



# ETHICAL CULTURE

M O N T H L Y

VOLUME 33 NUMBER 9

Visit our web site: [www.essexethical.org](http://www.essexethical.org)

MAY 2014



## May 4 Solidarity Singers Annual May Day Concert

Join the Solidarity Singers in an American Labor Celebration. In 1884, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions (which later became the American Federation of Labor), proclaimed that “eight hours shall constitute a legal day’s labor from and after May 1, 1886.” On May 1, 1886, more than 300,000 workers in 13,000 businesses across the United States walked off their jobs in the first May Day celebration in history.

The Solidarity Singers of the New Jersey State Industrial Union Council are “a street chorus, not a concert choir. Our preferred venue is a picket line. We try to lift the spirits of people engaged in struggle and help them to carry on. Only a few of us know how to read music, but we all know which side we’re on.”

Over the past seventeen years, the Solidarity Singers have appeared hundreds of times on picket lines, at rallies for labor and other progressive causes, and in occasional concert settings. Its director, Bennet D. Zurofsky, can be reached at (973) 642-0885 or [bzurofsky@zurofskiylaw.com](mailto:bzurofsky@zurofskiylaw.com).

For further information: (973) 763-1905 or e-mail [ecsec.nj@gmail.com](mailto:ecsec.nj@gmail.com)

## May 11 — Mother’s Day — Martha Gallahue, “Mothering Ethical Culture in its Maturity”

Martha Gallahue will offer her perspective on the impact of women’s leadership in the ethical culture movement over the last 25 years. She will highlight their contributions through the lens of their traditional roles in society as well as their emergent roles in politics and the world.

Martha’s Platforms represent an integration of her dual professions of psychoanalyst and ethical culture leader at the United Nations. And as a grandmother, she will discuss how that role differs from the caretaking mandate of mother.

“According to a Chinese proverb, ‘women hold up half the sky.’ Unfortunately, this fact is not reflected in the experience of many women. As volunteers for Ethical Culture’s voice at the United Nations, National Ethical Service, we offer you insight into the status of women worldwide.

“Over the years some women have made much progress. However, for many women inequalities still persist regarding access to education, health care, and political and economic opportunities. A number of current evaluations demonstrate the situation. Nearly 70% of the 1.2 billion people living in poverty are women. Nearly 70% of the world’s illiterates are women. Women contribute about two-thirds of the hours worked, but earn only one-tenth of the world’s income. Women own only 1% of the world’s property. Women are paid an average of 30% less than men for comparable work.” [quoted from *Sylvain Ehrenfeld, IHEU Representative at the UN, Bergen Society Member*]

## May 18 Annual General Meeting

### May 25 Ed Bokert, “Stories of a Psychical Researcher”

Psychologist Ed Bokert worked part time for four years at the American Society for Psychical Research. He will share with the group several of his unusual experiences there. An expert in dream therapy, he plans to lead a discussion on those experiences — waking and otherwise — that we’ve all had that defy our usual rational analyses. As has been said, “The pointing finger points — but at what?” Some welcome evidence that for all our knowledge and sophistication, there is much we still don’t understand about ourselves and our world. Some dismiss all such talk as wishful thinking or delusion. What has your experience led you to believe?

Ed graduated in 1958 from New York University with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. His was an award-winning thesis on the subject of influencing dreams. He worked briefly at NYU in their sleep lab and then at the American Society of Psychical Research. Following that position,

# Ethical Culture Society of Essex County



Martha Gallahue, *Interim Leader*  
Boe Meyerson, *Leader Emerita*

Andrew Weinberger, *President*  
Zia Durrani, *Vice President*  
H. "Gus" Lindquist, *Treasurer*  
Rosalie Sussman, *Secretary*

*Trustees:*  
Karen Bokert  
Elaine Durbach  
E. Betty Levin  
Allen Parmet  
Mira Stillman

*EC Monthly Platforms Editor*  
Elaine Durbach  
*Editor/graphics:* Howard Gilman

#### Editor's Note

Newsletter articles, announcements, etc., not to exceed 150 words in length, must be received by the FIRST of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition. Submit items to: Howard Gilman, newsletter editor; preferably via email at: [gilman.howard@gmail.com](mailto:gilman.howard@gmail.com). Items can also be dropped off at 15 So. Pierson Rd., Maplewood; or, if you put something for the newsletter in the EC office's mail slot or in the mail, please give me a call at (973) 763-3914 to be sure I know about it, especially if your item is time-sensitive. — *Editor*

Editor reserves right to edit for length, clarity and content. Opinions offered in this publication are those of the authors.

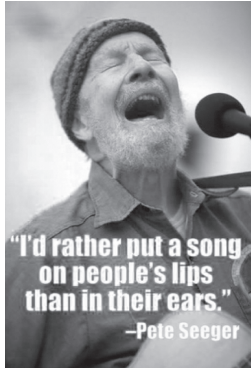
Ethical Culture Society  
of Essex County,  
516 Prospect St.,  
Maplewood, NJ 07040  
973-763-1905

Our web site:  
[www.essexethical.org](http://www.essexethical.org)

...act so  
as to elicit  
the best  
in others  
and in  
ourselves

Ed worked at the Family Service and Child Guidance Center in Orange for the next 35 years, having held the positions first of dream researcher, then director of their drug and alcohol program and later as psychotherapist. Upon his retirement, Ed has continued his private therapy practice but also focused his attention on writing poetry. His first book of poems, entitled *Healing Hullabaloo*, will be published this fall.

Ed and his wife Karen are members of the society, and live in Maplewood.



## Weekend of Folk Music at Ethical May 9-10

A tribute to Pete Seeger — passing on his songs in sing-along fashion. Everyone is invited! Bring acoustic string and rhythm instruments, join in playing, singing, or listening with us, bring some refreshments to share. At the Ethical Culture Society, 516 Prospect St., Maplewood, NJ 07040. Contact: [lnovemsky@comcast.net](mailto:lnovemsky@comcast.net), 973 763-8293.

### May 9, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

Folk Friday Special at Ethical — Songs in the spirit of Pete Seeger. Sing-along and jam. Folk Fridays are second Fridays of the month, October to June.

### May 10, 2014, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

“Pass it on for Pete!” is a joint venture between the Children’s Music Network and the Ethical Culture Society of Essex County and Essex-Hudson AEYC (the early childhood education organization). Community Sing and Workshops for children of all ages and those who sing with them: young children and their families as well as those teachers and performers who sing with young children. There will be several workshops yet to be announced and a concert or a round robin sing-along. The program is open to all.

The Children’s Music Network celebrates the positive power of music in the lives of children by sharing songs, exchanging ideas and creating community. For information:

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

## Proceeds from Sandy Relief Art Show Donated to Ocean County Recipients

During the winter of 2012-13 and for many months beyond, Gus Lindquist was feverishly busy mounting a very special project: The Sandy Relief Art Show.

Various local artists offered paintings and sculptures for sale at our Ethical Society building. Gus built frames, hung the pictures, and created a very attractive gallery. The display was spectacular. Money was collected for the Sandy Relief Fund by sharing proceeds from sales 50/50 between the artists and the fund.

Our Board of Directors chose a community in Ocean County, the church King of Kings, to receive the funds collected, which came to \$1000.

Gus purchased ten \$100 gift certificates from Home Depot with these funds.

In late March 2014 Zia Durrani, Lisa Novemsky, and Rosalie Sussman met with the pastor’s wife at King of Kings Church and delivered the certificates. They were most gratefully received by ten congregants to be applied towards the repairs of their damaged properties and homes.

We had only one regret: we wished Gus could have given these certificates directly. We were very moved for him and let him know of our experience as soon as we left the church.

Many thanks to all who took part in this project, bought art, and otherwise supported this outstanding event.

And special thanks to Gus for his extraordinary efforts in making this happen.

— *Rosalie Sussman*

## Joseph Chuman’s Book Published

*Speaking of Ethics*, by Dr. Joseph Chuman, is an anthology of 26 addresses given over the past 35 years, divided into four thematic sections: Ethics in Private life; Public Issues; Humanist Heroes and Interpretations of Ethical Culture. Joe Chuman is highly respected in the community as scholar (he teaches human rights at the graduate level at Columbia University) and Adler expert (he did his doctorate on our founder). He also helped found Ethical at Essex. Dr. Chuman has been the leader of the Ethical Culture Society of Ber-

gen County, NJ since 1974, and since 2008 has served as a part-time leader of the New York Society for Ethical Culture.

While members and friends of our movement are the book's primary audience, it is hoped it will generate interest in wider humanist circles and beyond, among readers interested in ethics and moral philosophy. The binding notion of the diverse essays is the application of our central commitment of human dignity to various social and personal issues.

The text can be used for study and discussion circles in Ethical Societies. According to Joe, "This is the first book published in a long time coming out of Ethical Culture and directly related to what I believe we stand for."

*Speaking of Ethics* can be ordered on Amazon as an e-book as well as in soft cover.

## PEACE COMMITTEE

I recently discovered a Peace Garden had been established in Cambria, California, where I planned to visit. Inquiry revealed it was a project of their Rotary International and that they have an outstanding high school there. Consistent networking resulted in scheduling a workshop I could present to their student *Interact* organization, a socially-aware group. Only a Saturday 9 a.m. slot was available with perhaps only three students attending at that inconvenient time. My response: "For three or thirty, I'll do my thing."

Fifteen students attended, of both genders, plus several adults. After responding to their question of how I became interested in the Peace Movement, I presented these ideas: activists are people that make things happen (related to your *Interact* activities in your homeless and food bank commitments, which bring admirable results); spreading peace ideas can happen by brainstorming with one another as well as writing Letters to the Editor of



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM EHRlich

E. Betty Levin, a Millburn peace educator and psychotherapist, conducts a peace workshop on March 15 for students at Cambria High School in California. Their "Interact" student group, numbering one-third of the school population, is sponsored by Rotary International and supports activities to contribute to an improved quality of life for homeless individuals and a food bank. The students' interest in peace issues arose from the Cambria Rotary organization establishing a Peace Garden in their town on which Levin's name is designated.

your local newspaper, a dynamic privilege of our living in a democratic country. One student raised the issue of 'respect,' regretfully missing in lyrics of contemporary music. The discussion continued emphasizing the importance of respect in our personal relationships, listening sensitively to one another in our interactions. In a later requested newsletter article, I mentioned attention to folk music emphasizing language reflecting solid democratic values such as expressed by the recently deceased Pete Seeger and others. After I discussed the possibility of a drumming activity, in which 'spirituality and natural body rhythms' intersect, the group expressed some interest in exploring this possibility.

Since the subject of Peace could not be thoroughly explored in just one hour, we agreed I could keep them informed by contributing to their high school newsletter. A remarkable student, Allie Brunschwilder, who had already volunteered to be the scribe for the meeting, also agreed to be the liaison to our eastern USA, mainly, the Millburn/Maplewood, N.J. connection.

I have since sent information regarding the United Nations event, "Education for Global Citizenship," which was streamed on Webcast, available nationwide. I'm open to ideas from others — 973-763-1033.

— E. Betty Levin, Co-chair,  
Peace Committee

## Social Action Committee

Spring and Summer 2014, we are collecting arts & crafts supplies for Valley Settlement House:  
Large White Sheets (11" x 17" and larger)

Pads of Newsprint Sheets

Construction Paper – Assorted Colors

Poster Board (22" x 28") – White and Assorted Colors

Color Markers (washable only)

Water Color sets

Poster Paint – Various Colors

White School Glue (washable like Elmer's)

Paper Punches (round and other shapes)

Mini Pom-Poms (1/4" and 1/2" sizes and assorted colors)

Lacing – Various Colors (100' spools of plastic material for making lanyards, key chains, bookmarks and stringing beads and buttons)

Due to a recent quantity contribution, no crayons at this time! Please bring materials to the Ethical Culture Society, 516 Prospect Street, Maplewood (at Parker) and place in box in room off parlor.

# ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY OF ESSEX COUNTY

516 Prospect Street  
Maplewood, New Jersey 07040

Phone: 973-763-1905  
Email: [ecsec.nj@gmail.com](mailto:ecsec.nj@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.essexethical.org](http://www.essexethical.org)

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
UNION, NJ  
PERMIT NO. 395

**We continue to collect children's books, canned and boxed foods, and toys for distribution by the Parenting Center in Maplewood.**



## ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY OF ESSEX COUNTY NEWSLETTER · MAY 2014

### SUNDAY PLATFORMS

Platforms begin at 11 a.m. All are welcome. Platforms are subject to change without notice. For information, call 973-763-1905. Visit our web site: [www.essexethical.org](http://www.essexethical.org)



**May 4 Solidarity Singers Annual May Day Concert** Join the Solidarity Singers in an American Labor Celebration. In 1884, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions (which later became the American Federation of Labor), proclaimed that “eight hours shall constitute a legal day’s labor from and after May 1, 1886.” On May 1, 1886, more than 300,000 workers in 13,000 businesses across the United States walked off their jobs in the first May Day celebration in history. (*see page 1*)



**May 11 — Mother’s Day — Martha Gallahue, “Mothering Ethical Culture in its Maturity”**

Martha Gallahue will offer her perspective on the impact of women’s leadership in the ethical culture movement over the last 25 years. She will highlight their contributions through the lens of their traditional roles in society as well as their emergent roles in politics and the world. (*see page 1*)



**May 18 Annual General Meeting**



**May 25 Ed Bokert, “Stories of a Psychological Researcher”**

Psychologist Ed Bokert worked part time for four years at the American Society for Psychological Research. He will share with the group several of his unusual experiences there. An expert in dream therapy, he plans to lead a discussion on those experiences — waking and otherwise — that we’ve all had that defy our usual rational analyses. As has been said, “The pointing finger points — but at what?” Some welcome evidence that for all our knowledge and sophistication, there is much we still don’t understand about ourselves and our world. Some dismiss all such talk as wishful thinking or delusion. What has your experience led you to believe? (*see page 1*)