

THE CAS NEWSLETTER October 2020

Upcoming services and events

All previously scheduled CAS events have been cancelled until further notice.

Our Wednesday get-togethers and Shabbat services and events continue on a regular basis via Zoom!

We hope in the days ahead everyone in our Berkshire community stays healthy and safe.

This month's newsletter features:

- The High Holy Days
- October Creative Arts Workshops: Designing Photographs
- Milchidika with Marty:
 Don't garden on a hillside when there are acorns on the ground
- Life Cycle of a Butterfly, a poem by Lee Schwartz
- Some Ahavath Sholom member news
- We remember Freke Quirine Vuijst-Klein
- October Yahrzeits
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The High Holy Days

Congregation Ahavath Sholom observed the 5781/2020 High Holy Days, as did many other congregations throughout the country, via the Zoom online platform. Rabbi Barbara Cohen conducted services from our historic synagogue on North Street. Videographer Rick Sands, aided by congregants Lisa Chamberlain and Brenda Butler, provided the technical and logistical foundation for these presentations. A grant from the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires helped to support this effort, which allowed us to present a series of beautiful and meaningful services.



Erev Rosh HaShanah, the first day of Rosh HaShanah, Kol Nidre and the day and evening of Yom Kippur were all celebrated with traditional and contemporary liturgical elements, singing, readings and prayer. A number of congregants presented poetry from their own homes, and the Yizkor list, which we traditionally read aloud on Yom Kippur, was presented as a short video, accompanied by a musical background. Rabbi Cohen concluded the evening service by the traditional blowing of the shofar.



The Ahavath Sholom community, along with many guests, friends and family, some in locations far from the Berkshires, were able to create safe and intimate holy spaces within their own homes as we all experienced the Days of Awe in a unique, creative and thoughtful way.

Videos of all four of the 5781/2020 High Holy Day services are on the Congregation Ahavath Sholom website.

October Creative Arts Workshops: Designing Photographs

During the first Zoom workshop on Sunday, October 4th at 2:00, Arthur Hillman will discuss taking carefully conceived and designed photographs through the examination of a selection of images by a variety of photographers, including examples of his own work. He will demonstrate some basic digital editing techniques using freeware image editing software, as well as Adobe Photoshop. After this first workshop, participants can then submit two of their own photographs for critique at the follow-up session on Sunday, October 18th (also at 2:00). Subject matter can include portraits, landscapes, garden images, still life compositions, street photography, abstractions, etc. The group will examine and discuss these images on the basis of content, composition, expression, technical effectiveness and other design considerations. A minimum donation of \$10 is requested to support our Creative Arts programs. (Please email arthurhillman@roadrunner.com to reserve a place and to submit your photographs by Friday, October 16th).









CAS member Arthur Hillman is a photographer and printmaker who has been exhibiting his photographs and prints for over 50 years. His work has been presented in over 20 one-person shows and in many national print exhibitions and group exhibits. He has a B.F.A. from the Philadelphia College of Art and an M.F.A. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Arthur taught at the Massachusetts College of Art in Boston from 1968-1974. He joined the visual arts faculty of Simon's Rock in 1974 and taught there until retiring in 2011. 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 currently Professor Emeritus, *Photography*, *Printmaking and Design*, Bard College at Simon's Rock. More of his work can be seen online at *arthurhillman.net*.

Milchidika with Marty: Don't garden on a hillside when there are acorns on the ground

That is what I told the foot doctor as he bandaged my two broken toes. Marty

When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it's a valuable plant.

God makes rainy days, so gardeners could get the housework done.

A toddler was found eating a slug. After the initial surge of disgust, the parent said, "Well, what does it taste like? "Worms," was the reply.

"Gardening requires a lot of water-most of it in the form of perspiration." Lou Erikson

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken." James Dant

Wanted: man to take care of cow that does not smoke or drink.

"There's one good thing about snow, it makes your lawn look as good as your neighbor's." Clyde Moose

"Of all the wonders of nature, a tree in summer is perhaps the most remarkable; with the possible exception of a moose singing "Embraceable You" in spats." Woody Allen

"When I asked you to water the plants, I did not expect you to unzip your pants." Mike Ganofalo

"I was a vegetarian until I started leaning toward the sunlight." Rita Rudner

"Men are like fine wine. They all start out like grapes, and it's our job to stomp on them and keep them in the dark until they mature into something you would want to have dinner with." Female Author Unknown

"Your first job is to prepare the soil. The best tool for this is your neighbor's motorized garden tiller. If your neighbor does not own a garden tiller, suggest that he buy one." Dave Barry

A woman asks a neighbor, "Can I borrow your lawn mower?" Her neighbor says, "No, he's not home yet."

An advertisement for an ant poison states, "Kills ants for three months." How do those ants come back to life?

"I have a rock garden. Last week three of them died." Richard Diran

If a man is alone in the garden and speaks, and there is no woman to hear him, is he still wrong?

Life Cycle of a Butterfly, a poem by Lee Schwartz

Wouldn't it be wonderful to pass through different stages like the butterfly, we are bricked up in a Poe cellar breathing stale air in unwashed bodies, yesterday's pajamas. Children yawning apathy, families huddling to create meaning, the zoom box cold as yesterday's pancakes. Folks with masks and message Tees gather for ministry in the streets, pouring centuries of slag into dumpsters, everyone an action doll for change and tomorrow.

I want to be a kid at camp, wander the woods, catch butterflies, swim the lake and get too sunburn, told a scary story under a starless sky, kiss a boy behind my bunk, taste his coke in my mouth without hiding behind a mask.

We don't pass through chrysalis to Monarch, evolve to grow wings, we don't even come home from work, the floor worn from our repetitive ringer: wash, eat, work, repeat.

The Monarch living only a month or two, is constantly transforming, while we spend what feels like eons pacing the midnight floor, waiting... caught in a bio war with an invisible enemy, while the President laughs.

We clutch our pain to our chests, trying to believe we will return to a stage of whole life fuel, we keep the world within us spinning on hope of change. Will we taste the first snow or from this same window, being stuck in a jar, waiting for wings and breathless beauty to carry us away.

Lee Schwartz

Some Ahavath Sholom member news

Ilene Spiewak has two paintings in the Berkshire Art Association juried show entitled NEXT. The opening is October 10th at the Lichtenstein Center for the Arts at 28 Renne Avenue in Pittsfield. There will be scheduled timed entry admissions on weekends by appointment only. Call the Lichtenstein at 413-499-9348. The exhibition will run through November. If you can't attend in person, there will be a video available on the BAA website.

Ilene also has a painting at the Berkshire Museum in a juried exhibition, Art of the Hills: NARRATIVE. The show is available to see up close and in person from October 10, 2020 to January 10, 2021. There are virtual gallery talks by jurors and curators Amy Myers and Seung Lee at BerkshireMuseum@Home.

Recently, Brenda Butler, M.D., received a Silver Ribbon Award from the NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Berkshire County, a non-profit, grassroots, education and advocacy group. Their membership celebrated Brenda's passionate commitment and tireless work at Berkshire Medical Center and the Brien Center with children and adolescents and their families, who are dealing with mental illness in our community. The award was presented by Berkshire District Attorney Andrea Harrington.



For those who missed last month's presentation by the CAS Theatre Group, Selected Vignettes from *Hold Me* by Jules Feiffer and Monologues can be seen on the CAS website under Programs and Events on the top drop-down menu; click on The CAS Theatre Group to access the video. Featuring Elllen Axelrod, Barbara Janoff and Barry Shapiro, the video was directed and produced by Linda Josephs.

We remember Ahavath Sholom member Freke Quirine Vuijst-Klein

Freke Quirine Vuijst-Klein, died of cancer on September 4th, her 68th birthday, at her home in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. She was an award-winning documentary filmmaker, author, and foreign correspondent for Dutch media.

Vuijst-Klein was the daughter of the late Reverend Jan Vuijst and Tina de Ridder-Vuijst, both of whom were recognized as Righteous Gentiles during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. Vuijst-Klein was a reporter for the Dutch newsmagazine, Vrij Nederland, since graduation from the Royal School of Journalism in the Hague. Vrij Nederland began as an underground resistance newspaper during the Nazi Occupation.

Vuijst-Klein's films included "Keep on Walking" (the 2002 Paul Robeson Award, First Prize") and "Consuming Hunger" (the 1988 World Hunger Media Award, First Prize). Most recently, she translated and narrated the book she co-wrote, "Alias Fortezza -- a Hacker's Diary" for American publication (Audible Audio Books).

She is survived by her husband, Daniel M. Klein, of Great Barrington, her daughter, Samara Q. Klein of Housatonic, Massachusetts, Samara's partner, Daniel M. Bialowas, and her granddaughter, Eliana Q. Bialowas. She is also survived by her sister, Marjan Q. Vuijst and her brother, Peter Q. Vuijst, of the Netherlands.

A convert to Judaism, Ms. Vuijst was buried at the Jewish cemetery in Great Barrington on September 6th, Rabbi Barbara Cohen officiating.

October Yahrzeits

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

	Original date	This year date
Herman Felber	Tishrei 14	10/2
Seymour Isserson	Tishrei 18	10/6
Mark Cohen	Tishrei 20	10/8
James Mitsuda	Tishrei 22	10/10
Sidney Yurmark	Tishrei 23	10/11
William Pozefsky	Tishrei 23	10/11
Joseph Richter	Tishrei 25	10/13
Harry Aaron Orenstein	Tishrei 25	10/13
Vivianne Frankel/Chava Miriam	Tishrei 26	10/14
Florence Lipshitz	Tishrei 28	10/16
Walter Brill	Cheshvan 03	10/21
Joseph Kogan	Cheshvan 10	10/28
Beverly D. Shimmin	Cheshvan 10	10/28

October Donations

In memory of Lillian "Lakie" Kipnis

Naomi Alson Joan and Dan Burkhard Lisa and Eric Chamberlain Susie Fineman

Sandra and William Flannery

Barbara Janoff

Mark and Marcy Haffner

Arthur and Louise Hillman

Ellen Kanner

Joshua Kanner

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Helen and Stephen Radin

Richard and Diana Richter

Vivian Scheinmann

Barry and Donna Schuler

Joan Schuman

Joan and Joseph Silverstein

Barbara Viniar

Alison Adams-Weinberg and Stephen Weinberg

Keren Weiner Maxine Wisbaum

In memory of Freke Vuijst-Klein

Sandra and William Flannery Arthur and Louise Hillman Samara Klein

In memory of Roberta Rudin

Harold Rudin

In Celebration of the High Holy Days

Lisa and Eric Chamberlain
Mike and Kay Jaffe
Caroline and Irwin Kessman
Dan and Loretta (Lori) Rothstein
Lee Schwartz
E. Bonnie Silvers

In honor of Esther Cutler

Anita Bakst

In honor of Dr. Thomas Josephs

Belle Fisch

In honor of the CAS Theatre Group

David Birch

Sandra and William Flannery

Arthur and Louise Hillman

Linda Josephs

Scott and Lisa Josephs

Carol Killian

Kim and Andrew Savage

Martin Stransky and Isabelle Weinberg

Alison Adams-Weinberg and Stephen Weinberg

Other donations

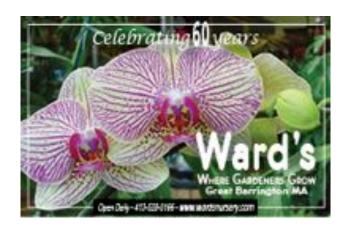
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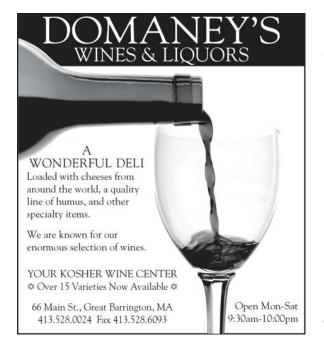
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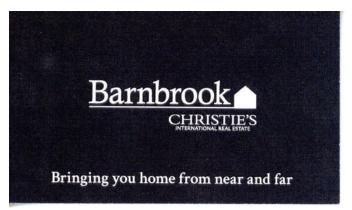
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