

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

TWO WEST 64TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10023 TEL. 212 874-5210 E-MAIL OFFICE@NYSEC.ORG

## **Sunday Morning Meetings**

**10:15 AM—Ceremonial Hall**

**4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**July 6**

### **The Invention of Race**

*Karen Helm, Officiant and  
Board Member*

*Baltimore Ethical Society*

Tony Hileman Presides

**July 13**

**TBA**

Bonnie Bean Presides

**July 20**

### **A Force for Good**

*Mary Herman, AEU Leader-in-Training,  
Washington Ethical Society*

Henryka Komanska Presides

**July 27**

### **The Streetlight, Searchlight, and Lighthouse: Three Ways to Shine Our Light**

*Michael S. Franch, Ethical  
Culture Leader*

Tony Hileman Presides

### **Please Note:**

The Early Sunday (10:00 AM) and Sunday Afternoon (1:45 PM) events will resume on Sunday, September 7.

## **July Happenings**

**Conversation With the Leader: What We Have to Offer**, on Tuesday, July 1, at 6:00 pm. (See page 5)

**Benefit Film Showing: *At the Death House Door***, a close look at the death penalty in Texas, will be shown on Wednesday, July 16, 7:00 pm. (See page 6)

## **President's Notes**

*Andra Miller*



The first order of business is to thank Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Ross for arranging for the event honoring the Sirleaf Market Women's Fund at the New York Society for Ethical Culture on June 4. It was a heady event, with the highlight being the presence of Her Excellency Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the President of Liberia. Her visit was recorded by, I'd say, six or more professional photographers and a passel of amateurs. Such an honor! And then there were the colorful music and great drumming, with singing and dancing—and the building full of people of many nationalities and ages, most of the women in beautiful dresses, with several wearing fantastic headdresses made of striking fabrics arranged charmingly with corners in the air like wings. It was an exciting evening and it made me think that our wonderful old Auditorium must have felt proud to be so well used.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## **From the Leader's Desk**

*Tony Hileman, Senior Leader*



### **The Beliefs We Hold**

*"What is so central to our identity that we must proclaim it, even at the risk of offending someone?"*

—David E. Bumbaugh, Professor of Ministry,

Meadville Lombard Theological School

We have all too often relied on bumper-sticker versions of our humanist faith that pretend to communicate but that don't really convey the true meaning or depth of Ethical Culture. Other bugaboos that bedevil us are the twin tendencies to interpret "deed above creed" as "we are what we do," and the tendency to slip away from the rig-

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 Homeless Artists Workshop: Dr. Maria Fridman  
 AHMHA: Phyllis Harrison-Ross  
 Collegiate Church and Carpenter Kids Collaboration  
 Phyllis Harrison-Ross and Vincent Montaruli  
 EBAY Project: Eric Norlander and Michelle Rickborn

**President's Notes**

*(Continued from page 1)*

One of Phyllis's many talents is her ability to see possibilities for connection and to form partnerships with other organizations. This event was sponsored by and arranged through the cooperation of The Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Market Women's Fund and the African Women's Development Fund, and Phyllis tied in other organizations of which she is a member, notably The Links, a nationwide organization of women of color dedicated to community service and support.

Adding to the mix were the connections of Heather Grady, who is a director of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative. Long involved in international humanitarian programs in East Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, Heather called upon many of her friends and colleagues to take part in the event, most notably Mary Robinson, founder and President of her organization and the first woman President of Ireland. She and other women leaders spoke at the reception that was held in Ceremonial Hall.

Also helping with the huge job of publicizing, organizing, arranging the

catering, and helping at the event were Bob Liebeskind, Marlon Rice, Julie Blutstein, Sheila Kleinwald, and Moe-Swe Myint. Marlon, besides troubleshooting microphones and overseeing all building details, led the team of Anwar Bramble, Leonardo Gibson, and Jason Vasquez, who saw to all the physical demands of the Ceremonial Hall and Auditorium event. They were part of the army of volunteers from the several organizations involved. Thanks to you all.

These are exciting times as we head into another year of Board service and another fiscal year. I'd like to present the NYSEC officers for the coming year: our Vice-President is Henryka Komanska; our Secretary, Sylvan Wallach; our Treasurer, Heather Grady—and I've been reelected President. We four and the rest of our Trustees, Bob Berger, Meg Chapman, Jim Farer, Maria Fridman, Phyllis Harrison-Ross, Margaretha Jones, Sheila Kleinwald, and Stephen Schultz are all looking forward to our Board retreat, a day when we will evaluate our progress over the past year and set our plans for the future. This meeting will be held soon and so in the August *Ethical Outlook*, we'll be sure to let you know how we're doing and what's

coming up for the New York Society for Ethical Culture.

Speaking of retreats, as you have heard by now, you're invited to the Society's fourth annual country retreat, October 3-5, once again in Warwick (see details in this newsletter). I hope to see as many of you as possible there. We'll have a lot of fun. My thanks to the retreat planners, Janice Buzby (chair), Sheila Kleinwald, and staffer Moe-Swe Myint, and to Barbara Levenson, who is advising us from her experience planning prior retreats.

It's now time to spiff up the committees. We need to recruit those of you who are willing and able to meet from time to time to get the volunteer jobs done for our Society. Several of our committees are headed by Board members: Bob Berger heads the Building (or as some call it the House) Committee; Jim Farer, By-Laws; Henryka Komanska co-chairs Co-Sponsored Program Approval (with Betsy Ungar); Meg Chapman, Family Programs/Sunday School; Phyllis Harrison-Ross and Jim Farer, Finance (with Endowment/Bequest under Phyllis and Audit and the Task Force on Rentals under Jim); Margaretha Jones, Personnel; and Heather Grady, Pledge Drive. The rest of our committees have members at the helm. Jerry Chamlin, Awards; Virginia Scherer, Caring; Eric Norlander, Ethical Action Communication; Tom Weishaar, Internet; Sy Amkraut and Sue Dye, Membership Cultivation; Selma Friedman, editor, Newsletter; Abe Markman, PIC; Marc Bernstein, Radio; and ad hoc committees for leadership search, Carol Nadell Van Deusen and Bonnie Bean; the retreat, Janice Buzby; criminal justice, Elaine Berman; and rental development, Jim Farer.

I'll be working on making sure we have a complete list of committees and

their members, which will be available to you. You may be getting a call from me to help out on one of these, and I hope you'll say yes! Have a wonderful summer.

## Leader's Desk

*(Continued from page 1)*

ors of ethical faith as articulated by the founding generation into something therapeutic that, while comforting and secure, does not challenge or offer adventure and fulfillment.

Over a decades-long process, we've become timid about what we believe. Some of this is in response to the fire-and-brimstone demonizing of shrill fundamentalism, but an equal or larger reason is our own reticence to offend. All beliefs, by whatever name, exclude, but in doing so they need not be exclusionary. That is the wonder, the beauty, and the genius of Ethical Culture—its ability to clearly define itself, stating openly and proudly who we are, what we embrace (and what we don't), and what we stand for—in a welcoming, respectful way in which even those of differing views find no offense and can consequently be comfortable in dialog and cooperation with us.

At least that is where we once were and where we are tantalizingly near to being today. All that's lacking is a bit of resolve, the courage to step forward resolutely and respectfully knowing some (perhaps even some we consider our own) will disagree with us. That begs the above-quoted question asked by David Bumbaugh in a keynote address at a Unitarian/Universalist (UU) district meeting this past April, "What the World Needs From Liberal Religion."

As the title suggests, he posed his question in the UU context but addressed it to a larger audience, one that certainly includes Ethical Humanism.

For me, that question leads to considerations of identity, of "creed"—a set of beliefs, principles, judgments, and opinions. Contrary to our own dissembling, we do have such a thing, we're just not creedal about it. In addressing this very aspect of Ethical Culture, Richard Kiniry, Leader of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, said, "Without closing the canon I want to make it clear that we have one." He did just that in an enlightening session at the American Ethical Union's annual assembly in Austin, Texas, in April, that focused on both the progressive nature of our ethical faith and the need for an unambiguous articulation of our beliefs, principles, and considered judgments. He and others, myself included, are continuing that work in an effort to bring consensus and clarity to our Movement.

In his closing, Bumbaugh stressed that it is essential, "that we have the courage to define ourselves in ways that offer a clear alternative both to the dangerous and divisive orthodoxies that seem to have captured the religious venture, and the refusal to embrace a clear identity that threatens to sweep liberal religion into commodified, thumb-sucking irrelevance."

I couldn't agree more. It is time for us to embrace the beliefs we hold and to do so with the same pride and conviction as the founding generation of the Ethical Movement. It is time for us to give to the world what it has every right to expect of us—clarity and leadership.

# Sunday Morning Meetings

10:15 AM—Ceremonial Hall

## July 6—The Invention of Race

*Karen Helm, Officiant and Board Member, Baltimore Ethical Society*

In its Statement on Race, the American Anthropological Association declares that race is not a biological phenomenon but a social condition. Karen Helm explores the meaning of this statement and its implications for ethical action. The conviction that race is a natural, primordial phenomenon lies at the core of American thought, she says. It has shaped and created American “reality” from our beginnings. Without it, interpretation of our history would become less jingoistic and our perception of current events and behavior would become radically altered. To accept race as defined by social science is to understand that races are formed through a blood-drenched process that unfolds in well-defined stages over generations. The process presupposes the meeting of populations from widely separated geographic origins coupled with vastly unequal power concentrated in one population. The process ends when this population secures the total submission of the weaker group(s). When the United States reached this stage, approximately one-fifth of our population was held passively in degraded positions simply through the normal function of social institutions, traditions, and customs. Some of these customs are still unthinkingly observed.

In her talk Ms. Helm will examine the ethics of our following one such shared custom.

Karen Helm has worked in urban housing development in New York City; run a community mental health facility in Richmond, California; and been an advocate for Aboriginal health services in Melbourne, Australia. She also served as Vice-President of the San Francisco chapter of the National Organization for Women and as the President of the Victoria State YWCA in Australia.

## July 13—TBA

### July 20—A Force for Good

*Mary Herman, AEU Leader-in-Training Washington Ethical Society*

The founders of the Ethical Culture Movement envisioned a religious society where noble ideals and reasoned judgment might come together to shape our understanding of the meaning of being human, where we might be reminded of the power of doing good and the relentless demands of justice. They did so with the understanding that ours would be a living movement, committed to always seeking new knowledge about the world and ourselves, and to providing a more progressive path for the emergence of a more just and humane society. Mary Herman is “struck by the sheer confidence our founders possessed and the hope and power that confidence generated. Believing as we do that the values that we would teach the world are as much needed today as ever they were,” she asks what must we do to experience a renewal in our Movement and give our message out to the world in the examples of our own lives.

Ms. Herman worked as a legislative and press assistant for the U.S. Senate for 18 years, prior to becoming the senior staffer for the Washington Ethical Society in 1995. A member

of WES for 28 years, she became an AEU Leader-in-Training in November 2007 and is completing a three-year leadership certificate program with the Humanist Institute.

## July 27—The Streetlight, Searchlight, and Lighthouse: Three Ways To Shine Our Light

*Michael S. Franch, Ethical Culture Leader*

There is a joke about a fellow who drops his keys on a dark street one night and looks for them down the block “because that’s where the streetlight is,” Michael Franch says. “That’s the way a lot of scientific or philosophical investigation happens. We tend to look at problems in the ways that our tools let us see, even if what light is available isn’t quite right for the job. The streetlight, searchlight, and lighthouse help us think about what we can know, what we cannot know, and how we behave with limited knowledge.”

*“There are two objectives to which the Ethical Society is consecrated. One is to help people do the good they already know. Every social relation needs the aid of ethical examination so we can carry our ideals into personal action in marriage, in work, in politics, etc. The other objective is more important: to gain additional light about what is right. We need light on the great social problems of our times. We need to see far more distinctly than we do, what ought to be the relations between men and women, between what should citizens give and get from their community; how ought people to think about the larger human community; what ought to be the relations between those with advantages and those who are less advantaged. On these and a hundred other questions, we need more light.”*

—Felix Adler  
*AEU Dialogue*, Summer 2005

Michael S. Franch is a member of the National Leaders Council and a former Leader (1975-84) of the Baltimore Ethical Society. Until his 2007 retirement, Mr. Franch worked on health policy at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

He is a historian by training, with a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, and an affiliate minister at the First Unitarian Church, Baltimore. He frequently speaks at Ethical Societies and Unitarian Universalist churches.

## Conversation With The Leader: What We Have to Offer

*Tony Hileman, Senior Leader*

*“Ethical religion claims for all people freedom for growth [and] shall be organized for unfolding the spiritual life of all its members. To lift people’s eyes and to turn their will toward that vision is the purpose of the Ethical Movement.”*

—Henry J. Golding

Ethical Culture is important to each of us, it animates our lives in ways few other things can. We have an essential message that brings us together in community and calls us to action in service to others. To fully appreciate the deep meaning of this “religion of duty,” what we believe needs to be considered in the context of who we serve, and to whom and/or to what we are responsible. All members are invited to join us on **Tuesday, July 1, 6:00 pm**, when our dialog will be directed toward those questions.

## Board Meeting Highlights

*Sheila Abrams Kleinwald*

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of both the May 4 Annual Meeting and the May 12 Board meeting.

The Board elected its officers for the coming year. They are: President: Andra Miller; Vice-President: Henryka Komanska; Secretary: Sylvan Wallach; Treasurer: Heather Grady.

Previously disseminated monthly reports by the President, the Senior Leader, the Executive Director, the Social Service Board, the Finance Committee, the Endowment Committee, the Pledge Committee, and the Membership Associate were all accepted for filing, either as written or as expanded upon during the meeting. Copies of the reports were available at the meeting for visitors.

Pledge Committee Chair Heather Grady reported that some members have still not made their pledges for this year.

Social Service Board Chair Phyllis Harrison-Ross reported that the SSB is looking for new sources of funding for its Supervised Visitation program. One possibility under consideration is partnering with another organization.

Julie Blutstein, Director of Development and Communications, reported that she is researching the availability of grant money to digitize the archives.

After the regular meeting was adjourned, an executive session was convened to discuss new leadership for the Society.

And now, a personal note. This is the last time that I expect to write the “Board Meeting Highlights” column. Sylvan Wallach has said that he would like to write a similar column, and I am happy to pass it on to him, as long as the original purpose is fulfilled, which I believe it will be.

Three years ago, I started this column to give members a sense of some of the issues the Trustees deal with in managing the business of the Society from month to month, with the dual purpose of sharing information and encouraging members to join me in observing the meetings. As you might infer from paragraph three, much of the Society’s business is handled in committees and reported to the Board in writing. Discussion at the meeting focuses on items that require correction, elaboration, attention, or decision-making by the entire Board. (Matters of a confidential nature are taken up in “executive session,” which is confined to Board members, after the regular meeting is adjourned.) In short, to be well informed about the workings of your Society, you have to be there, at least some of the time.

Fortunately, that is not difficult. All members are welcome, and may even participate in the discussion of issues. All you need to do is confirm the date and time, (usually the first or second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm) with Gloria Chandler at 212-874-5210, ext. 117, and show up in Room 514.

There, you will find the Trustees earnestly at work to keep the Society on course, fortified by coffee, tea, and the spirit of Felix Adler.

## Our Ethical Family

*Moe-Swe Myint*

Congratulations to Helen Mecs on her wonderful interviews of our “Unsung Heroes” in the May and June issues.

## PIC in Action

*Pat Berens and Abe Markman*

### Paid Family and Paid Sick Leave

While planning action promoting family-friendly and work-related issues, namely paid family and paid sick leave, the Public Issues Committee (PIC) has been listening to voices from near and far.

At the Sunday, May 11, afternoon open PIC meeting, we presented excerpts from Tom Brokaw’s DVD, *Boom!! Voices of the Sixties*, which deals with some of the issues on PIC’s agenda. The turnout was good and the discussion was lively.

On Thursday, May 22, Virginia Arnold, Pat Berens, Lee Loshak, and Abe Markman attended a breakfast forum hosted by Borough President Scott Stringer on Paid Family Leave, and on Wednesday, May 28, Virginia and Abe attended a breakfast forum on Paid Sick Leave, hosted by Andrea Battista Schlessinger, Executive Director of the Drum Major Institute. Both meetings provided valuable information to help us in our efforts to have legislation passed on these issues.

### Benefit Film Showings

We are making plans to hold a breakfast or luncheon forum in the fall on paid family leave and paid sick leave. In order to raise funds for this event we will present two film showings this summer.

Please join us for two very thought-provoking evenings. Doors will open at 6:30 pm, and the film will be shown at 7:00 pm. Suggested contribution is \$10. There will be cabaret-style seating and beer, soda, and popcorn will be served.

On Wednesday, July 16, we will show *At the Death House Door*, a personal and intimate look at the death penalty and death row inmates in Texas. (Proceeds will be shared with New Yorkers Against the Death Penalty.) On Wednesday, August 20, we’ll show *Sir, No Sir*, the little-known story of U.S. soldiers protesting against the Vietnam War while in uniform and on the front lines.

### Film: Liberian President Sirleaf

On Sunday, June 1, PIC’s afternoon program presented the film, *The Iron Ladies of Liberia*, about President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in her extremely challenging but highly productive first year in office. The animated discussion that followed was led by Dr. Thelma Awori, President of the Sirleaf Market Women’s Fund and other organizations that help to support Liberian women. Dr. Awori was born and raised in Liberia, although she has lived outside the country for a long time. She was a schoolmate of the President and her father was a classmate of the President’s mother.



*(L-R) Abe Markman, Dr. Thelma Awori, and Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Ross at the PIC film showing on June 1*

Dr. Thelma Awori is the former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa, United Nations Development Program. Currently, she is an independent consultant to the U.N. working on issues of social justice and women’s rights.



*(L-R, front row) Society member Phyllis Harrison-Ross and Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf at the gala event benefiting the Sirleaf Market Women’s Fund held here at the NY Society on June 4. (See June issue for more details)*

## New Summer Adult Ed Program Heresy and Heretics

Join us here at the Society for two discussions on this timely and important topic, to be led by Massimo Pigliucci, Professor of Philosophy at Stony Brook University. The first session of the new program will take place on July 22 and the second on August 26; both will be held in Ceremonial Hall from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

While both sessions will deal with the same subject, each is designed to be a stand-alone experience, so come to one or come to both! The sessions are free and a lively discussion will likely continue afterward at a nearby restaurant.

## Ethics on the Air

Marc Bernstein

On Thursday, July 3, 11:00 am **WBAI, 99.5 FM**, Michael Kriegh, new lead architect at the Pratt Institute and a former NYSEC President, will discuss the ethical dimension of environmental issues. Andra Miller will host.

On Friday, July 25, Dr. Susan Neiman, a distinguished American philosopher who has taught at Yale and is now Director of the Einstein Forum in Potsdam, Germany, will speak. She has written several books, including *Evil in Modern Thought* and, most recently, *Moral Clarity: A Guide for Grown-Up Idealists*.

For more information about the program, contact Marc Bernstein, Dr. Harrison-Ross, or Andra Miller.

## SSB Aids Education



(L-R) Episcopal priest Jennifer Linman with Scolastica Mgumbo of the Carpenter's Kids program in Tanzania, which supports the education of young children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. Members of our SSB and other NY Society members have made personal contributions to this program, an effort that was initiated by SSB member Vincent Montaruli.

## AEU Lay Leadership Summer School

The twelfth annual AEU Summer School, to be held August 9–16, is a great opportunity to learn more about Humanism. For more information contact the AEU at 212-873-6500.

## July Calendar

Office hours for the month: Monday–Thursday, 9:00 am–6:00 pm

Friday, 9:00 am–1:30 pm

Shelter: Monday–Thursday, 7:30 pm

*Conversation With the Leader*

Tuesday, July 1, 6:00 pm

*Men's Group*

Wednesday, July 2, 6:00 pm

*Morning Meetings*

Sundays, 10:15 am

(Ceremonial Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor)

*Ethics on the Air* (WBAI-99.5 FM)

Thursday, July 3, 11:00 am

*Society Offices Closed*

Friday, July 4

*Supervised Visitation*

Saturdays, (except July 5), 9:30 am

*Socrates Café*

Wednesday, July 16, 6:00 pm

*PIC Film Showing*

Wednesday, July 16, 7:00 pm

*Adult Education Program*

Tuesday, July 22, 7:00 pm

*Discussing Ethical Issues Group*

Wednesday, July 23, 6:00 pm

*Ethics on the Air* (WBAI-99.5 FM)

Friday, July 25, 11:00 am

## August Calendar

Office hours for the month: Monday–Thursday, 9:00 am–6:00 pm

Friday, 9:00 am–1:30 pm

Shelter: Monday–Thursday, 7:30 pm

*September Newsletter Deadline*

Friday, August 1

*Morning Meetings*

Sundays, 10:15 am

(Ceremonial Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor)

*Board of Trustees*

Monday, August 4, 6:30 pm

*Men's Group*

Wednesday, August 6, 6:00 pm

*Socrates Café*

Wednesday, August 20, 6:00 pm

*PIC Film Showing*

Wednesday, August 20, 7:00 pm

*Ethics on the Air* (WBAI-99.5 FM)

Friday, August 22, 11:00 am (guest to be announced later)

*Adult Education*

Tuesday, August 26, 7:00 pm

*Discussing Ethical Issues Group*

Wednesday, August 27, 6:00 pm

## SSB and Unforgotten Voices

Maria Fridman

On June 5, the New York Society once again hosted the Unforgotten Voices Creative Workshop, an evening of poetry, art, singing, and music by a collective of talented artists who are or have been homeless. The coordinator of this program, Judith Ginsburg, also invited special guests from the Volunteers of America Ward's Island Community Theatre Arts Workshops and Fresh Start Cultural Theatre Production (under the auspices of the Keener Shelter Program) to participate. John Pinder, coordinator, helped make the evening memorable. As always, the event, which I have helped coordinate since its inception over 20 years ago, was cosponsored by the United Social Service Board (SSB). Here are observations by two members of the audience, Barbara Litke and Don Traunstein.



(L-R) Maria Fridman, a guest, and Judith Ginsburg



(L-R, front row) Barbara Litke, Barbara Levenson, and Sabine Rosenberg; in the background a guest

**Barbara Litke:** “At the semi-annual Creative Artists Workshop on June 5, hosted by Maria Fridman, the SSB, and the Ethical Culture Society, the artists had an opportunity to show their talents. A receptive audience of their peers and guests gave loud and well-deserved applause as each volunteer stepped to the mike. Judith Ginsburg, workshop coordinator, was, as usual, their supportive energizer. One guest filmed the evening’s happenings for a documentary that will give voice to these Unforgotten Artists, which he hopes will be produced in the near future.

“The artists/performers offered an evening of music, song, dance, poetry, and art. A trio of students from the Brooklyn High School of Performing Arts presented a very professional song and dance routine.

*Under the auspices of the Volunteers of America community recreational activities workshops, men and women—many of whom live in shelters, as well as several who now live independently—have workspace available so they can pursue their individual interests. It was an evening rich in satisfaction, and I look forward to attending the next one.”*



Guests Joan Lastoff and Don Traunstein

**Don Traunstein:** “Last Thursday evening on the lower level of the Ethical Culture Society building, about two dozen studio and performing artists exhibited their varied talents. Current or former residents of shelters for the city’s homeless, the men and women enthusiastically performed a range of works, including standards from the 1940s, contemporary rap, and poetry in solo or small group combos. We also heard a piano solo and a drum/piano duet. They were amateurs, of course, but their energy and élan more than compensated for this. Paintings were also on view, showing a range of talent, but three pieces indicated real, developing talent. Let’s hope these abilities are given the opportunity to fully bloom. This was an evening well spent; the performers enjoyed themselves, and so did I.”

## 2008 FALL MEMBER'S RETREAT



*A weekend to plan, relax, grow, discuss, get to know each other, and enjoy nature, local activities, and good company.*

**When:** Friday, October 3 – Arrive before dinner  
(We'll have an informal Welcome Party starting at 5 pm)  
Stay through Sunday, October 5, lunch

**Where:** The Warwick Center in Warwick, NY  
<http://www.campwarwick.com/>

**Transportation:** By private car or by bus from Port Authority

**Accommodations:** Two room types are available:

West House – rooms include a private bathroom  
Single - \$267 Double - \$203 Triple - \$179

East House – every two rooms share a bathroom  
(These rooms have no air conditioning)  
Single - \$220 Double - \$160 Triple - \$144

**Prices are per person for the weekend, all inclusive. Rooms are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so**

**Get your reservations in early!**

**Deadline for \$100 Non-Refundable Deposit is 7/25/08  
Must be paid in full by 9/15/08**

**For more information, contact:**

Janice Buzby- [janice345@verizon.net](mailto:janice345@verizon.net), Sheila Kleinwald- [Sheila\\_Kleinwald@yahoo.com](mailto:Sheila_Kleinwald@yahoo.com)  
Moe-Swe Myint- [mmyint@nysec.org](mailto:mmyint@nysec.org) or (212) 874-5210 X 113

NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR  
**ETHICAL CULTURE** 

## 2008 Fall Member's Retreat Reservation Form

Please enclose \$100 deposit for each individual

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Room Type (Circle One)

West House (room includes a private bathroom)

Single \$267      Double \$203      Triple \$179

East House (every two rooms share a bathroom)

Single \$220      Double \$160      Triple \$144

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total (due by 9/15/08) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks out to the NYSEC and send the form with your check to Moe-Swe Myint at the NY Society for Ethical Culture

**The deadline for reservations and \$100 deposit is 7/25/08. There is an additional \$10 fee for reservations made after 7/25/08.**

**Must be paid in full by 9/15/08**

Transportation is by private car or bus from Port Authority. Bus schedules will be made available at a later date.

If you have room in your private car please indicate how many additional people you can take and we'll try to match you up with others needing a ride.

# A Plea from the Philadelphia Society

*Helen Mecs*

Since 1984, the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia has run Camp Linden, a summer day-camp program serving children and their families from North Philadelphia; it has now expanded to include six day camps in Philadelphia and Camden.

The Society believes that the 51-acre site is underutilized and is developing the property to provide additional overnight housing, as well as dining and meeting space to work with other groups, in a financial and administrative partnership, to help children and adults address life's problems and to work on environmental social justice issues to make life better for all. The camp is in the middle of the very desirable



Chester horse country area on the west branch of the Brandywine River. Such camps and conference places are being consumed by developers, another reason to keep this property for the use of Ethical Culture meetings and events, says Philadelphia Leader Richard Kiniry.

Work has already begun on laying the foundation of the dining hall and bringing in electric and water systems. The Philadelphia Society is seeking a capital infusion of \$500,000 for this project. If you would like to help, please fill in the attached coupon and send your contribution to The Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia. Checks should be made out to Camp Linden and sent to: Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA 19103. For more information, contact [rlkiniry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlkiniry@sbcglobal.net).

## The Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia Camp Linden Fund

Here is my contribution of \_\_\_\_\_ for the Linden Camp Fund

Payment Options (check one):

My check is enclosed

Please charge my  AMEX  VISA  MasterCard  Discover Card

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

**Ethical Culture** is a humanistic religious and philosophical movement in which people share a core of common values: the worth of each individual, ethics as central to our lives, eliciting the best from each other and doing good in the world.

We seek truth as a growing, changing body of knowledge based on experience, reason and scientific observation, and seek to use it in support of human well-being.

NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR  
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