

E T H I C A L O U T L O O K

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**Sunday Morning
Platform Meetings
11:15 AM**

**February 6–Auditorium
Building Local Living
Economies in America**

Professor David Hess

Curt Collier Presides

**February 13–Ceremonial Hall
Proud to be Elite**

Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader

Patricia Bruder Debrovner Presides

**February 20–Ceremonial Hall
Pyrrhic Economics: Why Political
Rhetoric Triumphs Over Reason
And Halts Real Economic Recovery**

Curt Collier, Leader

Richard Van Deusen Presides

**February 27–Ceremonial Hall
Affirming Worth in Hard Times**

Dr. Anne Klaeysen, Leader

Sharon Pope Presides

February Happenings

Join us on **February 20 at 11:15 am**, for the address by Leader Curt Collier, on the reasons political rhetoric often overpowers reason and stops economic recovery. He will look at capitalism's weaknesses and how to correct them. Ceremonial Hall. *(See page 4)*

On **Wednesday, February 23, 7:00–9:00 pm**, in honor of **Black History Month**, **Ethics and the Theater** will present *Radio Golf*, by August Wilson. In the play the black characters can get ahead only by becoming fronts for white men, while only those who remain independent keep their honor. After the play, join a lively discussion about the issues raised. Ceremonial Hall. *(See page 7)*

President's Notes

Andra Miller



By the time you read this, a whole month will have passed, but I have to say what a great time was had by all who attended the "Ethical" New Year's Eve party. We have Ed Gross to thank for a wonderful evening of great performances by Ensemble Tomscha, dancing, singing, and wine/cheese, etc. Ed and his crew did a terrific job—as listed in the program: tickets by Moe-Swe Myint and Gloria Chandler (and also sold by Ed and friends), decorations by Bonnie Bean and Barbara Levenson, dance music by Valerie Leiman and John Hwang, a sing-along led by Vincent Navarro, room set-up and security by

(Continued on page 2)

From the Leader's Desk

Dr. Anne Klaeysen



Love Your Society 365 Days a Year

When I was a young child, I received a small box filled with colored envelopes and was delighted because now, every Sunday, I could put my coins in one of them, seal it, and place it in the collection basket alongside my parents' envelope and those of all the other members of St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church. Now I, too, was making a contribution. It was a proud moment.

I come from a generation that grew up in congregations. Our families and friends were identified by which church or temple they attended. A "mixed"

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Save The Date

Saturday, February 12

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**"Love Your Society"
Pledge Dinner
(See page 11)**

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President's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

David McCants and Curtis Hill, and all-around help by Cheryl Gross. An unsung hero pitched in too, to set up the musicians' chairs and music stands, put out their music, and turn pages for the pianist—then to play the piano himself for the sing-along. A special thanks to you, Jon Liechty! The evening ended with views of a spectacular fireworks display from the rooftop. Thanks again, Ed, for an amazing, terrific evening—and Happy New Year to all (even though it's over a month old already)!



(Front row, second from left) Society President, Andra Miller, with members of the Ensemble Tomscha (Back row, left) member Ed Gross with other members of the Ensemble Tomscha

As the old year closed, we needed to check the pledge receipts. As you know, financial support of NYSEC is a requirement of being a member. Thanks to all of you who have so generously supported our Society with your pledges. I look forward to expressing my appreciation at the special dinner this month. The Pledge Committee has called and sent notices to those who've forgotten to contribute their share of our administrative and program expenses for 2010 and we've had to do a year-end trim of our membership list. As for the coming year, you can make your pledge at the dinner on Saturday, February 12 (see invitation, page 11) or you could make your pledge commitment right now for 2011 (I have) by telling Moe-Swe Myint or Yolanta Kosmaczewska. Please save our Pledge Drive Committee phone calls and mailings by letting us know what your commitment will be sometime soon. I thank you—we all thank you—for doing so. Hope to see you all at the appreciation and pledge sign-up dinner.

It's nomination time for Board candidates to be elected at the May 1 Annual Membership Meeting. The head of the Nomination Committee this year is Bob Berger. Other committee members are Janice Buzby, Vincent Navarro, Frank Prescod, and Amy Schwarz. They would very much welcome any

nominee suggestions you would care to give them. (See “Trustee Search” below.)

Speaking of the Board—our Leaders facilitated a Board retreat last month to present a well-thought out plan for the improved functioning of our Society. We’re trying to stay fresh and with-the-times. We always welcome suggestions from you on how to tweak NYSEC to keep it current and relevant. Our next Community Meeting is March 6, but you don’t have to wait until then to drop us a suggestion. There will be more on what happened at the Leader/Board Retreat in the next *Ethical Outlook*.

And speaking of retreats—Sheila Kleinwald and Bob Berger are working on setting up our Membership Retreat at Stony Point, New York. It will probably be the last weekend in September. More next time. . . Happy February!

Leader’s Desk

(Continued from page 1)

marriage like my parents’ often involved people from Catholic and Protestant backgrounds, and some compromise had to be reached with regard to the children. I remember telling a third-grade classmate that she would not go to heaven because she was a Protestant. That was *not* a proud moment.

Although my mother would have liked to keep me home, I left to attend college and then traveled even farther to study in Europe. I sought out and embraced people from different faith traditions, loving what I learned from them, eager to make a new home with them. And I did so when I joined the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. It didn’t feel like a compromise to raise our children there. My husband, Glenn, who was raised in an orthodox Jewish family, and I brought

our commitment to community with us, transplanting it into a new garden.

We recalled our respective childhoods in the aftermath of a blizzard when, after we had cleared our stoop and sidewalk, we loaded the kids and shovels onto a sled and headed over to the Society a few blocks away to help the caretaker with his task. We were proud of our children digging in to clear the snow off the steps. That’s what we did as children: joined our parents to dig into the work of our congregations. It was hard work—and lots of fun. We did it because these places were our spiritual homes.

As I meet people in our monthly Newcomer Receptions, especially the younger people whom we hope to attract to our community, I realize that they did not grow up as I did. Many of their families did not give them a legacy of loving commitment to congregation. Perhaps they were even wounded by traditional faith communities. They are “shopping,” looking for a place where they can feel comfortable, comparing our Society to other groups. I sometimes feel that we are on display and must put on a good show. It can feel unsettling. “I understand that you are exploring,” I say. “Perhaps you are on a spiritual journey that has brought you here. I hope you can make a home with us.” I try to describe that home as I experience it and invite them to live with us, knowing that their needs will not be the same as mine, trying to fathom what their needs are, and hoping they will choose to make a commitment to Ethical Culture.

As I work with the Pledge Committee to follow up on last year’s membership donations and plan the

next pledge campaign, I observe a kind of commitment demonstrated by some of our members that concerns me. For many, NYSEC is no different than any other organization to which they belong or charity to which they give. It does not seem to be as special, as essential, to them as it is to me, and I wonder why that is. Have their needs not been met here? Have they not made good friends? Has this not become a home for them? As I call people, I ask these questions and listen closely to their answers.

These conversations have renewed my commitment to serving this congregation. One way is to clarify the expectations of financial pledging. Long gone are the days when founder Felix Adler assembled the wealthy men of the Society, presented them with a worthy project, and walked out of his office, knowing that, when he returned, his desk would be covered with checks. That is a legacy that we must overcome—and pitch in, every one of us, to do our part.

The pledge campaign for 2011 is called “Love Your Society 365 Days a Year,” and a party will be held on Saturday, February 12, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, in Ceremonial Hall, to initiate a minimum yearly pledge of \$365 and a goal of two percent of net income. Please join me for the hard work—and the fun—of ethical commitment.

Annual Search For Trustee Candidates

Every year the Society’s Board of Trustees changes a little bit. Some members rotate off (we have term limits) and we like to have new ideas and perspectives. Therefore, we have an

annual election in May to select new Trustees and confirm our confidence in trustees who are running for additional terms. The Nominating Committee is looking for members who might be interested in running for the Board in this year's election.

It looks as though it will be an exciting year because our Leaders have proposed a new system of governance, in which the Board will concern itself mainly with issues of policy, while delegating the practical issues to appropriate committees and staff.

If you would like to be involved in this change, and run for a position on the Society's Board, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee: Bob Berger, Janice Buzby, Vince Navarro, Frank Prescod, and Amy Schwarz.

Sunday Morning Platform Meetings 11:15 AM

Feb. 6—Building Local Living Economies in America

Professor David Hess

Across the United States, there is a movement to rebuild local ownership in various fields: retail, credit unions, small banks, community media, distributed renewable energy, and agriculture. Together, the movements comprise efforts to build local living economies, or economies that feature local ownership and address problems of sustainability and social fairness. This talk will survey the movements and their aspirations, achievements, and shortcomings. Special attention will be paid to the economics of build-

ing local living economies and the new policies that are emerging.

David Hess is a professor in the Department of Science and Technology Studies at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he teaches sociology and policy. He recently published *Localist Movements in a Global Economy* (MIT Press) and led a national survey of state and local government policies in support of green jobs and clean energy. (For more information, contact: www.davidjhess.org/green-jobs.html). Auditorium.

Feb. 13—Proud to be Elite

Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader

While China forges ahead, American education remains in the doldrums. What is going on? Certainly a significant cause of educational mediocrity is the cultivation in American society of a culture of anti-intellectualism. It's a plague and a strong formula for national suicide. There have always been anti-intellectual subcultures and periods in American society and history. But this time it is different in that it is being promoted and legitimated from the top. From "pointy-headed liberals" to "East Coast elites," from the Glenn Becks, Rush Limbaughs, and Sarah Palins to elevating "Joe the Plumber" to a national icon, those with an education or who cherish the life of the mind have been marginalized and somehow branded as not *truly* American. We need to ask: "How have we come to this place?" I hope to provide some answers in my February address. Ceremonial Hall.

Feb. 20—Pyrrhic Economics: Why Political Rhetoric Triumphs Over Reason and Halts Real Economic Recovery

Curt Collier, Leader

Under the banner of an exalted Free Market, the political right has argued that only unbridled capitalism will ensure America's economic future. However, this is despite significant evidence to the contrary, as demonstrated by our recent near economic collapse. Proponents of free market capitalism also argue that market forces alone are sufficient to bring about the greening of our economy necessary for America's energy independence and the preservation of our environment. This also is a fallacy, and begs the question: if the political right knows the free market won't solve our problems, why do they continue to advocate economic strategies that are doomed to failure?

This talk will highlight the root causes of capitalism's weakness, how these could be corrected to the benefit of all Americans, and why this will never happen in the present political climate. Ceremonial Hall.

Feb. 27—Affirming Worth in Hard Times

Dr. Anne Klaeysen, Leader

The media reports on the economy in terms of statistics, one of which—"unemployment"—tells only part of the story. After a while, the unemployed become the unemployable and drop off the radar. Especially vulnerable are the middle-aged with years of experience, who now find themselves "worthless."

When human worth is wrapped up in a blanket of "value," that can become all we see. And yet, there is so much more to being human and relating to others so as to bring out their humanity, the intrinsic value that too often becomes a casualty of hard economic times. What must we do to help

those in need? How can we support people not only financially but also emotionally and spiritually through their personal crises? An ethical community is called to make a difference for the good. Ceremonial Hall.

**Early Sunday
10 AM** (Except as noted)
Rooms subject to change)

Feb. 6—Presiders Refresher with Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyesen. Room 514.

Feb. 6—Chorus Practice—Whether your voice is big or small, you are welcome. Led by Pat Debrovner and Jerry Ranck, we'll practice the songs we sing on Sunday mornings, and we'll get some tips to improve our singing technique. It's a lot of fun, so join us! Ceremonial Hall.

Feb. 13—Colloquy—Money. Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyesen presides. Room 408.

Feb. 20—Poetry Reading—Come and read some of your favorite poems with other poetry lovers. Cheryl Gross presides. Room 408.

Feb. 20—Chorus Practice. Led by Pat Debrovner and Jerry Ranck. Ceremonial Hall.

**Sunday Afternoon
1:45 PM** (Except as noted)

Feb. 6—Ethical Economics Exploration Group Workshop, with David Hess. Ceremonial Hall.

Feb. 13—Authors Circle—Our Society is home to several authors, including members Ruth Cohen, Elizabeth Eng, Barbara Litke, and Sabine Rosenberg, and staff member Marlon Rice. Join them for a roundtable discussion of their creative process and a reading

from their works. Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyesen presides. Ceremonial Hall.

Feb. 20—Ethical Economics Exploration Group. Curt Collier presides. Ceremonial Hall.

Feb. 27—Ethics in the News. Mary Ellen Goodman presides. Room 502.

Feb. 27—Ethical Hospitality Workshop. Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyesen presides. Ceremonial Hall.

**Lunch Discussions
Thursdays, 12:00 Noon**

Bring your lunch and join Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyesen in the Elliott Library, Room 507, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm. This month's topic: "A Mixed Bag."

Feb. 3—"What Has WikiLeaks Started?" in Room for Debate, *NY Times*, 12/11/10, and "Why WikiLeaks Changes Everything," by Christian Caryl, *NY Review of Books*, 1/13/11.

Feb. 10—"How the Oligarchs Took Over America," by Andy Kroll, *Tom Dispatch*, 12/6/10.

Feb. 17—"The Economy: Why They Failed," by John Cassidy, *NY Review of Books*, 12/9/10.

Feb. 24—"The Glory of the Rails" and "Bring Back the Rails!" by Tony Judt, *NY Review of Books*, 12/23/10 and 1/13/11.

Folders with relevant articles will be available from Yalitzia Garcia in the Leaders' Office. Please come and join the discussion.

Our Ethical Family
Moe-Swe Myint

While New York City was being battered by the snowstorm, NYSEC mem-

bers and guests weren't deterred from saying good-bye to 2010 with a marvelous New Year's Eve party in Ceremonial Hall. It was a sold-out event, thanks to member **Ed Gross'** tremendous efforts in organizing, PR, and ticket selling. Members enjoyed the concert, danced and sang, and watched Central Park fireworks from the rooftop. To say that a good time was had by all is an understatement!

* * *

We also started a series of small gatherings at some of our members' homes. Thanks to **Paula Claycomb** for hosting the first dinner in December; and **Patrick Arenas, Tod Whitaker, and Stephanie Rosenblatt** for hosting afternoon teas in January, at which food, drinks, and great conversation flowed freely and new members and newcomers to the Society enjoyed each others' splendid company.

Law'nence Miller became an Ethical Culture officiant for NYSEC in October.

* * *



Our new Leaders' assistant, **Yalitzia Garcia**, started in early December. "Every day has been such a lovely learning experience for me," she says. "For over a decade I have worked with community-based organizations, both as an administrator and as a direct services provider, and I have a deep commitment to social justice and community empowerment. I am thrilled to join the Leaders' Office and hope to add a little of my energy and 'flavor' to the Society's ongoing programs and events. See you around the office!"

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There will be a **Members Pledge Party on Saturday, February 12**, so

mark your calendars, save the date, and be prepared to come and have fun—and support your Society! We look forward to seeing you there.

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Member News

The following members are celebrating birthdays this month:

Vered Mallon, 2/1; **Vincent Brancato**, 2/4; **Frank Brenner**, 2/4; **Ken Gans**, 2/8; **Pat Berens**, 2/9; **Flannery Cleaver**, 2/12; **Michele Donney**, 2/17; **Roger Michaels**, 2/18; **Scott McNabb**, 2/21; **Edward Finfer**, 2/24; **Robert Worth**, 2/28.

* * *

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we say farewell to the following:

NYSEC Interim Leader and UUA Minister **Rev. Dr. Robert F. Kaufmann** died on December 21, 2010, of bone cancer. He was born in Boston on April 24, 1921, and in 1970, at the age of 48, received his M.Div. degree from Starr King School. He earned a Ph.D. in psychology from United States International University in 1975. Bob was called to the Emerson Unitarian Church in Canoga Park, CA, serving from 1969 to 1973, and the Throop UU Church in Pasadena, CA, serving until 1985. He then began a series of interim ministries that spanned many years, bringing him to NYSEC in 1998 until Dr. Khoren Arisian became Senior Leader in 2000.

Prior to studying for the ministry, Dr. Kaufmann worked in a variety of professions including business, finance, journalism, television, and public relations.

He is survived by his wife, Arlene; his daughter, Susan Kaufmann of

Bellevue, WA; his son, Richard Kaufmann, and daughter-in-law, Pamela Kaufmann of San Diego; a grandson, Robert Kendrick, and a granddaughter, Dana Kendrick.

A celebration of the life of Dr. Robert Kaufmann was held on Sunday, January 23, at East Shore Unitarian Church in Bellevue. Donations may be sent to the Ethical Culture Charter School Foundation (TECCS) at http://www.nycharities.org/donate/c_donate.asp?CharityCode=2604, or by sending a check to: Dr. Judith D. Wallach, Vice President, TECCS, 101 Central Park West, Apt. 1A, New York, NY 10023-4250. Condolences may be sent to Arlene Kaufmann, 401 100th Avenue NE #326, Bellevue, WA 98004.

Roy Neuberger, a Life Member, died of natural causes on December 24, 2010 at his home in Manhattan's Pierre Hotel. He was 107 years old. His wife, Marie Salant Neuberger, who was also a member, as well as a graduate of the Ethical Culture Fieldston Schools, died in 1997. Mr. Neuberger joined NYSEC in 1949 and served as our Treasurer from 1956 to 1964 and as President from 1965 to 1968. He cofounded the investment firm Neuberger Berman and became one of the nation's top modern art collectors, acquiring hundreds of paintings and sculptures by such artists as Milton Avery, Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning, Edward Hopper, Georgia O'Keeffe, and others.

At a White House ceremony in 2007, President George W. Bush presented him with a National Medal of Arts. He is survived by his daughter, Ann Neuberger Aceves; sons Roy S.

Neuberger and James A. Neuberger, eight grandchildren, and 30 great-grandchildren. To learn more about this illustrious member, be sure to read his memoirs: *So Far, So Good—the First 94 Years*, published in 1997 and *The Passionate Collector: Eighty Years in the World of Art*, published by John Wiley & Sons in 2003. Mr. Neuberger's memorial service will be held here at the Society on Sunday, March 13, at 2:00 pm in the Auditorium.

Quotation from Roy Neuberger: "Membership in an Ethical Society carries with it a commitment to humanity as a whole, and a responsibility not only for the conditions which prevail within the society in which we live, but a concern for the welfare of all peoples."

— From President's message, September 1965

Cy Schleifer, a Life Member who joined the Society in 1955, died this past summer. He was very active in the Society, serving on the Board of Trustees from 1967 to 1970, 1972 to 1981, and 1985 to 1988. He also served on numerous committees and was Chair, Membership Coordinating Council; Chair, Newcomers Committee; Co-Chair, AEU Weekends; and Every Member Canvasser.

He and his late wife, Edna, were married by Jerome Nathanson at the Society's Meeting House in 1967.

Ethical Enrichment Foundations of Ethical Culture

Thursdays, 7:00 pm–8:30 pm, February 3, 10, and 17.

This course, taught by Leaders Dr. Joseph Chuman, Curt Collier and Dr. Anne Klaeyen, and required for all members, covers the key concepts, history and contemporary issues of Ethical Culture. Please register with Membership Associate Moe-Swe Myint at mmyint@nysec.org or 212-874-5210, ext. 113.

Ethics in Literature

On **Monday, February 7, 1:00-3:00 pm**, in the Elliott Library, Room 507, Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyen will host a discussion of *The Periodic Table*, by Primo Levi, who won every distinguished literary award in his native Italy. This was the first of Levi's many books to appear in the U.S. and was selected as one of *The New York Times Book Review's* Best Books of 1985.

Levi, a chemist who was taken to the Nazis' Auschwitz concentration camp during World War II at the age of 24, presents a kind of literary autobiography of a chemist. Each chapter is named for a chemical element and involves an incident with that particular element at its center. Despite his own experiences, there is very little of the war or the Holocaust in this book, which ranges throughout his professional life as a scientist and writer.

Join in our lively conversation about the ethical issues raised in the book.

Members free; nonmembers \$10.

Ethics and the Theater

Patricia Bruder Debrovner

In honor of Darwin Day, **Ethics and the Theater** will present *How*

the World Began, by Catherine Trieschmann, on **Friday, February 11, 7:00 pm–9:00 pm**.

Teaching high-school science today is a delicate proposition, particularly in a small Midwestern town, and still more so when that town has been devastated by a tornado that killed 17 neighbors. Delicacy, unfortunately, eludes Susan, an outsider who has come to town with good intentions and excellent educational qualifications but little experience in the classroom or with people whose beliefs differ from hers. Clashes are inevitable but, in this remarkably sensitive and open-hearted play, not at all predictable in how the various participants react and interact. In the end, how one explains the universe is perhaps less important than how one lives within it.

I will direct our cast, which includes Aaron Simon Gross, Kevin Kilner, and Christina Kirk, with Pat Berens as narrator. Join us and participate in a discussion of the ethical issues of the play, led by Dr. Charles Debrovner, afterward. Come at 6:30 pm for a wine and cheese reception. The suggested donation is \$5. Ceremonial Hall.

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On **Wednesday, February 23, 7:00–9:00 pm**, in honor of Black History month, **Ethics and the Theater** will present *Radio Golf*, by August Wilson.

Harmond Wilks is at the top of his game, favored to win the Democratic nomination for mayor and with a lucrative real estate deal within his grasp. He and his wife, who runs his campaign and is in line for a job in the governor's office, seem poised to take their place among what has been

Pittsburgh's all-white elite. Harmond has even mastered golf. But his grand plans for the future are derailed by the past in the form of an old house on an otherwise vacant lot that must be torn down for his development deal to proceed. In this, his last play, August Wilson brings the poor but vibrant neighborhood whose history he traced through previous stage works into a bland present, in which his black characters succeed by becoming fronts for white men seeking federal minority money and only those who remain independent keep their souls.

Gregory Taylor directs our cast, which includes Cheryl Gross, Paul Johnson, Ashanti Reel, Gregory Sullivan, and Gregory Taylor, with Barbara Fennell as narrator. Come to this special presentation and participate in the discussion of the ethical issues raised that follows, led by Dr. Charles Debrovner. Come at 6:30 pm for a wine and cheese reception. The suggested donation is \$5. Ceremonial Hall.

Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries

Come on **Monday, February 28, at 1:00 pm**, to view *Jesus Camp*, a 2006 documentary directed by Rachel Grady and Heidi Ewing. After the film, we'll have our usual lively discussion of the ethical issues raised in the film, led by Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyen. Adler Study, Room 514.

This riveting Oscar-nominated film offers an unfiltered look at a revivalist subculture in which devout Christian youngsters are primed to deliver this

fundamentalist community's religious and political messages. Building an evangelical army of tomorrow, the Kids on Fire summer camp in Devil's Lake, ND, is dedicated to deepening the preteens' spirituality and sowing the seeds for their political activism.

Members are free; The general public suggested donation is \$5.

Butterfly Project

Dr. Ruth Cohen

We welcome the new year—and another opportunity for our Butterfly Committee to choose an artwork to be donated to a New York City health-care facility and to select the recipient and time for the presentation.

Recognizing the importance of using art to promote the healing and well being of patients, the Butterfly Project, launched in 2009 by the Society, aimed to raise funds to purchase the artwork. That year, we made our first presentation to the Veterans Medical Center in Manhattan.

We have received additional gift paintings for this project, and we will let you know which facilities will receive them as soon as the locations have been determined. If you wish to make any additional gifts to this project, please contact me through the Leaders' Office, c/o Yalitzka Garcia, at ygarcia@nysec.org. Thank you all for your interest.

Green Kitchen

Dr. Ruth Cohen

Greetings, and, welcome to spring! The Green Kitchen Committee is pleased to inform you that we have received a gift of a beautiful painting

Calling All Member Artists!

Barbara E. Litke

Our NYSEC artists and photographers have been showing their work in our (ticket booth) lobby showcase since January, and we invite all Society members to participate in this exhibition.

Please let us know if you are interested in taking part by contacting Gloria Chandler at 212-874-5210, ext. 117, or Moe-

Swe Myint at ext. 113. We hope to hear from you so that we can share our artistic endeavors with members and friends.



(L-R) Members Barbara Litke, Valerie Leiman, and David Leiman prepare some of the art and photographs to be displayed in our lobby exhibition

for the cover of our Corner Kitchen Cookbook. We have also found a really attractive name: *A Garden of Eating!* We'll report to you about the meeting to organize the recipes into chapters: Gardens—Winter, Summer, Spring, and Fall, and a number of chapter subdivisions—Essay on Stone Soup to Sustainability, Chef's Wisdom—tips on cooking, and so on.

Thank you for your dedicated support. We look forward to your continued participation in our Dollar Day Drives. We are continuing to reach our incremental goals—and approaching the third “thousand.”

Save the Dates! Drawing Classes

Barbara E. Litke

Our eight-week **drawing course** is starting again (**Tuesdays, March 8–April 26, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm**, Room 507). Express yourself with

pencil or charcoal on paper, hone your artistic skills, and discover your personal style as you create. I'll be instructing students—whether new or experienced artists—according to their particular levels. Class size is limited to eight, so sign up soon. For more information, or to register, contact Yalitzka Garcia, at 212-874-5210, ext. 118. The cost to members is \$125; for nonmembers it is \$150.

Benefit Concert

Dr. Ruth Cohen

Greetings, all! We're looking ahead to spring and to continuing our tradition of presenting a **Benefit Concert for the Stained Glass Windows**, so mark your calendars. The concert will be held on **Sunday, April 24, 2:00 pm**, in Ceremonial Hall.

We'll keep you posted on the details, and hope to see you all there with us.



Unforgotten Voices

Barbara E. Litke

On Friday, December 10, the Social Service Board again hosted the **Unforgotten Voices Creative Artists Workshop**, a collective of visual and performing artists who have been homeless or who are currently living in a precarious situation. Many familiar faces participated in this twice-a-year opportunity to showcase their artistic talents and share their hopes for a promising future.

A receptive audience of NYSEC members and the performers' peers and guests cheered and applauded after each of them spoke, sang, or showed his artistic work. Several of the men talked about loss and losing connections. One played the piano and sang of a lost love. Another presented a portfolio of photographs he had taken in Israel that had previously been shown in a New York City gallery. One man recited his poems depicting a life of struggle, and another performed a solo dance. A table displayed paintings and drawings by the men of Unforgotten Voices, which were much admired. The performers all courageously revealed their inner pain, but coupled it with strength and their determination to, nevertheless, make a better future. Member Tom Kennedy spoke about his past trials as the young son of Irish immigrants. The event was filmed, highlighting the presenters.

And, what can they expect from an unknown future? John D. Pinder, President and CEO of Fresh Start, a nonprofit theater arts production company funded by several New York City cultural foundations and private citizens, described a Fresh Start program that would provide work as part of his production company—and a stipend—for people temporarily without permanent homes. The goal is to help them plan for moving beyond shelter living.

As usual, this stimulating evening could not have taken place without the dedication and commitment of our own tireless Dr. Maria Fridman. Judith Ginsburg, a dance/movement/creative arts therapist, directed the event. The SSB makes space available at NYSEC each year in June and December. Unforgotten Voices was an evening rich in satisfaction, and I look forward to attending the next event in June. We invite all Society members and their friends to attend, as well. Hope to see you there! *(Photos by Maria Fridman)*



Pianist/singer Ray Gant



Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Ross, Social Service Board Chair



Singer/musician Chris Campbell

Unforgotten Voices (cont'd)



*Front row (L-R): Members Sabine Rosenberg and Irena Rutenberg, and Tom Kennedy's wife, Aida
Back row: Members Barbara Litke and Tom Kennedy*



One of the workshop members performing at the event



Some of the many paintings by workshop artists on display

Love Your Society
"Pledge 365" Party
 Minimum Pledge of \$1 per day in 2011!
 Goal of 2% Net income
 Drinks, Dinner and Entertainment
 Saturday, February 12, 2011
 5:00 - 8:00pm
 Ceremonial Hall

RSVP by February 1
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NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR
ETHICAL CULTURE

In the event you'll be unable to attend the Pledge Party, please feel free to make your pledge by sending us this form.

Here is my 2011 Pledge:

Name: _____

Pledge Amount: \$ _____

Paid: Monthly Quarterly Semiannually Annually

Other _____

Paid: By check

By credit card (Number) _____ (Exp. Date) _____

Signature: _____

Please mail to New York Society for Ethical Culture, 2 West 64th Street, New York, NY 10023.

PLEASE NOTE:
 Minimum: \$365
 Goal: 2% net income

February 2011

Office hours for the month are: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am–6:00 pm
Shelter: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Ethics in Literature: A Reading Group</u> February 7 – <i>The Periodic Table</i>, Primo Levi</p> <p><u>Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries</u> February 28 – <i>Jesus Camp</i></p>		<p>1</p> <p>March 2011 Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>6:00 pm – Socrates Café 6:30 pm – Craft Circle (Off-site)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 pm – Black Film Forum</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 7:00 pm – Thursday Writing Workshop 7:00 pm – Foundations of Ethical Culture</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 pm – Ethics in Film</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 am and 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation 10:00 am – To Free The Artist Within You</p>
<p>6</p> <p>10:00 am – Chorus Practice 10:00 am – Presiders Refresher 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Ethical Economics 2:00 pm – Teen Leadership</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1:00 pm – Ethics in Literature 6:30 pm – Board of Trustees 6:30 pm – Monday Writing Workshop</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 pm – Ethical Conflicts: Cases in Practice</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 7:00 pm – Foundations of Ethical Culture 7:00 pm – Thursday Writing Workshop</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 pm – Ethics and the Theater (special event)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30 am and 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation 10:00 am – To Free The Artist Within You 5:00 pm – Pledge Party</p>
<p>13</p> <p>10:00 am – Colloquy 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Authors Circle 2:00 pm – Teen Leadership</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30 pm – Monday Writing Workshop</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:00 pm – Socrates Café 7:00 pm – Prospective Members' Reception</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 7:00 pm – Thursday Writing Workshop 7:00 pm – Foundations of Ethical Culture</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>No Supervised Visitation program today 10:00 am – To Free The Artist Within You</p>
<p>20</p> <p>10:00 am – Poetry Reading 10:00 am – Chorus Practice 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Ethical Economics</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Society Building Closed Washington's Birthday</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 pm – Monday Writing Workshop 7:00 pm – Ethical Conflicts: Cases in Practice</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 pm – Ethics and the Theater</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 7:00 pm – Thursday Writing Workshop</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30 am and 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation</p>
<p>27</p> <p>11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Ethical Hospitality 1:45 pm – Ethics in the News 2:00 pm – Teen Leadership</p>	<p>28</p> <p>1:00 pm – Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries 6:30 pm – Monday Writing Workshop</p>	<p><u>Ethical Conflicts: Cases in Practice</u> February 8 – Personal Relationships: Whose Business is it? February 22 – Promises: Kept and Broken</p> <p><u>Ethical Economics Exploration Group</u> February 6 – Guest David Hess</p>				