ANNUAL SOCIETY REPORT

Society Report for Susquehanna Valley Ethical Society

Leader(s): NA

President(s): Patricia Arduini – president, Penny Weinberg-Uebelhoer – vice president

Contact: Patricia Arduini

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

Ethical Action:
- Climate:
  - 4/7/19: Speaker – Brian Auman: Stream and Floodplain Restoration
  - 6/2/19: Speaker – Jen Partica: Get the Dirt
  - 7/14/19: SVES Garden Party for Children: Storytelling, Singing, Garden Tour, Tasting, and Harvesting
  - 11/17/19: Acting on the IPCC Report as Ethical Humanists
- Racial Justice:
  - 7/12/19 “Lights for Liberty” Community Protest
- Economic Justice:
  - SVES Winter Coat Drive Project – Coats collected were donated to the Sunbury YMCA’s Share the Warmth event
  - SVES Plush Toys Project for children living temporarily at the Haven Ministries Homeless Shelter – 20+ new stuffed toys donated
  - SVES Holiday Plush Toy Project – 50+ new stuffed toys donated to local nonprofits Holiday Shopping for Families in Need Event
- Development and Peace:
  - 2/3/19: Speakers - Alternative to Violence (non-profit) Speakers:
Alternative to Violence (non-profit) Learn About a New Way to Make a Difference in Our Communities: Building a More Peaceful and Equitable World

- 5/5/19: Speaker – David Heayn: The Ethics of Forgotten Wars: Yeman, Islamophobia, and America’s Blindspot
- 7/7/19: Speaker – Soto Zen priest, Edward Keido Sanshin Oberholtzer: A Zen Practice
- 7/14/19: Speaker - Tony White: The Perils of Patriotism
- 7/21/19: Book Discussion – “The Humanist Way”
- 8/18/19: Book Discussion – “The Humanist Way”
- 9/15/19: Book Discussion – “The Humanist Way”
- 9/22/19: 1st Annual SVES Living Ethics Awards Potluck Event
- 10/6/19: Speaker – Robert Beard: Of Lies and Liars
- 11/3/19: Speaker – John Deppen: Never Fail to Protest: The Legacy of Elie Wiesel
- 11/24/19: Annual SVES Stone Soup Celebration
- 12/15/19: Emerging From Dark to Light: Cultures Past & Present, Connections, Gratefulness, Forgiveness
- 12/22/19: SVES Annual Winter Solstice/Human Light Celebration

- Other
  - 8/4/19: Dr. Gary Stoner: Opioid Use Disorder: Effectively Helping Patients With OUD
  - 8/11/19 SVES Family & Friends Picnic
  - 10/6/19 Foster Care Duffle Bag Action Project – 25 bags filled with items (11/24/19) and were donated to local Foster Care Agencies prior to Thanksgiving Day.

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 three families with children, and in September of 2019 SVES began a SEEK program for children ages 3 – 10. Classes were held the first and third Sunday of each month. The monthly themes
were centered around the Ethical Core Values and the AHA 10 Commitments.

Communications:
- website (www.susquehannavalleyethicalsociety.org)
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- bi-monthly newsletter
- local newspaper calendar

Finances:
- Fiscally sound
- All members are pledged financial contributors

Membership:
- 21 members
- 3 families with children under the age of 10 (11 total)

New Developments:
Moved our Society to the Donald Heiter Community Center, Lewisburg PA
All programs are now on ZOOM

Goals for 2020:
Increase membership (young families with children)
Increase member involvement in the life of SVES to foster connectedness and growth
Increase our involvement with the AEU
Increase visibility and outreach
Increase racial/ethnic diversity
Increase our efforts to be better allies (POC & LGBTQ+)
Increase our work in addressing the issues of climate change