



Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

THE CAS NEWSLETTER

June 2023

Upcoming services and events

Friday, June 2 at 5:00 PM: Erev Shabbat Service at the synagogue

Sunday, June 4 at 1:00 PM: Jewish Museum Tour: *Florine Stettheimer* via Zoom

Wednesday, June 7 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, June 10 at 10:00 AM: Shabbat Study Session at the synagogue

Sunday, June 11 at 11:00 AM: New Member Brunch in Copake, New York
[Address and driving directions sent upon registration]

Wednesday, June 14 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Friday, June 16 at 6:00 PM: Shabbat Across the Berkshires, Congregation Beth Israel,
53 Lois Street, North Adams

Wednesday, June 21 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, June 24 at 10:00 AM: Traditional Shabbat Service at the synagogue

Monday, June 26 at noon: Memoir Writing Workshop via Zoom

Monday, June 26 at 7:00 PM: Photography Workshop via Zoom

Tuesday, June 27 at 5:30: CAS Annual Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, June 28 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

This month's newsletter features:

Creative Arts Panel: *The Changing Shape of Vision*

Jewish Community Day at Fair Lawn Farm

Jewish Museum Tour: *Florine Stettheimer*

New Member Brunch

June Creative Arts Workshops

Three Board Nominees

Donating through the CAS Website

The Annual Meeting

June Yahrzeits

June Donations

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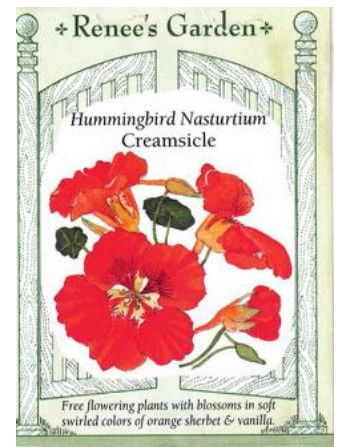
Creative Arts Panel: *The Changing Shape of Vision*

A panel discussion on the topic *The Changing Shape of Vision* took place at the synagogue on May 7th. The panelists included Alison Adams-Weinberg, Arthur Hillman, Barbara Janoff, Linda Josephs, Stephanie Sloane and Ilene Spiewak, all members of the CAS Creative Arts Committee. Each explained how he or she has addressed the creative process in their own disciplines under a variety of circumstances, including during the Covid Pandemic. Guest panelist and artist Sean McCusker discussed the growing influence of AI (Artificial Intelligence) in the arts. In the question-and-answer period that followed, that topic was discussed and examined in a variety of ways by panel participants and members of the audience.



Jewish Community Day

On the afternoon of May 21st, at High Lawn Farm in Lee, the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires hosted a Jewish Community Day. The theme was to help sustain our Jewish community and our planet by "Planting the Seeds that Help Our Community Bloom!" In addition to free ice cream, cows, baby animals, eco-crafts, mitzvah activities, and raffles, there were community displays. Rabbi Barbara and a number of congregation members manned the CAS table, where free packets of seeds, with our celebratory postcard attached, were distributed.



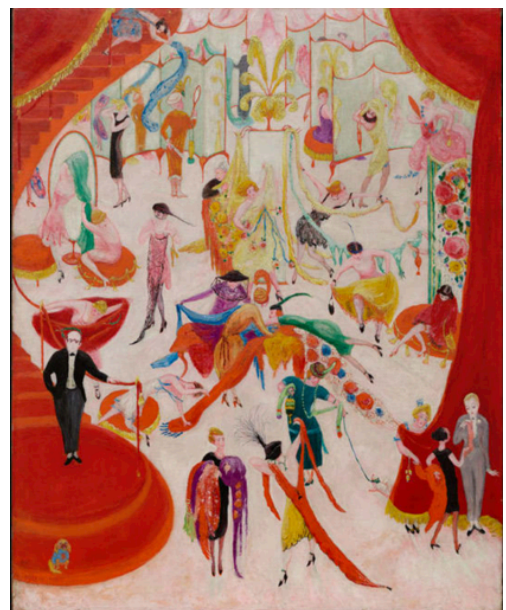
Jewish Museum Tour: *Florine Stettheimer*

On Sunday, June 4th at 1:00 PM Congregation Ahavath Sholom will present, "Florine Stettheimer Painting Poetry," the fifth in their series of online museum tours conducted by educator/lecturer Rena Tobey.

The artist Florine Stettheimer (1871–1944) is an icon of Jazz Age New York. Born to a wealthy Jewish family in Rochester, she studied at the Art Students League in New York City and then in Europe, where she encountered two profound influences: the Symbolist painters and poets and, on the eve of the Great War, the Ballets Russes. Returning to Manhattan, she hosted an elite salon together with her sisters Carrie and Ettie and their mother, Rosetta, attracting many of the leading lights of the artistic vanguard. Her circle included Alfred Stieglitz, Carl Van Vechten, Georgia O'Keeffe, Elie Nadelman, Gaston Lachaise, and many others. Among her intimate friends was Marcel Duchamp.

Through over 50 paintings and drawings, a selection of costume and theater designs, photographs and ephemera, as well as critically acclaimed poems, the Jewish Museum will offer a timely reconsideration of this important American artist, revealing Stettheimer's singular and often satiric vision and significant role in American modern art. The exhibition highlights the artist's distinctly personal style of painting, Stettheimer's position amidst New York's artistic elite and avant-gardes, and her continued influence on artistic practice today. [From the 2017 exhibition on the Jewish Museum website]

The cost is \$20 for CAS members and \$25 for non-members. Registration and payment should be made through our website: www.ahavathsholom.com.



New Member Brunch

Calling all CAS members! Join us for brunch as we welcome our new members. It will be held at the home of Steve and Alison Weinberg in Copake Falls, New York. Please RSVP by June 7th to casoffice15@gmail.com. Driving directions will be sent when you RSVP.



June Creative Arts Workshops

The next Memoir Writing Workshop is scheduled for Monday, June 26th at noon. Shared readings and short writing exercises. Each of these sessions is stand-alone. Please RSVP to Barbara Janoff at bjanoff1@gmail.com. Suggested donation to CAS is \$10 to support our Creative Arts Programs.

Barbara Janoff Ph.D. recently retired from the Fashion Institute of Technology, State University of New York in Manhattan, where she taught writing and literature. Her poetry and essays have appeared in a number of journals, including Communication Arts, Women's Work: The Journal of the Columbia College Women's Center and the Berkshire Review.



Photographs from Thought Catalog on Unsplash

The next Photography Workshop will take place on at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, . Participants in the workshop can submit any images they would like discussed, regardless of subject matter or content, using phone or camera. They can also share their screen with the group. These workshops are stand-alone sessions, open to all. Please RSVP to arthurhillman54@gmail.com. Suggested donation to CAS is \$10 to support our Creative Arts Programs.

Photographer and printmaker Arthur Hillman has been exhibiting his prints for more than 50 years. He has delivered a variety of lectures and presentations on photography and printmaking, juried many exhibits, and was a founding member of the Berkshire Photography Group. He is Professor Emeritus, Photography, Printmaking and Design, Bard College at Simon's Rock.

Three Nominees to the CAS Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee (Irene Goldman-Price, Joan Burkhard, Gail Altman-Orenstein) is pleased to present three candidates for seats on the Board of Directors of Congregation Ahavath Sholom. All are experienced with synagogue boards and service. Two of the candidates are long-time members of CAS and one is a relatively new member. The candidates are (in alphabetical order):



Daniel Schenker

Daniel is originally from Syracuse, New York, and after graduating from public schools there went on to earn degrees in English from Brandeis and John Hopkins Universities. For over thirty years he lived in northern Alabama where he taught at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. For most of that time he was a member of Temple B'nai Sholom, an historic southern Reform congregation nearly a century and a half old. At B'nai Sholom he served multiple times on the Board of Directors, including terms as Secretary and Vice-President. Other service there included teaching adult education courses in Judaism and Jewish Films, leading occasional Friday night services, singing in the choir, producing the temple newsletter, writing a history of the congregation, and giving talks on Judaism at numerous Huntsville churches.

Daniel and his wife and son moved to Lenox two years ago to be nearer to relatives and friends in New York and New England. His wife, Amanda, is a retired school librarian and member of the Congregational Church in Lee; their son, David, is a freshman at Taconic High School in Pittsfield where he is enrolled in the Auto Collision Repair and Refinishing program.



John Slote

John is a long-time member of CAS and has served in numerous roles, including teaching children in religious school, serving on the Ritual and Spiritual Life Committee, leading lay services, telling the tale of Jonah annually on Yom Kippur, and putting up the Sukkah. He teaches Latin and the classics in the Pittsfield school system.



Keren Weiner

Keren is a long-time member of CAS and previously served as a board member, as secretary of the Board, and as a leader of lay services, among other contributions. In addition, she was the assistant to Rabbi Josh Breindel and Temple Office Manager at Anshe Amunim in Pittsfield for approximately six years, and so brings extensive administrative experience. She currently works full-time as a professional genealogist.

The Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Congregation Ahavath Sholom will take place on Tuesday, June 27th at 5:30 p.m. online. Included in the meeting agenda will be a review of the past year, the presentation and vote for nominated board members, a financial report, and reports from a variety of committees. All CAS members are urged to join us on Zoom.

Donating or Making Payments through the CAS website

The CAS website uses PayPal as the mechanism to enable us to receive online donations and payments. Our website provider, WIX, based in Israel, provides a special "Donate" button to provide this capability. There are other ways we could accomplish a similar payment service, but they would be considerably more expensive. We've tried a number of adjustments to try and make using PayPal simpler and below is our latest attempt.

1. The yellow "Donate" button that appears in a number of places on our website will be used as the only gateway for making a donation or a payment to CAS. If used for payment for a current event, like our June 4th Jewish Museum/Florine Stettheimer Tour, it will also serve to register you for the event.



Donate

2. When you click the "Donate" button, a "Make a Donation" box will appear that indicates that you will "Make a Donation (to mulchingmarty1@aol.com for Congregation Ahavath Sholom)." It asks you to designate the amount of your donation or payment. After you fill in the amount, you click the black box that says, "Donate with PayPal," and that takes you automatically to the PayPal website.



3. If you have an existing PayPal account and wish to use it for payment, you type in your email address and your PayPal password and click the blue "Log In" button. If you wish to pay by credit card, you click the "Pay with Debit or Credit Card" at the bottom of the page. In either case, you will then see the official PayPal form. [You may see a box that asks if you want to open a PayPal account, if it appears, make sure it's unchecked if you are not interested].



4. This is a fairly standard credit card form that asks for email address, phone number, credit card information and billing address. Ignore the already-checked "Shipping same as billing address" and hit the "Continue" button. A message will flash by indicating that the payment is being made and that payment will then be forwarded to the synagogue's account.
5. One of the really annoying aspects of the current (uneditable) PayPal form is that it does not provide a space to indicate the purpose of the donation or payment. If further information should be conveyed (the names for Yahrzeit or Yizkor contributions, or a donation specifically for the Rabbi's fund or other specific purposes, for example), please email arthurhillman54@gmail.com with that information. When it is not clear as to the purpose of the donation or payment, you may receive an email asking you to provide the particulars. You simply need to hit reply and forward the information.
6. One note: PayPal charges CAS 2.9% of any payment made as their processing fee. Please consider increasing your donation or payment to cover these fees if you can. This is particularly important if the amount is large, like for membership dues.
7. Obviously, you can also simply send a check to Congregation Ahavath Sholom, P.O. Box 464, Great Barrington, MA 01230 for any donation or payment!

June Jahrzeits

“Much of our experience of divine goodness, grace and love has come to us through those whose lives have touched our own.”

	Hebrew Date	English Date	This year's date
Regina Levine	Sivan 16 5712	6/9/1952	6/5
Carol Edmonds	Sivan 17 5778	5/31/2018	6/6
Ferdinand Rosenberger	Sivan 17 5702	6/2/1942	6/6
Bonnie Greenstein	Sivan 21 5723	6/13/1963	6/10
William Bannon	Sivan 23 5764	6/12/2004	6/12
David W. Goldman	Sivan 25		6/14
Jason Cohen	Sivan 25 5773	6/3/2013	6/14
Maurice Innerfield	Sivan 27 5719	7/3/59	6/16
Ilbert Stahl	Sivan 28	6/7/1975	6/17
Marion Cohn	Sivan 29 5774	6/27/2014	6/18
Jim Secundy	Tammuz 01 5754	6/10/1994	6/20
Murray Paikin	Tammuz 4 5734	6/24/1974	6/23
Anita Bakst	Tammuz 5 5782	7/14/2022	6/24

June Donations

In memory of Irene Linder

Tina Linder

In support of the CAS garden

Sandra Flannery

Louise and Arthur Hillman

Alison Adams-Weinberg

In support of the Creative Arts Workshops

Ross Bettinger (Memoir Workshop)

Caroline Forsman (Memoir and Photography Workshops)

Bruce Frishkoff (Memoir Workshop)

Arthur Hillman (Memoir Workshop)

Louise Hillman (Photography Workshop)

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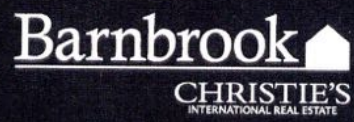
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