



September 11th: Remembering

There will be a Colloquy at the BSEC meeting house on the night of Thursday, September 11 at 7 pm to mourn the second anniversary of the September 11th disaster.

Wednesday September 10th

September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows invites you to *Circle of Hope*, a silent candlelight vigil to encircle the World Trade Center site, on Wednesday, 9/10.

6:45pm: Gather at Union Square (14th/Bwy)

7:15pm: Silent candlelight procession down Broadway to the World Trade Center site.

Also, there will be a benefit concert at 7:30pm, at St. Peter's Church, Barclay & Church Streets in Lower Manhattan. General admission is \$25. Benefit tickets start at \$100. Reservations are required, please phone 212-243-3416.

Dear Members and Friends of BSEC,

Greetings to you all. I hope you fared this hot and wet Summer in good health. The new season is about to start and the Society has planned many interesting programs and events for you. We hope you will participate and contribute to them as best you can. Unfortunately, financially, we are still operating with a deficit budget. We have been able to bring it down a bit from the last year but it is still a substantial amount. The market has taken its toll on us by chipping away at our principle investment and we have also have had to dig into it to continue our programs and activities and to maintain our landmark building which we love. We are urging you as members and friends to examine your contributions to the Society, both financially and otherwise, and pledge to do more for the coming year.

I wish to thank many of our members and friends who really give so much of their money and time to the growth of our community. Some are members of several committees and spend many long hours in meetings trying to solve the many issues and problems that arise. I wish to thank our Leader, Lisel Burns, who works very hard both in the pastoral and program arenas and I wish to thank the members of the Board: Tony Severo, Dr. Kurt Johnson, Gary Schechter, Ruth Pikitich, Maureen Egginton, Tracey Jindyeh, Joan Donnen Klips, Bruce Leibowitz, Vijay Rao, and Rita Wilson, who have served and are still serving with great dedication.

May the new season bring you good health and a good, peaceful life.

Constance Pigozzi,

President, Board of Trustees.

September Platforms

The Platform Committee has planned many interesting and exciting Platforms for the coming year. We will be focusing on our theme for the year: *Waging Peace: Hearts, Minds and Hands Building an Ethical Culture*. Our opening Platform will be dedicated to this theme. Also: Our Platforms will begin *exactly at 11:05* from now on. We will begin no matter how many people are here, so please make sure that you arrive on time. We hope you will make it a good habit to attend our Platforms every Sunday. See you all then! — Constance Pigozzi

September 21

Waging Peace: Hearts, Minds and Hands Building an Ethical Culture

Felix Adler enjoined members to take on fully, as a life vocation, "our part in this world." What is that "part" in relation to world peace? In the face of widespread cynicism and apathy regarding ethical behavior in our world today, to what extent can we claim that ethics matter enormously, across political and other social differences? Bring your own questions and answers on this topic to a community conversation on our chosen theme for this Season. With BSEC Leader Lisel Burns. Music by the *Brooklyn Women's Chorus*, directed by Bev Grant.

September 28

Waging Peace: The Heart of the Matter

Learning to listen and then attend properly to the voice of our own and other people's hearts can be life transforming, as many can and do attest. What happens when we take our personal transformation, insights, and practices to our community lives, and beyond that, to the building of social movements for peace at not only a personal, but a global level? With Kurt Johnson and Lisel Burns.

October 4

Waging Peace: The Praxis of Minds and Hands in Working for a Better World

In this coming election year, the world will once again watch the American people engage with candidates in a conversation about what does and should matter most in the conduct of the American Presidency. Join us in reflection on BSEC and BCAN (Brooklyn Community Action Network) strategies and what we hope to accomplish with them. With Charley Horwitz and the Ethical Action Committee organizing the program.

6th Annual Park Slope Bluegrass Old-Time Jamboree September 19 & 20

This year the Good Coffeehouse series once again kicks off with *James Reams & the Barnstormers* on Friday night September 19th, followed by the all-day Jamboree on Saturday.

Friday 8pm: Good Coffeehouse Concert

Come hear *James Reams & the Barnstormers*, described by one emcee at a recent bluegrass festival as "charismatic bluegrass at its finest." *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine wrote, "There are few vocalists as natural as Reams. He doesn't have to try to sound down-home, he's there at each turn in the song." \$10 donation.

Saturday 12:30-10pm: Jamboree

A full day of activities, including music workshops on picking styles, bluegrass harmonies, improvisation, and more; jamming (guitars, fiddles, mandolins, banjos, acoustic upright basses, dobros, harmonicas); and concerts featuring bluegrass and old-time bands. Food and drink are available and the Brown Jug Award will be announced. *Time Out New York* called this a "happy little festival." Spend some time at the Jamboree and you'll see why! Special price for Saturday: \$3 (that's right, three dollars!).

Thanks so much to Jim and Tina and BSEC volunteers for making this and the Good Coffeehouse program such great fun for our Society and the community!

**THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY
FOR ETHICAL CULTURE**

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Peace Site: Maureen Egginton 638-4767

Coffeehouse: Linda Stallard 768-2972

Environment: Kurt Johnson 768-2972

Youth Group:

Irene Baker, Tony Severo, Eddie Coyne

SEPTEMBER 2003 BSEC CALENDAR

Wednesday 9/10

7-9:30pm Nonviolent Communication Workshop.
Contact Tracey Jindyeh (718-748-7084) for details.

Thursday 9/11

7-9pm: Colloquy: Remembering.

Sunday 9/14

11am-12:30pm CSA Open House

Tuesday 9/16

7:30-9pm: Brooklyn Women's Chorus directed
by Bev Grant. We believe every woman can
sing! Join us. Call 965-0720 for info.

Wednesday 9/17

7-9:30pm Nonviolent Communication Workshop.

7-9pm: T'ai Chi Chuan with J.P. Harpignes.
\$12/class; \$40 for 4; BSEC members free.

Thursday 9/19

7-9pm: Ethical Action Program: *The Humanitarian
Crisis in Liberia*, main meeting room.

Friday 9/19

8pm: The Good Coffeehouse kicks off the
season with *James Reams and the
Barnstormers*. \$10 donation.

Saturday 9/20

12-10pm: A full day of American Traditional
Music at *The Sixth Annual Bluegrass Oldtime
Jamboree*. Donation three dollars.

Sunday 9/21

10am-12:30pm: Children's Sunday Assembly.
**11am: Opening Platform: Waging Peace:
Hearts, Minds and Hands Building an Ethical
Culture** with BSEC Leader Lisel Burns.

Sunday 9/21 (continued)

12:30pm: Lunch with the Bunch.

1:30pm: *Park Slope International Peace Day
Interfaith Celebration* at the Church of
Gethsemane, Eight Avenue & 10th Street.

Tuesday 9/23

7:30-9pm: *Brooklyn Women's Chorus.*

Wednesday 9/24

12:30pm: Lunchtime Ethical Education Series
orientation. See Lisel Burns for details.

7-9:30pm Nonviolent Communication Workshop.

7-9pm: T'ai Chi Chuan.

Friday 9/26

8pm: Good Coffeehouse: Country/bluegrass/folk-
inspired Andrew T. Hunt and his band *plus* Ned
Massey, "the finest talent since Dylan and
Springsteen." \$10 donation.

Sunday 9/28

10am-12:30pm: Children's Sunday Assembly.

10-11am: CSA Parents Meeting

11am: Platform: *Waging Peace: The Heart of the
Matter*, with Kurt Johnson and Lisel Burns.

Tuesday 9/30

7:30-9pm: *Brooklyn Women's Chorus.*

Wednesday 10/1

7-9:30pm Nonviolent Communication Workshop.

7-9pm: T'ai Chi Chuan.

6:30-10pm: *Pinewoods Folk Open Sing* with
potluck supper & snacks.

Thursday 10/2

7:00pm: Board of Trustees Meeting.

Friday 10/3

8pm: Good Coffeehouse: *Los Acustilocos*
performs original songs based on rhythms from
Brazil, Haiti, Cuba, and Venezuela. Second set:
Alma Y Vida plays a fusion of jazz and the Afro-
Uruguayan music known as Candombe.

Saturday 10/4

3-6pm: Monthly Life Reflections Group, at Lisel
Burns' home. Call 718-783-2298 for info.

Sunday 10/5

10am-12:30pm: Children's Sunday Assembly.

11am: Platform: *Waging Peace: The Praxis of
Minds and Hands in Working for a Better World*,
with Charlie Horwitz and Lisel Burns

12:30pm: Lunch with the Bunch.

Ethical Action News

The BSEC Ethical Action Committee, in accord with the "Waging Peace" theme for the forthcoming year, is planning an exciting monthly series of events starting in September.

Thursday, September 18, at 6:30 pm at BSEC: The first event will feature Ms. Bisi Iderabdullah, Executive Director of Imani House, speaking on *Liberia, West Africa: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* with special guest Danny Schechter, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and activist. The program will include a documentary about Liberia, *Life and War*. Since Liberia was founded in 1822 by freed slaves from the United States, its history has been a bitter struggle between the Americo-Liberians and indigeneous tribal people. Ms. Iderabdullah, who has lived in Liberia and worked for peace and democracy there since 1985, will explore the legacy of Liberia, solutions to end Liberia's 14-year civil war, and factors crippling economic development in this mineral-rich West African country. The event is free, but a \$5.00 donation is suggested to support Imani House's work in Liberia.

Other activities this season will address global issues concerning our government's controversial and expansionist foreign military and economic policy in the Middle East and around the world; and domestic issues including civil rights and civil liberties in the aftermath of 9/11, prisoners' rights, elections and electoral reform and universal health care. The EAC will try to present both sides of these controversial issues. These events are offered in accord with the "Open University" concept that the EAC initiated last year to attract more people to our Society.

This year, the EAC also plans to enlarge our email list, work more closely with our Society's children's programs, begin a book discussion group, erect a peace sign on our fence, join Families for Peaceful Tomorrows in a 9/11 memorial event (see the front page for details), and continue our support for environmental and United Nations issues.

Membership News

Several new members joined BSEC in the last few months: Erica Hawkins, Les Lopes, Diane Kirschner, Ventura Simmons, and Coreen Matthew. A warm welcome to all!

September Birthdays: Annette Bernstein (8th), Justin Stallard (17th), Annemarie Mogil (18th), Dr. Abraham Lieberman (also the 18th), and Maureen Egginton (19th).