



# ETHICALLY SPEAKING

*The Newsletter of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture*

53 Prospect Park West at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215-2629  
718.768.2972      www.bsec.org      bsecOffice@aol.com

ETHICAL CULTURE: LOCAL TO GLOBAL

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2007

## Sundays at BSEC

### Children's Sunday Assembly (CSA) for Ages 2-12

10:00 am – 12:30 pm, mid-September through mid-June

#### **NOV 4 Fall Season WELCOME DAY: *Approaching the Holiday Season with Ethical Awareness***

Come explore ethics at gatherings for children and their families. Open enrollment. Contact CSA Director, Audrey Kindred, [akindred@gmail.com](mailto:akindred@gmail.com), or the BSEC office to register or obtain additional information.

#### **10:00 am**

#### **Members' Sharing Circle**

Led by Tasha Paley

#### **CSA Intergenerational Program for all adults and children who want to have fun together!**

Various activities, including art, games, dramatics and more, led by Audrey Kindred and Children's Sunday Assembly staff

#### **11:00 am – 12:30 pm**

#### **Platform - All Welcome - Free**

Our weekly community gathering features an invited speaker addressing an important issue of our time, music and sharing. Followed by *Lunch with the Bunch* and social time. Come see if we're the community you've been seeking!

#### **NOV 4 SUBPRIME CRIMES AND ETHICAL SOLUTIONS** *A special Ethical Action program*

While many Americans may be maxing out their credit cards, there is a deeper story of how power is shifting into fewer hands with frightening consequences.

**Speaker: Danny Schechter**, Founder and Executive Director of MediaChannel and Globalvision, Inc, writes the blog, <http://www.newsdissector.com/blog>

#### **2:00 FILM SHOWING: IN DEBT WE TRUST**

#### **\$10 suggested contribution**

Danny Schechter introduces the film and engages in a discussion with the audience following its presentation.

*(Platform programs continued on page 2)*

## Camping out in Brooklyn!



Standing left to right: Audrey Kindred, Lisel Burns, Io, Daniel Brooks, Simba Yangala, Pam Mills, Eda Kapsis and Alice MacIntyre. Seated: Owen, Lochlan, Fiona Boneham, Xena holding Prajna and Zoe. Photo: Diane Kirschner

On July 6<sup>th</sup> CSA children set up tents, roasted marshmallows, baked banana boats and slept in "the nature of the city" with parents and BSEC leaders in BSEC's back yard! Some slept in tents, others under the stars, and still others in the mansion itself. Awakening on the auspicious 7/7/07 at 7:07am, we did 7 yoga exercises and made morning chime necklaces and watercolors in the peace garden. - Audrey Kindred

Haiku created on a recent CSA nature walk:

Green is everywhere  
Beautifully shining sun  
What wonderful spring  
- Lee Ann

When the leaves fall down  
sometimes they go together  
and make cool designs  
- Jamie

Summer in the Park  
Ice cream truck dings rings  
Hot, a lot of kids scream loud  
Happy excited!  
- Iolanthe

Walking under this  
majestic grove of Northern  
Reds, we're not so tall.  
- Audrey

### **NOV 11 CHILDREN'S VOICES OF**

**GLOBAL CONCERN** features a film of 13-year-old Severn Susuki, sharing global and ethical concerns at a United Nations meeting. To be followed by a panel of Brooklyn youth of diverse backgrounds speaking out on their concerns. Hosted by BSEC's Life & Ethics Committee. **1:00 AFTERNOON PROGRAM:** Fall orientation series on Ethical Culture basics: *Ideals, Projects and Programs of the Ethical Movement - Then and Now*. BSEC library

### **NOV 18 ANNUAL WAMPANOAG FESTIVAL**

Board member and former CSA Director **Remi Gay** partners with the CSA families and staff to facilitate this most enjoyable festival based on Native American rituals that includes storytelling, music and movement. Come join us for this special morning.

### **1:30 AFTER-NOON STORYTELLING PROGRAM**

Led by member Donna Minkowitz, BSEC library

### **NOV 25 THANKSGIVING COLLOQUY**

Member and President Emeritus **Constance Pigozzi** will lead an informal gathering reflecting on the concepts of **Forgiveness and Repentance**

### **DEC 2 ONE CITY, ONE FUTURE: CAN GROWTH WORK FOR ALL NEW YORKERS?**

The pace and style of development have over-taxed New Yorkers in the past few years, challenging the affordability of housing and changing the character and quality of life in our neighborhoods. Come and find out about some alternatives. **Speaker: Brad Lander**, Director, Pratt Center for Community Development and former director, Fifth Avenue Committee.

### **DEC 9 COLLOQUY** Quaker style reflection on **Trust** led by Board member **Tasha Paley** with **Lisel Burns**

**DEC 16 WINTER FESTIVAL** Intergenerational celebration of the coming of winter. Reflecting on December holiday rituals across religious traditions, we will focus on the insights and values they represent. Hosted by the Children's Sunday Assembly

### **DEC 23 HUMANISTS IN DECEMBER: FINDING AN ETHICAL WAY HOME** Particularly this month,

people with a humanistic, non-theological life stance can feel marginalized. EC Founder Felix Adler held that non-theists can also hold a religious attitude that produces a sense of expansiveness, interrelatedness and an "at homeness" in the world. **Speaker: Lisel Burns.**

**DEC 30 COLLOQUY** on **New Year's Resolutions** at led by Tasha Paley and Lisel Burns.

## **Ethical Action Committee Report**

**Abby Scher, co-chair, [abbyscher@mindspring.com](mailto:abbyscher@mindspring.com)**

At the beginning of every Ethical Action meeting, we ask each other "what is alive for you right now?" It gives us a chance to connect with the group about issues that are on our minds. At the first meeting of the year, one person who has a loved one in the hospital observed that it is all corporate these days, with drugs being dispensed at every turn and the pharmaceutical companies seeming to benefit the most. Another was closely watching the Blackwater slaughter of Iraqi civilians and asked, "Has the moral level of Americans been degraded so much by the threat of terrorism? Why is there no outrage?" A third expressed hope for the peace talks in the Middle East and fear for a possible war with Iran.

Last spring, we narrowed down the themes that we wanted to most pay attention to this fall and it has governed our organization of platforms: the Rockefeller Drug Laws; housing/homelessness; education; war/civil liberties. We organize one platform a month. The first in September invited JusticeWorks Community to come and expose the human cost of the Rockefeller Drug Laws, which require extreme sentences for small drug offenses. In October, a newcomer to Ethical, Joel Shatzky, an emeritus professor of education from the State University of New York, spoke on the *Miseducation of America*. What is education for? To be a cog in a wheel you don't create, to secure a good job, to change the world?

The enormous debt burden of Americans and the corporations that benefit from it is the topic of Danny Schechter's talk on November 4. Danny is Director of MediaChannel.org and was a radio personality using the moniker Danny Schechter the News Dissector for years before making documentaries. His latest, *In Debt We Trust*, will be shown at 2:00 after platform, giving us an opportunity to also talk more with Danny. Our December 2<sup>nd</sup> Platform features Brad Lander, Pratt Center for Community Development, offering real solutions to NYC's housing crisis.

**The EAC endorses Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats Town Hall Meeting**, to which all elected Federal officials – 6 Brooklyn Congresspersons, Democrat and Republican, and our 2 Senators have been invited to address: **Why We Are In Iraq? When Will We Leave? What Are They Doing About It?** **Sunday, Nov 4 at 5:30 pm, at Old First Dutch Reform Church, Carroll St. & 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Free.**

We are interested in brainstorming activities that would allow anyone from BSEC to participate and contribute to the larger community of which we are a part. If you have any ideas, feel free to contribute!

The Brooklyn Society  
for Ethical Culture (BSEC)

Lisel Burns, Clergy Leader  
liselburns@earthlink.net

Damal Edmond,  
Administrative Director  
Bsecdirector@yahoo.com

**Board of Trustees**

**Executive Committee:**

President: Eda Kapsis  
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Thorburn.

Board Emeritus: Constance Pigozzi  
Leader Emeritus: Lois Kellerman

**Next Newsletter Deadline:**

December 15

Send submissions to  
BSECnews@gmail.com

Editor: Diane Kirschner  
Proofreader: Vandra Thorburn

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**BSEC's Mission Statement**

*Are we living up to it?*

**The Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture** is a humanistic, religious and educational fellowship promoting knowledge, love and practice of ethics-centered living. As a diverse and welcoming community, we assist each other in developing ethical ideals, exploring choices, navigating our life journeys, and working to realize a more just and compassionate world.

BSEC belongs to a federation of Ethical Culture & Ethical Humanist Societies and/or Fellowships in the U.S. known as the American Ethical Union  
www.aeu.org



**Fiscal & Technology Progress Report**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY 08

**Tom Castelnuovo, Treasurer and Technology Task Force Chair**

**Technology**

All BSEC organizational documents, including the Constitution, Board minutes, personnel manual, are on Webex, a private web based archive. Contact the BSEC office for login and password.

**Fiscal: Endowment**

We have made significant progress this quarter in the management of our endowment:

- We have 3 Fund Monitors: KC Mitsui, Michael Wagnerman and Tom Castelnuovo, who review the portfolio quarterly.
- New **Fund Management Guidelines** describing BSEC endowment goals and fund administration have been written. Policies were established governing diversification, Socially Responsible Investments (SRI), disbursement, asset quality and fund manager responsibilities.
- An RFP for new broker was issued. After interviewing 3 finalists, Michael Gee of Morgan Stanley was selected in July.
- All Countrywide Assets were transferred to Morgan Stanley. Our SRI fund is Neuberger-Berman.
- From July to September, our portfolio grew by \$30,000 and in the first quarter, we made no withdrawals from our endowment. Our new portfolio is better diversified by asset class and contains high quality assets. We have 25% of our assets in SRIs and want to increase that over time.

**Fiscal Procedures:** We have strengthened our fiscal procedures. We drafted our **BSEC Financial Procedures** covering management of revenues, expenses, capital expenditures, bank accounts and transfers, contracts, audit procedures, insurance and the budget process. The procedures address all fiscal items in the auditor's management letter. Our auditor will finalize the procedures after review.

**Budget Performance**

**We operated at a small surplus in the first quarter:**

- We had our first quarterly budget task force meeting that was open to all members
- First quarter income and expenses balanced
- We should have higher event income. Event income should be our top priority and an analysis of our historical event income and our opportunities are underway
- Our higher expenses reflect unbudgeted severance expenses for 2 staff.
- Our capital budget this year is \$26,000, which includes expenditures to renovate some space prior to rental.
- Future quarterly reports will include a statement of change in financial position (net asset changes including cash) and an end of Fiscal Year forecast.

Please forward questions and comments on our budget and fiscal practices to me at [tcastel@verizon.net](mailto:tcastel@verizon.net)

## A Great Time At The Jamboree

We want to thank all of the wonderful folks who participated in the 10th Annual Park Slope Bluegrass & Old-Time Jamboree. It was a great day-and-a-half of music and there's long list of people who made it possible. Among them are: **The hard-working volunteer staff:** Linda, Dennis and Justin Stallard and Helen Bracco, Rita Wilson, Jaqué DuPrée, Aaron Weinberger, Nancy Richardson, John Summers, Andrew Newman, Frank & Nancy Moccaldi, Edith Calabro; Lisel Burns, Damal Edmond, Jason Dubin and Carlos Vazquez.

### **The performers for Friday night and Saturday night's concerts and the workshop leaders:**

Performers Ginny Hawker & Tracy Schwarz, Rafe & Clelia Stefanini, Blast from the Pasture, American Flyer, Lightning from the East, and James Reams & The Barnstormers -- and all their bandmembers; Workshop leaders Ginny & Tracy (again!), Rafe Stefanini (again!), David Laibman, Mike Cala, Pat Conte, Trip Henderson, Bill Christophersen, Mark Farrell, Bob Green, Mary Beth Yakoubian; Film archivists Russell Scholl and Chad Hunter.

**The Brown Jug recipient,** Bill Knowlton.

### **The organization that has hosted the Jamboree for 10 years, and its wonderful, supportive members:**

The Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.

**The sponsors:** Warren Lewis Realty (warrenlewis.com); The Clay Pot (clay-pot.com - sponsor of the "Brown Jug" award); the Greater NY Arts Development Fund of the NYC Dept of Cultural Affairs, administered by The Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC); the Park Slope Civic Council (parkslopeciviccouncil.org); the Brooklyn Arts Council/ BAC-Folk Feet (brooklynartscouncil.org); Los Blancos; D'Addario Strings (daddario.com); Allen & Emily Cohen; Folk Music Society of New York (aka NY Pinewoods Folk Music Club / folkmusicny.org); and HelloBrooklyn.com.

**The caterers:** Bassett Catering.

**And everybody who attended and brought with them their love for bluegrass and old-time music.** The 10th Jamboree was a big old time, thanks to all of you. We're honored to be a part of this community.

With gratitude and affection,  
James Reams & Tina Aridas



## BSEC Membership Meeting

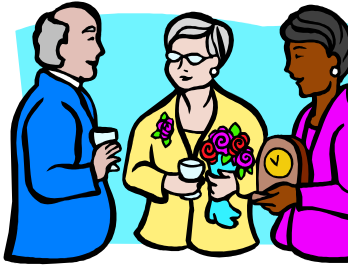
The fall general membership meeting was held on Sunday, October 21 at 1:30 pm at the Meeting House. The agenda included opening words from our Leader, Lisel Burns, who read from Arthur Dobrin's book, *Teaching Right from Wrong: 40 Things You Can Do to Raise a Moral Child*. President Eda Kapsis opened the meeting by presenting an update on the Society's progress towards implementing the recommendations of the Alban Institute consultant. She distributed two documents, Guidelines for Conduct Among BSEC Members and the Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees, which were adopted by the Board on October 11. Copies of all documents can be obtained from the BSEC office. She also announced that Lisel would be retiring as the Senior Leader as of June 30, 2008.

Martha Gallahue, Board member and leader of the new Sunday Task Force (STF), reported on their work. The STF now coordinates and plans all Sunday activities, replacing the various groups that previously handled specific aspects of the day. She presented a written report as well. The STF welcomes volunteers who would be willing to organize or participate in any part of facilitating Sundays. Audrey Kindred, CSA Director, updated us on the enrollments and activities of the Sunday school and invited us to participate in 10 am activities with the children. She also requested feedback on efforts to integrate the children into the Platform program each Sunday.

Tom Castelnuovo, BSEC's treasurer, distributed three handouts: Fiscal and Technology Progress report, which appears in this newsletter, a draft of BSEC's Financial Procedures, and BSEC's Fund Management Guidelines. Mary Holland, speaking for the Audit Task Force of Abby Scher, Tom and herself, discussed the findings of the forensic audit, which Board authorized, and their follow up work. Those wishing to read the report of the forensic audit should contact Tom to schedule an appointment to examine the document at the Society.

The Board entertained questions and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00, as called. Official minutes were taken by Tasha Paley, Recording Secretary, and Greg Tewksbury, Vice President, and will be available at a later date.





## Newcomer Offerings

### THE BASICS OF BSEC – FREE!

ALL WELCOME

(Members as well as newcomers)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month

1-2:30 PM in the BSEC library

You may attend any or all in this series

**November 11:** *THEN AND NOW: Ethical Culture Ideals, History & Projects*

**December 16:** *BSEC MATTERS: BSEC Agreements, Policies, Programs & Service Options*

And don't forget...NEWCOMER SUPPERS!

**Fridays, Nov 2 and Dec 7, 6 – 8 PM, BSEC library**

# Winter Crafts Fair

**Saturday, December 1 - 11:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**BSEC Meeting House, 53 PPW at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.**



Get a head start on your holiday shopping at this annual event

**\*\* Free Admission \*\***

A Mansion Full of  
Affordable Crafts -  
Local & International

Treat yourself to fabulous food

**\*\*Enter raffles - Win prizes \*\***

### Show your appreciation to the BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR ETHICAL CULTURE

Support our ability to host community groups, lend our building for fundraisers and provide informative programs on current issues of concern. **Donate now**, by clipping this coupon and sending it and your check, payable to BSEC, to Nettie Paisley, Pledge Secretary, BSEC, 53 PROSPECT PARK W, BROOKLYN NY 11215-2629

Hi Nettie, I want to help BSEC continue to be a generous community partner. Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please use my funds for  
General Support    Ethical Action    Platform Programs  
Children's Sunday Assembly    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**My name (please print):**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

## Ethical Culture Nationally:

### Around the Movement . . .

#### The Philadelphia Ethical Society

(www.phillyethics.org) runs a summer camp for inner city children, **Camp Linden**. Over 200 children visit the camp each week enjoying swimming, games and guided walks. They are also served fresh organic vegetables harvested from the extensive raised-bed garden. The camp is supported by donations. They are now raising money to replace the pool's 40-year-old filter/pump system. If you'd like to help, please send your contributions, payable to Camp Linden, to: Camp Linden, c/o EHSP 1906 S Rittenhouse Sq Philadelphia, PA 19103

#### The American Ethical Union (AEU)

**Nov 01-04 Potosi, MO**

**YES Conference** -YMCA of the Ozarks Trout Lodge Camp Lakewood

**Nov 9-11 Religious Education**

**Fall Conference and Family Weekend** Theme: *Defining Our Ethical Identity*. Everyone is invited to spend the weekend with religious educators and families.

**Nov 10 The Presidents Council**

**Nov 11 AEU Board of Directors**

**All at Stony Point Center, NY**

**PLAN AHEAD for 2008:**

**April 17-19, Austin TX**  
**AEU National Assembly**

**August , Highlands, NC**  
**Lay Leadership Summer School**

Are you receiving *Dialogue*, the AEU quarterly newsletter by mail or email? If not, contact [lmiller@aeu.org](mailto:lmiller@aeu.org), who you can also contact for information on any of the AEU programs.

## Ethical Culture Internationally:

### The National Service Conference

From Phyllis Ehrenfeld, President, National Service Conference of the AEU

NSC is the AEU's long time voice at the UN, functioning as networker and advocate on issues reflecting the ethical and humanist values of the Ethical Movement. The new season is beginning with Phyllis Ehrenfeld as President, Paul Raynault as Vice-President, Lucille Kleiman as 2nd Vice-President, Kurt Johnson as Treasurer, Martha Gallahue as Corresponding Secretary, Jacqueline Pope as Recording Secretary and Abe Markman as active member for social action. Sylvain Ehrenfeld, representative of the International Humanist Ethical Union (IHEU) contributes regularly, together with Phyllis Ehrenfeld, on UN briefings to newsletters and websites. Rose Walker, our President Emeritus, continues to attend UN briefings. The Executive Committee includes members from New York, Bergen, and Brooklyn Societies.

As part of a celebration of the UN's 62nd birthday, the Universal Ethics Working Group of the Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns initiated by Martha Gallahue hosted an event at the UN from 4-5:00 pm on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, called What is the Public Good and its Relation to Global Ethics. The speakers are Yogiraj Gurunath, an eminent Himalyan Teacher and Dr. Monica Sharma, Consultant for the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries. "Ethics is a hot topic at the UN these days," said Martha.

NSC includes the Students World Assembly, founded by Paul Raynault, promoting global democracy through initiating students from all over the world into a personal involvement in the democratic process. Paul reports that SWA now has 13,000 students from 152 countries. Students are applying for membership faster than interns and volunteers can respond to their e-mails in the SWA office in the New York Society building. If you can help or refer a student, log onto [www.studentworldassembly.org](http://www.studentworldassembly.org).

Kurt Johnson, founder of Coalition For One Voice brings the recognition that the world is moving towards a new consciousness into meetings with representatives of many religious groups interested in social action. A shared awareness of common ethical goals is infusing new energy into a fast growing coalition of over 1000 members and 150 organizations in the New York area. [www.coalitionforonevoice.org](http://www.coalitionforonevoice.org).

At the 2008 AEU's National Assembly in Austin, Texas on April 18, NSC's luncheon speaker will be one of the most notable scientists in the country. Professor Gerald North, Distinguished Professor of Texas A&M University was selected as Chair of the National Research Council of the American Academy of Sciences report on the topic of global warming. Professor North has testified before Congress to the Subcommittee on Energy and Commerce. We are honored to have the benefit of his expertise and concern on the topic of climate change at our National Assembly.

Editor's Note: To become an NSC member, see Martha Gallahue. For more information on the NSC, visit [www.ethicalfocus.org](http://www.ethicalfocus.org) and look for *At the United Nations* column in *Dialogue*.

## ☆☆ Member News☆☆

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- ★ Erica Hawkins – 11/7
- ★ Nancy Richardson – 11/18
- ★ Remi Gay – 11/19
- ★ Martha Gallahue – 11/27
- ★ Tom Castelnovo – 11/27
- ★ Melanie Richardson – 12/17
- ★ Sami Jindyeh- 12/18
- ★ Celeste Leibowitz – 12/26
- ★ Joan Donnen Klips – 12/27
- ★ Hafizur Kahn – 12/29

Have we missed your birthday?  
Please let us know by emailing  
[bsecnews@gmail.com](mailto:bsecnews@gmail.com)

**Diane Kirschner** had a busy summer. She team-taught *Community-Building Communications* at the AEU Assembly and its Growth and Development workshop in Sept. at the Baltimore Ethical Society. She served on the staff of the Summer School for Ethics in August.

**Audrey Kindred** was the Conference Organizer for the Narcolepsy Network's Annual Conference in San Francisco in October. **Annie Lanzillotto** was one of the theatre artists on the program.

**Thanks to Lisa Servon** for leading the planting over 100 bulbs in our Society garden. We can't wait until spring to see the results of your efforts. **Thanks to Nancy Richardson** for creating our weekly Platform program and working with others to create the new one-page design. We also send Nancy and her husband our best wishes on his return home from a brief stay in Methodist Hospital. **Thanks to Leonora Lucan** for donating some of **Donna Roberts'** books to the BSEC library.

## The 8 Commitments of Ethical Culture

*Written in collaboration with leaders and members of the AEU, coordinated by Lois Kellerman, BSEC Emeritus Leader*

In each issue of this newsletter we'll be reviewing two of these commitments, which articulate foundations of Ethical Culture belief. For the full text of the eight commitments please visit our website, [www.bsec.org](http://www.bsec.org)

**3. We choose to treat each other as ends, not merely means.** To enable us to be whole in a fragmented world, we choose to treat each other as unique individuals having intrinsic worth. The essence of Ethical Culture is the belief that every person is uniquely precious and irreplaceable. The most helpful attitude needed to create a caring community is an attitude of respect for everyone. This includes listening with trust and acceptance, and behaving in constructive non-inflammatory ways.

### **4. We seek to act with integrity.**

Treating one another as ends requires that we learn to act with integrity. This includes keeping commitments, and being more open, honest, caring, and responsive. When a person chooses to belong to an Ethical Society, that person is making some very specific commitments that relate to the way he or she acts. While all of us realize we are "not there yet" in any full ethical sense, still, when we are voted in as members of an Ethical Society we have willingly relinquished some of our impulses in order to honor the integrity of community life. This includes our right to say whatever we want to say whenever we want to say it. This is done not in the spirit of repression or mindless conformity, but rather to assure that the baseline conditions for productive ethical group interactions are met. We commit to treating one another with fairness and kindness, to keep our promises to one another and be truthful with each other. We agree to not harshly judge each other, and to listen, and give each other space for response. In group-meetings we are committed to supporting one another even when we disagree. We will attend to the process as well as the content of our meeting. Toward this end, we agree to speak from our own experience, to refrain from putdowns and constant advice, to honor personal confidentiality and cultural differences, to accept our responsibility to help get our own needs met, and to help the group stay on the agreed upon tasks. We will honor the designated leadership of any group, and keep our commitments to begin all meetings and end all meetings on time.

## Celebrating Grace Paley

Hers was an original voice in every way. Once you'd heard her read, you would hear Grace Paley's voice no matter who else was reading her work. I had the joy of seeing her read and hearing her on the radio. I was captivated by the truth and humor her work conveyed.

Grace Paley died at her Vermont home on August 22, 2007. She was 84 and had been suffering for some time with breast cancer. Her *Collected Stories*, published by Farrar, Straus in 1994, was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. From 1986 to 1988, Ms. Paley was New York's first official state author; she was also a past poet laureate of Vermont.

Brooklyn Parents for Peace honored her this year, for she was a peace and human rights activist as well as a writer. For the details of her life and work, please google her name or visit [democracynow.org](http://democracynow.org). Here is one of her poems:

### **The Poet's Occasional Alternative**

I was going to write a poem  
I made a pie instead it took  
about the same amount of time  
of course the pie was a final  
draft a poem would have had some  
distance to go days and weeks and  
much crumpled paper  
the pie already had a talking  
tumbling audience among small  
trucks and a fire engine on  
the kitchen floor  
everybody will like this pie  
it will have apples and cranberries  
dried apricots in it many friends  
will say why in the world did you  
make only one  
this does not happen with poems  
because of unreportable  
sadness I decided to  
settle this morning for a re-  
sponsive eatership I do not  
want to wait a week a year a  
generation for the right  
consumer to come along

*Grace Paley - Begin Again: Collected Poems*

**THE VERY GOOD COFFEEHOUSE AND MUSIC PARLOR**

Adults: \$10 | Kids: \$6, unless otherwise noted

**Nov 2 Singer-Songwriter Bernice Lewis**, a national touring artist for more than two decades with six albums to her credit, has been dubbed as “one of the keepers of the flame of real songwriting” by Rosanne Cash. [www.bernicelewis.com](http://www.bernicelewis.com)

**Nov 9 Bluesman Jonathan Kalb**'s guitar playing reveals an unassuming rhythmic fluency that supports the intensity of his solo lines beautifully. <http://jonathankalb.org>

**Nov 16** Third *Friday with the Park Slope Food Coop*

**Nov 23 Closed for Thanksgiving**

**Nov 30 Traveling Troubadour Series (adults \$15, kids \$6) Country Bluesman Paul Geremia**'s performances are a blend of acoustic guitar, vocals, harmonica and sometimes piano. Performing for nearly 40 years, Paul is possibly the greatest living performer of the East Coast and Texas finger picking and slide styles, six and twelve strings. [www.paulgeremia.org](http://www.paulgeremia.org)

**Dec 7 Vocalist Jaqué DuPrée**, a visual/performance artist perhaps best known as one of the lead vocalists of Casselberry/DuPrée, possesses a strong contralto voice that encompasses a “down-home” spirituality.” She describes her music as social commentary that is “gospelized folk on the verge of country.”

**Dec 14 Pat Conte/Ben Godwin: Old Songs, New Songs, Country Songs, City Songs Ben Godwin** ([bengodwin.com](http://bengodwin.com)) offers twisted cabaret tales of city life told through his grisly baritone and unique vaudeville-pop poetic. **Pat Conte** will feature, in this show, reworked work songs, some original guitar tunes and possibly a field holler or two.



**Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture**

53 Prospect Park West

Brooklyn, NY 11215

“The hope of a secure and livable world lies with disciplined nonconformists who are dedicated to justice, peace and brotherhood.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.