ANNUAL SOCIETY REPORT

Society Report for Northern Virginia Ethical Society

Leader(s): Randy Best

President(s): Iris Woodard

Administrative Director/Office Contact: contact-us@noves.org

Please provide brief updates on the following areas of your Society that occurred or developed in 2019:

Ethical Action:
- Climate: Networked and became a supporting member of Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions. Contacted elected state representatives regarding climate initiatives.
- Racial Justice:
- Economic Justice:
- Development and Peace:
- Other: Continued to participate in postcards for election initiatives.

Ethical Education (children ages 2-13) & Youth of Ethical Societies (teens ages 14-18) & Future of Ethical Societies (young adults ages 18-35):
We have a very strong EE, led by Kimberly Nyilasi. She leads a monthly ethical action event, such as making lunches for homeless shelters, selling self-created cards to collect money for Kekenya’s Dream, and cleaning up streets around the neighborhood.
We had two age groups. The younger group focused on Every Day is Earth Day. The older group alternated between Media Matters curricula and Ethical Dilemmas for Teens (discussions of smoking, drug use, alcohol consumption, suicide in teens, and bullying).
Communications: We struggle with communications due to available volunteer resources. We use Facebook, Zoom, our website, and weekly emails but still find it difficult to disseminate information.

Finances: In the 2018 - 2019 fiscal year we received two planned bequeths from members estates. We invested this money in CDs and have pledged to keep it invested rather than drawing into regular spending. Our pledge drive continues to show a small deficit. Given the pandemic of 2020, there is no idea about how our finances will fare by the end of this fiscal year on June 30. The space we rent has not been charging rent during the shutdown, but we continue to pay our two staff members.

Membership: Membership has been steady this year. We accepted one new member bringing us to a total of 73 official members.

New Developments: with the social distancing restrictions, we acquired a Zoom Pro account and began experimenting with ways to provide services using this new medium. We have tried Coffee at a Distance, Sunday Platforms, and Movie Discussions. Additionally, Randy Best tried a Penny University discussion via Zoom.

Goals for 2020: We continue to focus on building our membership and generate a budget based on pledges, that does not have a deficit.