

# ETHICAL OUTLOOK

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## **Sunday Morning Meetings** 11:30 AM—Auditorium

### **February 1**

#### **The Present National Crisis And America's Future**

*Dr. Paul Krugman*

*Professor, Princeton University*

Dr. Khoren Arisian Presides

### **February 8**

#### **Guns In America: Taking Aim At The Second Amendment**

*Gerald Ranck*

*Society Music Director*

Dr. Khoren Arisian Presides

### **February 15**

#### **Is Our Democracy For Sale? Is It Better To Be Wrong But Strong, Or Right But Weak? What Price Honesty? A Presidents' Day Address**

*Dr. Khoren Arisian*

*Senior Leader*

Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Ross Presides

### **February 22**

#### **Policy Reform In These Difficult Times: Strategies To Promote Changes In Prison Policy**

*Robert Gangi*

*Executive Director of the*

*Correctional Association of NY*

Dr. Judith D. Wallach Presides

### **February 29**

#### **A Potpourri Of Music, Dance, Poetry And Scenes Celebrating And Honoring Black History Month**

*Dr. Glory Van Scott*

*Society Member*

Michael Bogdanffy-Kriegh Presides

## **February Happenings**

**Sunday, February 1, 11:30 am, Dr. Paul Krugman**, Princeton University Professor and *New York Times* columnist, will speak about **“The Present National Crisis and America’s Future.”** Please come early to reserve your seat. See details below.

**Thursday, February 26, 6:30 pm, “Islam Through Muslim Eyes,”** a new, four-part course featuring **Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf** will begin. See details on page 5.

**Sunday, February 29, 11:30 am, Dr. Glory Van Scott**, producer/director, actress, singer, dancer, composer, playwright, and Society member, will present **“A Potpourri of Music, Dance, Poetry, and Scenes Celebrating and Honoring Black History.”** Please see page 5 for details.

## **President’s Notes**

*Michael Bogdanffy-Kriegh*



### **Thoughts on the Challenges of the New Year**

The run up to the end of the year was intense, at times nerve racking, but generally filled with changes, actions, and accomplishments which I believe have positioned the Society for continued turnaround.

We have completed the auditorium refurbishment project, one month behind schedule, but generally on budget, though we did have to scale back some of our ambitions to do so. Preliminary feedback has been very positive. Musicians who have performed here say that the acoustics, already reputed to be exceptional, have changed for the better. Members’ reactions have been favorable, and there appears to be a modest increase in rental interest even before we start an active marketing campaign.

*(continued on page 3)*

## **Sunday Morning Meetings**

### **February 1—The Present National Crisis and America’s Future**

*Dr. Paul Krugman*

*Professor, Princeton University*

In light of the growing national disquiet over the state of the American economy and the nation’s ballooning deficits (a topic amply dealt with in Paul Krugman’s recently published book, *The Great Unraveling: Losing Our Way in the New Century*), it’s a great pleasure and a significant service to the New York community and our own Society to feature this



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**Ethical Culture: Who We Are**

*From An Invitation to Action: A Vision of Ethical Culture*  
 National Council of the American Ethical Union, May, 2003

Our primary stance toward human existence is positive, even while we recognize the sorrow and tragedy in life. Our sense of the uniqueness and richness of human life, of how much life has to offer us and we have to offer each other, creates a sense of appreciation and celebration that we express individually and in community. We celebrate the birth of new life, commitments of love, and the accomplishments of individuals and groups. We commemorate the passing of life by celebrating the contributions of departed ones.

Ethical Societies celebrate the good life through

- Music and other artistic expressions at all Ethical gatherings
- Festivals and ceremonies to mark personal milestones and communal accomplishments
- Memorials and remembrances

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Affirmation of the worth of all people cannot be separate from protection of the environment and biodiversity on which the quality of life depends. Humans, like all creatures, are the result of a long process of natural evolution. The natural world, which gives us life, inspires our most profound recognition and respect for the interrelated destiny of all people, and of humanity and our planet.

Ethical Societies promote ecological awareness by

- Showing our reverence for life by trying to walk softly and quietly upon the earth
- Celebrating seasonal changes (SpringFest, WinterFest)
- Supporting efforts for ecological justice

## President's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

There have been a number of staff changes, mostly reconfigurations to trim our budget and make us more efficient. It has not been easy, but it has been necessary to make these changes. Ben Bean has retired as our membership director and most of you who come to the Society regularly will have met our new Membership Director, Suzy Frazer, by now.

And so with a refurbished auditorium, reconfigured staff, new membership director, and a core membership that is as dedicated and enthusiastic as they have been in recent memory, what are the next challenges?

**Getting Noticed.** Before closing our auditorium, we had a number of successful events that brought large crowds to our doors. Our collaborative events with *The Nation*, WNYC, *The Economist* magazine, and WBAI, not to mention the presentation of the Ethical Humanist Award to Senator Jim Jeffords, all contributed to getting the word out and getting us noticed. We were heard on WNYC radio and seen on C-span television. Look for more of these collaborations in the next six months. Some good programs are brewing.

In addition, we have retained Alyse Booth as our new PR consultant and have charged her with developing a PR strategy to get the word out and bring the people in.

**Growing the Membership.** We have been telling ourselves for years that we have to attract and retain more members. We have had modest success in doing so, but not enough to do anything more than tread water. A number of things are now putting us in a posi-

tion to change this. We have a newly refurbished auditorium. Our programming has been steadily improving. We have a wonderful events coordination team (Leslie Doyle and Paula Sheldon) that is constantly thinking of new ways to bring people to our doors. We have had significant success in attracting events that bring capacity crowds to our auditorium. We have a new PR consultant. We have a new Membership Director and a new membership database program, and we've launched a new website.

What's left is the hard work of capitalizing on these resources and opportunities. Look for new initiatives from the membership team (Suzy Frazer and the membership growth committee) in the coming months, and be prepared to do your part.

**Raising Funds.** We have challenged ourselves to do more effective fundraising at the Society. We took the first step with a very successful pledge drive organized by our talented fundraising committee (Bonnie Bean, Chuck Debrovner, and Leigh McKay). We have received pledges of approximately \$150,000 from the membership, which equals the total of both pledges and contributions from last year. Consequently, we are expecting to receive more from pledges and contributions than we did last year. Thanks to all of you who answered the call.

This is only the first step toward an effective fundraising strategy, however. The fundraising committee is busy planning our next steps. Look for new initiatives in the coming months.

**Balancing our Budget.** One of the principal reasons for undertaking the auditorium refurbishment was to

increase our rental income. This is a key component in our strategy to balance our operating budget. Together with structural changes, budget reductions, and membership and fundraising growth, we are tackling all the components needed to insure fiscal health. Look for the presentation of a balanced budget to the membership and board in May and June.

Getting noticed, increasing our membership, raising funds, and balancing our budget are our challenges for the coming months and years. We've come a long way. We have a long way to go.

## Sunday Morning Meetings

(continued from page 1)

distinguished professor of economics and international affairs at Princeton University at our Sunday meeting.

Paul Krugman's twice-weekly columns in *The New York Times*—the first regular column devoted to economics, business, and finance—are lucid and usually pack a considerable punch of alarm and insight. A recent article in the *Washington Monthly* called him "the most important political columnist in America." Professor Krugman has served as a consultant to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, as well as several foreign countries. He does not hesitate to ruffle feathers, calling President Bush "an incessant liar bent on destroying America's safety net" and, in a splendid *New Yorker* article (9/15/03) called the President a "front man for a radical conservative movement that is intent on...further enriching the corporate establishment." Assessments like these

are often criticized as inflammatory when, in fact, they almost always turn out to be accurate. Truth-telling can burn, after all!

We eagerly anticipate Paul Krugman's time with us. Questions and remarks from the floor following his presentation will ensure a stimulating experience for all.

**February 8—Guns in America: Taking Aim at the Second Amendment**

*Gerald Ranck  
Society Music Director*

If America can be said to have a love affair with guns, in reality it seems more like obsession than romance. Many segments of American society seem to think that the Second Amendment entitles them to unlimited acquisition of all kinds of lethal weaponry. Does the Constitution enable neighbors to build arsenals and to carry assault weapons, or is the "right of the people to bear arms" a collective rather than an individual right?

Does government, conversely, have the right to limit or even ban gun ownership? Does any kind of government prohibition violate more of the Constitution than it upholds? As ethically concerned citizens, we are obliged to explore these issues with reason, not rhetoric; with objectivity, not raw passion. If we hold to these analytical principles, some surprising conclusions may result. If we don't, divisiveness and hatred may continue to fuel the paranoid passions of citizens on both sides of this issue, and violence and damage (intellectual and political, rather than that accomplished by gunfire) to our republic and our common good may be the dreaded result.

**February 15—Is Our Democracy For Sale? Is it Better to be Wrong But Strong, or Right But Weak? What Price Honesty? A Presidents' Day Address**

*Dr. Khoren Arisian  
Senior Leader*

We live in a time when perception is supposedly everything and truth a chimera. In both the White House and the Congress there appears to be a tacit bipartisan agreement: all that counts politically is the present moment; the past is old hat, while the future is best left to posterity. However, the public is beginning to awaken. Whether they will awaken in time to affect the 2004 electoral season remains to be seen.

A good way to start to clear our minds is to put aside the false premise that objectivity in truth-seeking is impossible to attain because we are a hopelessly subjective species. The seeker is always a part of the truth that is sought: quantum theory, which I believe remains arguably the greatest scientific breakthrough of the modern era, is neither confining nor confusing, but liberating. At its heart lies the acknowledgement that life is not a predictable enterprise; it is inherently uncertain.

The administration in Washington trumpets the divine superiority of the closed mind. There's nothing to be known objectively, except the personal need for certainty. Democracy cannot thrive in an atmosphere of such need; it calls instead for the open mind that can learn to live well with uncertainty.

With the passage of each minute, the open mind becomes more aware of what's truly transpiring in this spiritually slippery age. The nation's wealth is on the auction block, outright lies are impatiently brushed aside as unintended mis-

statements, income inequality proceeds apace, with the politically powerful and the financially influential washing one another's hands as the poor become ever more dispossessed and the middle class sinks out of sight. The Democratic presidential aspirants continue to savage each other, much to the Republican right wing's delight. And so it goes.

The current mantra, that we have to take back our country, has been echoed as often by the extreme left as by the extreme right. The U.S. is at a very awkward juncture in its history. If we love our country, then we are responsible for its well-being. Let's get going!

**February 22—Policy Reform in These Difficult Times: Strategies to Promote Changes in Prison Policy**

*Robert Gangi*

Executive Director of the Correctional Association, New York's leading prison reform organization, for 22 years, Gangi will speak about the strategies he and his staff have developed over time to promote their policy agenda in the face of an often hostile and resistant political climate.

Gangi will present the Correctional Association's first principles or basic values and how those tenets shape and inform the organization's advocacy efforts, how and why Correctional Association representatives pick the issues they address, and the tactics they use to advance their reform objectives. He will discuss such key criminal justice issues as the harsh Rockefeller Drug Laws, the deplorable conditions of confinement related to the neglect and mistreatment of mentally ill prisoners and to the sexual harassment of women in prison, and the problem of the high numbers of

young people incarcerated in New York City's juvenile detention centers. Underlying all these matters, Gangi will point out, is the stark racial injustice perpetuated by New York's law enforcement apparatus – for example, over 95% of the youth confined in the city's juvenile jails are people of color.

**February 29 – A Potpourri of Music, Dance, Poetry, and Scenes Celebrating and Honoring Black History**



**Glory Van Scott as Jezebel in the Langston Hughes musical "Prodigal Son," Paris, France**

Riverside Church. She received the first Katherine Dunham Legacy Award in 2002, the National Black Theatre Festival's 2003 "Living Legend Award," and many other awards and honors.

*Dr. Glory Van Scott*

In addition to being a long-time member of our Society, Dr. Van Scott is a producer/director, actress, singer, dancer, composer, and playwright. She has performed regularly at the Society for an appreciative audience.

Glory was, for ten years, Professor of Theatre at Bucknell University's Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts. She is currently teaching at Fordham University's Lincoln Center Campus. She is a former Principal Dancer with the Katherine Dunham, Agnes DeMille, and Talley Beatty Companies and a member of the American Ballet Theater. She founded the Dr. Glory's Children's Theatre at our Society and Dr. Glory's Youth Theatre at

## Islam Through Muslim Eyes

**A new course, presented by Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf and speakers from the ASMA (American Sufi Muslim Association) Society Thursdays, February 26, March 4, 11, 18, 6:30-8:30 pm**

This course will cover Islam's creed and rituals, beliefs, sources of faith, relationship to Judaism and Christianity, spirituality (Sufism), and topics selected by the speakers.

Members: \$35, Non-members: \$50

To register, call the Leader's office 212-874-5210.

Register early for this sure-to-be-popular course.

## From the Archives

*Dr. Marc A. Bernstein*

### Left Out

Here's a story: The New York Society suffers not at the hands of a conservative group, but a radical one, not from outside its ranks, but from inside. This little known episode centers on the Workers' Fellowship, a left-wing group that emerged in the early years of the Depression and for two decades sullied the name of the Society.

In 1934, approximately 50 members of the Businessman's Group formed a new entity with an explicit left-wing agenda. "It was decided to limit membership to those who are agreed that the profit system must be abandoned," an

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early Fellowship document states. The group invited speakers to address it and took positions on public issues, protesting the work of the House Un-American Activities Committee, opposing cuts in WPA expenditures, supporting the right of hospital workers to engage in collective bargaining. Such positions were consonant with those held by the Society's membership as a whole.

On international matters, however, the story was quite different. Veering away from the liberal politics of the Society, the Workers' Fellowship took stands that were pro-Communist and two-faced. When the Soviets invaded Finland in November of 1939, the Fellowship opposed aid to the Finns in a letter to the Chair of the House Foreign Relations Committee. This was done even though less than a year earlier the Fellowship had supported a bill that would have made a distinction between aggressors and victims in foreign conflicts and would "deny [U.S.] economic resources to the aggressors, but not to their victims." Did they mean all aggressors except the Soviet Union?

Two conditions, one historical, one financial, gave added clout to the Fellowship. First, Felix Adler had already died when the Fellowship was formed. Had he been around, the group would have probably faced much more organized resistance within the Society than it did. Second, the Fellowship had the benefit of independent financing. In the winter of 1936-37, an old, disgruntled member of the Society, a man whose radical politics and lack of sophistication made him feel rejected by the Society's more polished, more conservative members, left a will with a \$30,000 bequest, not to the Society, but to the Workers' Fellowship. The bequest led to the incorporation of the

Fellowship. In charge of its own funds and blessed with legal recognition, the Fellowship was now unlike other groups of the Society.

In the forties, more and more of those who had begun the Fellowship (all members of the Society) deserted the group. They were increasingly replaced by non-members, at the very time the politics of the group grew increasingly pro-Communist. The Trustees of the Society wrung their hands and perspired mightily, but did nothing about the Fellowship until the time of the Korean War. This was also the era of Joseph McCarthy, so when the Society's Board of Trustees and the Executive Board of the Workers' Fellowship met on May 26, 1953, the meeting was more highly charged than it might have been had the Trustees addressed the issue in calmer political times.

The entire transcript of the meeting, preserved in the archives, makes for riveting reading. Here's one of the meeting's more memorable exchanges:

Mildred Mebel (for The Workers' Fellowship): "Now, [Algernon Black] spoke about the [Fellowship] changing. What has changed? Not we. We have not changed. What has changed are the times, only the fact that we must not call it McCarthyism...."

Jerome Nathanson: "Now this situation...goes back to my own sixteen years with the Society, before the period when anybody had heard of McCarthy....Consultations of the records of the Workers' Fellowship show that in the first three years of its existence—1934-1937—it was a discussion group which prided itself on the diversity of views expressed....It was in the period after [this] that the outside speakers came in, and I would submit on the record this clearly followed the party line....That

was long before McCarthyism, and I say that this is a disservice to the Society and may be the basis of an attack upon its integrity."

The Fellowship could not withstand such charges. A few weeks after the meeting the President of the Board of Trustees suggested that the Fellowship withdraw from the Society. Instead, they voted to dissolve and give their assets to charity. On July 8, 1953, almost 20 years after it had been formed and some 15 years after it had been incorporated, the Fellowship was gone.

But a question haunts this affair. If, as Nathanson suggested, the Workers' Fellowship was already a problem for the Society by the late 30's, why did the Board of Trustees not do anything about the group for so long? They had ample opportunities. Were they afraid of being too authoritarian? Or, was this a case, as Yeats once said, "when the best lacked all conviction, and the worst were full of passionate intensity?"

## **February 29—A Video Presentation of the Late Senator Paul Wellstone (1:30-3:30 pm, Room 514)**

*Dr. Khoren Arisian*

On March 26, 1995 at the First Unitarian Society in Minneapolis, the late Senator Paul Wellstone of Minnesota delivered the annual Christopher Curry Memorial Lecture, "*Is There a Future for Political Liberalism in the United States?*" Introduced by Khoren Arisian, then principal religious leader of the oldest humanist congregation in

the Unitarian Universalist Association (established in 1881), Paul Wellstone gave a powerful message critical of his state's Republican Party's right-wing contingent in a highly charged atmosphere at once tense and compelling. Over 1,000 people attended.

Wellstone's moral passion, brilliance, and modesty were evident that day, while his answers to questions riveted the audience's attention. The 1994 mid-term elections had ushered into Congress an avalanche of fire-breathing rightist Republican representatives, mostly young men and women. To complacent secular political liberals, it was a political shock of immense proportions and a wake-up call to which Senator Wellstone, virtually the last of his breed, responded. Newt Gingrich, chief architect of this emergent majority, was at the height of his influence.

Reflecting on the incalculable loss to the nation from Wellstone's tragic death just before the 2002 election, one might be reminded of Tennyson's "*Ulysses*," in which the poet's language swells with a sense of heart-break: "How dull it is to pause, to make an end, to rust unburnished, not to shine in use!" Paul Wellstone, who demonstrated how deep liberal political conviction can be, shone throughout his political career; sadly, he had many more years of great public service left. Our Society is to be congratulated for having presented its coveted Ethical Humanist Award in 1997 to a principled man who more than once said simply: "Politics is about the improvement of people's lives."

## Fiscal Discipline

*John M. Kreuttner, Treasurer*

You have been hearing a great deal about the need to step up contributions during the pledge drive. To make a long story short, the renovation of the auditorium on top of the recent installation of air conditioning and the recently completed roof project has reduced our unrestricted endowment to a very low amount. You will be hearing about this in specific detail at the annual meeting in May.

In the meantime, we are starting the budget process. For the first time in our history (at least recent history) we will be entering the new fiscal year starting July 1 with a balanced budget. This can very well mean cuts in committee budgets.

We are also in the process of revising our chart of accounts. The budgeting will be on a monthly basis rather than an annual one. Each committee will request a budget for next year with an amount and a timetable of when the funds will be spent. This will enable us to track our performance on a month-by-month basis rather than look at expenditures to date and the year-end total budget.

Your pledges will allow us to budget income from your donations on a monthly basis. Income from rentals will be based on the number of rentals we have historically had. Hopefully, we will be able to rent our auditorium more frequently because of the restoration. Income from bequests will be deposited in the endowment, which is badly in need of rebuilding.

Expenses will be booked as they are incurred. The monthly budgets will

allow us to anticipate when expenses will occur and we can budget accordingly. The cost of items such as mailings will be charged back to the committee that incurs them. Items like heating oil will be budgeted during the winter when the expense occurs.

The important point is that the Board of Trustees will have the ability to oversee our finances in a way that has not been possible in the past. No money will be spent without the board's prior approval. If a committee is over budget, the chair will be asked to explain the causes and either request additional funds or show how the expenses will be curtailed in order to come back within the budget.

## Spirited Sunday Meetings

*Andra Miller*

In a time when it seems as though materialism is the operative word in our country, matters of the spirit fade into the background. But to ignore our human need for spirituality is to live diminished lives. The need for spirituality, I think, is at the heart of the development of most, if not all, religions. There are other factors, of course, but this "spiritual need" we humans have is a powerful thing.

When I first came to a Sunday Meeting of the Society back in April, I found I missed the uplift of the Presbyterian Church services I had attended in the past. Though I enjoyed the beautiful piano and organ music, I missed singing great old soothing hymns with lyrics like, "Be still my soul, the Lord is on thy side." Much as I enjoyed our Meeting's informative presentation,

I missed the old sermons telling me how to lead a more generous life, and inspiring me to vow to be a better person. I also missed group prayer and silent meditation. In other words, I felt the meeting was very “dry,” but I figured that must be what happens when you take the theism out of your religion. You also take out the emotion, the uplift, and the spiritual aspect.

Allow me to digress. All along at those old church services, I had to cheat a little. Try as I might, I could not conjure up a god that I could believe in, no matter how I managed to describe he, she, or it. I was forced to rely on a song I learned in Sunday School, “God is Love.” I would substitute the word “love” whenever we were saying “God,” and it sort of worked for me, as I most assuredly do believe in love.

Now, love is a word you don’t hear a lot here. I think the only time I heard it mentioned was at the colloquium during last September’s retreat. I guess when you have a group devoted to individual worth and based on reason, touchy-feely words like “love” don’t seem to really fit in. However, I think the concern we have for others that is voiced in the description of our Society: “eliciting the best from each other and doing good in the world” really boils down to love in its most expansive form.

But back to my observations. As the year has gone by, I see that our “dry” meetings are getting juiced up. We’ve begun to sing songs. They may not be the old hymns of joy or sorrow, but they are lively and they remind us of our humanistic aspirations. Our last meeting included a celebration of solstice, with the special inspiration brought by candle lighting and the joyous participation of children.

I am reminded of the words of Corliss Lamont in his book, “*The Philosophy of Humanism*.” He wrote, “Great poets in the past have given expression to some particular philosophy or religion. As yet, however, no poet equal in rank has put into enduring verse the basic themes of Humanism as a philosophy. An essential function for artists and writers in a Humanist society will be to work out rituals and ceremonies that are consistent with the central tenets of Humanism. Such ceremonies should appeal to the emotions as well as the minds of people....”

Well, obviously, I’m in agreement with Mr. Lamont. And it looks like that’s exactly what our Society has planned as we move into the new year. I applaud the efforts of those involved on the Sunday Program and the Holiday Development Committees and pledge my help whenever needed. Society for Ethical Culture meetings will continue to be intellectual and informative—and at the same time lift up our spirits and send us off with new resolve and lighter hearts.

**Morning Programs:**

- February 1 Leaders’ Writings 10:15 am
- February 8 Colloquy 10:30 am
- February 15 Poetry Reading 10:30 am
- February 22 Yoga Meditation 10:30 am
- February 29 Coffee Hour 10:30 am

**Afternoon Programs:**

- February 1 Film 2:00 pm
- February 8 Ethics Study 1:30 pm
- February 15 Community Meeting 1:30 pm
- February 22 Ethics in the News 1:30 pm
- February 29 Film on Wellstone 1:30 pm

## World Trade Center Revisited

*Barbara E. Litke*

When visiting Ground Zero for the third time (the first within weeks of the tragedy, the next after six months of sorrow and disbelief), it was inspiring to me to see the hundreds of people engaged in a future in progress and specifically there to view the eight maquettes for the “Memorial.” Many looked as though they were giving serious thought to the architectural rendition of the “blueprint of the future” displayed in the new Winter Garden atrium.

A sense of “Recovery, Remembrance and Renewal” (the slogan for the renaissance of the World Trade Center) appeared when I experienced the soaring “Tower of Light” affixed high alongside the site for the proxy buildings.

The entire perimeter around the WTC is a testament to the budding of New York City: ongoing construction, well-known stores relocating into restored, attractive spaces, and people, people, people displaying their determination for its success by their presence in the area.

Sitting on the promenade outside the newly renovated Winter Garden (it is elegant and welcoming in its rebirth) I couldn’t miss Miss Liberty standing proud in the harbor. Sailboats were navigating the river and birds were flying overhead. For me, this was a statement of permanence.



## Origami Workshop for Sunday School Parents and Children

Parents and children had a great time at an Origami Workshop, organized by Valerie Leiman, at the Society on December 7. The workshop was presented by Teruko Edmonds, Valerie Leiman, and Caroline Marvel, who provided discussions, demonstrations, and hands-on model folding. Particularly interesting was a presentation of the mathematical concepts underlying the model patterns. Parents were especially engaged by this unusual focus. Photos by Mallinson, Santiago, and Zweig

# Our Ethical Family

*Susanna Frazer and Members*

## New Members

**Lisa Barile-Knox** is a teacher in the New York City school system in art and special education. She has attended events both at Fieldston and at the New York Society and appreciates the positive attitude toward life expressed here at the Society.

**Susanna Frazer** is the Society's new Membership Director. As a child, she attended the Ethical Culture Sunday School. Her mother, Lee Frazer, was a member of the Society, so Susanna really knows all about us.

**Patricia Anne Malkin** is a retired structural drafter, illustrator with the American Museum of Natural History.

She seeks a spiritual dimension in life at Ethical Culture.

## News of Our Members

**Andrea Morganstern**, daughter of Society member **Phyllis Kreuttner**, will have a solo exhibition of her paintings at the Kimberly Venardos Gallery, 1014 Madison Avenue (between 78th and 79th Streets), February 5 through March 13. Opening reception—February 5, 6:00-8:00 pm.

**Stephanie Rosenblatt** is at home recovering from a broken leg sustained when she was hit by a car. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope to see her back at the Society before too long.

## Member Reinstated

Due to an unfortunate mistake, the Society was informed that **Caroline Fondiller** had passed away. We're

delighted to report that Caroline is very well, and very much with us.

## Members Resigned

**Judith Burnett**

**John Pavjelko**

## Member Deceased

**Edith Seiden**, who had been an active member since November 1927, died on Tuesday, January 6. There will be a memorial service at the Society on Saturday, January 31, 3:00 pm.

## Our Extended Ethical Family

**Rose Walker**, whom many of our members know as President of the National Service Conference and a frequent visitor on summer Sundays, is recovering in Sarasota, Florida, from injuries after being hit by a car. For updated information, call the AEU office at 212-873-6500.



**Our first WinterFest, on December 21, organized under the leadership of Sheila Kleinwald, was a huge success. Pictures by Jim Farer**

# February 2004

(Office hours for the month: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:15 am – Leaders' Writings 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:30 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Cafeteria 2:00 pm – Film	2 March 2004 Newsletter Deadline	3	4 6:00 pm – Men's Group 7:30 pm – Shelter 7:30 pm – Great Books	5 7:30 pm – Shelter	6	7 9:30 am & 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation
8 10:00 am – Membership Growth 10:30 am – Colloquy 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:30 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Cafeteria 1:45 pm – Ethics Study	9 5:00 pm – Caring Committee 6:30 pm – Social Service Board 7:30 pm – Shelter	10 6:00 pm – Women's Group 7:30 pm – Shelter	11 3:00 pm – ECRA 7:30 pm – Shelter	12 7:30 pm – Shelter	13	14 No Supervised Visitation Today
15 10:00 am – Sunday Program Committee 10:30 am – Poetry Reading 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:30 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Cafeteria 1:45 pm – Community Meeting	16 Presidents' Day Society Offices Closed	17	18 6:00 pm – Membership Services Committee 7:30 pm – Politics, Leadership, and Justice 7:30 pm – Shelter	19 7:30 pm – Shelter	20 7:00 pm – Film Forum	21 9:30 am & 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation
22 10:30 am – Yoga Meditation 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:30 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Cafeteria 1:45 pm – Ethics in the News	23 7:30 pm – Shelter	24 7:30 pm – Shelter	25 7:30 pm – Shelter	26 6:30 pm – Islam Through Muslim Eyes 7:30 pm – Shelter	27	28 9:30 am & 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation
29 10:30 am – Coffee Hour 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:30 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Cafeteria 1:45 pm – Film	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Great Books</b> February 4 – Hume, Of Personal Identity Nietzsche, Thus Spoke Zarathustra February 11 – Fyodor Dostoyevsky, The Idiot <b>ECRA: (Ethical Culture Retirement Activities)</b> <b>Politics, Leadership, and Justice</b> February 18 – Amos Oz, Lonqing</p>					

**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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