



Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

THE CAS NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Upcoming services and events

Wednesday, May 3 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Friday, May 5 at 5:00 PM: Shabbat Service and Oneg Shabbat at the synagogue

Sunday, May 7 at 11:00 AM: Panel discussion with CAS Creative Arts Team & Guest at the synagogue

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

Saturday, May 13 at 10:00 AM: Shabbat Morning Study at the synagogue

Wednesday, May 17 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Sunday, May 21 at 2:00-4:00 PM: Jewish Community Day at Fair Lawn Farm, Lee

Monday, May 22 at noon: Memoir Writing Workshop via Zoom

Wednesday, May 24 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, May 27 at 10:00 AM: Shabbat Service and Yizkor for Shavuot at the synagogue

Monday, May 29 at 7:00 PM: Photography Workshop via Zoom

Wednesday, May 31 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

This month's newsletter features:

The April Jewish Museum Virtual Tour: *The Sassoons*

Creative Arts Panel: *The Changing Shape of Vision*

Our upcoming Jewish Museum Tour: *Florine Stettheimer*

New member profile: Gail Phillips

Jewish Community Day

May Creative Arts Workshops

May Yahrzeits

May Donations

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The April Jewish Museum Tour: *The Sassoons*

In April, Congregation Ahavath Sholom presented *The Sassoons*, the fourth in our series of virtual museum tours, once again conducted by renowned lecturer Rena Tobey. The exhibition is currently at the Jewish Museum in New York City.

The exhibition reveals the fascinating story of a remarkable Jewish family, following four generations from Iraq to India, China, and England through a rich selection of works collected by family members over time.

Here are some of the images from the presentation:



Rena Tobey

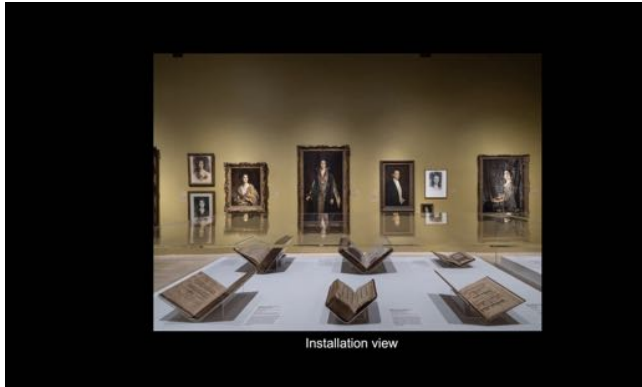


David Sassoon (seated), 3 sons Elias David, Albert Abdullah, and Sassoon David Sassoon in western attire before departing for England in 1858 Bombay

Portrait of Sassoon David Sassoon Baghdad 1850 Gouache on paper Private Collection



Sassoon Haggadah. Spain or Southern France. c. 1320. Ink, tempera, and gold and silver leaf on parchment. Israel Museum, formerly in the David Solomon Sassoon Collection.



Installation view

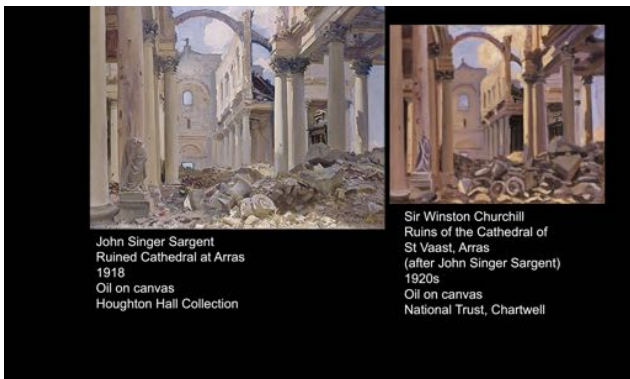


Miniature Mountain China, Qing dynasty 19th century Ivory British Museum



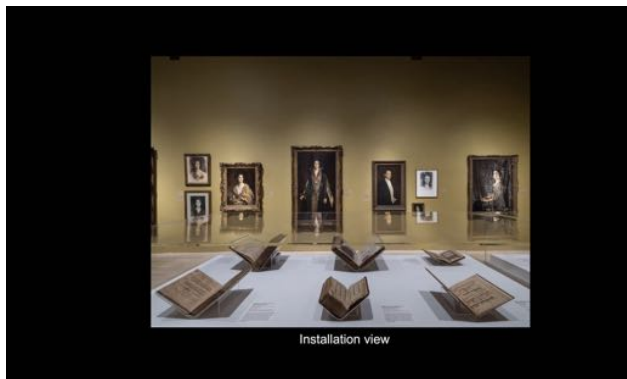
Esther scroll of Reuben Sassoon Baghdad Mid-19th century Paint on parchment with silver handle Private collection

Esther scroll India c1900 Ink, gouache on parchment Braginsky Collection, Zurich



John Singer Sargent Ruined Cathedral at Arras 1918 Oil on canvas Houghton Hall Collection

Sir Winston Churchill Ruins of the Cathedral of St Vaast, Arras (after John Singer Sargent) 1920s Oil on canvas National Trust, Chartwell



Installation view

Creative Arts Panel: *The Changing Shape of Vision*

Please join us at the synagogue on Sunday, May 7th at 11:00 a.m. for a panel discussion by members of the CAS Creative Arts Committee. Each panelist will explore how they have addressed their creative processes in their own disciplines under a variety of circumstances. Guest artist Sean McCusker will discuss the growing influence of AI (Artificial Intelligence) in the arts. We hope to promote an enthusiastic discussion between our panelists and our audience. There is no charge for attending, and light refreshments will be served.



Our Upcoming 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 Toby.

Bold and truly original, Florine Stettheimer led European modern art into America with her distinctive paintings and avant-garde gatherings. Her salon attracted cultural leaders - painters, poets, writers, and critics - fleeing World War I and inspired by the freedom-loving, adventurous Stettheimer. Each of her works is a doorway into the Jazz Age and New York City from the 1910s to World War II. Playful and satirical, sweeping and intimate, her paintings are truly painted poetry. Join us for a virtual visit to the Jewish Museum and Florine Stettheimer's world.

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 Profile: *Gail Phillips*

This spring, I became a new member of the Jewish community of CAS. I have been very welcomed by Rabbi Barbara Cohen and by each and every one in the community. Thus, I want to introduce myself and sincerely offer my presence, my skills and my gifts in order to become more of a contributing and sustaining member of this special well-established and historical Jewish Community.

I was born and grew up in a small town on The North Shore of Boston. After my childhood religious education in the Unitarian Society, I chose Judaism for my religion. I was married in a Reform Jewish temple; I chose to raise my children in the same temple which included confirmations; both of my children celebrated Bar Mitzvah and Bat Mitzvah.

I also bring my love of flowers and garden with me. It is their beauty that inspires me. My other joys of life include the cultural and performing arts as well as an enjoyment of the exceptional and expansive outdoors, both found in the Berkshires. I am happy, grateful and content to be a grandmother of four grandchildren.



After a well-seasoned and rewarding career in health care, as a Professional Registered Nurse, Certified Nurse-Midwife, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, and currently as a Community Health/ Educator/Advocate, I have chosen to share my experience and my skills, as well as my, “Philosophy of Care,” with the CAS Community.

As our American Health Care has become more industrialized, I have found myself becoming more passionate about and motivated to offer a more “*person-centered care*” model of evidenced-based healthcare that is both careful and kind with unhurried conversations and a slower pace between myself and my clients that creates an atmosphere for healing.

During my retirement years, I am committed to bringing my philosophy of care into the home, for my clients’ as well as for the care of my own soul. The name I chose for my independent home care practice is *Elegant Home Care*. The home is the only place that can truly offer this CARE.

I have been facilitating groups, public speaking and advocating throughout my career on the topic of “Healthcare Advocacy”. The mission of advocacy is to promote, educate, guide and empower persons for the best possible outcomes within our healthcare system.

Sincerely, Gail Phillips

Jewish Community Day

Jewish Community Day...Plant the Seeds that Help Our Community Bloom!

Join the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires at High Lawn Farm, 535 Summer Street in Lee, as we come together to kick off the Federation's community campaign and help *Sustain our Community and Our Planet*. Congregation Ahavath Sholom will have a booth at the Farm and will be distributing our own special seed packets!



Fun for ages 0-99! Join us for a fun filled day of free ice cream (while supplies last), cows, baby animals, eco-crafts, mitzvah activities, community tables, raffles, and so much more! Visit High Lawn Farm's historic museum and artisanal cheese shop. Learn more about your Jewish Berkshires.

We will be collecting packaged whole grain granola or granola bars for distribution to local shelters and food pantries as part of our community *Granola for Good--Food Drive*.

Rain date is June 11.

ALL ARE WELCOME and there is something for everyone!

Register on the Federation website <https://jewishfederationoftheberkshire.regfox.com/jewish-community-day-2023>

May Creative Arts Workshops

The next Memoir Writing Workshop is scheduled for Monday, May 22nd 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.

The next Photography Workshop will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 29th. 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.

May 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
Sidney Weinstein	Iyyar 10 5780	5/4/2020	5/1
Louis Levine	Iyyar 17 5733	5/19/1973	5/8
Mae Osterweil	Iyyar 18 5772	5/10/2012	5/9
Daniel Eisenstein	Iyyar 24 5758	5/20/1998	5/15
Gunther Richard	Iyyar 25 5759	5/11/1999	5/16
Helen E. Schenker	Iyyar 26 5759	5/12/1999	5/17
Risa Graubard	Iyyar 26 5775	5/26/1995	5/17
Irene Linder	Iyyar 26 5760	5/31/2000	5/17
Manuel Kessman	Iyyar 26 5753	5/17/1993	5/17
Hilda Krasner Radin	Sivan 01 5777	5/26/2017	5/21
Johnine Cummings	Sivan 02 57852	5/31/2022	5/22
Henriette Waller	Sivan 04		5/24
Howard Kanner	Sivan 11 5756	5/29/1996	5/31

May Donations

In support of Café Kehillah

Linda Josephs

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)

Carol Killian (Memoir Workshop)

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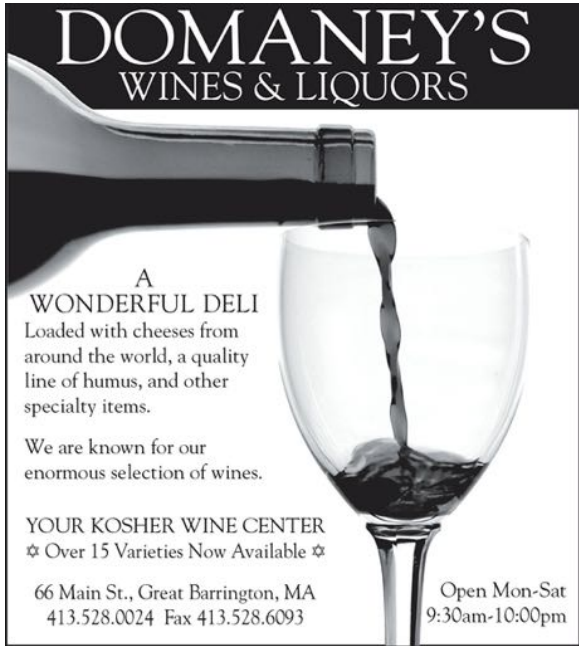
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