

## **The National Service Conference of The American Ethical Union, 2007-8**

**At the AEU:** Two major developments are the inauguration of the Rose Walker Global Fund within the American Ethical Union. This Fund is designed to become a resource for our membership to contribute effectively to ethical concerns in the larger world. We opened the Fund with \$3000. For contributions, contact the AEU office at 212-873-6500.

The NSC has launched a new website: [nationalserviceaeu.org](http://nationalserviceaeu.org). . Please check in with us now and again to get a sense of our activity.

Come to the NSC table for more information on last year's three Resolutions passed at the Assembly: The Student World Assembly, the United Religious Initiative, and The Millennium Development Goals Campaign and more information about us.

**At the United Nations:** Our three representatives at the UN continue to be: Phyllis Ehrenfeld, Martha Gallahue, and Jackie Pope. Phyllis and Sylvain are receiving a wider distribution among our member Societies for their articles *From the UN*, including The Dialogue, IHEU publications, and CEBO ([www.cebo.org](http://www.cebo.org)). Phyllis, Sylvain, Jackie and Martha attend meetings with Governmental Leaders at the UN.

Martha continues to develop our UN/NGO relations primarily through the Earth Values Caucus where she connects with the Commission on Sustainable Development. Last year, her working group The Universal Ethics, participated in a larger event called a Week of Spirituality, where the UN's birthday was honored. ([www.csvgc-ny.org](http://www.csvgc-ny.org)) Throughout the week, 10 events took place, all designed to recommend forward possibility for the evolution of the UN. Martha is a Leader-in-Training from Brooklyn Society. She is receiving great support from the National Leaders Committee to insure that ethical culture membership has a voice at the United Nations. As Mair Representative, Martha links NSC with the Finance for Development NGO Committee where another NSC representative, Richard Hobbs, from San Jose is doing the active representation a World Conferences. Richard is a Unitarian who is presently running for in San Jose.

Jackie Pope is ably representing us through the NGO Committee on the Aging. As the newest member on our team, she is participating in workshops and programs that will increase her ability to move through the complex web of NGO's, UN officials and governmental representatives at the UN. Jackie is a retired university professor and member of New York Society.

**In the community: Phyllis, Sylvain, Kurt, Martha and Paul Raynault continue to offer Platform talks upon invitation. This year they have spoken at New York, Essex, Bergen, Suffolk, Riverdale, Queens, and Boston.**

**Kurt Johnson, ESOW** - Kurt has given many talks with Interfaith groups through his Initiative, Coalition for One Voice, Their website is: [CoalitionforOneVoice.org](http://CoalitionforOneVoice.org). Kurt served as one of three hosts for a national Conference in Austin, Texas at the Common Ground Center. He continues his work with Interspirituality in Action, website: [ISDnA.org](http://ISDnA.org)

**Paul Raynault, Bergen** - The Student World Assembly continues to use NYSEC office space. Their personnel includes students from many different countries under the direction of Shahram Hashemi, recent graduate of the Columbia University Human Rights program, where Joe Chuma teaches. The SWA with the support of NSC is applying for its own accreditation at the UN. Their next world Conference is scheduled to take place in Peshawar, Pakistan.

**Phyllis and Sylvain Ehrenfeld, Bergen** - Phyllis and Sylvain Ehrenfeld, Bergen Ethical

members are co-founders of the Bergen County Chapter of UNA-USA. The Chapter focuses outreach on UN activities to the general public. Latest project: WATER:WHY WORRY? on the effects of climate change on local water resources. Combining representatives from university research, public administration and environmental advocacy. Jim Griffin Bergen Ethical member i Vice President of the Bergen Chapter and Mary Beaven, retired professor at Fairleigh Dickenson University has reported on our water program which we offer as a sample for future activity. At the Assembly we are honored to have a very distinguished researcher in the atmospheric sciences Dr Gerald North who will speak at the NSC luncheon. Dr North has served as Chairman of the Committee on Climate Change for the American Academy of Sciences and has testified before Congress.

**Martha, Brooklyn,** Martha is interning with NSC as part of her Leader training. She is working on the website and communications with .

**Richard Hobbs, San Jose** - Despite his campaign for County Supervisor in Santa Clara, CA, Richard maintains his interest in participating in the next world conference of Finance for Development in Dubai, Qatar, in November where he will represent The National Service Conference.

**Abe Markman, New York** - Abe worked with his Public Affairs Committee at NYSEC to sponsor a Resolution against US incursion into Iran. The Resolution passed unanimously.

**Rene Sullivan, Chicago** - Rene Sullivan, member of Chicago Society, is representing The National Service Conference at the United States Human Rights Network's National Conference which is taking place at the same time as this Assembly. One great ethical commitment is to secure human rights as the basis for governmental policy within the United States. We believe that USHRN will be an effective vehicle for that effort. ([www.ushrn.org](http://www.ushrn.org))

### **In the NSC:**

We are grateful for the support of the National Leaders' Committee who individually possess deep commitments and multiple skills in furthering the NSC mission. Our Executive Committee this year is stable and includes: Phyllis and Sylvain Ehrenfeld, Lucile Kleiman, Rose Walker, Abe Markman, Kurt Johnson, Jackie Pope, Paul Raynault and Martha Gallahue. We have suffered ill health and traumatic accidents especially Rose, Sylvain, Paul and Donna Pang who is our liaison in the AEU office. All four continue effective commitments to the mission, however, and deserve much respect for their courage.

We mourn the loss of Ruth Gruenberg, a former Treasurer of NSC.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Gallahue, Main Representative,  
Phyllis and Sylvain Ehrenfeld, President and IHEU Representative