



ETHICAL VIEWS

November 2017

Vol. 132, No. 3

Newsletter of the Philadelphia Ethical Society



Sunday Platforms

Sunday, Nov. 5, 11:00 AM
Is Happiness the Goal of Life?
Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader,
Philadelphia Ethical Society

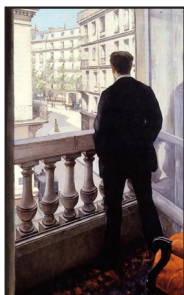


From ancient Aristotle to contemporary self-help books, many have argued that the goal of life is happiness. L e a d i n g

19th century agnostic, Robert Ingersoll, proclaimed, "Happiness is the only good. The time to be happy is now. The place to be happy is here. The way to be happy is to make others so."

Is he correct? How does this fit in with Ethical Humanism's emphasis on social justice? Can it support our version of the golden rule, where we bring out the best in others and thus in ourselves?

[NOTE: In the newsletter this summer, Hugh asked "where and when do you find your 'happy place' that affords time for reflection and healing? Where do you find 'sanctuary' from the wearing and brutal world we've been dropped into? Be prepared to share your responses to those questions at our Sunday morning programs on Nov. 5 and Nov. 19.]



Sunday, Nov. 12, 11:00 AM
National Intelligence and National Security:
A Historian's Perspective
Richard H. Immerman, Director
Emeritus, Center for the Study of
Force and Diplomacy,
Temple University

Drawing on his CIA scholarship and tenure as an Assistant Deputy Director of National Intelligence, Richard H. Immerman will assess the relationship between national intelligence and national security, and explain the evolution of his thinking as he shifted his focus from covert operations to analysis. He will emphasize the role of intelligence in the formulation of national security policy in contrast to that policy's execution, and will discuss the transformation in the US intelligence enterprise since the 9/11 tragedy and the flawed 2002 National Intelligence Estimate on Iraq's Continuing Programs for Weapons of Mass Destruction.

The recipient of multiple awards for his teaching and scholarship, Immerman has published a dozen books and dozens of articles. He was Assistant Deputy Director of National Intelligence from 2007-09, held the Francis W. DeSerio Chair in Strategic Intelligence at the United States Army War College from 2013-2016, and has chaired the Historical Advisory Committee to the Department of State since 2010.



Sunday, Nov. 19, 11:00 AM
Humanist Thanksgiving

Come to our Ethical Society Thanksgiving gathering as we celebrate our gratitude with music, readings, and poetry. Please bring \$15 to contribute, or \$10 if you contribute a dish. We will also pass a collection plate and half contributed will go to the Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance, known as MANNA. Each month MANNA delivers 65,000 warm and nourishing meals all free of charge to our ill neighbors in Southeastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. Kindly RSVP by November 12 by contacting Jeff Dubb or Ken Greiff in person, on the phone (215-327-4579, or at jeffrey.dubb@gmail.com



Sunday Ethical Education for Kids (SEEK) will meet during platforms on November 5th and 19th. If you have questions, please contact Nick Sanders, nick@phillyethics.org

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LEADER'S COLUMN



Tantrums and Nuclear Weapons

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

"Why are you frightening our children with fears of nuclear war?" I was asked by a clearly annoyed parent of one of my students. Back in the 1980's, as a teacher of Soviet Studies and a member of *Educators for Social Responsibility*, I taught a unit on President Reagan's nuclear arms policy, both his stockpiling of nuclear weapons and the treaty he eventually passed to ban intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF).

I told the parent that at that time the dangers of nuclear weapons were all over the print media and television. A widely watched made for TV film entitled *The Day After* dramatized the effect of a nuclear explosion. A mushroom cloud with a devilish face graced a 1982 cover of *Time* magazine. In bold letters were the ominous words, "Thinking the Unthinkable." "Their kids are already frightened," I said. I answered because silence on the part of authority figures can often heighten anxiety. I hoped rational discussion would ease my students' fears, or at least give them a forum to express them and process them healthily.

Back in the early 80's one could argue that Reagan's carrot and stick approach brought the Soviets to the negotiating table. Maybe "Peace through Strength" was not merely a slogan promoted by Lockheed Martin and Boeing. Now, in 2017, such rationalizations about belligerent talk don't work for me. The tweet tantrums and militarism from our current president do not

indicate strategic posturing. They indicate a lack of self-control and a clear and present danger.

This past July my favorite national legislator, Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-MD), made the news by urging his colleagues to prepare for ousting our President from power. Raskin proposed that an 11-member commission of physicians and psychiatrists examine President Trump to determine if he was physically or mentally able to do the job. Some said Rep. Raskin was building a 25th Amendment case. The 25th Amendment allows for removal of the president should it be determined that he "is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office." Others called this move by Raskin too provocative. But as the President ramps up his threats towards North Korea it seems more necessary than ever.

More recently Senator Bob Corker, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a centrist Republican who developed a strong early relationship with the President, voiced grave concerns. Corker is alarmed over the president's reckless threats that may be moving us down "the path to World War III." He described the White House as seeming like "an adult day care center" where advisors scramble to keep the infant-in-chief from throwing tantrums that heighten international tensions. Corker said that the president, far from being presidential, was acting as if he was on a reality TV show. "I know for a fact," Corker said, "that every single day at the White House, it's a situation of trying to contain him."

It's unclear if our Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has the patience to continue containing his boss. Recent statements indicate exasperation with the president's undermining of diplomatic efforts to ease tensions with North Korea's unpredictable Kim Jong-un. The

president tweeted that Tillerson shouldn't waste his time with diplomacy because "we'll do what has to be done." According to an article in *The Atlantic*, that was the fifth or sixth time the president implied his willingness, even eagerness, to choose a military option.

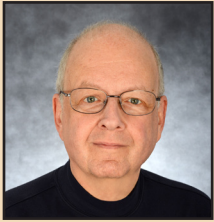
Over three decades after the angry parent confronted me, I believe again that fear over the potential of nuclear war is in the air. And, more frighteningly, I am increasingly convinced that the president wants a war. While he is no student of history, I think he probably knows that international conflict can, for the short term at least, garner public support of the White House. Most likely annoyed over his low approval rating, the President could choose to wrap himself in the flag and wage war in an effort to boost his ratings. Besides, he probably wants to play with the new war toys he was given on January 20th.

My September Leader's column was about Timothy Snyder's short book, *On Tyranny*. In it, Snyder cautions us to "be calm when the unthinkable arrives", because a sudden disaster can end checks and balances. What better way to silence unceasing criticism, our president may think, than to begin a righteous war against "Rocket Man?" I have no doubt that many of those who voted for our current president would cheer such bold action. But even moderates could be swayed to rally the troops in defense of our nation. For someone so in need of approval, war may be irresistibly attractive.

Perhaps I am overly optimistic to assume that when it comes to the nuclear button the president's advisors will check his impulsive nature. Will one of the three generals closest to Trump – military experts who know better than many the cost of war – help constrain his belligerence? Will Homeland

Continued on next page

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Making It Happen

Bob Bueding

"The best way to predict the future is to create it." On the evening of October 3rd, the Ethical Society hosted a get-together with members of Mother Bethel AME Church here at 1906. This was our second gathering, the first having occurred a month before at Mother Bethel. Our introduction to Mother Bethel AME was through our involvement with POWER. Our clergy leader Hugh Taft-Morales and Mother Bethel's pastor Rev. Mark Tyler moderated the conversation. The purpose of our meeting was for both groups to gain a greater understanding

of what we are about and to start a conversation about what we have in common. While many of us are familiar with the AME concept, I think few members of Mother Bethel knew much about our Society.

At the first meeting we did a go-around, introducing ourselves and talking about our congregations and individual roles. Even though we are non-theists, it was soon evident that we share much in common. All of us work for social justice and making our world a better place. At our second meeting we broke into small mixed groups and explored how our lives and values intersect. By the end of the evening our "family ties" were undeniable. Activities like our dialog build the groundwork for a sustainable future.

On November 21, the Center City Residents Association will sponsor its Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. In the past, this has taken place at Holy Trinity Church, but this year the Ethical Society will host. I

encourage you to attend and meet folks from other congregations. Please be on the lookout for more information on this event.

When I joined the Ethical Society some six years ago, I was looking for a community of like-minded people where I could be part of a group that works for social justice. What I've learned at the Society, and the many friends I've made, has made me a better person. As long as I'm on this earth I need to continue to learn and grow, and I think I've found the ideal place for that. Sadly, most people know little or nothing about Ethical Culture, so it's our responsibility to spread the word. I'm betting there are many more folks who would love to be part of our group. Invite your friends to come and see.

I wish all our members and friends a Happy Thanksgiving. Treasure your loved ones and cultivate an attitude of gratitude!

Bob

bbueding@phillyethics.org

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Security's Gen. Kelly, Sec. of Defense Gen. Mattis, and National Security Advisor Gen. McMaster steer us away from war? Or will "my generals," as Trump likes to call them, follow the lead of our impulsive commander in chief and allow us to bungle our way into a war where there will be more losers than winners? It's time calmly but firmly to demand peaceful solutions to global conflict.

The president has said that past administrations have failed in their dealings with North Korea. The jury is still out, but one could argue that over the past few decades we have avoided war and that is a victory in itself. Let's get behind advocates of diplomacy and demand that our president stop acting like the bully in the playground itching for a fight.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS submitted by John Marshall

For forty years I had worked at the Social Security Administration, and had a rewarding career. After retirement, I felt a void. Without the distraction of a job, I was increasingly frustrated by seeing suffering and injustice, while feeling helpless to do anything about it. Slowly but steadily the Ethical Society drew me in with its humanistic approach. Putting human beings and other natural things at the center of our moral outlook is a simple, yet profound idea.

At the Ethical Society's platforms and other activities I have been exposed to messages both powerful and sublime. Coming from a theistic background, I had been raised to believe that ethics and morality largely depend on theistic scriptures. I have found that there is a rewarding alternative. Association with the Society's members

has greatly broadened my outlook. Of course, in any group there are bound to be differences of beliefs and opinions. While professing to be open-minded, I have learned to catch myself beginning to feel threatened by those differences. It is difficult, but overcoming that reflex is a liberating feeling.

Ethical Humanists see the world as a natural place, and looks to reason and feelings to bring out the best in myself by bringing the best out in others. By participating in the education and activism of the Society, I have found a place to center myself. I no longer say to myself, "those problems are overwhelming!" I have learned that the actions of each individual can make a world of difference.

So my mantra now is "Just show up".

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Sunday Platforms

Sunday, Nov. 26, 11:00 AM

Theater of Witness:

The Heart and Soul of Story

Teya Spinuck,

Founder and Artistic Director
of Theater of Witness



Teya Sepinuck will present an inspiring multi-media program of film excerpts and life stories from her work creating original testimonial theater with those whose stories haven't been heard in society. Drawing on her work with ex-combatants, victims and survivors of war, prisoners and their families, refugees and asylum seekers, and those affected by inner city violence, poverty and homelessness, Teya will speak about the power of bearing witness, bringing participants together across divides of difference, and using personal and collective story to inspire healing and peace building for performers as well as audiences.

Teya Sepinuck, Theater of Witness's founder and artistic director, has a 30-year portfolio of work that addresses issues of violence, inequality, imprisonment, and the bringing together of performers across great divides of difference. She is the recipient of the Philadelphia Human Rights Award for Arts and Culture from The Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations, a Local Hero Award from the Bank of America, and the Cultural Arts Award from Women's Way and the Mayor's Commission on Women. Her book, *Theatre of Witness – Finding the Medicine in Stories of Suffering, Transformation and Peace*, was published in February 2013 by Jessica Kingsley Press.

From the PES – Erik Younge
CONFRONTING RACISM TASK FORCE:

Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel

- Samuel Johnson

It all started in 2016, when the San Francisco 49er starting quarterback Colin Kaepernick refused to stand during the playing of the US national anthem before a pre-season football game. He explained his position. "I am not going to stand to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses Black people and People of Color. To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder." Colin vowed to continue to protest until he "feels like the flag represents what it is supposed to represent."

Since then, it has exploded as an issue that has polarized this country. Colin Kaepernick has since been joined by hundreds of Black athletes across sports lines, including many white allies. Most of the debate has been along clear divisive racial lines. A NFL poll in 2016 showed that 37% of "Caucasians disliked Colin K a lot", while "42% of African-Americans liked Colin a lot." Many military veterans (mostly not vets of color) have taken exception to the protest of the anthem, seeing it as disrespect to the flag and "to their military service for this country." Of course, we remember the firestorm that the current occupant of the White House ignited this September when he called for the firing of any athlete that didn't stand for the anthem and the flag. In response, hundreds of players in the NFL locked arms, took a knee or stayed in the locker rooms after those typically insulting ignorant comments were made.

I personally haven't stood for the anthem since 1969, when I was targeted for service in Vietnam. I was pushed to read and remember the words of the great Frederick Douglass in his July 5, 1852 speech, "The Meaning of July 4th for

the Negro". Even today, it rings with brutal honesty and morality. I urge all to read it and reflect on its timely message.

At subsequent ball games and other public events, when I remained sitting or lounging during the national anthem, there were occasions when other folks looked at me askance, some puzzled, worried, taken aback. Some had anger in their eyes, ready to cuss me out or even ready to beat me "upside my nappy black head". It was strange to me. I left them alone in their "patriotism", but they seemed to be offended by my actions.

The current protest has forced me to research the anthem in greater detail. Who was Francis Scott Key? What does the US anthem really have to say? What does it all mean?

First, Key was a slaveholding lawyer from an old Maryland plantation family that profited from slave labor and grew rich and powerful. Key harbored clearly racist concepts. He stated that Africans in American "are a distinct and inferior race of people, which all experience proves to be the greatest evil that afflicts a community."

Key defended slavery and attacked abolitionists during his life. His poem, written September 13, 1814 is nothing but a fake poem praising the men fighting not against slavery, but defending the attack of the British in Baltimore harbor. Abolitionists knew the real Key and "his poem", and said that it should read, "America was truly the land of the Free and Home of the Oppressed." For myself, protesting the anthem by Key is a worthy act, a revolutionary act; it is honest, heartfelt, and based on the author and his racist views, actions and words.

Saluting a flag or an anthem that defends the most inhumane and brutal system of oppression is not in my or my peoples' blood. African-Americans died in the millions not for some anthem, but gave their lives and bodies defending people, defending human beings, defending women, men and children from all kinds of oppression.

Continued on next page



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, November 5, 4:00 PM Music, The Food of Love: Benefit for The Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger

Join Leader Hugh Taft-Morales in attending the *Art Of The Heel's* program, *Music, The Food of Love*, which takes a creative look at how music, food and love are interconnected in our personal lives and our larger society. Drag songstress and host Cookie Diorio with pianist Ting-Ting Wong will perform songs from pop, musical theater and opera highlighting Cookie's witty and poignant personal anecdotes. Special guest artist Philadelphia-based singer/songwriter Sonja Sofya will perform a mix of covers and original songs with her signature nimble piano work and powerhouse vocals. Nearly 100% of ticket sales will go to The Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger.

Purchase your tickets at the on-line Box Office:

<https://www.artful.ly/store/events/13668>

For more information see:

www.artoftheheel.com

Sunday, November 5, 4:00 PM Introduction to Ethical Humanism

Hugh Taft-Morales and Christian Hayden will offer an overview of Ethical Humanism's history and philosophy, then discuss what young adult humanists are looking for to

help them live a more meaningful, ethical, and fulfilling life. Please RSVP to LeaderHugh@phillyethics.org so Hugh knows you are coming!

Monday, November 6, 7:00 PM Move to Amend

Hugh Taft-Morales and our Philadelphia Ethical Society representatives of the Move to Amend organization will host an event as part of their national barnstorming tour. Move to Amend is a non-partisan, inclusive and diverse democracy movement made up of a broad coalition of hundreds of thousands of individuals committed to social and economic justice and to building a vibrant democracy. We assert that humans, not corporations, are entitled to the rights guaranteed in the Constitution. Join us to hear Greg Coleridge present and discuss the growing national movement to proclaim people power over corporate and money power. It is in all of our interests not to allow corporate money to speak louder than our desire to protect the communities and resources that we value.

Monday, November 20, 7:00PM *Knocking on Labor's Door: Union Organizing in the 1970s and the Roots of a New Economic Divide,* a book by Lane Windham

Hugh Taft-Morales and the Philadelphia Ethical Society is proud to host a presentation by

Lane Windham about her new book, *Knocking on Labor's Door*. Windham, who serves as Associate Director of Georgetown University's Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor, offers fresh insight into labor history and our currently economically polarized society. Highlighting the integral, often-overlooked contributions of women, people of color, young workers, and southerners, Windham reveals how in the 1970s a newly diversified working class powered a new wave of private-sector union organizing efforts as well as a backlash by employers. Windham's story inspires both hope and indignation, and will become a must-read for labor activists and scholars.

Free and open to the public.

Seeking Pledge Luncheon hosts for March 4, 2018!

Mark your calendar for one of the most important events on the PES calendar – our annual Members Pledge Luncheon when we share a special lunch, have some fun, and recommit to support the community we love so much. Please see Pledge Chair Vince Russo or Hugh Taft-Morales if you are willing to act as a *table host* for the pledge luncheon. The Pledge Team needs you!!!

Continued from previous page

To me, people are the greatest resource any country possesses. I join with my soul brother Colin K. and his brave protest. He is continuing to talk the talk and walk the walk, even at personal risk. He is currently

out of a job, despite being among the top at his job. I am boycotting (probably for life) the NFL and its systematic racism and cowardice. I don't need it! I join with all the brave women and men of all races who are taking a stand against oppression, murder,

cowardice and racism.

Take a knee. Boycott the NFL. By doing so, you are truly standing up for the ethics and morals of the beautiful people of the US. Peace.

On POWER – Kate Esposito

POWER Goes to PICO Goes to the Hill

POWER is an amazing organization. Right now, throughout the Philadelphia and metropolitan area, there are 65 congregational members. We are growing in Bucks, Montgomery and Delaware Counties, and in York, Lancaster, Dauphin and Berks Counties in Central PA, hiring new staff and developing a five year plan. Our victories have included getting a fair funding formula for PA schools implemented (but not yet fully funded), supporting the unionization efforts of 4,000 airport workers, passing a ballot resolution that resulted in raising the wage of thousands of Philadelphia workers, and having impact on elections' outcomes based on issues and values through voter engagement. The work continues to expand in these areas and others.

But that's not where it ends. POWER is a federation member of the PICO National Network, the largest progressive faith based organization in the country. Bishop Dwayne Royster, POWER's first Executive Director is now the PICO National Network Political Director. The office is across the street from the Supreme Court, within walking distance of Capitol Hill and Congressional Office Buildings.

From September 12-14, Rev. Holston, POWER's current Executive Director and I went to the PICO National Organizing Committee Meetings in Baltimore, MD and Washington, DC, where we attended meetings and issue updates on DACA, the Affordable Care Act, how white supremacy is upheld in federal systems, understanding the national political landscape and how to press key national leaders to lead more boldly on racial injustice through the budget, tax, immigration and health care battles.

On September 13, we headed for "the Hill." Rev. Holston and I visited various congressional offices where we held impromptu meetings with legislative staff of area Congressional reps, demanding a "clean" DACA Bill that is not tied to increased deportations, or spending for border patrol officers, or detention beds private prisons or any construction of a "wall." We also asked that representatives have conversations about race in their districts that go beyond simply removing Confederate statues, how racism is embedded in the proposed budget, legislation, policies and regulations and that it needs to be identified and exorcised. I caught Rep. Dwight Evans on the fly and we need to follow up with him in the district. That afternoon we held a "pray-in" at Rep. Pelosi's office after having a scheduled visit with her staff, since we knew that she and Sen. Schumer were having dinner with

"45" that evening and wanting them to not compromise on a "clean" DACA. We were disappointed the next morning, after hearing on the news that the supposed "deal" reached did include increased militarization of the border. Now even that "deal" has seemingly fallen apart. The "wall" is now back in.

The next day we wound up our time together planning and scheduling our follow up meetings, deciding on the hiring process of PICO's soon to be new Executive Director and committing to continue the work back home.

I've been honored to be a part of this work, getting to know people from all across the country who work so hard to impact health care, immigration, racial justice, and budget policies so as to alleviate the pain felt by families in their communities. It's all so much right now and sometimes folks get overcome by emotion during these meetings in response to the harsh treatment of fragile communities emanating from this Congress and Administration. I am experiencing close up and first hand how people of faith are inspired by their belief systems. It has been truly inspirational and has helped to strengthen my resolve to carry on during these dark and uncertain times.

HAPPENINGS

AEU Skills Summit

On Saturday October 14, The American Ethical Union hosted a Skills Summit here in Philadelphia. About seven members from our society attended. In addition there were attendees from, New York, Westchester NY., Brooklyn NY., Washington DC., Northern Virginia, Bergen NJ, Asheville NC and Silicon Valley, CA. The summit provided workshops to sharpen our skills in membership growth, ethical action and education.

Our own Christian Hayden was one of the presenters, shown here along with Hariprasad Kowtha, Emily Newman, Michele Stanback, and Paulo Ribeiro. Hopefully some of ideas that were presented will help our efforts to strengthen our society.



NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 PES MEETING: 6:30 PM Education Committee	2	3	4
5 11:00 AM <i>Is Happiness the Goal of Life?</i> 7:00 p.m.: <i>Intro to Ethical Humanism</i>	6 7:00 PM <i>Move to Amend</i>	7	8 PES MEETINGS 5:30 PM Finance Committee 6:30 PM Ethical Action Committee	9	10	11
12 11:00 AM <i>National Intelligence and National Security</i>	13	14	15 6:30 PM PES Board of Trustees	16 7:00 PM Amnesty International Meeting	17	18
19 9:30 AM <i>Confronting Racism Monthly Planning</i> 11:00 AM <i>Humanist Thanksgiving</i>	20 7:00 PM <i>Knocking on Labor's Door</i>	21	22	23 <i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i> 	24	25
26 11:00 AM <i>Theater of Witness</i>	27	28	29 PES MEETING 5:30 PM Camp Linden Committee	30	Image on page 1: <i>Young Man at His Window</i> , Gustave Caillebotte, 1875	

Guests from Mother Bethel AME Church

On Tuesday, October 3rd, twelve members of Mother Bethel AME Church visited the Ethical Society to get to know one another and discuss how their respective faiths/world views informs their social justice work. John Marshall and Hugh Taft-Morales are shown here, meeting with two of the guests. A similar gathering occurred at Mother Bethel this past summer. The two communities, both active members of POWER, hope to continue building strong relationships.





SUNDAY SERVICES

11:00 A.M. September
through June

Ethical Views is published monthly
except July and August.

Editor, Henry Pashkow
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Vince Russo

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Flowers Coordinated by Sally Redlener



November 5 - Temma
& Arnold Fishman "to
celebrate our Grandson
Robin's 8th birthday."

November 12 - Terry & Lyle
Murley "to celebrate their 41st
wedding anniversary."

November 19 - Doris
Leicher "in appreciation to my
husband Howard Peer for his
birthday and for all the things I am
learning on and off the high seas."

November 26 -

Coffee Hour Coordinators



November 5 - Kate Esposito.
Last names: A-E
November 12 - Ken Greiff
Last names: F-K
November 19 - Garry O'Rourke
Last names: L-Q
November 26 - Harry Thorn
Last names: R-Z

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 Marshall.

QUOTABLE

"It is not possible to be in
favor of justice for some
people and not be in favor
of justice for all people.."
- Martin Luther King

For suggestions regarding this
newsletter, contact Henry Pashkow
hpashkow@gmail.com

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Bob Bueding
7 Irene Putzer
21 Linda Waters Richardson
29 Howard Peer

What's Goin' On?

Other public events at the Ethical
Society Building in November

This month, look for the
Annual Tibetan Bazaar
November 24-25, 10:00 am-05:00pm.
PES Building, 2nd floor

This popular event is a great place
to shop for alternative gifts for the
holidays. In a season of giving thanks
and enjoying time with family, this
is a great way to purchase authentic
handmade Tibetan wares for your loved
ones. Besides having a great time and
eating some great Tibetan food, you will
be helping the Tibetan community in
preserving their culture and
identity in the face of institutional
efforts by the Chinese
government in Tibet.

September Gathering at Medford Lakes



Friends gathered at the Fishman's in Medford Lakes on September
30th to say goodbye to summer! While it was a bit too cold to
swim, great food and conversation warmed the evening.

Want to host a social gathering yourself? Please contact Hugh
Taft-Morales!