



Ethical Views

April 2012

Vol. 126, No. 8 Newsletter of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia

Sunday Platforms

Sunday, April 1, 2012, 11:00 A.M.

Looking Back: What has been Won; What Remains to be Done

David McReynolds

A famous veteran radical activist reflects on his life and times. He's seen the end of segregation, the women's liberation movement, the gay liberation movement, and the shift from a bipolar US/Soviet Cold War to a multipolar world, with the US no longer the sole dominant power. He asks what it means for a nation to find its middle class gone, wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, and the "Occupy Movement" springing up.

David worked for Liberation Magazine, at the War Resisters League for four decades, was a member of War Resisters International Council, and served as a term as Chair of the WRI. He's been a member off the Socialist Party since 1951, served on its National Committee, and was co-chair of the party twice. He ran for Congress in 1968 on the Peace and Freedom Ticket, for President as the Socialist Party candidate twice, and for US Senate from New York on the Green Party ticket. *A Saving Remnant; The Radical Lives of Barbara Deming and David McReynolds*, by Martin Duberman (The New Press, 2012), tells the story of two great activists.

Sunday, April 8, 2012, 11:00 A.M.

Peace-Building, Local to Global

Dorothy J. Maver, Ph.D., President, National Peace Academy

Dr. Maver is an educator and peace-builder whose keynote is inspiring cooperation on behalf of the common good. Dot is President of the National Peace Academy in the USA, a founder of the Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures of Peace, serves as Executive Director of The River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding, and helps coordinate Push4Peace. Her work in education, politics and

grassroots community organizing is focused on applied peace-building utilizing a shared responsibility and shared leadership model. Dot served as Executive Director of The Peace Alliance and Campaign for a US Department of Peace, and prior to that was the National Campaign Manager for Kucinich for President, 2004. In the world of fast-pitch softball, Dr. Dot is known for her revolutionary fast-pitch hitting technique, *The Maver Method: Secrets of Hitting Success*. She is co-author of *Conscious Education: The Bridge to Freedom*, and is a keynote speaker and workshop facilitator at conferences worldwide. Dot online:

www.nationalpeaceacademy.us

www.mfp-dop.org

www.centerforpeacebuilding.org

www.push4peace.org

www.themavermethod.com

Sunday, April 15, 2012, 11:00 A.M.

Existential Faith: Choosing Ethical Culture

Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader, Ethical Humanist Society

Declaring oneself an existentialist draws a variety of responses - suspicion, interest, pity, blank stares. Many assume that existentialism breeds dark brooding cynicism. It demands we accept responsibility for choices in a short life full of uncertainty. For Taft-Morales, however, existentialism is a source of commitment and joy - is he crazy? Come hear about his existential choice to become a Leader in Ethical Humanism.

Sunday, April 22, 2012, 11:00 A.M.

The Eudaimonic Turn: A Look at the Science and Culture of Human Flourishing

James Pawelski, Ph.D., Positive Psychology Center, University of Pennsylvania

There is a eudaimonic turn afoot. A shift toward the scientific and cultural investigation of what makes individuals and communities thrive is taking place in fields as wide-ranging as psychology,

neuroscience, medicine, business, economics, education, philosophy, and literary studies. What exactly is this eudaimonic turn? What new knowledge is it creating? How can we use this new knowledge for greater flourishing in our own lives and in our communities?

Dr. Pawelski is Director of Education and Senior Scholar in the Positive Psychology Center and Adjunct Associate Professor of Religious Studies in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. He directs Penn's Master of Applied Positive Psychology (MAPP) program and is the Executive Director of the International Positive Psychology Association. A philosopher by training, Dr. Pawelski is the author of *The Dynamic Individualism of William James*, editor of the philosophy section of the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook of Happiness*, co-editor of *The Eudaimonic Turn: Well-Being in Literary Studies* (forthcoming), and co-editor of *Touched with Fire: The Poetry of Human Flourishing* (in progress).

(Continued on page 3)

In This Issue

Page

1 Sunday Platforms

2 President's Message; Quote-Unquote

3 Sunday Platforms (cont'd.); Worldly Wisdom; Get-to-Know-You Social; Freethought and Einstein; The Day the Universe Changed; Ethics on the Square; Area Meeting on Church/State

4 Important Reminder from Betsy; Will there be debates? More Drama at the Ethical; Annual Membership Meeting

5 Peace Building Initiatives Workshop

6 Film on Nukes on Earth Day; Protest of Change in Elliott-Black Award

7 Calendar

8 Flower Dedications, Sunday Morning Volunteers

Inserts - Adopt-A-Kid
Camp Linden Fun(d)raiser





President's Message

It's That Time Again

Temma Fishman

It's that time again, when all (or most) thoughts turn to the 97th American Ethical Union Annual Assembly to be held on June 14-17 at the Sovereign Hotel in Albany, NY.

Here's your chance to visit New York's state capitol. Even if you've been there, there's more to see. One of the things I love about the Annual Assembly is that I get to visit a city I might not have ever seen or appreciated. Arnold and I had great times and made great discoveries in Scranton (2010) and Columbus, OH (2011). And who knows what we'll find in Albany? I'm looking forward to discovering its attractions.

But, opportunities for experiencing the delights of the host cities, while compelling, are not the main reasons for attending the Assemblies. While we are occupied all year at our community in Philadelphia, in Societies all over the country, members like us are also living and spreading the message of Ethical Humanism, and they come together at the Annual Assembly. It's heartening to know we are not alone. Here's your chance to network in a big way, to share what we've been doing in Philadelphia and to greedily digest the creative ideas you will pick up from others. You'll be taking notes, exchanging contact information, picking up materials and ideas like crazy and carefully packing your booty away to share with us back home in Philadelphia.

You'll feel much richer for the experience, and indeed you will be. Our Peace Initiatives Workshop scheduled on April 7th, to be led by Dot Maver and Martha Gallahue, is an idea we brought back from the 96th Assembly. It was one of the most inspiring workshops presented there and will be brought to you in Philadelphia. See the ad below and sign up, if you haven't already.

When you attend the Assembly, you have a chance to shape the national movement. We will be discussing and voting on resolutions submitted by various Societies. The Ethical

Humanist Society of Philadelphia is submitting one this year. You will find it at the end of this article. As you might have guessed, knowing us Ethical Humanists, you will hear impassioned views on both sides of the issues during discussion. We will be voting on all resolutions at the business meeting. If you are a delegate, you will get to vote. But you'll have a chance to express your opinion in support of our resolution even if you're not a delegate.



Officers and directors of the AEU Board are elected at the Annual Assembly. You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates, whose bios will appear in the Assembly packet that every attendee receives upon arrival at the hotel. In this packet you will also find the proposed AEU budget for the coming year so you can see where your money that was paid as our Society's apportionment is going. Delegates get to vote on the Board candidates and the budget. You will most likely hear lively debate on the budget and can propose questions and comments even if you are not a delegate.

The packet contains contact information on every attendee, annual reports from the various Societies, proposed resolutions, business meeting agendas, minutes of last year's meetings, order forms for books and other goodies (did I mention you can shop at the Assembly?) as well as more valuable information that will be of use during and after the Assembly.

Our Society's board has nominated our own Carol Love to receive the Anna Garlin Spencer Award, an award bestowed on volunteers who have given exceptional service to their Societies. You can attend the luncheon at which Carol will receive this award. To find details about the award itself, visit www.AEU.org. In a later newsletter, you will be able

to read about why we think Carol qualifies for this honor.

You can participate in workshops that will recharge your batteries like, "Adios to Burnout with Society Volunteers." Workshops like "Justice for Juveniles" and "The Experience Inside" describing life behind bars. They will enlighten and stir you to action. Learn how those living in prison can be transformed when you attend "Education & The Arts." Workshops such as "Architecture: How Do We Want Our Societies to Be?" "Bringing Both Heart and Mind to Society Finances and "Gather Together! Planning Dynamic and Welcoming Platform Services" will teach ways to make our Society even greater than it is. This is but a smattering of the offerings. You can download the Assembly brochure from www.AEU.org or pick up a hard copy at the Society. Register by May 22nd to get a discounted rate! You can call: [800-780-7234](tel:800-780-7234) or [518-489-2981](tel:518-489-2981). Be sure to mention you are attending the AEU Assembly/Ethical Conference.

The Sovereign Hotel provides a free hot breakfast and free, wireless high-speed internet service throughout the hotel. Free computers are available in the business centers. The hotel is close to two premier malls and welcomes pets. Parking is free and restaurants of all types are within a four-block walk. Local bus service stops at the door of the hotel. More amenities, too many to mention, are available. Travel information can be found in the Assembly brochure.

Leaders from throughout the movement will be in Albany, including our very own Hugh Taft-Morales and Leader Emeritus Richard Kiniry. Several of our board members will be there, too, including yours truly. If you don't show up, we're going to have a lot of fun without you.

Every Assembly has a theme, and this year it's "Building a Home of Hope." Find out how we will do that together. Be a part of our national movement. <>

QUOTE-UNQUOTE

Praying is like a rocking chair: it'll give you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere.

-- Gypsy Rose Lee --

Sunday Platforms (Cont'd. from page 1)

Sunday, April 29, 2012, 11:00 A.M.

Rampant Inequality: The Hidden Cause of the Great Recession

Joseph Schwartz, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Temple University

The rampant growth of inequality over the past thirty-five years played a major role in causing the Great Recession. To sustain their modest standard of living, working families went heavily into debt. United States transnationals, on the other hand, could no longer earn satisfactory profits in the United States and turned to foreign outsourcing and financial speculation. Despite the conservative nostrums that only further cuts in working people's wages and benefits can lead to economic recovery, long-term global economic health must be rooted in a more egalitarian distribution of income and wealth, and an economy that serves human needs rather than short-term corporate profits.

Dr. Schwartz is Professor and former chair of Political Science at Temple University where he teaches political theory and American politics. He is the winner of several university teaching awards. His most recent book, *The Future of Democratic Equality: Reconstructing Social Solidarity in a Fragmented United States* (Routledge, 2009) recently won the American Political Science Association's David Easton prize for the best recent book in political theory. He serves as a National Vice-Chair of Democratic Socialists of America (DSA). He publishes frequently in *Dissent*, *In These Times*, *Tikkun*, and other progressive publications.



WORLDLY WISDOM:

Discussion of *The Arabian Nights* and Ghanaian folktale, *Why We Tell Stories About Spider*



Tuesday, April 17 - 7:00PM

Led by Sharon Wallis



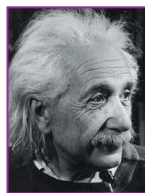
"Get-to-Know-You Social" Sunday, April 1, 7:00 PM

The social offers interested visitors and newcomers the opportunity to mingle over wine and cheese with established members as we discuss some of the ideas central to Ethical Culture and the life of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia.

After a brief 15-minute presentation by Society Leader Hugh Taft-Morales, there will be informal Q&A and conversation about our individual and collective journeys toward a more fulfilling and ethical life!

Freethought and Einstein, Sunday, April 1st, 2:00PM

Join Ben Franklin Thinking Society members as we direct the light (wave or particle?) of our attention to Einstein. We'll meet in the Assembly Room and break into small group discussions about particular



aspects of Einstein's thought with time for general mingling and sharing! Open to the public. A modest fee to offset costs will be requested.

Area Meeting on Church/State (4/17) includes Taft-Morales



The Clergy Advisory Board of the Delaware Valley Chapter of Americans United for the Separation of Church & State will host



"Religious Freedom Forum: Religious Leaders Discussing Church/State Separation" on **Tuesday, April 17, 10**

AM to noon (coffee at 9:30) at the First Unitarian Church, 2125 Chestnut Street. Presentations will include: "The Perils of Politicized Pulpits: Do's and Don'ts for Houses of Worship," Reverend Steven Baines; "[The Ethics of Church/State Separation](#)," [Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader, Ethical Society of Philadelphia](#); and "Local Threats to Religious Freedom," Reverend Nathan C. Walker.

**Ethics on the Square:
Monday, April 16,
7:00 PM**

**Great Thinkers and Social Reform: Ideas in Action:
"Ethical Relationships and Jane Addams."**



Jane Addams

Join Hugh Taft-Morales for a conversation with Prof. Allen F. Davis, professor emeritus of history, Temple University, and author of *American Heroine: The Life and Legend of Jane Addams*, about a fascinating thinker and activist who spoke at the Philadelphia Ethical Society a century ago! Open to the public – refreshments and conversation provided.

"THE DAY THE UNIVERSE CHANGED"

***Monday, April 2,
7:00 PM**

A philosophically fun video and discussion series



Come view and discuss a video series by James Burke, "The Day the Universe Changed." Burke entertainingly explores links between knowledge and reality.

Join Ethical Culture Leader Hugh Taft-Morales for the eighth installment (***note different day and earlier time!**): "Fit to Rule: Darwin's Revolution."

Free and open to the public.

Important Reminder from Betsy

This is a reminder to all members and friends of the Society that at 4:00 pm on April 15 we will formally (and joyfully) install Hugh Taft-Morales as our 8th Leader. We hope you will all be present for this festive occasion. The EHSOP is only the second Ethical Society to celebrate the commitment of Society and Leader to each other, and the first that is unaffiliated with the Unitarian-Universalists to do so. We are setting historical precedent here in Philadelphia! The ceremony will feature presentations by Ethical Culture Leaders Joseph Chuman, Mary Herman, and Susan Rose, and music by the Washington Ethical Society chorus. Hugh will deliver a brief acceptance at the end of the ceremony that will be followed upstairs with toasts and refreshments.

Hugh will also deliver the address, "Existential Faith: Choosing Ethical Culture," at the 11:00 Sunday morning platform that day.

It's helpful if you can RSVP, but you can decide at the last minute to attend. There may be some last minutes places available for the 7:00 PM dinner at La Fontana de la Citta, at 17th and Spruce. The dinner costs \$35 paid in advance, and is BYOB.

Your Installation Team: Betsy Lightbourn, Chair, Marta Guttenberg, Linda Richardson, Sharon Wallis, Leonard Weeks

PLEASE RSVP AT: President@dvau.org



More Drama at the Ethical

1. We are repeating our one-act playwriting contest of 2011, and announcements have now gone out locally and nationally. Scripts will be arriving March 2 through May 2, and a panel of readers is needed to pick the winners. Contact Pat McGeever at patethical@gmail.com to volunteer.

2. On Sundays this summer we will be doing readings of the runner-up script from 2011 (July 15) and of a short play for improv (July 1). If you have the chops and the urge to perform, contact Pat.



Will there be debates?

Announcing Upcoming Elections of the Board of Trustees of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia at the Annual Membership Meeting on **Sunday, May 20th!**

The positions of President, Vice-President and three trustees are open. If you are a Society member interested in serving on the Board of Trustees, contact Terry Martin-Murley, chair of the Nominating Committee, at terry.murley@verizon.com. Your request for candidacy must be submitted in writing no later than one month before the Annual Meeting.

SAVE THE DATE!

ETHICAL SOCIETY

ETHICAL HUMANIST SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday May 20th following the Platform

LUNCH

President's Message

Election of Board Trustees and Officers

Leader's Message

Treasurer's Report

Discussion and Vote on the 2012-13 Budget

Committee Reports

Join us for a special lunch with wine and informative discussion. Learn about the state of the Society and the work of our committees. Here's your chance to vote and to influence the direction our Society is taking.

MARK THE DATES!

April 7th and April 8th

at the



ETHICAL HUMANIST SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA



Saturday, April 7th - 1:00 to 4:00PM

Workshop: Peace Building Initiatives that Spell Success

Presented by

Dr. Dorothy Maver

President of the National Peace Academy
Educator, Peace Builder, Coach and
Community Organizer



**NATIONAL
Peace Academy**

and

Martha Gallahue

American Ethical Union Leader and
VP, National Ethical Service to the UN



\$25 per person

Please make checks payable to the EHSOP
1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA 19103
Be sure to note "April 7th Workshop" in the memo

RSVP to 215-735-3456 or to Temmafish@aol.com by April 1st

Coffee, tea, and snacks will be provided.



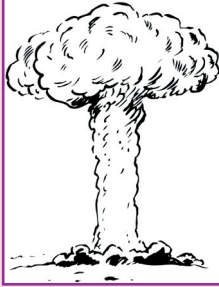
Additional Appearance:

Sunday, April 8th at 11:00AM

Dr. Maver will speak at our platform

Our platforms are free and open to the public

**Film on Nukes on Earth Day,
Sunday, April 22, 5:00 PM**



Please join us here at the Ethical Society for the film "In My Lifetime: A Presentation of the Nuclear World Project" and a conversation with Director/Producer Robert E. Frye.

Learn more about the dangers of nuclear arms and strategies to live without them!

Brought to you by the Project for Nuclear Awareness, The United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia, and the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia.

For more info call PNA at: 215-546-3030

**PHILLY ETHICS BOARD TO PROTEST CHANGE
IN ELLIOTT-BLACK AWARD AT AEU MEETING**

Resolution

Whereas, the Elliott-Black Award has historically been awarded to an individual or organization "who has made a significant ethical contribution to society at personal risk and hardship," and

Whereas, this award has epitomized the highest values and exemplifies the lives of these two iconic Ethical Culture Leaders and leaders of the Ethical Culture Movement, and

Whereas, eliminating the qualification of "at personal risk and hardship" from this award would serve to dilute and diminish its meaning; and

Whereas, it is the requirement of "at personal risk and hardship" that distinguishes the Elliott-Black award from a myriad of other service awards, and

Whereas, the high standard imposed in previous years has not created a shortage of worthy candidates, and

Whereas, there was minimal movement-wide consultation or consensus regarding this change in the qualifications for recipients of this award, and

Whereas, the Ethical action Committee of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, as a protest to the changed standards, has refused to nominate a candidate for the 2012 Elliott-Black award, and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, acting upon the recommendation of its Ethical Action Committee, has unanimously resolved to attempt to reinstate the qualification of "at personal risk and hardship" as a criterion for this award,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, by the Board of Trustees of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia that this resolution be made an agenda item at the Business meeting of the Assembly of the American Ethical Union to be held in Albany, New York in June 2012 so as to restore the requirement that the candidate's work be done "at personal risk and hardship" to the list of qualifications for candidates of the Elliott-Black Award.

To be presented at AEU Assembly, June, 2012 Albany, NY.

April 2012

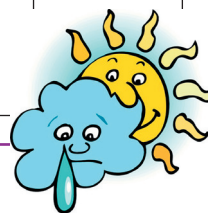
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 11:00 a.m. - Looking Back David McReynolds 2:00PM - Freethought & Einstein 7:00PM - Get-To-Know-You Social	2 7:00 p.m. The Day the Universe Changed #8 Hugh Taft-Morales	3	4 Meetings 6:30 p.m. Education Committee 7:30 p.m. Ethical Action Committee	5	6	7 1:00 PM Peace-Building Workshop
*8 11:00 a.m. Peace-Building, Local to Global Dorothy J. Maver, Ph.D.	9	10 <i>Pennsylvanians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty Meeting</i> 7:00pm	11 Meetings 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee 7:30 p.m. Community Committee	12	13	14
*15 11:00 AM - Existential Faith Hugh Taft-Morales 4:00PM - Installation of Hugh Taft-Morales 7:00PM - Installation Dinner La Fontana (See below)**	16 7:00 PM Ethics on the Square <i>Ethical Relationships & Jane Addams</i> Hugh Taft-Morales	17 10:00AM Church/State Separation (2125 Chestnut) 7:00 PM WORDLY WISDOM Sharon Wallis	18 Meetings 6:30 p.m. EHSOP Board	19	20	21
*22 11:00 a.m. The Eudaimonic Turn James Pawelski, Ph.D. 2:00PM - Camp Linden Fun(d)raiser 5:00PM - Nuclear Arms Film	23	24	25 Meeting 7:00 p.m. Camp Linden Meeting	26  Amnesty International 7:00 p.m.	27	28
29 11:00 a.m. Rampant Inequality Joseph Schwartz, Ph.D.	30					

*Child care provided during all platforms

**La Fontana, 17th & Spruce (RSVP, BYOB)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

21 Henry Pashkow
 22 Kate Esposito
 25 Chuck Hinson



Ethical Views is published monthly
except July and August.

Editor, Pat McGeever
Layout, Janice Moore
Production, Dotti Wesley
Web Master, Nick Sanders

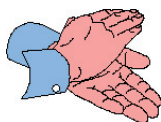
**Ethical Humanist Society
of Philadelphia**

Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader
Richard L. Kiniry, Leader Emeritus

Board of Trustees

Temma Fishman, President
Jeffrey Dubb, M.D., Vice President
Linda Richardson, Treasurer
Nick Sanders, Secretary
Kate Esposito
Arnold Fishman
Ken Greiff
Marta Guttenberg
Betsy Lightbourn
Garry O'Rourke

(215) 735 - 3456
office@phillyethics.org
www.phillyethics.org



SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS



**Flower Dedications - David
Ralston, Coordinator**

April 1 - Carol Love: "In
loving memory of my
father and grandmother
in their birthday month."

April 8 - David Ralston: "Dedicated
to the Board of Directors of the
Society for making it all happen."

April 15 - Betsy Lightbourn: "To
Hugh and to us, coming together."

April 22 - Gary O'Rourke

April 29 - Nick Sanders: "In
celebration of my wife Molly's
birthday. Hurray!!"



**Ushers - Betsy Lightbourn,
Coordinator**

Thanks to Ron Coburn, Bill & Sandy
Coffey, Jim Cummings, Kate
Esposito, Marta Guttenberg,
Henry Pashkow, Nick Sanders, and
Harry Thorn.

All Members and Fellow Travelers: There
are many opportunities to join the Spring
Ush Rush and help your Society present
Sunday morning platforms. We need ushers
on the following dates: **April 1, 8, 15, and
29**. Thanks for stepping up (as well as
contributing) to the plate.

Betsy elighbourn@verizon.net

Greeters - Ken Greiff, Coordinator

April 1
April 8 - T.B.A.
April 15
April 22
April 29



**Coffee Hour Lunch
Cleanup**

April 1 - Group A-E
April 8 - Group F-K
April 15 - Group L-O
April 22 - Group P-Z
April 29 - Group A-E

***Ethical Humanist Society
of Philadelphia***

1906 South Rittenhouse Square
Philadelphia, PA 19103