

THE CAS NEWSLETTER

June 2017

Services and Events

Thursday, Jun 1, 9am - 1pm: People's Pantry at St. James Place - NEW VENUE. If you help once, you'll come back. Generally 2 hour shifts: contact Walter Orenstein ptcpa@roadrunner.com to participate.

Friday, June 2, 5:30pm: Shabbat Across the Berkshires at Congregation Knesset Israel. 16 Colt Rd, Pittsfield, MA

Saturday, June 3, 11am - 1pm: **MEMBERS Spring kickoff Brunch** at home of Linda Josephs. Please contact Alison Adams-Weinberg to RSVP 518-325-7272 or adamsweinberg@gmail.com

Sunday, June 4, 10:00am - 11:30am: Study Session at the home of Spiritual Leader Barbara. Bagels and coffee included so a commitment is needed for planning. Firm RSVP by Thursday before to barbaracohen14@gmail.com.

Monday, June 5, 5:30pm: Board Meeting. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Saturday, June 10, 10 am: Shabbat service followed by coffee, tea, pastry and conversation

Sunday, June 11, 10:30am: Book Group: 'My Own Words' by Ruth Bader Ginsburg. For More information, please contact Diana Richter at drpajama1@gmail.com

Friday, June 16, 5:30pm: Erev Shabbat service

Saturday, June 24, 10 am: Shabbat service followed by coffee, tea, pastry and conversation

Sunday, June 25, 5pm: CAS Annual meeting followed by a Vegetarian potluck dinner

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[A Soul's Code: A Visit to CAS from Williams College Chaplain Sharif Rosen](#)

A Soul's Journey: Abiding Lessons in the Quran, and included Chaplain Rosen's beautiful reading and chanting of sections of the Quran, followed by explanations and commentary. Questions from the audience were fully discussed and afterwards those in attendance had an opportunity to chat with Chaplain Rosen and his wife, son and daughter over refreshments.

"Many warm and heartfelt thanks for the wonderful hospitality you and the community showed us on our visit. It was a joy being with you all, and I look forward to future felicitous engagements."

- Sharif Rosen

Moe Berg Is Haunting Me

Last month a group of CAS members and friends gathered to watch and enjoy “American Jews and Baseball: A Love Story.” This was on Sunday, May 7.

I recognized Hank Greenberg, Al Rosen, Sandy Koufax, and even Shawn Green.

But who was Moe Berg? My older brother did not remember him. Clearly, he had not been a Yankee. He was a Washington Senator catcher from 1932 to 1934, and a Boston Red Sox coach in 1940. He went to Princeton to study classical languages.

The following day on Antiques Road Show, one of the appraisers interviewed the daughter of missionary parents who worked in Japan from 1934-1939. An all-star American baseball team with Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, and Moe Berg, among others traveled to Japan in 1934 to play a Japanese team. Along with his baseball equipment, Berg brought along a camera and took pictures of Japanese military installations. The catcher knew eight languages (one of which was Japanese) and was able to talk his way into one of the tallest buildings in Tokyo where he took pictures of Japanese shipyards.

During the 1940s he assisted the OSS, dropping into enemy territory to help the war effort. The CIA website lists Morris (Moe) Berg as a sportsman, scholar, spy.

It calls him a true Renaissance man.

Two Moe Berg baseball cards are on display in the CIA Museum collection.

Vivian Scheinmann

Milchidika with Marty: “So, What’s an FDA?”

I was 70-years-old, recently divorced, and living with my Golden Retriever "Casey" in a house that I had recently helped construct on a 36- acre wooded hillside plot overlooking a lake in the small town of Milan, New York. The house was situated on an old dirt logging road and was about a half-mile from the two-lane paved country road.

It was idyllic in the summer time. Casey and I would walk the half-mile down the hill to get the mail from the mailbox. I would put one of the magazines or newspapers in Casey's mouth and she would trot happily back to the house proudly carrying her package.

Then came the winter and the snow. As we would go down to the mailbox again, I began to think, what if I fell down and broke a leg. Who would know? I could lie there all winter and in the spring a hunter would find my skeleton and the last remnants of the mail. There was no cell phone service in this area. I began to think that I had a problem. No one really knew I was up there at the end of the logging road.

By the way, I'm sure a psychologist would have a field day, figuring out why I chose to live in such an isolated place with only a dog, after my recent divorce.

I thought that it was time to introduce myself to some of my neighbors and become active in town affairs, so that if I didn't show up for meetings, someone would ask, "Where's Marty?"

Just around that time, I saw an article in the local newspaper that the fire department was looking for volunteers for its auxiliary unit. The only requirement seemed to be that you had to be at least 15, and I met that requirement easily. I figured that I would meet a lot of people by joining the fire department and that way people would know that I existed.

I went down to the fire house and met with the fire chief and said I would like to become a Fire Department Auxiliary (FDA). He was very welcoming, and didn't seem to notice my age; and asked me to complete a questionnaire. I remember some of the questions.

If there was a fire, which would you like to do?

- a. Climb on the roof with an axe and chop a hole in it to let out the hot air?
- b. Enter the burning building with a fire hose over your shoulder to put out the fire?
- c. Stand outside with the fire hose and squirt it on the building?

I chose c.

Another question asked which piece of equipment would I be most comfortable in driving?

- a. The fire hose truck
- b. The ambulance
- c. The hook and ladder truck

Again, I chose c. I could imagine myself steering the rear of the hook and ladder truck, sitting way up high, waving to all the people as we passed by.

I had to pass a physical exam, which amazingly I did. Take a series of courses on basic fire fighting techniques, basic first aid, chemical spills, traffic control, etc. Passed them all.

And finally came graduation day for a 70-year-old Jewish grandpa and former CPA who was now going to become a fire department auxiliary. Boy, was I proud.

Graduation took place in the fire house. The fire chief came over to me, and welcomed me to the department. He said, "Martin, now that you're an auxiliary, I have a very important job for you." I was thrilled.

"OK, chief what would you like me to do?"

He said, "Whenever you hear the fire siren go off, listen to the code signal so that you'll know approximately where the fire is. Got that?" "Yep"

"Then immediately get into your car." "OK""Then drive to Dunkin Donuts and get 12 cups of coffee and 24 donuts and bring them to the fire scene."

And so that was the beginning of my career as the oldest Jewish fire department auxiliary in upstate New York.

Ride for the Living

A CAS member thought that this event would be of interest to our readers; friends of hers will be part of a group traveling to Poland.

"Znajomi and Mishpacha" means "friends" (in Polish) and "family" (in Yiddish) and that's who we are. Sandy and Ron Ashendorf, Steve Wexner, Trevor Wexner, Susan Lerner and Michael Roffer, Joe Myers, Carol Saginaw and Joachim Frank, Jane Greenman and Bill Spitz will be joining Ride for the Living to bicycle from Auschwitz to Krakow in solidarity with the JCC of Krakow to help rebuild a Jewish community in Krakow 70 years after the atrocities of the Holocaust.

Ride For the Living is an annual fundraising event under the patronage of Chief Rabbi of Poland, Michael Schudrich. The 55-mile bicycle ride from Auschwitz-Birkenau to JCC Krakow is a journey to not only remember Jewish history, but to celebrate and support the miraculous rebirth of Jewish life in Poland today.

Ride For The Living was inspired by Robert Desmond who rode his bicycle 1,350 miles from London to Auschwitz, visiting WWII sites of liberation along his journey. After joining the JCC and learning about Krakow's reborn Jewish community, he realized his ride should not have ended in a place of loss but rather at a place of hope, JCC Krakow, joined by members of the local Jewish community and friends from around the world.

The 2017 Ride For The Living will take place from June 22 - 25, 2017. Ride For The Living consists of 4 days of educational programs, tours of Krakow, Shabbat dinner with the community, and the highlight of event, the bike ride. Join the Jewish community and friends from around the world by riding or donating today.

To read more about Ride for the Living - and to DONATE - please check out our FUNDRAISING page:

<https://www.crowdrise.com/2017RideforTheLiving/fundraiser/ZnajomiMishpacha>

Any support is greatly appreciated.

June Donations

In honor of my grandson Eli Kanner's Bar Mitzvah and my sister Barbara Cohen's spiritual leadership

Ellen Kanner

In memory of Hilda Radin

Arthur and Louise Hillman

Passover donation

Agnes Neiger

Other donations

Ann Dorfman

Estelle Miller

June Jahrzeits 2017

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

Rebecca Broverman	Sivan 08 5678	6/2
Sarah Schattman	Sivan 09 5664	6/3
Harry Deykin	Sivan 09 5741	6/3
Joseph Reiss	Sivan 10 5737	6/4
Gussie Slaminsky	Sivan 11 5681	6/5
Howard Kanner	Sivan 11 5756	6/5
Irene Baron Moskowitz	Sivan 12 5775	6/6
Vivian Abrahams Braun	Sivan 13 5766	6/7
Anna Bissell Spivey	Sivan 14 5726	6/8
Robert Millimet	Sivan 14 5772	6/8
Regina Levine	Sivan 16 5712	6/10
Jack Brown	Sivan 16 5732	6/10
Rebecca Liss	Sivan 19 5713	6/13
Stephen Spiegelman	Sivan 21 5759	6/15
Harold Dinerman	Sivan 22 5736	6/16
Ernest A. Braun	Sivan 22 5763	6/16
Sara Felber	Sivan 23	6/17
William Bannon	Sivan 23 5764	6/17
David W. Goldman	Sivan 25	6/19
Jason Cohen	Sivan 25 5773	6/19
Dora Cohen	Sivan 26 5707	6/20
Maurice Innerfield	Sivan 27 5719	6/21
Miriam Leah Slomka	Sivan 28 5731	6/22
Rosaline Levine	Sivan 28 5735	6/22
Jeanette Scheinmann	Sivan 29 5741	6/23
Welles Hotchkiss	Sivan 30 5757	6/24
Jim Secundy	Tammuz 01 5754	6/25
Sade N. Goldstein	Tammuz 02 5757	6/26

The CAS Book Group: *My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The CAS Book Group will meet on Sunday, June 11th at 10:30 a.m to discuss *My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

This engaging collection of writings and speeches from the woman who has had a powerful and enduring influence on law, women's rights, and popular culture seems particularly timely for discussion led by Diana Richter.

Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Please contact Diana Richter at drpajama1@gmail.com for the location of this meeting or for more information.

A Reminder to members from our Treasurer

June 30th is the end of the fiscal year for Congregation Ahavath Sholom, and members who still have some dues balances outstanding, should make an effort to pay these balances before the year end.

Thank you,

Marty Stransky, Treasurer

A Child's World A New Marlborough Exhibit

CAS member Michele Waldman has two pieces in the art show "A Child's World" at the Meeting House Gallery, Rt. 57, New Marlborough, MA. The exhibit runs from June 24th through July 23rd. The opening reception is on Friday, June 23rd from 5:00-7:00 pm. The gallery is open from 11:00 am-4:00 pm on weekend



Shabbat



Across



The Berkshires

Join with friends from across the Berkshire Jewish Community as we come together for a musical, family-friendly Shabbat service, led by rabbis, spiritual leaders and musicians from across the County, then stay for a delicious, volunteer-prepared kosher Shabbat dinner.

Friday, June 2, 2017
5:30 pm

Hosted by

Congregation Knesset Israel
16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

DINNER: Adults \$20, Teens (13-18 yrs) \$15, Kids 12 and under, free. \$56 Family Maximum
Space is limited and advanced dinner reservations are required by May 30.
Reserve online at knessetisrael.org or by calling (413) 445-4872, ext 10.

Sponsored by:
Jewish Federation of the Berkshires
Berkshire Minyan
Congregation Ahavath Sholom
Congregation Beth Israel
Congregation Knesset Israel
Hevreh of Southern Berkshire
Temple Anshe Amunim
Berkshire Hills Hadassah

