

HUMANIST SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

THE CORLISS LAMONT CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

777 United Nations Plaza (Lobby Floor)
New York, NY 10017-3521
(212) 687-2477

Dr. Julius Manson
President, NGO Rep.

Sala Farber
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Beth Lamont
Dr. Nathaniel Lehrman
Ronald Willdigg, Esq.

FOUNDERS

Jesse Gordon '74-'93
Corliss Lamont '74-'95



HUMANISTS
ARE CONCERNED
WITH
HERE AND NOW,
NOT HEREAFTER.

April-May 1997

Greetings Fellow Humanists and Friends!

We have exciting great news! The Humanist Society of Metropolitan New York is ON-LINE! That means we are officially launched into cyberspace where visitors to the World Wide Web can find us and learn about Humanism and our local chapter.

To check out the website key in: <http://www.corliss-lamont.org/hsmny/>. If you are not yet on-line yourself, the website can be visited from a computer store where the WebTV demonstration is set up for customers' use. Of course, you might guess from the address, that there is also a website devoted to Corliss Lamont and to his works at <http://www.corliss-lamont.org/>. Copies of the information will be available at Chapter Meetings for those who don't have computers. You will be amazed at all of the Humanist information "out there" on the Internet.



There is sad news to report. We lost a very dear member of our chapter, Allan Abrams, after a brief illness. We will miss him. His devoted wife Sala, the Executive Director of the Humanist Society of Metropolitan New York, reports that they spent 16 beautiful years together. She is carrying on in her capacity as Director of the Pace University Adult Resources Center, in charge of planning all adult programs. Total immersion seems to be the remedy for such a loss. Sala Farber Abrams has kept this group going all the years since we lost Jesse Gordon, and managed to keep the bankbook out of the red, while continuing to pay for our U.N. Plaza office space & answering service. Hats off to Sala!

Those of you who visited the Corliss Lamont Estate to experience the Fall foliage will be saddened to learn that the recent storm took out dozens of beautiful trees, one of which demolished the greenhouse covering the swimming pool. The Half-Moon Foundation Executive Director, David Winkler, and Directors Donna Winkler and Bill Winkler were heroes on the spot, saving what they could, repairing, restoring, and since the electricity was off for five days, installing generators. A scheduled retreat for 45 members of the Alternatives to Violence organization took place without a blink,..... thanks to our heroic Humanist Hosts! The Winklers are sons and daughter to Corliss Lamont by his marriage to Beth. They have been devoted to Corliss over the years, and are proud to be carrying on his strong tradition that his Estate be used for good causes. You may remember David as your barbecue chef! They make the place a gracious home. Humanist Hugs to them!

Perhaps we'll plan another get-together there, where one may browse Corliss Lamont's books, pictures, and momentos. We can picnic or have a barbecue this summer, but meanwhile we hope to see you at one of the upcoming April and May meetings. Be sure to suggest the speakers or topics that you find of interest. Perhaps YOU have information to share? Also, we need volunteers for program and membership committees. Interested?

A HUMANIST DIALOGUE DINNER, topic: The U.S. hasn't ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. WHY? All other nations except Somalia (which has no recognized government) have endorsed this document. BOB GRANT, the Non-Governmental Organization representative to the U.N. for the International Humanist and Ethical Union will speak about this strange state of affairs. Copies of this document will be available. It enumerates such basic rights as: children will not be bought and sold, children have the right to food, shelter, health care and education, etc.

WHEN:	Monday, April 14th at 6pm. Ph. (212) 972-7377
WHERE:	Sichuan Palace, 310 East 44th Street between First & Second Avenues
COST:	\$17.50, tax & tip included. Choice of entree. Make reservation please.

AN AFTERNOON MEETING, topic: Historical Origins of the Separation of Church and State. BOB GRANT, who is a lawyer; a member of the AHA; and of the Ethical Culture Society of Westchester; as well as a current attendee of the Humanist Institute, will speak on another concern of importance. He has made a study of historical court cases that have sought to clarify the "wall of separation" between church and state.

WHEN:	Saturday. April 26th at 2pm. Ph. (212) 535-0822
WHERE:	Albert Ellis Institute for Rational Living, 45 East 65th Street
COST:	\$1. For beverage and snack.

AN AFTERNOON MEETING, topic: The Art of Mediation. Dr. Julius Manson, President of the Humanist Society of Metropolitan New York, draws on his wealth of experience on the front lines of problem-solving in his long law career. Dr. Manson is also the official NGO Representative to the U.N. for the A.H.A. where he is greatly interested in observing international disputes, and where, without a doubt, they would benefit from the help of one so skilled in the art of mediation.

WHEN:	Saturday. May 10th at 2pm. Ph. (212) 535-0822
WHERE:	Albert Ellis Institute for Rational Living, 45 East 65th Street
COST:	\$1. For beverage and snack.

A HUMANIST DIALOGUE DINNER, topic: The psychological need to have enemies and the impact of that inherent need on ethnicity, nationality and global politics. Speaker is Dr. John Lineweaver, a Psychotherapist and NGO Representative of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. He describes the fascinating studies and findings of his mentor, Dr. Vamik Volkan, (who among many offices and credentials, is the President of the International Society of Political Psychology and Chairperson of the American Psychiatric Association's Committee of Psychiatry and Foreign Affairs). Dr. Lineweaver discusses the relationship between the frailties of leaders and the decisions that they make. Studies on how traditional enmities are perpetuated from generation to generation will be explored, and what this bodes for world peace.

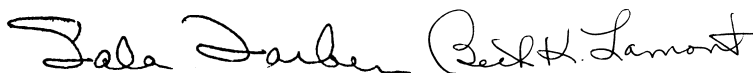
WHEN:	Monday, May 19th at 6pm. Ph. (212) 972-7377
WHERE:	Sichuan Palace, 310 East 44th Street between First & Second Avenues
COST:	\$17.50, tax & tip included. Choice of entree. Make reservation please.

LET'S HAVE A PICNIC, and get together at the Battery Park Marina. Our dismal experience with planning sailing events makes us hesitate to suggest it, BUT if the weather is nice, there IS a ferry that crosses the Hudson. There is a lovely Esplanade for walking along the river, as well. In case of rain, we can meet in the beautiful Winter Garden.

WHEN:	Saturday, May 31st at Noontime. Look for a Humanist symbol!
WHERE:	West Side Highway at Liberty Street. Take a #9 bus or the subway. Trains 1 or 9, or the C, E, or the N, R to the World Trade Center. NO COST!

Please use the enclosed form to make a dinner reservation, and to join the HSMNY if you wish. Please update your address and add any suggestions. Hope to see you soon.

Best wishes, Sala Farber Abrams & Beth K. Lamont,



Program coordinators.