

Welcome to the Platform Meeting of the Northern Virginia Ethical Society (NOVES)

The mission of the Northern Virginia Ethical Society is to bring out the best in others and thereby in ourselves, strengthen our relationships with one another, and build a more humane world by offering a program that promotes ethical growth and learning, builds and sustains community and implements ethical action beyond our Society.

Chair: Jeff Lewis

13 October 2019

Opening Bell • Lighting the Candles • Opening Words

Music

Welcome • Greet Your Neighbors

Story: *My Pig Amarillo* by Satomi Ichikawa

Read by: Jaime Argandona

Music

Platform: "Observations--Immersion in Guatemala"



By Merry Macke

Music

Sharing of Responsibility: Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter

Announcements • Closing Words • Social Time

Audio/Visual: Jeremy Weiss

THIS WEEK'S CHARITY

The mission of the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter is to serve adults and children who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to work towards the elimination of personal and societal violence. On average, they provide direct services to over 1,000 adult and child victims of domestic and sexual violence in Loudoun County each year.

WELCOME

We are delighted you decided to attend. The platform programs are designed to engage our entire membership – and visitors. We present a variety of speakers who share ethically-themed addresses that hopefully inspire, inform, and sometimes challenge us. Views are those of the speaker. The response period offers an opportunity to reflect on the talk. See www.noves.org for more information about the Society.

FUTURE NOVES PLATFORMS, AT GREEN HEDGES SCHOOL

20 October, Sunday 11 am: “The Climate Crisis”. By Randy Best.

It is inspiring to see so many young people engaged and taking the lead in confronting the worldwide Climate Crisis. The Climate Crisis is caused by our 21st century lifestyle. What forms of political participation will help move toward a future where we live in balance with our planet? What changes can I make to the way that I live that will reduce my carbon footprint and move to sustainability? What commitments can I make that I will keep?

27 October, Sunday 11 am: TBD, Tony Hileman

NOVES CALENDAR

Each PRINCE WILLIAM RECYCLES DAY 2019 - Free Landfill Event, Saturday, October 12, 2019 10:00 AM. 14811 Dumfries Road Manassas, VA

- Movie discussion "Inherit the Wind", Thursday, October 24, 2019 7:00 AM, TBD

NOVES NEWS

RECYCLE USED MARKERS. Our Sunday School is participating in the ColorCycle project. Throughout the year, please bring in any used markers for recycling.

Penny University Philosophy Discussion. Caffe Amouri. 107 Church St NE, Vienna, VA 22180
7:00 – 8:30 PM. Fall 2019 PHILOSOPHY OF MIND SERIES

Wednesday, October 16th. What is your internal narrative?

We live our entire waking life immersed in our inner experiences (thoughts, feelings, sensations) – internal private phenomena, for us, inaccessible to others. What is the nature of our inner experience – our internal narrative. Is my inner experience structured the same way as your inner experience? Just what are the voices and processes in our heads anyway? Come and share your inner experience.

Wednesday, December 11th. How does your name affect your life?

If I had been a boy named “Sue” would my life be significantly different? To what extent does my name play a role in determining my self-identity? How I am perceived by others? Why do some people change the name that they use at different times in their lives? Come explore “What’s in a name anyway”.

Winter/Spring Dates. Wednesday, January 8th; Wednesday, February 12th; Wednesday, March 11th; Wednesday, April 1st; Wednesday, May 13th

NOVES Adult Education. Vienna Community Center. 120 Cherry St SE, Vienna, VA 22180
7:00 – 8:30 PM. FALL 2019 SERIES ON POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE AMERICAN ETHICAL UNION

Wednesday, October 23rd. Criminal Justice Reform: The American Ethical Union's 2015 Resolution. The American Ethical Union's 2015 annual Assembly focused on Criminal Justice Reform. The Assembly passed a Criminal Justice Reform resolution on Criminal Justice Reform: [\(2015 – Criminal Justice\)](#). This resolution will be presented and discussed along with what actions can be taken.

Tuesday, November 19th . Resolutions on Systemic Racism and Reparations

In 2016 the American Ethical Union's annual Assembly focused on Systemic Racism, passing a resolution, Systemic Racism in the United States: 2016 – Systemic Racism in the United States. This was followed up on the 2017 Assembly with a resolution on reparations, Toward Repairing the Harm of Racism: 2017 – Toward Repairing the Harm of Racism. These two resolutions will be used as an intro into a discussion on Racism and Reparations.

Tuesday, December 10th. Ethical Humanism and the Climate Crisis.

The American Ethical Union recently passed two resolutions on the Climate Crisis: [2014 – Investment Decisions Regarding Climate Change](#); [2018 – Climate Action](#). We will discuss these two resolutions and what steps we can personally take to address the Climate Crisis.

Winter/Spring Dates. Wednesday, January 29th; Wednesday, February 26th; Thursday, March 12th; Thursday, April 16th; Thursday, May 14th

NoVES Fall 2019 Humanist Film Discussion Series. To be held at Libraries as another form of outreach. **7:00 – 9:00 PM**

Thursday, October 24th. Inherit the Wind (1960). In the 1920s, Tennessee schoolteacher Bertram Cates (Dick York) is put on trial for violating the Butler Act, a state law that prohibits public school teachers from teaching evolution instead of creationism. Drawing intense national attention in the media with writer E. K. Hornbeck (Gene Kelly) reporting, two of the nation's leading lawyers go head to head: Matthew Harrison Brady (Fredric March) for the prosecution, and Henry Drummond (Spencer Tracy) for the defense. *The controversy over teaching evolution will be discussed after the showing.*

Thursday, November 21st. The Contender (2000). Can an Atheist become Vice-President? Come and see **The Contender**, a political drama film written and directed by Rod Lurie. It stars Gary Oldman, Joan Allen, Jeff Bridges, and Christian Slater. The film focuses on a fictional United States President (played by Bridges) and the events surrounding his appointment of a new Vice President (Allen). The movie depicts political hardball at its worst. *Discussion will follow the movie showing.*

Winter/Spring Dates: Wednesday, January 29th; Wednesday, February 26th; Thursday, March 12th; Thursday, April 16th; Thursday, May 14th

AEU NEWS

AEU at World Humanist Congress in Miami August 5-9, 2020. American Ethical Union invites you all to join our 2020 Assembly at the Humanists International World Humanist Congress, August 5-9, in Miami! The theme is "Beyond Borders: Our Vibrant Global Humanist Culture" and the weekend will be filled with talks, workshops, performances, special guests, and receptions. The Future of Ethical Societies (our 18-35 year old affiliate) will also hold their gathering at the event. The AEU State of the AEU and business meeting will be on Wednesday, August 5 and attendees will be invited to join American Humanist Association special programming on Thursday, August 6 or explore Miami. Events continue Friday to Sunday afternoon. Registration opens October 1, 2019. More details will be available soon at <https://aeu.org/event/aeu2020>.

OTHER INFO

Monday, October 14 at 9am to Tuesday, October 15, 2019 4 pm. Location: Arlington VA

Join Organizing Against Racism (OAR) for an "Undoing Racism" training session, the signature workshop of the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond (PISAB). Through dialogue, reflection, role-playing, and presentations, this training challenges participants to analyze the structures of power and privilege that hinder social equity and prepares them to be effective organizers for justice. The workshop will address areas such as analyzing power, understanding the manifestations of racism, defining racism, and much more! Click [here](#) to register for a training session on our website. Please note that you will be required to be present for both days of the training. For paper bulletin users the url address to register is: <https://www.oaronline.org/undoing-racism-workshop-application-form>

WEEKLY INFORMATION

REFRESHMENT CONTRIBUTIONS. Members, please consider contributing to the snack table each month according to the table. For example, those with last names that start with A-D, please bring a contribution on the first Sunday of the month.

A-D	1 st Sunday of the month	R-Z	4 th Sunday of the month
E-H	2 nd Sunday of the month	Other contributions	When there is a 5 th Sunday of the month
J-P	3 rd Sunday of the month		

OTHER NOVES INFORMATION. NOVES Platforms - available at: <https://soundcloud.com/novesaudio>

GIFT CARDS are available for purchase at the conclusion of the Platform. Giant, Safeway, Whole Foods, Starbucks, Amazon, and many more. Please see Hank Gassner at the back table.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR BULLETIN. If you would like an announcement in the bulletin please contact NOVES Bulletin Editor, Bonni van Blarcom at dblarcum@yahoo.com with "bulletin" in the subject line.

VISITORS – CONSIDER JOINING US

We encourage visitors to consider membership in NOVES.

NOVES membership comprises a wide range of persuasions, from atheists, agnostics, skeptics, secularists, rationalists, and others, including those who practice a specific faith.

There is no religious test for membership: belief or disbelief in a deity (or other metaphysical ideas) is less important to us than how we live our values: respect for individual human worth and respect for the world which sustains human life, dignity and worth. We hold in common our recognition that our words and deeds make a difference in this world, and that working to create a more humane world for ourselves, our children and others is a worthwhile commitment. We welcome inquisitive individuals of all backgrounds and hope you will find NOVES a welcoming and stimulating group

The Ethical Society is a cooperative community, supported by the voluntary effort and financial contribution of its members. Members contribute generously as they are able to support the Society. Members also contribute their time and effort as they are able to the volunteer committees and projects of the Society. Members vote to elect the Society's Board of Trustees, to approve the annual budget and to approve policy decisions and other important matters, at an annual membership meeting and, occasionally, specially-called membership meeting.