art, and literature. You are encouraged to bring a small flashlight, led candle or other small light source for our journey.. All are welcome.

Dec. 25 and Jan.1: Closed.



New Year's Day Pot Luck Party

for members, their family and friends

January 1, 2017, 4-8 P.M.

(room set up and decorating at 3 P.M.)

Bring your party persona, singing voice, tapping feet
and if you play an instrument bring that too.

**RSVP the number of people coming & what dish you will be
bringing to Phyllis 741-7304.**

Don't forget to bring the drinks you want.

Special Programs Initiative:

Terrific Topics Series Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

2016

December 5 - PATHS TO HUMANISM

- hosted by Sharon Stanley

Sharon will share her own experience and attendees will be invited to take part with their own stories of being a humanist and how they got there.

Coming in 2017

January - 3 Part Series on Racism

Social Action: Ethical Friends of Children

The need is great and your generosity is truly appreciated during the coming holiday season. Please donate children's clothing and baby items. Diapers, wipes, and new baby items such as bottles are always welcomed.

Your donations are completely tax deductible. All of our items are given away at no cost to families. Contact Jim LoPresti at efoc@ehsli.org for more information.



Society News

The Season Of Giving

Our annual dues letters will be going out shortly. Please be generous in your contributions as we enter 2017. We've made some wonderful improvements in the building and would like to continue to do so. Thank you for your continued commitment to the life of our Society.

Children's Hat And Mitten Drive

The Sunday School will have their annual collection of children's hats, scarves and mittens to be donated to [Bethany House](#). The drive begins now and will continue until the end of January.



Freshening Up The Facade

The front of our building has gotten a facelift with a striking coat of green paint along the top as well as a sorely needed refurbishment of the overhang. More plans are being made for the Spring.

Winter Is Upon Us!

In case of inclement weather, check your email for cancellation announcements or call the office at 516-741-7304 that morning.

CD Sale Continues

The Stanley family has donated hundreds of used cd's to the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island. They are on sale in Phyllis' office for \$2.00 each. Proceeds will go into the general fund to help improve the society. Stop by the office to browse through this collection. ENJOY!

Thanks-Giving

A big thank you to Alice Sprintzen for planning a wonderful Thanksgiving Festival this past month.



QUESTION OF THE MONTH

How does the idea of the dignity and worth of every individual shape the way you treat those whose values and behavior are contrary to your own values?

FIRST ANNUAL COMMEMORATION SUNDAY

Sunday, January 8, 2017

Freedom, Justice, Dignity and Compassion

Our first meeting in January, formerly known as Remembrance Sunday, has been a solemn occasion in our Ethical community for over forty years. We have decided to update and rename this meeting to better identify its purpose.



We will commemorate the core values of freedom, justice, dignity and compassion, as we look back to learn from the past and look forward for ways to express our ideals into the New Year. During the program we light candles as reminders of how we want to live. The second half of the morning will be devoted to members sharing their thoughts about someone important to them who has passed away.

We hope you will come and participate in this meaningful occasion.

Our Affiliated Group: Humanists of Long Island

Our next meeting will be on Dec. 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ethical Society, in the second floor meeting room. All are welcome! Please RSVP to Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com for information.

Our Youth Programs

Kids Ethics Program (a.k.a. Humanist Sunday School)

December greetings from the Sunday School, or as we are now known on Facebook:

[The Kids Ethics Program on Long Island!](#)

We spent the month of November talking about being grateful and appreciating all we have, and in December we will be talking about how we are different and how we are alike. We will also be discussing topics such as how other people around the world celebrate the winter holidays, and what it is that brings us all together, what things we all share.


The kids are also going to continue our tradition of a winter mitten/hat/scarf drive. We will begin collecting these items during the month of December, and will continue throughout the winter. A collection box will be in the lobby on Sunday mornings.

Thank you all so much for your continued support of the kids program, and remember to please stop down with any ideas or suggestions.

You may also e-mail me at ccl1311@aol.com.

If possible, please check out our Facebook page, like and share it if you can.

Our Facebook page has been renamed. Like us!
The Kids Ethics Program on Long Island!



Find us on Facebook

Thank You!

Christine Lamattina, Director of Children’s Education



YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18.



EHS LI YOUTH

@YesLIehs

YES is a group of high school students determined to make the world a better place.

Our youth group has a new Twitter handle: [@YesLIehs](https://twitter.com/YesLIehs).

Check it out to see pictures of YES's trip to Washington.

The YES group attended the annual Youth of Ethical Societies conference in Washington, D.C., Nov. 10-13. The theme was on education and the members demonstrated their outstanding knowledge about the challenges facing students in both public and private schools. It was shortly after the election and many members were also discussing the recent campaign and the results with other students from different areas of the country. The students also got a chance to tour many historical sights that the city has to offer.

Our annual pasta dinner will be held on December 17. The annual pasta dinner is our big fundraising event. We would love to see you all then.

John Waters, YES Adviser



Nadiya, Kristen, DiDi, John



YES

November 10-13, 2016 in Washington, D.C.



**Humanism is a belief in the worth and dignity of all people.
We teach children to do good for the sake of goodness alone.
Humanist values are taught through stories, play, and service projects.**

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a 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.



Contacts

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ethicalsociety@optonline.net

more at www.ehsl.org.

Programs

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

Every talk is recorded... Go to <http://www.ehsl.org/resources/archives/talks/>

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. We often lunch together after the general meeting. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Kids Ethics Program 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. www.facebook.com/kidsethicsprogramLI

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. Contact them on twitter [@YesLIehs](https://twitter.com/YesLIehs)

Humanists of Long Island Meetings. The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island's chapter of the American Humanist Association, now known as the Humanists of Long Island, will be meeting on the last Monday of each month. For questions or information email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com or leave a message for Sharon at 516-741-7304.

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

Commemoration Sunday is our first meeting of each new year when we renew our core values of freedom, justice, dignity and compassion.

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 Zeiger at 516-538-2687. Leave a message and he’ll return your call.

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. **Non-profit organizations only may apply.** 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. **Inquire through the office, 516-741-7304.**

Social Media:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LIEthical
www.facebook.com/kidsethicsprogramLI/

Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli
www.twitter.com/YesLIehs

Meetup: www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanist-Society-of-Long-Island/.
 This site lists a full schedule of our events. Support us by becoming an EHS LI meet-up member.

Blog: Leader emeritus Arthur Dobrin is blogging weekdays at arthurdobrin.wordpress.com

Community action: www.communitiesandpolicetalk.org



The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a member society of the American Ethical Union and a Chapter of the American Humanist Association.



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