



# Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

## THE CAS NEWSLETTER

August 2023

### Upcoming services and events

**Wednesday, August 2 at 10:00 AM:** Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

**Saturday, August 5 at 10:00 AM:** Shabbat Nosh and Drosh at the synagogue

**Sunday, August 6 at 3:00 PM:** *Just Another Day*, Great Barrington Public Theatre  
at Simon's Rock (see article below for ticket information)

**Wednesday, August 9 at 10:00 AM:** Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

**Friday, August 11 at 5:00 PM:** Erev Shabbat Service and Potluck at the synagogue

**Monday, August 14 at 12:00 PM:** Memoir Writing Workshop via Zoom

**Wednesday, August 16 at 10:00 AM:** Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

**Monday, August 21 at 7:00 PM:** Photography Workshop via Zoom

**Wednesday, August 23 at 10:00 AM:** Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

**Saturday, August 26 at 10:30 AM-12:00 PM:** *Elul in the Pool*, at the home of Linda Josephs

**Wednesday, August 30 at 10:00 AM:** Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

### This month's newsletter features:

**An Afternoon at the Theatre: GB Public Theatre's *Just Another Day***

**Committees at Ahavath Sholom**

**The work of Ilene Spiewak at the PAFA Alumni Exhibit**

**August Creative Arts Workshops**

**August Yahrzeits**

**August Donations**

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## An Afternoon at the Theatre: GB Public Theatre's *Just Another Day*

Please join us on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm at the Great Barrington Public Theater for a performance of *Just Another Day*, a new play written by well-known actor Dan Lauria at the McConnell Theater, Bard College at Simon's Rock. This premiere is in partnership with Shadowland Stages, Ellenville, NY. In a heart-stirring new drama, an aging comedy writer and poet meet daily on a bench to find out how, why and whether they were ever actually married, and if so, what magic held them together besides a mutual love of old movies. There are no children, no doctors, no nurses, just two people trading wit and nostalgia about old movies, all the while, trying to remember who they are and how they connect, at least that day. A joyous, powerful love story about the lasting gifts of comedy and laughter, even at the end of the world, it stars Dan Lauria and Jodi Long, as originally directed by James Glossman.

Tickets are \$32 reflecting a generous 20% discount. If you are interested, please contact Stephanie Sloane at [stephaniebsloane@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniebsloane@gmail.com).



GREAT BARRINGTON PUBLIC THEATER  
presents  
Dan Lauria and Jodi Long

# Just Another Day

A new play by Dan Lauria  
Directed by Mark St. Germain

July 27 - August 13  
Thurs.-Sat., 7:30pm;  
Sat. & Sun., 3pm

**Tickets & Info:**  
GreatBarringtonPublicTheater.org  
Box Office: 413-372-1980

**GREAT BARRINGTON PUBLIC THEATER**

**McConnell Theater**  
Bard College at Simon's Rock  
84 Alford Road, Great Barrington, MA

NEW WORK | LOCAL TALENT | AFFORDABLE TICKETS

## Committees at Ahavath Sholom

Congregation Ahavath Sholom is run as a volunteer organization; Rabbi Barbara is our only paid employee. The smooth and efficient functioning of our organization depends on the work of many committees. Below is a list of our existing committees, along with their membership and a brief description of each one's purpose. You will notice that there are vacancies (as represented by the bracketed lines) in a number of important areas. **We encourage members of CAS to join a committee that interests you.** Contact any member of the Executive Committee to volunteer; we can always use the help and appreciate whatever efforts, expertise, new ideas and enthusiasm members can bring!

### Board of Directors

Alison Adams-Weinberg, Moderator	Daniel Schenker
Jayne Benjulian	David Scribner
Dan Burkhard	Arlene Shapiro
Irene Goldman-Price	John Slote
Arthur Hillman	Ilene Spiewak
Barbara Janoff	Keren Weiner
Linda Josephs	

The Ahavath Sholom Board of Directors is the managing body of the congregation.

### Building and Grounds Committee

Dan Burkhard  
Linda Josephs

The CAS Building and Grounds Committee is responsible for overseeing cleaning, lawn care, garden maintenance, and snow removal services. It monitors our building's utilities and recommends repairs, renovations, and plans for scheduled maintenance. It considers safety issues and makes recommendations for necessary equipment and systems.

### Creative Arts Committee

Alison Adams-Weinberg  
Arthur Hillman  
Barbara Janoff  
Linda Josephs  
Stephanie Sloane  
Ilene Spiewak  
Michele Waldman

This group makes sure that *the creative spirit always dwells here* by offering a variety of workshops including memoir writing and photography, while past workshops have included painting and theater sessions. It sponsors a series of Jewish Museum Virtual Tours and special events, like the May panel discussion, *The Changing Shape of Vision*.

### Executive Committee

Alison Adams-Weinberg  
Arthur Hillman  
Linda Josephs

Ahavath Sholom utilizes an Executive Committee to conduct the general affairs of the congregation in lieu of the traditional offices of President and Vice-President. The committee serves at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

### Finance Committee

Arthur Hillman, Treasurer  
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The responsibility of this committee is to provide oversight on all financial matters and systems, set the yearly budget, consider dues reduction applications, and consult on fundraising goals and programs.

### Fundraising Committee

[    ]  
[    ]  
[    ]

This committee takes the lead in designing and arranging fundraising programs and campaigns.

## **Hospitality Committee**

Alison Adams-Weinberg

Keren Weiner

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The Hospitality group involves the set-up and clean-up for events serving food at CAS. They make arrangements for food offerings and keep the kitchen stocked with supplies. The CAS food policy is followed at all synagogue events.

## **Media Committee**

Alison Adams-Weinberg [Constant Contact; calendar]

Arthur Hillman [Newsletter and website; ads]

Linda Josephs [Press releases]

The Media committee is responsible for all communication done via print or the internet. This includes emails sent from Constant Contact, the monthly Newsletter, and information posted on both the website and our Google Calendar, advertisements and press releases.

## **Membership Committee**

Jayne Benjulian

Sandra Flannery

Keren Weiner

The membership committee is responsible for welcoming and retention of new members. New members are introduced to current congregants through the New Member Brunch and other social and religious events, welcoming them into the CAS community.

## **Nominating Committee (Ad Hoc)**

This committee interviews and recommends candidates for election to the Board of Directors. During the past year, the following CAS members served:

Joan Burkhard

Irene Goldman-Price

Gail Orenstein

## **One Hundred Year Committee (Ad Hoc)**

Plans and organizes for events, publications, PR, etc. for the congregation's upcoming 100-Year Anniversary.

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## **People's Pantry**

Rabbi Barbara Cohen + Volunteers

Ahavath Sholom encourages members to work at the People's Pantry of Great Barrington. There are two shifts that need to be covered by CAS, every seven weeks. Rabbi Barbara Cohen is the coordinator for our congregation. Volunteers to staff the Pantry and donations of food and funds are very much needed.

## **Religious/ Spiritual Life Committee**

Brenda Butler

Lisa Chamberlain

Rabbi Barbara Cohen

Harold Schragar

John Slote

The RSL committee determines, creates and oversees the ritual that is part of the fabric and minhag of Ahavath Sholom. Along with our Rabbi, it helps design Shabbat services, holiday services and religious programs.

## **Social Action Committee**

Susan Weinstein

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Ahavath Sholom's contributions to social action currently include the gathering of food, donations and support for the People's Pantry in Great Barrington. We welcome additional ideas for positive action programs.

## The work of Ilene Spiewak at the PAFA Alumni Exhibit

The work of CAS member Ilene Spiewak is included in *No Synthetic Colors*, an exhibition of alumni from PAFA (the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts). The exhibit runs from July 20, 2023 through April 7, 2024 at the Walter & Leonore Annenberg Gallery, Samuel M.V. Hamilton Building. A reception will be held on Saturday, September 23 from 12:00-3:00 PM.



*Make Me a Meadow, a painting by Ilene Spiewak*

## August Creative Arts Workshops

The next Memoir Writing Workshop is scheduled for Monday, August 14th at noon. Shared readings and short writing exercises. Each of these sessions is stand-alone. Please RSVP to Barbara Janoff at [bjanoff1@gmail.com](mailto: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.*



*Photograph by Andrew Neel on Unsplash*



*Photograph by Miha Jan Strehovec on Unsplash*

The next Photography Workshop will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 21st. 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](mailto: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.*

## August Yahrzeits

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

	Hebrew Date	Original Date	This year's Date
Ira Rogovin	Av 15 5763	8/13/2003	8/2
Mitsue Mitsuda	Av 15 5768	8/13/2008	8/2
Doris Deborah Kassler	Av 20 5730	8/22/1970	8/7
Al Silverstein	Av 21 5767	8/5/2007	8/5
Rebecca Isserson	Av 25 5757	8/28/1997	8/12
Beatrice Alson	Av 27 5769	8/17/2009	8/14
Marjory Horwitz	Av 28 5776	9/1/2016	8/15
Ella Schaeffer	Av 29 5762	8/7/2002	8/16
Ida Brown Phillips	Av 30 5759	8/12/1999	8/17
Phyllis Kirshen	Elul 02 5772	8/20/2012	8/19
Bea Guralnick	Elul 6 5775	8/21/2015	8/23
Nathan Horwitz	Elul 6 5754	8/13/1994	8/23
Leo Kaplan	Elul 08 5754	8/15/1994	8/25
Benjamin Pilcer	Elul 09 5773	8/15/2013	8/26
Chaim Witkowski	Elul 10 5762	8/18/2002	8/27
Caroline Mullen	Elul 12 5759	8/24/1999	8/29
Lillian Kipnis	Elul 13 5780	9/2/2020	8/30

## August Donations

### In memory of Lori's dad, John Armstrong

Dan and Lori Rothstein

### In memory of Deborah's mother, Esther K. Slater

Deborah Slater

### In memory of Louise's mother, Mitsue Mitsuda

Arthur & Louise Hillman

### General donations

Linda Cutler

Joan and Dan Burkhard

Ann Dorfman

Sandra and Bill Flannery

Irene Goldman-Price

Kenneth Stahl and Shirley Ripullone

### In honor of Rabbi Barbara Cohen

Gail Phillips

### In support of the CAS garden

Irene Goldman-Price

### In support of the Creative Arts Workshops

Bill Barth (Photography Workshop)

Ross Bettinger (Memoir Workshop)

Caroline Forsman (Memoir and Photography)

Bruce Frishkoff (Memoir Workshop)

Arthur Hillman (Memoir Workshop)

Louise Hillman (Photography Workshop)

Carol Killian (Memoir Workshop)

Michele Waldman (Photography Workshop)

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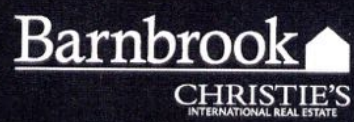
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