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DEMOCRACY SPRING DC: RESTORING FAIR AND FREE ELECTIONS

EMILY NEWMAN

AEU Communications Coordinator

The American Ethical Union, 99Rise, Food & Water Watch, along with a growing coalition of over 50 organizations, are organizing Democracy Spring—the largest American civil disobedience action in a generation — planned for April 2-18 in Washington, DC. It's a national movement to restore fair and free elections for all people as equal citizens in America. Congress will either come to its senses and pass the perfectly viable reform bills now pending before it, or those who protect corruption will leave us no choice but to reclaim the "People's House" in massive, disruptive, nonviolent sit-ins.

You are welcome to join the event for some or all of the activities. The agenda is:

- April 2-11: Marching from the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia to DC
- April 11-15: Sit-ins and arrests/vocal support actions will take place in DC
- April 16: Democracy Spring Concert
- April 17: Peaceful march in DC
- April 18: Voting Rights Action at Congress led by the NAACP

Whether Congress acts or not, we will win by focusing the nation's attention—as never before—on the urgency of this crisis, the existence of solutions to it, and the strength of the popular demand to enact them. Organizers of Democracy Spring are ready to take this bold step, and will

*SIT IN WITH THOUSANDS.
 SAVE DEMOCRACY FOR MILLIONS.*

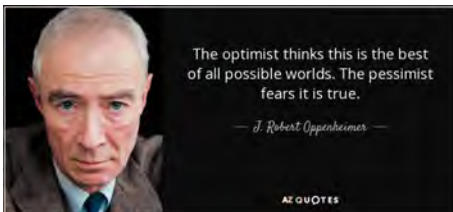


provide the necessary training and legal support to all who join. NYSEC member Dan Hanson (danhanson49@gmail.com) will be organizing members and connecting them with participants from other Ethical Societies, especially those in Philadelphia and DC.

From Selma to Occupy Wall Street, from Tar Sands Action to Black Lives Matter, everyday people have proven that mass nonviolent action can rapidly shift the political weather and open the door to reforms previously considered unwinnable. Now it's our turn. Together we can change the course of history and open the door to a bright, beautiful future. For further information and to pledge your support, visit www.DemocracySpring.org. Details on coordinating with other AEU members will be available at www.aeu.org/event/democracyspring.

P.S. For those of you attending the "Democracy is a Verb" discussion series, here's a great opportunity to put that concept into action. It's not at all a new idea, as you'll see at this month's "Great Books" discussion — for which the readings are Locke's *Civil Government* and Thoreau's *Disobedience*. (See p. 4)

THE ETHICAL CULTURIST WHO BUILT THE BOMB



J. Robert Oppenheimer was a graduate of the Ethical Culture Fieldston School. His parents were active in the Society for Ethical Culture; his dad served on its Board of Directors for eight years; and all knew and respected Felix Adler, the Society's founder. Oppenheimer is also known as "the father of the bomb," as he led a team of scientists at Los Olmos laboratory in New Mexico that engineered the first atomic weapon. After the war, Oppenheimer became a vocal advocate for nuclear regulation despite serving as the chief adviser for the US Atomic Energy Commission. He angered many politicians for his

(Continued on p. 6)



LEADER'S DESK
DR. ANNE KLAEYSEN

Misogyny & Politics

"There's a special place in hell for women who don't help each other."

Madeline Albright, February 6, 2016

Hell? Really? The former Secretary of State said this when she introduced another former Secretary of State, Hillary Rodham Clinton, at a rally in New Hampshire. Of course, she wasn't suggesting that we women help *all* women, just *her* candidate. (On February 10, the other woman running for president, Carly Fiorina, ended her bid.) Maybe there's another special place in hell for women who support Republican women. At any rate, damning anyone to hell seems like a bad idea to me.

A day earlier, feminist icon and *Ms. Magazine* founder Gloria Steinem said in an interview on comedian Bill Maher's HBO show, "... women get more radical because they lose power as they age. And, when you're young, you're thinking, where are the boys? The boys are with Bernie." Maher gave her a chance to reconsider her statement by joking that he wouldn't be allowed to make such a sexist comment, but she stuck to her guns. It took her a couple of days – and a backlash of tweets – to assert that "I misspoke. . . and apologize for what's been misinterpreted as implying young women aren't serious in their politics." Really? I heard the interview and thought that she spoke very clearly – and condescendingly.

So here we have two Second Wave feminists chiding Millennial women (Fourth Wave feminists) because they have the audacity to assert their right to support the presidential candidate whom they feel best expresses their

interests and values. They do look forward to the day when a woman takes her place in the Oval Office, just not Hillary. What do we make of this? Surely shaming and scolding a younger generation of women is not only high-handed, but ineffective.

I, too, am a Second Wave feminist,

So here we have two Second Wave feminists chiding Millennial women (Fourth Wave feminists) because they have the audacity to assert their right to support the presidential candidate whom they feel best expresses their interests and values.

and, for my Women's History Month column, was all set to lambast Republicans for their "War on Women" (the topic of my lunch discussion on March 24, with a long list of misogynist legislation). Instead, thanks to Madeline and Gloria, I'm turning back to First Wave feminists Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton and their (failed) efforts to win suffrage for American women. It wasn't until 1920, after their deaths, that another generation succeeded. These western New York State friends, and many of their neighbors, were political radicals. Such was not the case for other women. Remember that the women's suffrage movement grew, in part, out of the Temperance movement that was rife with conservative Christians. Anthony's organizational skills were put to the test as president of the National American Woman Suffrage

Association after Stanton published *The Woman's Bible*, a controversial best-seller that attacked the use of the Bible to subjugate women (a practice still prevalent today). Conservative opponents denounced the book, and Anthony started spending more time with her daughter in London.

Gloria Steinem's goddaughter Rebecca Walker (writer Alice Walker's daughter), launched a new era of feminism in an essay entitled "Becoming the Third Wave," published in *Ms. Magazine* in 1992. In it she wrote, "I am ready to decide, as my mother decided before me, to devote much of my energy to the history, health, and healing of women. Each of my choices will have to hold to my feminist standard of justice. To be a feminist is to integrate an ideology of equality and female empowerment into the very fiber of my life." Some older women called this new generation "ungrateful daughters." Not Steinem, though; she listened. It's time for her to listen again to a generation of women saying that they will decide.

P.S. Wondering about feminist waves? It's confusing! Stop by my office for a chat.

ETHICAL CARES

The Caring Committee keeps in touch with members who have not been attending NYSEC meetings or events due to age, illness, or incapacitation, or being in the hospital or a nursing home. Call Virginia Scherer at 212-222-2086 if you'd like a call or visit, or know a member who would.

Lobbying For Reproductive Justice

EMILY NEWMAN

On January 25th, NYSEC members Andra Miller, Carol Van Deusen, and Emily Newman joined over 500 advocates for reproductive health care in Albany, NY, for the annual Planned Parenthood Day of Action. We met with about 30 legislators and dropped off information with about 80 legislators. Planned Parenthood prepared us with facts and encouraged us to share why reproductive justice is important to us. Everywhere we turned there were men and women of all ages (even a few children) and backgrounds wearing pink scarves and ties to show their support.



Senator Roxanne Persaud, Kristin Keplinger, Emily Newman, Michaela Rahimi

It was thrilling to learn that beginning that very day, the New York State Assembly began passage of key components of our legislative agenda, first with the *Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act*, followed by restrictions on the use of solitary confinement for pregnant inmates, and, most recently, *Paid Family Leave*. One other item on our agenda was and is the increase to the *Family Planning Grant* (which includes education programs).

Each of us was assigned to a team. Carol's team met with Assemblyman Keith Wright (Manhattan, 70th Assembly District). Carol reminds us that Assemblyman Wright was one of the first African American students to graduate from the Ethical Culture Fieldston school, and his father, New York State Supreme Court Judge Bruce Wright, was awarded the Ethical Humanist Award in 1975.

Knitting Brings Together Warm Hearts and Warmed Spirits

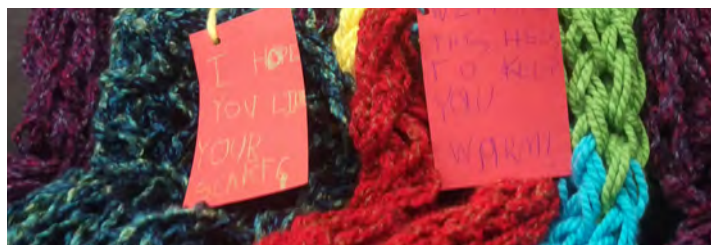
ELINORE KAPLAN

The guests at our Homeless Women's Shelter were the recipients of some beautiful, welcome, heart- and body-warming gifts at the outset of this winter.

Have you heard of or read "How Full is Your Bucket?" the popular book by Tom Rath and Donald Clifton, published in 2004? The authors utilize a simple metaphor — the image of our all having invisible buckets of water that empty as we take negative actions towards others, and fill with good feelings about ourselves as we take positive actions. There's a children's version of the book that Fieldston kindergartners read – and were then inspired to act on.

Back in October, the children began an engaging crafts project to ready themselves for winter, creating their own scarves through a technique called "arm-knitting" (no needles, just arms!). In December, Leader Anne Klaeyen hosted a visit from the students in Johanna Igel and Cheryl Woodley's kindergarten classes to our Maria Fridman Women's Shelter, explaining who it serves and why.

Though Fieldston students don't take designated ethics classes until second grade, service learning —and what it means to be kind to both people you know and those you don't know—is being integrated in age-appropriate ways throughout the school, explains Johanna Igel. At the shelter, the children gave thought and voice to the fact that they would like to ensure women who come here are also



equipped to face the chilly weather. The visit inspired this response from Asher S.: "It makes me feel thankful about the things I have, like my home." And these mixed emotions from Margo L.: "I feel happy and sad at the same time. At first, because they didn't have any home, and I care about people. And then I was happy because now they have help finding a home and a job."

So what did their visit lead to? Eagerly they applied themselves to knitting scarves for the women.

When Anne delivered the first set of scarves in late January (the beginning of snow season), the women were delighted. On each scarf, the students attached a tag with a message for the recipient: "I hope you have an awesome time with your scarf" reads one. "I hope this helps to keep you warm," reads another.

And more are coming, as the children continue their warm-hearted and warmth-giving mission.

NYSEC Women's Shelter Needs Volunteers

Would you like to offer your services as a volunteer at the Homeless Women's Shelter here? Please contact Janice Buzby, Shelter Coordinator, to arrange an interview: nysec.shelter@gmail.com.

You need not be a NYSEC member to volunteer.



ETHICAL ENRICHMENT

PROGRAMS FOR MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT

ADLER READING SEMINAR

Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader

Discuss the works of Felix Adler and other thinkers whose writings are seminal to Ethical Culture and Humanist philosophy.

Tuesday, Mar. 15, 7–8:30pm
(monthly, 3rd Tuesdays)
Leaders' Office, Room 502
Free

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

DEMOCRACY IS A VERB

Dr. Anne Klaeyen, Leader

Participating in a democracy means making a serious commitment to making it work on all levels from local to global. In humanist terms, one could say that there is something "sacred" about democracy; it calls upon us to take our place in the world as responsible human beings.

We will explore the forms of democracy, the challenges to it, and how we can take more active roles.

Thursday, Mar. 24, 6:30–8pm
(monthly, 4th Thursday)
Adler Study, Room 514
Members Free
Nonmembers \$5 per session
suggested donation

EMPOWERING ETHICAL ELDER

(monthly, 1st & 3rd Thursdays)

Light refreshments served.

To register, call 212-721-4407

Elliott Library, Room 507

Free

LGBT OLDER ADULTS AGING WELL:
OUR ISSUES ARE DIFFERENT & NOT
SO DIFFERENT

Tom Weber, Direct Care Management

Mar. 3, 6–8pm

THE STATE OF HOUSE-CALL
MEDICAL CARE

M. Victoria Kopke, MD

Mar. 17, 6–8pm

ETHICAL DEATH CAFÉ

Rev. Dr. Barbara Simpson,

Bereavement Program Community

Outreach Coordinator at

Caring Hospice Services

Gather in a relaxed and safe setting to discuss death, drink tea, and eat delicious cake as we strive to increase

our awareness of death and help one another make the most of our (finite) lives. Topics include health-care proxies, ethical wills, and green burial.

Wednesday, Mar. 24, 2:30–4:30pm
(monthly, 4th Wednesday)
Ceremonial Hall
(Also monthly, 2nd Sunday. See p.8)
Members Free

Nonmembers \$5 suggested donation

ETHICAL PARENTING, STEP-PARENTING, AND GRANDPARENTING

Dr. Anne Klaeyen, Leader

Family life today faces challenges that can overwhelm adults responsible for the care of children. The goal of spending "quality time" with loved ones gets lost in the daily struggle to make a living and provide a home. This workshop offers parenting skills and an opportunity to connect with other parents, step-parents, and grandparents.

Thursday, Mar. 10, 6–7:30pm
(monthly, 2nd Thursday)
Adler Study, Room 514
Members Free

Nonmembers \$5 per session
suggested donation

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Childcare provided upon request, with advance notice.

ETHICS AND THE THEATER

Patricia Bruder Debrovner

OTHER DESERT CITIES

by Jon Robin Baitz

Directed by Susanna Frazer

It is the day before Christmas, and at the Wyeths' Palm Springs house, the holiday spirit is strained. For the first time in six years, Brooke is visiting her parents — an ex-screen writer and a retired actor — and she has brought with her not a gift but the manuscript of her latest book, a memoir that tells of a very painful event in the family's history. With barbed jokes and wry recriminations, they spar over whether it should be published and the havoc it might wreak in all their lives.

Friday, Mar. 11, 7–9:15pm
(monthly, 2nd Friday)
6:30pm Reception
Ceremonial Hall

Suggested donation:

Members \$5, Nonmembers \$10
includes snacks and beverages

ETHICS IN FILM

Chris Everett, Discussion Facilitator

DO THE RIGHT THING (1989)

Director Spike Lee dives head-first into a maelstrom of racial and social ills, using as his springboard the hottest day of the year on one block in Brooklyn, NY. Three businesses dominate the block: a storefront radio station where a smooth-talkin' deejay (Samuel L. Jackson) spins the platters that matter; a convenience store owned by a Korean couple, and Sal's Famous Pizzeria, the only white-operated business in the neighborhood. Enjoy the film and a discussion of the ethical issues raised after the movie.

Friday, Mar. 4, 7–9:15pm

6:30pm Reception

(monthly, 1st Friday)

Ceremonial Hall

Members Free

Nonmembers \$5 suggested donation
includes snacks and beverages

GREAT BOOKS

Larry Schiff, Tamara Bedic, and

Carol Kennedy, Co-organizers/Hosts

CIVIL GOVERNMENT, John Loeke

DISOBEDIENCE, Henry David

Thoreau

Read the selections in advance, and be prepared to discuss the questions that interest you by referring to the specific related text. You can also visit www.meetup.com/Manhattan-Great-Books-Discussion-Group to learn more about us.

Wednesday, Mar. 2, 7–9pm
(monthly, 1st Wednesday)

Elliott Library, Room 507

Members Free

Nonmembers \$5 suggested donation

LEADER'S LUNCH DISCUSSIONS

Dr. Anne Klaeyen, Leader

If you can, read the articles in advance—access them online, pick them up when you attend the next weekly discussion, or ask Maggie (room 501) for them.

MARCH THEME:

WOMEN AND POLITICS

3/3 – "Cover Story: The head scarf,



ETHICAL ENRICHMENT

PROGRAMS FOR MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT

modern Turkey, and me.” by Elif Batuman, *The New Yorker*, Feb. 8 & 15, 2016

3/10 – “Atheists Show Their Sexist Side” by Katha Pollitt, *The Nation*, 9/24/14, and “Will Misogyny Bring Down the Atheist Movement” by Mark Oppenheimer, *BuzzFeed*, 9/11/14

3/17 – “Cecile Richards: Grace Under Fire at Planned Parenthood” by Rachel M. Cohen, *The American Prospect*, Winter 2016

3/24 – “Proof of the GOP War on Women” from *Politicususa.com*

3/31 – “In Defense of Makeup” by Jane Shmidt, *Open Letters Monthly*, Dec. 2015

Thursdays, 12–1:30pm
Elliott Library, Room 507
Free

LOW-IMPACT AEROBICS

Maggie Determann

An easy-to-follow, fun, low-impact aerobic workout that is a great way to get in shape and stay fit. Loose comfortable clothes and sneakers recommended.

Thursday, Mar. 3, 10:30–11:30am
Adler Study, Room 514

Members Free
Nonmembers \$5 per sessions
suggested donation

NEW “SLICE OF LIFE” STORYTELLING



Sandi Sacks

Learn how to craft and share five-minute true stories that will engage, move, illuminate, and entertain. For storytellers and audience members, this will be a wonderful opportunity to connect, inspire, and have fun! We thank the Peabody award winner, *TheMoth.org*, for their inspiration. This four-session series will culminate in a showcase performance at The Café at Ethical, plus other opportunities to share and perform. Please plan to attend all sessions.

Wednesday, Mar. 23, 6–8pm
(Continuing 3/30, 4/13, and 4/20)
Adler Study, Room 514

Members \$20, Nonmembers \$30
**ADVANCE REGISTRATION AND
PAYMENT REQUIRED**

NEW SPEAKING OF SCIENCE...



Andra Miller and the

Ethical Action Committee (EAC)

To be an informed citizen, one should have a grasp of how scientists work. We need to be able to spot junk science or pseudo science so that when something is presented as “scientific,” we’ll be able to respond knowledgeably. At each session, a scientist, engineer, doctor or science writer will tell us about his/her area of expertise and will answer our questions and discuss aspects of interest.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) GIVES APPROVAL FOR MARKETING?

Clifton Hoved

Learn about the history and current process for approving drugs by the FDA – including the recent changes to its review process so that drugs may be moved to market as expeditiously as possible. Clifton Hoved is Consultant and past Global Director of Medical and Scientific Affairs for the Ketchum public relations firm and senior medical writer at Ives Laboratories, a Pfizer Legacy Company.

(If you know of someone who would be an interesting speaker for this series, be sure to inform anyone on the EAC.)

Monday, Mar. 28, 6:30–8pm
(monthly, last Monday)
Adler Study, Room 514
Members \$5, Nonmembers \$10
suggested donation

STRONGER BODY, BALANCED MIND

Rob Hofman

Strength, endurance, and flexibility are important to live our lives in an optimal way – not only for a better-functioning physical body but also for a better-functioning brain and memory. Learn simple and fun exercises. Sessions are suitable for any level of physical functioning. Fee includes all sessions.

Wednesdays, 5–6pm
(weekly sessions through Mar. 9)
Elliott Library, Room 507
Members \$40, Nonmembers \$60
**ADVANCE REGISTRATION AND
PAYMENT REQUIRED**

NOT A MEMBER?

All the more reason to attend one of our Enrichment activities. You’re always welcome!

WISDOM & WORLD AFFAIRS

Ken Gans

These philosophical discussions cover a wide variety of subjects—the fate of humanity, world affairs, humanism, and many others.

Tuesdays, Feb. 2 & 23, 6–8pm
(monthly, 1st and 4th Tuesdays)
Room 508
Free

**For Advance Registration
contact Yalitzia:**

ygarcia@nysec.org
212-874-5210 x117

The Café
AT ETHICAL



Hooray for Friday — especially 3rd Fridays at The Café at Ethical, a welcoming place to unwind, relax, enjoy the music, refreshments, good company, and entertainment.

Please visit our website (nysec.org) for information about this month’s scheduled performance.

Friday, Mar. 18, 7:30pm
(monthly, 3rd Friday)
Ceremonial Hall
Suggested donation
Members \$10, Nonmembers \$20
includes snacks and a beverage
(wine, beer, or soda)

SUNDAY MORNING PLATFORM MEETINGS

11am, Ceremonial Hall, 4th Floor

JOIN US FOR LUNCH AFTER PLATFORM, CAFETERIA, 6TH FLOOR

\$10 PER PERSON, FREE TO FIRST-TIME NEWCOMERS

MARCH 6



YOUR BRAIN, YOUR MIND, AND WHO YOU ARE

Andra Miller

Carol Van Deusen presides

You find yourself humming a tune. Or an old friend from the distant past pops into your head. These are two of the countless unbidden thoughts that come from the deep hidden parts of your brain. In fact, decisions you think you're consciously making have already been made down in that secret place. How the brain works has ethical implications including: How free is free will? How guilty are the guilty? What makes us helpless in dealing with our problems? And, ultimately, it reiterates something we already know — that we can't get through life without occasional "outside" help.

*This week's Shared Charity is **New Yorkers Against Gun Violence**, whose mission is to reduce gun violence through legislative advocacy and education designed to encourage action, influence public opinion and lead to policy change. With a primary focus on New York State, NYAGV also advocates at the local and national levels for laws, policies, and practices that protect New York State residents, particularly youth, from gun violence.*

MARCH 13



CULTURE WARS, DEMAGOGUERY AND THE SEARCH FOR HOPE

Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader

Andra Miller presides

Not since the McCarthy era have we seen political demagoguery issuing from such high places. We witness the politics of fear fueled by scapegoating minorities and immigrants, especially Latinos and Muslims, for the sake of winning the votes of individuals who feel disenfranchised and left behind in light of demographic, economic, and social upheavals.

This demagoguery is fearsome and dangerous (even the mainline press has invoked the word "fascism" to describe it). The extremism is rooted in the so-called culture wars, which, in the broadest sense, pit conservatives and ultra-conservatives against a social landscape that is moving in a liberal direction. I will speak out against the demagoguery that assails us, and look at its source and at reasons to hope that we can get beyond it.

*This week's Shared Charity is **Moms Rising**, whose action issues include paid maternity/paternity leave and sick days; workplace flexibility; toxics-free environments; healthcare for all; affordable, quality early care and education; living wage for childcare providers; realistic and fair wages; immigration fairness for all; and nutritious food for children.*

MARCH 20



SING IN SPRING WITH THE BROOKLYN WOMEN'S CHORUS

Bev Grant, Founder and Director

Dr. Anne Klaeyesen presides

Join us for an inspirational Spring Festival featuring the Brooklyn Women's Chorus under the direction of Bev Grant, singer-songwriter, guitarist, and social activist.

*This week's Shared Charity is the **Coalition to Stop Gun Violence**, composed of 47 national organizations working to secure freedom from gun violence through research, strategic engagement, and effective policy advocacy.*

MARCH 27



THE ETHICAL CULTURIST WHO BUILT THE BOMB

Curt Collier, Leader for Environmental Advocacy

Pat Debrovner presides

(Continued from front page)

efforts to limit nuclear power, and in 1954 his security clearance was revoked. In 1955 Oppenheimer published *The Open Mind*, his lectures on nuclear energy and the technical and ethical qualifications needed for a society to wield such power. Was Oppenheimer right? Are we the kind of society that can manage nuclear power and, if not, what needs to change?

*This week's Shared Charity is the **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**, which endeavors to create the peaceful transformation to a world at peace, where there is racial, social, and economic justice for all people everywhere.*

DR. PHYLLIS HARRISON-ROSS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD



The Champions of Change Award honors public servants who exemplify good governance and bold, transformational leadership on issues critical to the well-being of Americans.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Supportive Televisiting Program, which connects children of the New York metropolitan area with their hospitalized or incarcerated parents through live-stream telecommunications.



2016 AWARD HONOREES:

Honorable Eric Holder, Jr.
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand



SAVE THE DATE:

Thursday, May 5, 2016

Auditorium

6:30–8pm Program

8–9:30pm Celebration Dinner

Tickets: ChampionsofChange2016@eventbrite.com
Information: 212.874.5210 ext. 117

ABOUT COMMITTEES AT ETHICAL

It's a fact: as a member, the more you put into Ethical, the more you get out. Are you considering joining a committee, or perhaps participating on one of their subcommittees or task forces? Want to learn more about what each one is about? Come to a meeting and find out.

Aside from the Board committees, there are eight committees: Building, Communications, Environmental Stewardship, Ethical Action, Ethical Enrichment, Finance, Membership Development, and Sunday Programs — plus the Social Service Board project groups.

Pick up an "About Committees at Ethical" handout in the Members Office; to learn more ask Maggie Determann. If you'd like to attend a meeting, to find out when that committee meets, click on the Members link on the home page of the nysec.org website, then on Members Only in the pull-down menu, and then on Committees Calendar on that pull-down menu to see the date and times of some of the meetings. OR – ask Yalitza in the Administrative Office.

YOUR SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOME

Did you know that Ethical Culture makes space available at reduced cost to organizations whose goals are aligned with ours for Co-Sponsored events? If you are involved in, associated with, or aware of a group who might want to hold an event that will increase ethical awareness, social justice, or environmentalism, please contact any of the following people: Terry Perlin, Dan Julin, or one of the Leaders.

ETHICS FOR CHILDREN: "Moving, Mindful March"



This month's theme invites children into yogic fun; we'll learn about going inside ourselves and sharing outside of ourselves, find values and practices that support individual and communal wellbeing, and explore how to fuel actions of goodness from outrages of injustice.

"A MARCH OF MINDFUL MADNESS" Family Festival: March 27

(Free and open to the public.)

Children ages 3-12 meet Sundays at 11am. Email EthicsForChildren@nysec.org for more information.

EARLY SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:30am (Except as otherwise noted)
Rooms are subject to change

MARCH 6 MINDFULNESS

Dr. Anne Klaeyesen, Leader

Explore and practice mindfulness through meditation.

Adler Study, Room 514

ETHICS FOR CHILDREN

Audrey Kindred

“Moving, Mindful March”

11am, Adler Study, Room 514

MARCH 13 COLLOQUY

Bob Berger

Room 508

ETHICS FOR CHILDREN

Audrey Kindred

“Moving, Mindful March”

11am, Adler Study, Room 514

MARCH 20 POETRY READING

Cheryl Gross

Bring your favorite poems and read aloud with us.

Room 508

ETHICS FOR CHILDREN

Audrey Kindred

“Moving, Mindful March”

11am, Elliott Library, Room 507

MARCH 27 ETHICS FOR CHILDREN

Audrey Kindred

A MARCH OF MINDFUL MADNESS

Free Family Festival

11am, Adler Study, Room 514

CHORUS PRACTICE

David Gracia, Music Director;

Pat Debrovner, Chorus Director

All voices, big and small, are welcome. We'll practice the songs we sing on Sunday mornings.

Mar. 6 & 20, 10am

Mar. 13 & 27, 10:30am
Ceremonial Hall

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

1:30pm (Except as otherwise noted)
Rooms are subject to change

MARCH 13 ETHICS IN THE NEWS

Abe Markman, Virginia Arnold (topic contributor)

Over lunch share your take on today's burning issues.

Room 508

ETHICAL DEATH CAFÉ

Rev. Dr. Barbara Simpson

A relaxed and safe setting for a discussion about death. (See p. 4.)

Ceremonial Hall

MARCH 27 SUSTAINABLE LIVING SUPPORT CIRCLE

Curt Collier, Leader for Environmental Advocacy

Ceremonial Hall

READINGS IN DEEP ECOLOGY

Curt Collier, Leader for Environmental Advocacy

Explore chapters and selections from the works of famous environmental authors – a great way to delve into classic environmental literature.

4–6pm, Ceremonial Hall

SPECIAL THANKS TO SNOW CREW FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is important to make note of the superb and dedicated work our staff provided following the January snowstorm. After 25 inches of snow Friday night/Saturday morning, most of our rentals canceled their programs. Still, one was determined to hold their scheduled event.

Our maintenance staff all live in the Bronx, but that didn't stop them. Conroy, Darrell, Mark, and Luis made it down here early Saturday morning to shovel the walkway and prepare for that rental group. Our Facility Manager, Leonardo, also managed to get here to oversee and lend a hand to his staff. As it turned out, although we were ready, the rental group never made it. We would have been ready for them if they had!

With planned travel suspensions, these men could have been stranded – and indeed we made arrangements for them to leave before that would happen. Early Sunday our crew arrived, joined by Anwar, to clear the walkway in preparation for the Platform and other programming. (And 25 people managed to attend, so their work was most appreciated.)

While it was very difficult for staff to travel into Manhattan during these two days, they made it their priority to do so. We recognize their dedication to the Society and appreciate their hard work to keep the building safe and accessible.

HAIL TO THE GIVERS

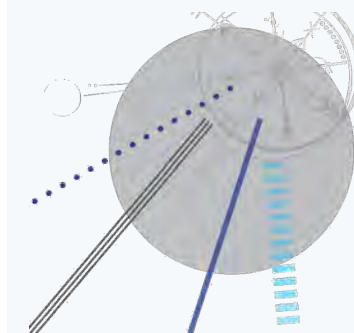
The number of members who have made their fair-share-giving membership pledge at press time is 97, thanks to these additions since the list was published last month:

CY ADLER
WILLIAM CHARLTON
MICHELE DONEY
JIM FARER
SELMA FRIEDMAN
ELIZABETH HENDERSON
ROB HOFMAN

SUSAN HOROWITZ
ROSEMARY IRVING
ANNE KLAEYSEN
PHYLLIS AND JOHN
KREUTTNER
JOE MARVEL
ANDRA MILLER

'L MILLER
LOUETTA RILEY
SHAUN SYLWESTER-
WILLIAMS
JUDY WALLACH
JOE WEBER

NYSEC LEADS THE WAY



We thank and celebrate all of you! You are the Society. You give your talent, energy, creativity and community. When you renew your membership each year, you re-commit to supporting Ethical financially to the degree you are able (that's what "fair-share-giving" is all about). Pledge amounts vary, but every pledge is valued; every pledge strengthens and nourishes our community. We cannot continue to do what we do without you and that commitment.

And remember, everyone who has pledged by March 31st will receive an early-pledge thank-you vest. Will we pass the 100 mark by that date? Tune in again in April to find out.

SNAPS



NEITHER RAIN NOR SLEET NOR A FOOT OF SNOW kept these loyal members from Sunday platform. *Eva Yachnes is an example of "Have boots, will travel," and Scotty Embree had a warm welcome for President Meg Chapman's cuddly dog. Meg led a lively discussion among the 25 stalwart attendees.*



A DAY OF ACTION... *Emily and her team joined other activists lobbying for reproductive justice in Albany; all wearing pink to show support.*



PUTTING IT OUT THERE... *Keep your eyes on the CPW side of the Society for Ethical Culture building, and expect to see banners that broadcast our stand on numerous issues in coming months. The first is there for all to see right now, "Black Lives Matter."*

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Jon Liechty,
Associate Music Director

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Member of the
American Ethical Union

www.aeu.org



OUR ETHICAL FAMILY

MARGARET DETERMANN

Assistant to the Leaders for Membership Development

ELLIOTT LIBRARY ORGANIZED

As most of you are aware, the Elliott Library on the fifth floor was a literary mixture of culture and chaos. Running the gamut from *Cooking with Coca Cola* to *Why Are We at War*, by Norman Mailer, the library had become a repository for books from the four corners of the globe (or at least the five boroughs).

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Elinore Kaplan and Dick Van Deusen, order has descended upon the chaos, with many volumes either given away or recycled.

This could not have been accomplished without the help of the following members, who deserve a special thank you and a high five for giving so generously of their time (and physical labor!): Connie Berman, Vince Brancato, Larry Hurst, Elizabeth Jacobs, Pamela McGhee, Helen Mecs, Emily Newman, Amy Schwarz, Carol Van Deusen, Judy Wallach, and Joseph Weber.

**Just a note* – there are still more books that you are welcome to take home (along with an Ethical tote bag to carry them in), on a cart in room 507. Please come by and help yourself!

NEW MEMBERS

This month, we have an exciting addition to our Ethical family. Cyrus (Cy) Adler has become the newest member of our community. Originally from Brooklyn, Cy is an author and conservationist, known for his work over the course of several decades in raising awareness for

shoreline issues in and around New York City. He was instrumental in creating “The Great Saunter,” an annual walk which goes through Hudson River Park and around the island of Manhattan. Trained as a mathematician and oceanographer, Cy taught physics at City College and oceanography at SUNY Maritime and Long Island University. He learned of the Society originally from Algernon Black. Cy is also a musician and songwriter and has performed with the great Pete Seeger. He is looking forward to becoming active in many aspects of NYSEC. Welcome, Cy!

Will you be taking a fabulous vacation? Retiring? Celebrating the birth of a child or grandchild? If you answered *yes* to any of these questions (or have something else of note going on in your life) and would like to share this with our community, let me know! I’ll be happy to include it in the monthly “Ethical Family” column.

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY TO –



ELIZABETH JACOBS and
TOM WEISHAAR..... 3
FRANK CORIGLIANO 5
SCOTTY EMBREE 6
BEN GERSTEN 8
ANDRA MILLER..... 10
LEWIS WIDOFF 15
PETER HOUTS and
PATRICIA O’MALLEY 17
KENNETH POLLOCK 22
YSABELLA GARA..... 25
BETH EVERETT 29

DID YOU KNOW?

At the turn of the 20th century, NYSEC provided several prominent Americans with a platform to speak out about civil rights, including Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Du Bois, and NYSEC member James Weldon Johnson (writer, activist and one of the founders of the Harlem Renaissance).

Office hours for the month are Monday–Friday, 9am – 6pm

MARCH 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 12:30pm Joy of Writing 6pm Wisdom and World Affairs	2 5pm Stronger Body, Balanced Mind 7pm Great Books	3 10:30am Low-Impact Aerobics 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion 6pm Ethical Elders 6:30pm Joy of Writing	4 7pm Ethics in Film <i>Do the Right Thing</i> (1989)	5
6 9:30am Mindfulness 10am Chorus Rehearsal 11am Sunday Platform 11am Ethics for Children	7 6:30pm NYSEC Board of Trustees Meeting	8 12:30pm Joy of Writing 7:30pm Hard Choices	9 5pm Stronger Body, Balanced Mind	10 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion 6pm Ethical Parenting 6:30pm Joy of Writing	11 7pm Ethics and the Theater <i>Other Desert Cities</i>	12
13 9:30am Colloquy 10:30am Chorus Rehearsal 11am Sunday Platform 11am Ethics for Children 1:30pm Ethics in the News 1:30pm Ethical Death Café	14	15 12:30pm Joy of Writing 7pm Adler Reading Seminar	16	17 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion 6pm Ethical Elders	18 7:30pm The Café JOSHUA DIXON	19
20 9:30am Poetry 10am Chorus Practice 11am Ethics for Children 11am Sunday Platform	21 7pm Newcomer Reception	22 6pm Wisdom and World Affairs	23 2:30pm Ethical Death Café 6pm "Slice of Life" Storytelling	24 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion 6:30pm Democracy Is A Verb	25	26
27 10:30am Chorus Practice 11am Sunday Platform 11am Ethics for Children 1:30pm Sustainable Living Support Circle 4pm Readings in Deep Ecology	28 6:30pm Speaking of Science	29	30 6pm "Slice of Life" Storytelling	31 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion		

