



# AEU Assembly 2007

*Building a Religion of Ethical Relationships*

**Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island**

38 Country Road, Garden City, New York  
and the campus of

**C. W. Post College of Long Island University**

720 Northern Blvd, Brookville, New York

**Thursday, June 14 - Sunday, June 17, 2007**

# SCHEDULE

Admission to starred (\*) meals and events are by ticket only. Tickets for meals\* (except for breakfasts) and events\* are included in the Complete Package; tickets for events\* only are included in the Essential Package.

Tickets for breakfasts must be purchased separately. Tickets for individual or additional meals\* and for individual events\* may be purchased separately. All packages and individual tickets must be purchased by May 25, 2007.

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**Tuesday, June 12th**

*At the C. W. Post campus*

**2-6pm:** National Leaders Council Meeting

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**Wednesday, June 13th**

*At the C. W. Post campus*

**9am-5pm:** National Leaders Council Meeting

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**Thursday, June 14th**

*At the C. W. Post campus*

**8am-noon:** National Leaders Council Meeting

**8:30am-5pm:** AEU Board of Directors and Leadership Committee Meetings

**4-8pm:** Registration

**4-8pm:** Exhibitors' Display Open

**5-7pm:** Presidents' Council and National Service Council Meetings

**6:30-10pm:** Welcome Reception\*. The keynote Speaker will be David Kaczynski, who acted in an ethical and courageous way when faced with one of the most difficult decisions possible: he identified his brother Ted as the Unabomber. In

doing so he saved lives that may have been in future jeopardy, but risked his relationships with his family. David Kaczynski has since become one of the most outspoken and listened to anti-death penalty advocates in the country. As the director of New Yorkers Against the Death Penalty he has been influential in determining New York's policy, and he has spoken around the country encouraging prosecutors, judges and legislators to question their use of capital punishment.

**Friday, June 15th**

*At the C. W. Post campus*

**8am-6pm:** Exhibitors' Displays open before & after the business meeting & workshops

**8-11:45am:** Registration continues

**8-9am:** Colloquy and Meditation

**8-9am:** Breakfast

**9:15-11:45am:** AEU Business Meeting

**Noon-1:30pm:** National Service Conference luncheon\*. Ian Williams is an author and UN correspondent for The Nation. In addition to his work for the magazine, he frequently comments on world events on a wide variety of radio and TV outlets, including Hardball, The O'Reilly Factor, Scarborough Country, UN TV and many more. He is the author of Rum: A Social and Sociable History of the Real Spirit of 1776, The Deserter: Bush's War on Military Families, Veterans and His Past, The Alms Trade and The UN For Beginners.

**1:45-5pm:** Registration continues

**1:45-3:15pm:** Workshops and Meetings

**1\*) Vegan Ethics: Eating Right**  
*Presenter: Paula Rochelle, ESWoW, Ethical Society of the Silicon Valley*

Ethics is a major topic of discussion and focus of activism among a growing number of young people who have adopted a vegan life style. Not only do they talk about ethics, they do something, every day, when they eat, that reflects their ethical choices. How would the Ethical Culture movement need to adapt to include this movement of vegan young people in our midst? Should we even consider looking at what it would mean?

**2\*) What Every Member Should Know**

*Presenters: Boe Meyerson, Leader, Essex Society, and Tony Hileman, Leader, New York Society*

People become members of Ethical Societies for a variety of reasons: religious, educational, social, community service, etc. But what do they learn about Ethical Culture itself - its history, its heroes and heroines, its philosophy and how it has changed since 1876? This workshop offers a primer on what every member should know.

**3\*) Getting to Know the Ethical Society Without Walls**

*Presenters: Susan Rose Teshu and Randy Best, Leaders, ESWoW*

Come and find out what the Ethical Society Without Walls is up to. We will explore the ESWoW website and see what is there, how you can access it and how you can participate. Membership figures will be presented and strategies for growth discussed. Participants will be invited to give feedback on ESWoW's goals and strategies.

**4\*) Society Operations: A Nuts and Bolts Approach**

*Presenters: Scott Walton and Harry Strickholm and Anne Klayesen.*

This workshop will focus on financial responsibilities, management and strategies.

**5) Working Session: AEU Business Meeting Issues**

**3:15-3:45pm Coffee break**

**3:45-5:15pm Workshops and Meetings**

**6\*) Take Up the Song: A Community Singing Workshop**

*Presenters: Bart Worden, Leader, Westchester Society; Carol Solomon, Baltimore Society; Sharon Stanley, Long Island Society*

This participatory workshop will focus on song sharing and towards an update of the AEU Songbook.

**7\*) Passing on Your Values: Composing an Ethical Will**

*Presenter: Anne Klaeyesen, Leader, Long Island Society*

In a legal will we make decisions about our valuables. This workshop will offer us an opportunity to consider an ethical will, whereby we can explore and articulate the values we wish to pass on to others.

**8\*) Promoting Ethics With Internet Technology**

*Presenters: Ivo Antoniazzi, Long Island Society, and ESWoW Leaders*

This workshop will focus on computer and Internet technology and its implications on the movement and/or on the workings of the various websites. ESWoW has been using the Internet for a year, has

learned a lot that might be useful to Ethical Societies with Walls, and will be sharing some of what we've learned about various programs such as Moodle and Skype, posting blogs, and podcasting.

**9\*) Ethical Conflict Resolution**

*Presenter: Joy McConnell, Leader*

It is very important to deal with conflicts when they are still just differences among people or common polarities that often exist in congregations. Here's how to notice and deal with conflicts at early stages and avoid the blow-ups that can damage human relationships and split congregations. Joy McConnell has much post-graduate training in conflict management as well as experience during her years as AEU Growth and Development professional.

**10\*) Membership 101: Basic Steps in Building Membership in an Ethical Society**

*Presenters: Tom Hoepfner and Hank Gassner, AEU Membership Committee*

This workshop will include guidelines on steps that bring people into your Society, help them become involved in your programs and enhance your Society. While this workshop will include materials pertinent to groups of diverse sizes, it will concentrate on smaller Societies. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences and to develop an ongoing collaboration in membership development.

**6:30-10:00pm: Dinner\* & entertainment hosted by EHS LI** (transportation between the campus and the Society provided)

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**Saturday, June 16th**

*All events this morning will be at EHS LI. Transportation between the campus and the Society provided. Lunch and all events this afternoon will be at C. W. Post campus.)*

**8-9am:** Colloquy & meditation

**8-10am:** Breakfast buffet - hosted by EHS LI's Youth Ethics Programs

**10:15-11:30am:** Platform

**Noon-1:30pm:** Lunch\*

**1:30-7pm:** Exhibitors' Displays open before & after the workshops & during breaks.

**1:45-3:15pm:** Workshops and Meetings

**11\*) Ethical Culture Beyond Humanism**

*Presenter: Curt Collier, Leader, Riverdale-Yonkers Society*

This workshop is for those who want to create new services for their communities that move beyond the limitations imposed on them by Humanism, and will explore the use of sacred language, ritual, music, and movement in fostering the development of ethical personality.

**12\*) Communication Skills in Ethical Society Life**

*Presenters: Jone Johnson Lewis, Leader, Northern Virginia Society; Diane Kirschner, Brooklyn Society; and Joy McConnell, Leader*

Participants will be introduced to a simple process that can help them to communicate more deeply, effectively, and compassionately, based on the work in Nonviolent Communication (aka Compassion-

ate Communication) of Dr. Marshall Rosenberg. We'll also explore ways that the process can be used to help an Ethical Society grow and thrive: ethical action, caring and community-building within the Society, individual development, parenting and couples communication workshops, and outreach classes that help bring our values to the wider community.

**13\*) The Human Faith Project: An Introduction**

*Presenter: J. Calvin Chatlos, MD*

Faith in humanity is the cornerstone of Ethical Culture. However, our comments and actions frequently reveal much doubt and pessimism about people. The Human Faith Project (HFP) was developed at the Ethical Culture Society of Essex County to explore our commitment to the worth and dignity of every person and its relationship to our faith in other people. This workshop provides an introduction to the HFP, describing a specific process to strengthen our individual faith in people, to open our minds and hearts, and to demonstrate the power of human worth and dignity. A full description of the Project can be found in the journal of the Humanist Institute, *Humanism Today: Beyond Reason*, volume 13, 1999.

**14\*) Using Children's Literature to Teach Ethics: The Magic of Harry Potter**

*Presenters: Amy Anderson, Northern Virginia Society, and RE committee members Linda Napoli, Long Island Society; Bob Bhaerman, ESWoW; Sharon Appelquist, Chicago Society; and Aimee Neumann, AEU Director of Religious Education.*

**15) Working Session: AEU Business Meeting Issues**

**3:15-3:45 pm Afternoon break**

**3:45-5:15 pm Workshops and Meetings**

**16\*) Good for Business: Ethics in the Workplace**

*Presenter: Arthur Dobrin, Leader Emeritus, Long Island Society*

In this workshop on business ethics, based on his book, Arthur Dobrin will present several basic concepts about ethics, provide a framework in which to make ethical decisions, and use cases as a way of thinking more clearly about some of the problems of being ethical in business

**17\*) Social Justice: Racial & Ecological Issues**

*Presenter: Jim White, EC Leader and Amy Antoniazzi, Chair, Ethical Action Committee, LI Society*

This participatory workshop on social justice and ethical action will include outreach to other societies for presentations on their projects.

**18\*) Ethical Culture & Ethical Humanist Officiant Training and Issues**

*Presenters: Bob Berson, Leader, Northern Westchester Society; Tom Hoepfner, AEU Leadership Committee, and Joanne Hoepfner, EC officiant, Chicago.*

This workshop is for current Ethical Culture and Ethical Humanist officiants. It will introduce a new Ceremonies Handbook from the Leadership Committee, provide practical information in performing ceremonies, and offer a forum to discuss problem situations.

**19\*) Adler for Yesterday and Today: Teaching Adler and Ethical Culture's Social Justice History**

*Presenters: Joseph Chuman, Leader, Bergen Society, and Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader-in-Training*

This workshop will include a summation of the philosophy of Felix Adler, especially as it pertains to social justice work; a brief history of Ethical Culture's achievements in the social reform field in its Golden Age and beyond; challenges to social activism in our current social and political context; and models and ideas about the kinds of social action, and its aims, specifically appropriate to Ethical Culture in the current period. In addition, this workshop will share the curriculum and experience of a nine-session Adler Study Group offered at the Washington Ethical Society, to encourage other societies to offer such study groups to enhance movement wide appreciation of the strength, weakness, and relevance of Adler for today.

**20\*) Securing Our Ethical Future: Promoting and Supporting YES and FES**

*Presenters: Lois Kellerman, AEU YES Group Consultant; Susan Buzek, AEU YES and FES Conference Consultant.*

Many Ethical Societies want to benefit from the energy and idealism of having a youth group. This presentation will give you a bird's eye view of youth group development and offer a concrete process for building a youth group at your Society. Lois Kellerman is an Ethical Culture Leader seasoned in developing life-span learning circles. She presently serves in the newly created position as national youth group con-

sultant. Susan Buzek is responsible for annual YES and FES Conferences

**6:30-7:30pm:** Reception\* Meet the Board & Board Candidates

**7:30-8:30pm:** Elliott-Black dinner\*

**8:30- 9:30pm: Elliot-Black Award Ceremony**

The AEU presents the Elliott-Black award to honor a significant ethical contribution to society made at personal risk and hardship. The 2007 Elliott-Black Award will go to the Committee to Protect Journalists. A nonprofit, nonpartisan, nongovernmental organization, CPJ works in more than 120 countries, many of which suffer under repressive regimes, debilitating civil war, or other problems that harm press freedom and democracy, in support of its belief that without a free press, few other human rights are attainable.

**Sunday, June 17**

*At C. W. Post campus*

**8am-2 p.m:** Exhibitors' Displays open before & after business meeting.

**8-9am:** Colloquy & meditation

**8-9am:** Breakfast

**9:15-11:45am:** AEU Business Meeting

**Noon-1:30pm:** Buffet lunch\*

**1:30-2pm:** Closing ceremony

**3-5pm:** AEU Board of Directors Meeting

While every effort has and will be made to adhere to this schedule of workshops and meetings, the schedule is subject to change.

## Accommodations

Rooms are available at C. W. Post College, where much of the Assembly will take place, and Howard Johnson's in nearby Westbury.

C. W. Post College offers dormitory space, with bunk beds in shared-bath suites. Free parking is available. There are no phones available in the dorms; we suggest guests bring their cellular phones. Wired internet access is available; guests must bring Ethernet cords. Air conditioning is not guaranteed; we strongly suggest that guests bring a fan. Candles, alcohol, and smoking are not allowed in the dormitories. Positively no children under 18 years of age are allowed in the dormitories. A complete list of dormitory amenities and regulations will be sent with confirmations. The cost is \$45 per night for single occupancy and \$35 per person per night for double occupancy. 100% pre-payment is required.

Howard Johnson's, in nearby Westbury, offers rooms for one to four people, a pool, and free parking. Children under 18 stay free; a breakfast buffet is included in the rate. Restaurants and shopping are nearby. The cost is \$108.90 (plus tax) per night. Reservations must be made by May 12, 2007, directly with the hotel, by calling: 516/333-9700; participants must mention that they will be attending a conference at C. W. Post in order to obtain this special rate.

## Transportation

C. W. Post is closest to LaGuardia Airport and to the Hicksville Long Island Railroad Station. Train and bus schedules can be found at <http://mta.info/index.html>. Amtrak (to NYP) offers 10% off for Assembly participants. Our fare code is X28M-905. Contact Amtrak at (800)872-7245 to get these fares. Driving directions plus names of local transportation companies will be provided with confirmations.

## Exhibits

Tables in the exhibition area will cost \$35 per table; flyers to be included in registrants' packets will cost \$25 per flyer. For further information and arrangements, please contact AEU office before April 20th, 2007.

## Participant List

This year, an Assembly participant list will be made available. To be included on this list, participants must give permission to be listed, so please be sure to do so by checking the appropriate box on the registration form.

## Questions & Special Needs

Please contact the AEU office (212 873-6500 or [office@aeu.org](mailto:office@aeu.org)) no later than May 1, 2007.

## Registration

Two packages are offered.

The Complete Package includes all events, workshops, and meals (except breakfasts: C. W. Post offers a breakfast buffet each day, for which tickets must be purchased individually in advance).

The Essential Package includes all events and workshops, but does not include meals.

Individual and/or additional meals and individual workshops are also offered separately.

All meals will include vegan & vegetarian selections. Due to strict university deadlines, positively no walk-ins will be accepted for meals; all individual and additional meals must be purchased in advance.

The AEU Board meetings, business meetings, and business issues discussions are open to all.

To register: Use the enclosed form

## Refund Policy

A 20% administrative fee will be charged for cancellations before May 7, 2007. A 50% cancellation fee will be charged for cancellations after May 7 but before May 30. No refunds will be made after May 30, 2007. (Excepting documented medical emergencies.)

## REGISTRATION FORM - PLEASE PRINT

Please complete and return by MAY 25th, 2007 (May 6th for early-registration discount) along with your payment, to American Ethical Union, 2 W 64th Street, Room 406, NY, NY 10023-7104. Please note: other deadlines may apply to lodging; see page 6 and 8.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmations will be sent by email. If you do not have access to email, please write "none" above.

HOME SOCIETY: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE: (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

### PARTICIPANT LIST

\_\_\_\_\_ Please list name, address, phone, email, Society name in the Assembly Participant List.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to be listed by Name and Society only. \_\_\_\_\_ No, I do not wish to be listed

### PROGRAM REGISTRATION (PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE BELOW)

<b>Program Packages:</b>	<b>by May 5th</b>	<b>May 6-May 25</b>
Complete Package (with meals)	\$400	\$425
YES Complete Package (with meals)	\$200	\$250
Essential Package (no meals)	\$200	\$250
YES Essential Package (no meals)	\$50	\$50
<b>a la carte Events and Meals</b>		
Workshops (each)	\$40	\$45
Thursday evening reception	\$25	\$30
Friday Breakfast at C.W. Post cafeteria (not included in any package)	\$20	\$20
Friday Lunch	\$40	\$45
Friday Dinner	\$50	\$55
Saturday Lunch	\$30	\$35
Saturday Reception & Elliott Black Award Dinner	\$65	\$75
Sunday Breakfast at C.W. Post cafeteria (not included in any package)	\$20	\$20
Farewell Lunch	\$40	\$45

**TOTAL PROGRAM REGISTRATION FEE:** \_\_\_\_\_

CONTINUED ON OTHER SIDE

Please repeat your name: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. W. POST DORMITORY HOUSING**

I enclose \$35 per night for a shared dorm room for \_\_\_\_\_ nights;

I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose \$45 per night for a single dorm room for \_\_\_\_\_ nights.  
Dorm rooms must be reserved by May 12, 2007

Dorm total (100% PREPAYMENT IS REQUIRED WITH REGISTRATION) : \_\_\_\_

**HOWARD JOHNSON HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Hotel Reservations must be made directly with the Howard Johnson's, in nearby Westbury, by calling 516/333-9700. Participants must make their reservations by May 12, 2007 and mention that they will be attending a conference at C. W. Post in order to obtain the special rate of \$108.90 per night plus tax.

**PAYMENT**

I enclose my check, payable to the American Ethical Union, in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my credit card \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card (circle one): VISA | MasterCard | Discover | Diners Club | American Express

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

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/yy)

Card Security Code (CSC): \_\_\_\_\_ Cannot process payment without this number.  
The CSC is three digits printed on the back of the card, usually in the signature field. Other numbers may appear to the left of the CSC. An AMEX CSC is four digits on the front right of the card, above the account #.

Name (as it appears on credit card): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address (where bill is received): \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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