



# ETHICAL VIEWS

September 2016

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Newsletter of the Philadelphia Ethical Society

## Sunday Platforms

### Children's Sunday Programs:

Beginning each Sunday at 10:55 AM and continuing during our platforms, we have an ethical topics program designed for children ages 5 through early teens. Also, child care for younger children may be provided with at least two days' prior notice. Interested persons may contact Nick Sanders, [nick@phillyethics.org](mailto:nick@phillyethics.org)

### Sunday, Sept. 4, 11:00 AM **John Lovejoy Elliott and a Ministry to Man [and Woman] Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader, Philadelphia Ethical Society**



Felix Adler, the founder of Ethical Culture, chose as his first lieutenant someone quite different from himself. John Lovejoy Elliott did not display the academic

precision or vigor of his mentor Adler. Instead Elliott was best known for building caring relationships and friendships that served the marginalized of New York City and other urban centers. Elliott's focus on developing the skills and confidence of young people was particularly legendary. As we strive to grow the Ethical Society's children's program, what can we learn from one of our most beloved Ethical Culture Leaders? Hugh Taft-Morales explores this at a time when we strive to help our own children's program flourish.



### Sunday, Sept. 11, 11:00 AM **Universal Principles of Peace Jonathan Granoff, President, Global Security Institute, and Nobel Peace Prize Nominee 2014**

There are universal and ethical principles that apply to the individual, the family, the community, the nation, and the world. When these principles are violated, suffering is the consequence; when followed, peace is the consequence.



Jonathan Granoff is President of the Global Security Institute, Chair of the Task Force on Nuclear Nonproliferation of the International Law Section of the American Bar Association, Ambassador for Peace and Security of the Parliament of the World's Religions, and United Nations Representative and Senior Adviser to the Permanent Secretariat of the Nobel Peace Laureates Summits. He focuses on the legal, moral, political and spiritual dimensions of peace, security and the elimination of nuclear weapons. An award winning screenwriter, he is a widely published scholar and serves on numerous advisory and governing boards. He is a Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science and recipient of numerous awards such as the Arthur E. Armitage, Sr., Distinguished Alumni Award of Rutgers University School of Law. He was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.

### Sunday, Sept. 18, 11:00 AM **Strengthening Our Nation of Immigrants Dr. Javad Mohsenian Hosted by Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader, Philadelphia Ethical Society**

Ever since Europe occupied Native American land, the United States has been a nation of immigrants. An immigrant himself, Felix Adler, the founder of Ethical Culture, knew that embracing diversity was important to our country. How do we transform recent anti-immigrant hysteria into more productive and welcoming attitudes and policies? Dr. Javad Mohsenian, an immigrant, author and psychiatrist, will explore the process of immigrant adoption, adjustment, and contribution to American society, cultural and religious conflicts, as well as the role of the 1979 Iran revolution in immigration from that country. Host Hugh

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# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



## Let's Grow!

*Ethical Views welcomes the Society's new President, Bob Bueding.*

I hope that everyone had a great summer, and now we are ready to enjoy an exciting year of programs and events that our Ethical Society provides. I had the pleasure of attending the AEU Assembly in St. Louis in July. It was a vibrant group of folks, and a learning experience for me. I met many people from all over the country.

Since I assumed the presidency of our Society, I have tried to learn as much as possible in an effort to move us forward. I have a few goals for the next two years. My number one goal is to grow our Society.

I'd like to see more young families join our ranks. How we get there is the hard part. We recently refined our Meetup site. If you're not familiar with Meetup, I encourage you to go to [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com).

**The name of our Meetup site is [The Philadelphia Ethical Society](http://www.meetup.com).** There are many groups using Meetup to get their word out. I'm hoping this will help us to grow. That being said, there are many things we need to do so that we can increase our membership.

We have so many wonderful programs and events that I think would be interesting. A good way to increase our ranks is through word of mouth. Please talk with your friends and people you know, and tell them what we offer here on Rittenhouse Square. Encourage them to come and visit us so that

they can see the amazing events that occur at our Society.

The next area of concern is our committees. Most are whole and with solid leadership. The one committee that needs to be restarted is our Community Committee. I envision three subcommittees to this group: membership growth, a caring team to visit shut-ins, members who are ill, hospitalized or have other problems. Lastly, we need a group to coordinate social events. We would meet three or four times during the year for ALL of these subcommittees. I'd suggest

**A GOOD WAY  
TO INCREASE  
OUR RANKS IS  
THROUGH WORD  
OF MOUTH.**

meeting on Sundays after our talk backs. I would like to encourage you to look at these committees to see if you might be willing to serve on one or more. I will post on the listserv all of our standing committees. This is our Society, and we need more of our membership to participate. Please consider where you can lend your talents to help our Society flourish.

In conclusion, I invite you to tell me if we're doing something wrong, and how it can be improved. If we are doing something right, as well, please let me know.

I cannot do this job alone. It is only by working together as a collective that we can make our Society flourish, and bring out the best in ourselves and others.

Thank you for your confidence in me. I intend to work as hard as I can to make our great Society even better!

– Bob

[bbueding@phillyethics.org](mailto:bbueding@phillyethics.org)

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Taft-Morales will offer some insights into Ethical Humanist approaches to immigration. Dr. Mohsenian will have copies for sale and signing of his sixth book, *Gold for Sugar*, a collection of short stories covering East and West. This program is offered as a part of events marking both "Welcoming Week" in Philadelphia (see: <https://www.welcomingamerica.org/programs/welcoming-week>) and our local celebrations of the U.N. International Day of Peace.

**Sunday, Sept. 25, 11:00 AM**  
***Violence as a Public Health Issue: Marla Davis-Bellamy, JD, MGA, Director, Philadelphia CeaseFire***

It's time for Philadelphia to think about violence as a public health issue. . . . The City of Philadelphia reported that in 2013, over 5,000 young people between the ages of 14 and 24 were shot or killed. Two shootings this summer of six-year-old children have pushed to 21 the number of children shot in Philadelphia before they turned 13 since the beginning of 2015. More than 1,500 people of all ages were shot between January 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016, according to the [data on the city's Open Data Philly site](http://data.philly.gov). Philadelphia CeaseFire, a Cure Gun Violence replication site housed at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University, is using a public health approach to address gun violence. The program largely funded by the US Dept. of Justice has seen success in the 22nd District of North Philadelphia started in 2011 and is working to expand its efforts to include local schools, level 1 trauma centers, and other high risk neighborhoods across Pennsylvania.

Marla Davis-Bellamy is the founding director of the Philadelphia CeaseFire program and thinks it's time for everyone to think differently about violent crime.



## LEADER'S COLUMN



### *Some Roots in the North Country*

*Hugh Taft-Morales,  
Leader  
Philadelphia  
Ethical Society*

It was a nice coincidence to be traveling from Montreal back home this summer after having just received a copy of *Life in the Adirondacks*, an essay by Ruth Adler Friess. An easy detour to visit the high peaks region brought me to the summer home of the founder of Ethical Culture, Felix Adler. While you might have thought it a bit intimidating to be the daughter of the famous ethical leader and intellectual force, Felix Adler, Ruth recalls with fondness the summer months with her father. It was in the Adirondacks that Adler refueled himself for the coming rigorous year of speaking and activism.



*Hugh in the headquarters of the Adirondack Trail Improvement Society, a nonprofit organization founded in 1897 by Felix Adler and friends to ensure maintenance and consistent marking of the trails.*

He sought out this refuge after having climbed through the Alps prior to entering graduate school. He was so rejuvenated – physically and spiritually – that he vowed to nurture similar experiences closer to his New York home.

After he found “a lovely valley over the mountain ranges from Lake Champlain,” Adler began bringing his family and friends there on a regular basis. Soon the valley was known for hosting summer colonies of artists and philosophers, such as Winslow Homer, Mark Twain, and John Dewey. I particularly enjoyed imagining the scenes described by Friess of long walks during which her father and William James would “lengthily discuss the ‘ego and the me,’ or the categorical imperatives of Kant, while bees buzzed around us,” and James would counter a quizzical expression from his friend by saying, “Ah, Adler, I believe I have you there.”

My visit was personally meaningful to me as I was returning from my own summer escape in Charlevoix, seven hours away on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River. Friess’s descriptions were full of activities and images that mirrored my own – hikes in the mountains, cold cleansing dips in dark streams, songs and stories around a roaring campfire. Friess even echoed regret for the “modern conveniences” that slowly eroded the rustic charm that isolate one from the rest of the world. She bemoaned the paved roads that made for easier access, much as my wife disapproved of my installing WiFi where we rested for a couple of weeks.

Of crucial importance to Adler, of course, was time to read and write. To assure some peace and quiet, he built a small study, a “five minute scramble up a steep spruce-covered cliff behind the cottage.” He established a strict rule that he was not to be disturbed. His daughter Ruth was given the duty to bring him a cold pitcher of water at 11:00AM where she would watch

him smoke a cigar while dictating addresses and letters to his secretary.

While I don’t have such a study, I do manage some time to sit back, think of broader horizons, and scribble some platform notes before my family awakens. When they do come down for breakfast, a friend or relative might drop by, and we sit on the front porch eating wild



*The Ausable Club in St. Huberts, NY,  
Felix Adler's summer home.*

Canadian blueberries and drinking coffee. Friess’s description of relaxed breakfasts was eerily familiar: “Then, with my father relaxed and tranquil at the head of the table, a guest or two, leaning across the fruit, honey, and coffee, to challenge him in some argument, a mowing machine whirling in the distance, the sunny, spicy mountain air about us. Life seemed very good indeed.”

Of course it’s easier for life to be good if you’re privileged. Obviously, both Adler and I were lucky enough to have such a summer escape. Most do not have an opportunity for rejuvenation through communion with the natural world. We at the Ethical Society do – we have our Camp Linden. We can rejuvenate at Camp Linden just as our summer camp offers so many girls and boys from Philadelphia a great experience in nature. As I turn my attention to another program year at the Ethical Society, I am reminded that we all need sources of rest and inspiration. In gratitude for my own sources, and the sources that fueled the founder of Ethical Culture, I dedicate myself again to the work before us of bringing out the best in a world full of need.

# HAPPENINGS

## Outstanding Summer Season Ends – Betsy Lightbourn

Thanks to members and invited guests we have just completed another summer of outstanding programs – including an art exhibition, guidelines for summer reading, discussions on inequality, the biblical story of Abraham, the life of Lucretia Mott, a member's experience as a service volunteer in Ghana, and several colloquies (guided reflections). Our deep appreciation to the following members and guests who prepared and presented summer programs: Tieshka Smith (guest), Terry Martin-Murley, Jeffrey Selman (guest), Betsy Lightbourn, Ken Greiff, Pat McGeever, Eric Clausen, Christian Hayden, John Marshall, and our Leader, Hugh Taft-Morales.

## Summer of POWER – Kate Esposito

So much has been happening this summer that I felt compelled to update our congregation. We are fortunate to be a part of POWER, (Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower and Rebuild), an organization so powerfully committed to social justice AND so effective at achieving results. I think you'll agree that the following committees are working hard:

**EDUCATION:** Starting in late May, the POWER Education Action Team initiated *Tabernacle Tuesdays*, charging Pennsylvania's legislators with Fiscal Child Neglect for not adequately funding our schools.

Modeled after North Carolina's NAACP President Rev. Dr. William Barber's *Moral Monday Movement*, groups of POWER members descended upon the State House in Harrisburg and employed creative techniques to impress upon legislators that our children needed an increase in funding of \$400 million in public school funding. On June 28, 300 POWER members, supporters and kids occupied the Rotunda



to drive this message home. Our own Leader Hugh gave a rousing speech on behalf of this effort. An increase of \$200 million was secured ultimately, a \$100 million increase over what was originally proposed. From memory, Sylvia Metzler, Marta Guttenberg, Nick Sanders, Leader Hugh and I all trekked to Harrisburg over the course of the *Tabernacle Tuesday* effort. (Forgive me if I missed anyone).

Because of POWER's David Mosenkis' research showing funding disparity in school districts with a higher concentration of black and brown students, WE NOW HAVE A FAIR SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA. Here's to the power of one! (Now let's make it FULL, as a very small percentage of the funding is being put through the formula and there still isn't enough).

This fight is not over. To permanently remedy full and fair funding in PA schools, a hearing is scheduled at the Pa. Supreme Court on Tuesday, September 13, here in Philadelphia at City Hall. There will be a rally in support on Monday, September 12. We are being asked to turn out for both events. More to come!

**ECONOMIC DIGNITY:** A whole lot happening here! We all know Philadelphia hosted the DNC, but maybe you don't know about the near miss STRIKE at PHL Airport. In 2014, POWER was primarily responsible for

passing a charter change that raised the minimum wage for contract and subcontract workers at the airport to \$12. On Thursday, July 14, a majority of these same workers, (cabin cleaners, baggage handlers, wheelchair attendants), voted to strike on July 23, the Saturday prior to the DNC. On Tuesday, July 19, a thousand people turned out to march down the Terminal Road through the airport to show their resolve. As a result, a woman employee was fired for participating. Thirteen POWER clergy showed up on Thursday, July 21, at American Airlines to demand she get her job back. They were refused a meeting, so instead of giving up, they sat down and were arrested, given citations and released. After that, the Mayor got involved, and now the subcontractors and Local 32BJ of SEIU are negotiating to form a union, and a strike was averted. GO POWER CLERGY!

## HAPPENINGS *continued*

Unite Here is the union representing Aramark workers at the stadiums. Negotiations are underway for contract renewal. On the afternoon of August 4, hundreds marched and leafleted at Citizens Bank Park to support the *Let Us Work* initiative to achieve year-round employment at Philly stadiums, contributions to a training fund that would prepare workers for higher paying jobs, create full time work, grant holiday pay, and expand access to health care. John Marshall, Marta Guttenberg and I turned out for this effort. (By the way, the Phillies lost to the San Francisco Giants that afternoon. Wah Wah sound effect here.)

Lobbying efforts are well underway with City Council members for a \$15 minimum wage, community development and investment initiatives, unionization efforts, and a public bank. All of these *Philadelphia Solutions to Philadelphia Poverty* are a result of the Anti-Poverty Summit held on May 19, sponsored by POWER and OIC. Philadelphia is the poorest large city in the country, and much more needs to be done to remedy this.

Additionally, POWER has committed to a nonpartisan effort to register 12,500 voters by October 11. With Congregation Leyv Ha-Ir, PES has committed to registering 50-100 voters. I hope every one of our members, and everyone we've ever met, is registered. (Hyperbole? Maybe). Now that the weather is cooler, please see me for the help that you can give in registering voters. With POWER, we can change the world!

Finally, we gave a fond farewell to Founding POWER Executive Director Bishop Dwayne Royster on June 21. (Thankfully he was released after his Airport arrest in time for his celebration!)

Marta Guttenberg, Sylvia Metzler, Bob Bueding, Leader Hugh and I attended this heartfelt farewell. We donated collectively as a congregation and individually to the Justice Fund being created in his honor, took out an ad in the program booklet, and donated a Book Basket for the raffle. Bishop Royster got "kicked upstairs" to **PICO**, POWER's national affiliate organization, as Director of Political Organizing. We will miss him a lot! POWER is still in the search effort to replace him and we look forward to meeting our new Executive Director. The Bishop always welcomed our non-theist congregation and we were always mentioned in the list of congregational denominations in his speeches. The Good Bishop's



favorite admonition? "Change the Damn World!" Talk about shoes to fill... What a guy!

I hope you find this work impressive, and, believe me, there is so much more. Please let me know if you want to get more directly involved. I urge you to go to POWER's website at [www.powerinterfaith.org](http://www.powerinterfaith.org). Sign up to get our dynamic newsletter, A Window Into Our Work. You will be much impressed. And remember, the moral arc of history bends toward justice. But not on its own.

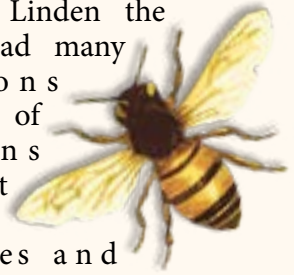
## Being a Bee at Camp Linden – Sylvia Metzler

"Can you really fly?"

"I know you are a real person in there!"

"Now that's a really old bee!"

At Camp Linden the children had many questions and lots of opinions about honeybees, butterflies and pollination. At the request of Sharon Wallis and Leonard Weeks, the incredibly dedicated and talented directors of our summer day camp, I was spending a week in my bee costume teaching two to four classes a day about the importance of pollination and the dangers to our pollinators.



Each morning the staff and I eagerly awaited the arrival of a different group or groups of children from day camps in Philadelphia and Wilmington. I met them in my bee costume complete with wings, antennae and a sign reading, "Please Save Me." The children ranged in age from six to thirteen and for the most part were interested and engaged. In fact I think a few of them knew more about bees than I did. Do you know what nurse bees feed the baby larvae in the hive? *[If you don't know, see note at end of article – Ed.]*

The program was divided between pool time and nature study. Naturally they were most excited about getting into the

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## HAPPENINGS *continued*

water, especially on those very hot days. But Sharon's nature program soon had most of them hooked. They started in the garden where, thanks to advance planning and planting, they were able to harvest, plant and water all on the same day. They learned to pull beets, carrots and weeds and to pick tomatoes and mint. Then

Then it was my turn to fly in and explain why I was saying "Please Save Me." First I wanted them to appreciate what we would be missing without the pollinators. I had color pictures and actual samples of some of their favorite foods: apples, pears, blueberries, watermelon, peanuts, almonds and strawberries. We imagined a

I also showed them some honey in a little bear jar and some children's books about bees. Many of them knew about Winnie the Pooh and his love of honey. We saw pictures of the worker bees protecting their hives from bears, wasps and humans, but learned not to be afraid of bees and certainly not to kill them.



Photo credit: Nick Sanders

Then I turned the program back to Sharon and her staff. Each of the children got to pick a bee or a butterfly glove and then dive into a big flower that Sharon had made. Like the pollinators, they went after the sweet nectar (Skittles) and in the process, collected the pollen (flaked coconut). With hands full of Skittles, they left happily for

off to the nature center we went, where the counselors showed them a diagram of a flower and explained how the bees and butterflies were attracted by the nectar, and how they pollinated in the process of drinking it. Then they passed around small samples of the beets, carrots and tomatoes they had just harvested. Often the younger children were more willing to sample the veggies than their teen aged counselors. But when I cleaned up later, I found lots of hidden beet pieces!

picnic without them – no fun. Then I explained that many bees and butterflies were disappearing and dying and I asked if they knew why? Almost always one of the children called out "Chemicals!" Then I told them about the damage that chemicals like glyphosphate-based herbicides and neonicotinoids are doing, and asked them to urge their parents not to use these products. I also suggested that they plant milkweed and the kinds of flowers that the pollinators love.

lunch and, I hope, with less fear and more appreciation for the honey bees and butterflies.

– Sylvia Metzler

*Editor's note: "The life of all honey bees starts as an egg [...] A worker egg hatches after three days into a larva. Nurse bees feed it royal jelly at first, then pollen and honey for six days." From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worker\\_bee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worker_bee)*

## HAPPENINGS *continued*

### Whites Confronting Racism (WCR) – Workshop Two – – Sylvia Metzler

**Editor's note:** PES member Sylvia's account of the first WCR Workshop appeared on page 5 of the April 2016 issue of *Ethical Views*, available online at <http://phillyethics.org/newsletters/ev16-04.pdf>

The going gets harder as we progress in our study and understanding of individual, group and institutional racism. As I become emboldened to confront blatant – but more often subtle and unconscious – racism in family, friends and acquaintances, the repercussions can be unexpected and painful as well as rewarding. Thanks to our study, I am also becoming more aware of my own hidden biases, and find myself flustered and embarrassed as I am confronted by others for things I have said and done.

In anticipation of our group trying out new behaviors, our two facilitators demonstrated a process for working through internal reactions to an encounter gone wrong. One of these facilitators, despite her years of teaching and experience, had said something that a Black friend had found offensive. For about half an hour, they worked through the emotional response felt by a white person of good will when confronted with some still lurking racism. She courageously shared with us how terrible she felt and how easy it was to sink into feelings of worthlessness and hopelessness. But she also demonstrated how we can learn to admit our shortcomings with

humility and then go on to learn and grow from them. She also developed a plan to talk with the Black woman she had offended and to hopefully strengthen the relationship in the process.

Little did I know how much I was soon to need these lessons for two different circumstances. The first occurred in the workshop when we were asked to present a recent scenario in which the issues of racism and/or white privilege were present. Then the group would critique it and perhaps come up with some alternative or better ways to handle that situation.

I shared that I had been to a baby shower recently where everyone was Puerto Rican except myself and one other white woman.



It was during the week when two more Black men had been killed by police, and several police had been shot and killed by a Black man. During a lull in the conversation, I asked what people were thinking and feeling about the week's upsetting events. One of the Puerto Rican women gave a spirited defense of the police which I then discussed and debated with her. No one else joined in the conversation. The response from the WCR group was to question why I felt the need to bring this subject up at a baby shower. There is a time and place for everything, no

matter how important. There was also the issue of my being almost the only white person among a group of people of color which should have made me more sensitive and cautious. Furthermore, I was on the board of the organization giving the shower while most of the others present were staff, creating a power imbalance.

How did I feel after this feedback? Embarrassed and ashamed. Maybe I should not even be in this group given my enormous insensitivity. My "idealized self image" was in the basement. But thanks to Lorraine's and Sarah's example, I was able to work through it. I had to stop thinking in 100-100 terms – either seeing myself as all good or as all bad. I knew that there was good stuff in my core self AND that I was not perfect. In our work booklet there is a quote from Rumi, the 13th century Persian poet: "Out beyond the ideas of right and wrong doing, there is a field. I'll meet you there."

My next step was to talk with the people who had been at the shower. Sure enough, one of them had been very upset that I had brought up such a controversial subject at a social event. I apologized and we had a productive talk. The rest of the staff all said that they had no problem with it and even were glad that I had brought it up. Another lesson for me: Do not generalize about people of color any more than I do about white people.

The other difficult situation I

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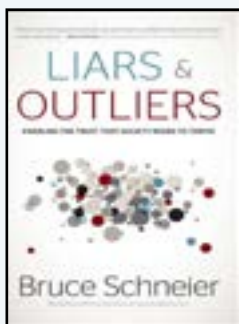




# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Wednesday, August 31, 7:00 PM How can Building Trust Help us Secure America?

Co-sponsored by the Greater Philadelphia Thinking Society and the Philadelphia Ethical Society, this dialogue follows some of the thinking of Bruce Schneier, author of *Liars and Outliers: Enabling the Trust that Society Needs to Thrive*.



After a short introductory framing by CJ Fearnley and Hugh Taft-Morales, small group discussions will explore how we might best engender security and trust in an America with airport security checkpoints, crime, fraud, economic insecurity, mass shootings, and terrorism. RSVP at the Philadelphia Ethical Society Meetup page (<http://www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanist-Society-of-Philadelphia/events/232732953/>) where you will find more information and links to related readings and videos. Light refreshments and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. Links to suggested resources are optional.

## ENABLING TRUST

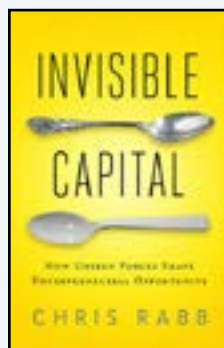
## Monday, September 5, (Labor Day), 7:00 PM – Introduction to Ethical Humanism

Newcomers and visitors are encouraged to attend the first Introduction to Ethical Humanism of the season with the Philadelphia Ethical Society's Leader, Hugh Taft-Morales, on Labor Day from 7:00-8:30PM. Come learn about Ethical Culture's unique brand of humanism and what it could mean to you during a relaxed 90 minutes. Please RSVP to [leaderhugh@phillyethics.org](mailto:leaderhugh@phillyethics.org).

## Monday, September 12, 7:00 PM Capitalism in Crisis:

### Chris Rabb – Poverty, Race and Other Structural Roadblocks to Business Success

In the fifth in our 2016 Ethics on the Square offerings, Leader Hugh Taft-Morales hosts Chris Rabb, a father, teacher, author, and social justice activist currently running as an independent-minded Democratic candidate for the 200th legislative district including Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill. Rabb will discuss poverty, race and other structural roadblocks to business success, echoing some of the insights in his book, *Invisible Capital: How Unseen Forces Shape Entrepreneurial Opportunity*.



A graduate of Yale College, Rabb worked in the U.S. Senate as a legislative aide, and as a writer,

researcher, and trainer for the White House Conference on Small Business. He served as an adjunct professor at Temple University's Fox School of Business, and also for ten years as a board member of a family-owned



newspaper business in Baltimore founded by his great-great grandfather over 120 years ago.

Presentation, discussion and questions from the floor. All programs are free and open to the public. Co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Ethical Society, the Fox School of Business at Temple University and the Sustainable Business Network of Great Philadelphia.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

### October 3 - John Gerzema – Think Like a Woman. Improve the World.

Gerzema is author of best-selling book, *The Athena Doctrine: How Women (and the Men Who Think Like Them) Will Rule the World*

### November 7 - Lynne Andersson – Philanthrocapitalism: The Dark Side of Charity

Andersson, Associate Professor of Business & Society at the Fox School of Business at Temple University, will explore how good intentions can go wrong.

### December 5 - Joseph Schwartz – Why Not Socialism?

Schwartz, is a progressive political activist, [Professor of Political Science at Temple University](http://www.dsasusa.org), and leader in the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA). <http://www.dsasusa.org>



## PEACE DAY PHILLY 2016 EVENTS AT 1906 RITTENHOUSE

[www.peacedayphilly.org](http://www.peacedayphilly.org)

### All events are FREE!

**Note:** The Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show will be taking place on Sunday, September 18. Please allow yourself a little extra time for parking.

#### a) Sunday, Sept. 18, 2:00-4:30 PM *An Interfaith Peace Dialogue: Welcoming Each Other Across Diverse Cultures & Faiths*

People of all faiths and practices welcome! Come share your efforts to nurture peace in yourself, in your relationships, and in the world. Please RSVP at:

<http://bit.ly/29I8IYj>

C o - H o s t s :  
Philadelphia Ethical Society, Dialogue Institute,  
Interfaith Walk for Peace & Reconciliation,  
Peace Day Philly.

#### b) Sunday, Sept. 18, 6:00-8:00 PM

##### *We Grow Where We Are: Refugee Life through the Eyes of Syrian Children*

Greg Sheehan, a young photographer who spent a year in Lebanon, will share photos of and by Syrian refugee children he met there. Work for sale will benefit that refugee community. Special guest Jordanian singer Farah Siraj who has performed at the United Nations, the Kennedy Center, the Lincoln Center and around the world.

#### c) Tuesday, Sept. 20, 6:00-8:00 PM *Meditation for Peace*

Come learn about meditation from practitioners from different disciplines – Zen Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism and secular mindfulness – will share their practices and do demonstrations. A discussion on the benefits of meditation for individuals, schools and workplaces will follow.

#### e) Wednesday, Sept. 21, 5:00-6:30 PM – *6th Annual Sing Along for Peace*

Hugh Taft-Morales will lead participants in varied songs of peace. Spoken word and *Dances of Universal Peace* will also weave into the event. Children and adults are welcome to engage in the global initiative *Chalk4Peace* – drawing images and words for peace on the sidewalk with colored chalk.

## MEETUP OUTREACH EVENT #1

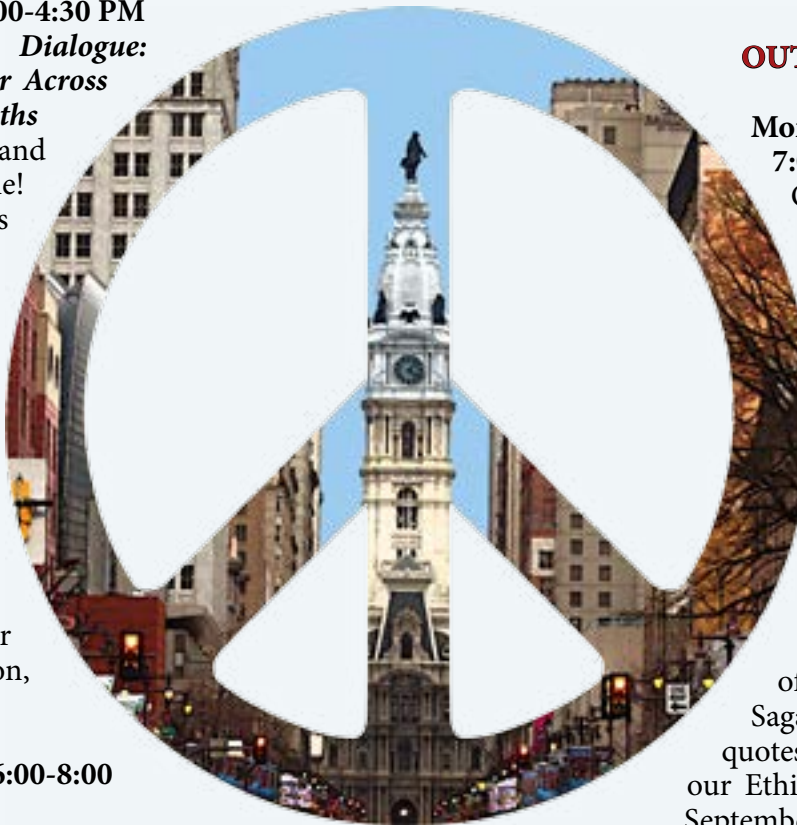
#### Monday, September 19, 7:00-9:00 PM

Our *Building Blocks for Social Success* program kicks off in September.

Each month we will focus on a given Ethical Culture value and we will host additional themed Meetups and social events reaching out particularly to those new to Ethical Culture.

September's theme is **knowledge** and posters of Ben Franklin and Carl

Sagan with corresponding quotes will be displayed in our Ethical Society windows. On September 19, we will explore different perspectives about what "knowledge" means, how we gather knowledge, and distinctions between observation, reason, belief, opinion, and wisdom. **Building Blocks Meetups** will encourage engagement and exchange. The last part of the evening will be set aside for making new social connections. **NOTE: There will be a brief Introduction to Ethical Humanism before this Meetup at 6:30 PM.**



#### d) Wednesday, Sept. 21, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM – North East Apron (North side of City Hall) *Welcoming City: The International Day of Peace in Philadelphia*

Special Peace Day program will include intercultural music, spoken word, peace art activity, remarks from Mayor Kenney, and one minute of silent meditation at noon, (taking place across the globe in all time zones).

## HAPPENINGS *continued*

### Whites Confronting Racism *continued*

encountered was the response of some of my family to an email I had sent out. Before our second weekend, our facilitator had sent us an article to read, by Michael Eric Dyson from the New York Times. It was entitled *What White America Fails to See*. It addressed the violence against people of color,

and I was very moved and enlightened by it. So I sent it out to most of my family with a note saying how much I learned from it. Two of them responded by saying that they disagreed with most of the article – one of them very angrily, attacking me in the process. Another person responded that they were moved and inspired by the article. Even though my brother and I often disagree on political issues, I wanted to discuss the family's response with him as I was very upset with some of them and also with myself for not being more careful about what I send out and to whom. To my relief, we had an in-depth and calm discussion about both the article and the family's response to it. We had not talked about racism and white privilege before, and so I was very pleased that we were able to have such an unusual and productive talk.

I meant to write more about

the actual weekend but my pen took me somewhere else. I do want to include how close the now seventeen members and two leaders of the group are becoming and how we are

forming a community. The work of confronting racism and white privilege is hard and long. We will need each other!

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone at the Philadelphia Ethical Society for helping me to attend this important training entitled "Whites Confronting Racism". I invite anyone who would like more information about the workshop to feel free to talk with me. I hope we will continue working together to use our white privilege to reduce and eliminate individual, group and institutional racism.

– Sylvia Metzler  
[sylmetz@juno.com](mailto:sylmetz@juno.com)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/10/opinion/sunday/what-white-america-fails-to-see.html>

**failing  
to see**

## NOTE ABOUT RESEARCH PROJECT SEEKING SUBJECTS – LEADER HUGH WRITES:

*Dear PES members,*

Violence against women in our society and on our college campuses concerns us all deeply. The physical and psychological damage done by this violence lasts a lifetime. Victims often feel unable to speak out. Relationships with their parents can suffer from the shame and secrets such violence causes.

Recently I had a conversation with Susan Sorenson, a professor at Penn where she directs a center on violence against women. She has done clinical work on the topic for over 25 years. I am impressed with her current project and urge you to share with those you know the information below which was reviewed and approved by Penn's Institutional Review Board.

***Thank you, Hugh***

*Do you have a 19-23 year old daughter who was a victim of campus sexual assault? (The college need not be in the Philadelphia area; it can be anywhere in the U.S.) If so, you might be eligible to participate in a University of Pennsylvania research study about survivors and their parents. The study consists of one in-person interview of about 90 minutes. All information will be kept confidential. You will be compensated for your time with a \$40 gift card. The researcher is interested in speaking with fathers as well as mothers. Daughters will not be interviewed. Both parents do not need to participate.*

*If interested please contact Susan B. Sorenson at 215-573-1169 or [sorenson@upenn.edu](mailto:sorenson@upenn.edu). She is the only one who accesses the messages. Again, all information will be kept confidential.*



# SEPTEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			<b>AUG 31</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <i>How Can Building Trust Help Us Secure America?</i> Co-hosted by EHSOP and the Greater Philadelphia Thinking Society	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> <b>11:00 a.m.:</b> <i>John Lovejoy Elliott and a Ministry to Man</i> Hugh Taft-Morales	<b>5</b> <b>7:00 p.m.:</b> <i>Intro to Ethical Humanism</i> Hugh Taft-Morales	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>PES MEETING: 6:30 p.m.</b> Education Committee	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> <b>11:00 a.m.:</b> <i>Universal Principles of Peace</i> Jonathan Granoff	<b>12</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> <i>Capitalism in Crisis: Poverty, Race, and other Structural Roadblocks to Success</i> Chris Rabb	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>PES MEETINGS</b> <b>5:30 p.m.</b> Finance Committee <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Ethical Action Committee	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>11:00 a.m. Strengthening Our Nation of Immigrants</b> Javad Mohsenian <b>2:00 p.m. PDP Peace Day Philly Interfaith Peace Dialogue</b> <b>6:00 p.m. (PDP) We Grow Where We are</b>	<b>19</b> <b>6:30 p.m.:</b> <i>Intro to Ethical Humanism</i> Hugh Taft-Morales <b>MEET-UP GROUP</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Building Blocks for Social Success	<b>20</b> <b>7:00 p.m. (PDP)</b> Meditation for Peace	<b>21</b> <b>11:30 a.m. (PDP)</b> Welcoming City <b>5:30 p.m. (PDP)</b> 6th Annual Sing Along for Peace <b>7:00 p.m.</b> PES Board of Trustees	<b>22</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Amnesty International Meeting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>11:00 a.m.</b> <i>Violence as a Public Health Issue</i> Marla Davis-Bellamy	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>PES MEETING</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Camp Linden Committee	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

*NOTE: Fine Art Music Company concerts will commence in November.*

## QUOTE - UNQUOTE

**“All bloody principles and practices, we, as to our own particulars, do utterly deny, with all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end or under any pretence whatsoever. And this is our testimony to the whole world.”**

– A Declaration from the harmless and innocent people of God, called Quakers

George Fox and others. Presented to the King upon the 21st day of the 11th Month, 1660

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**11**      **David McDevitt**  
**14**      **Tom Carroll**  
**18**      **Susan O’Connell**



## SUNDAY SERVICES

11:00 A.M. SEPTEMBER

THROUGH JUNE

*Ethical Views* is published monthly  
except July and August.

*Editor*, Steve Bremner  
*Layout*, Celeste Hardester  
*Production*, Cheryl Desmond  
*Web Master*, Bob Moore

**Philadelphia Ethical Society**  
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Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader

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### **Hosts Coordinated by John Marshall**

Sunday hosts greet  
and orient members  
and visitors and make a  
valuable contribution to  
the community. If you'd like to help  
out, please contact John.  
Thanks to all who hosted during the  
summer season.



### **Flowers Coordinated by David Ralston**

Sept 11 - Arnold and Temma  
Fishman, "In loving Memory of Jesse  
and Joe Zelnick"

Sept 18 - Harry Thorn,  
"To a successful new season at the  
Ethical Society"

Sept 25 - Ken Grief "Encouraging  
Activism and Voting"



### **Coffee Hour Coordinators**

Sept 4 - John Marshall  
Sept 11 - Ken Greiff  
Sept 18- Garry O'Rourke  
Sept 25- Harry Thorn

For suggestions regarding this  
newsletter, contact Steve Bremner:  
[stevebremner@fastmail.fm](mailto:stevebremner@fastmail.fm)

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