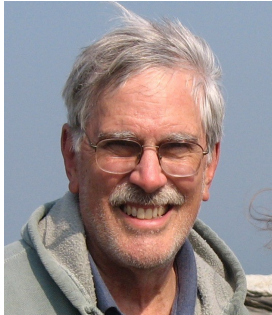


Early American Cinema 1897-1925: The Vitagraph Motion Picture Company
Professor Curtis H. Martin
Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 pm, Wellesley College Club



The Vitagraph Motion Picture Company was one of the pioneering silent film companies in the United States and for a time was the most prolific and most successful. Two young English immigrants, Albert E. Smith and J. Stuart Blackton, were inspired by the early films of Thomas Edison and set up their own film studio in New York in 1897. For several years they concentrated on producing newsreels and novelty short films lasting little more than 90 seconds. During the first decade of the 20th century the company introduced feature length films, art films, comedies, special effects and animation. By the 1910s the company had added a major

Hollywood studio to its facilities in Brooklyn. Multiple factors undermined the company's profitability, and in 1925 Smith sold Vitagraph to Warner Brothers.

Last January Curt, a Wellesley Neighbors' member, gave a very interesting and well-received talk on the whaling industry as part of the Speaker Series. The topic of early films is of great interest to him, as he is the grandson of Albert E. Smith. Curt is a graduate of Harvard University, and earned his Ph.D. in International Relations from the Tufts Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He taught in the Political Science Department at Merrimack College from 1974 to 2011, coauthored two books and wrote numerous articles and book chapters on nuclear proliferation issues.

From the President: Enjoying Interest Groups



Last week my husband Jerry was re-reading an article from *The New Yorker* and taking notes. It was his turn to lead the discussion on an article he had chosen for *The New Yorker* interest group. Each month a different member chooses an article and leads the discussion the following month. Jerry and the other members I have talked with are really enjoying the group. They find it intellectually stimulating because they learn about a variety of topics, and socially enriching because they get to know the other members of the group. This first group is already at an optimal size. I have had inquiries from some members about starting a second *New Yorker* group. If you are interested in

being part of that group, give Joyce a call.

I am writing this before Thanksgiving and by the time you read this, I hope you have much to be thankful for and have had a good celebration. I wish everyone happy December holidays—Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and for all a good New Year.

Nancy

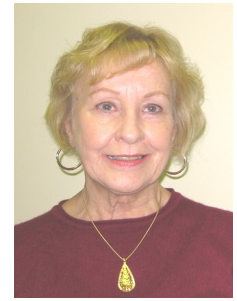
From the Executive Director : Senior Health and Housing Task Force Report

In May 2016 the Bipartisan Policy Center Senior Health and Housing Task Force issued a report titled *Healthy Aging Begins at Home*. By 2030, it's predicted that 74 million Americans, representing more than 20 percent of the population, will be 65 years of age or older. Those 85 and above are the fastest-growing demographic group.

Highlights of the report include:

- The current supply of housing that is affordable to the lowest-income seniors is woefully inadequate.
- The majority of older adults say they wish to age in place, yet most homes and communities lack the structural features and support services that can make living there independently a realistic option.
- About 70 percent of adults over 65 will eventually require help with bathing, food preparation, dressing, and medication management. Medicare doesn't cover long term services and supports, and only a small minority of Americans has long-term care insurance.
- Personal savings are a critical source of retirement funding, but for millions of seniors these savings will fall far short of what is necessary.

The needs are clear, but the questions remain; will federal, state and local governments provide the leadership and funding to address these critical issues? Visit <http://bit.ly/22nEQe9> to review the report.



Joyce

Answers to Your Questions about the Cluster Committee

(This is the first in a series of articles about the work of the various committees that help Wellesley Neighbors realize its mission.)

What is a cluster?

WN is sub-divided into seven “neighborhood” clusters of members who live in proximity to each other. The clusters are: Center, Dana Hall, Fells, Hills, Linden, Poets’ Corner and Western. Clusters are roughly 20-25 members in size.

How do I know which cluster I belong to?

If you are comfortable using a computer, after you log in, click on Profile next to your name in the upper right hand corner. Scroll down to Additional Information and there you will find your cluster listed. If you are not into using your computer, call either Ilse Sangree or Marlies Stueart , co-chairs of the Cluster Committee, and ask them which cluster you are in.

How do I know who else is in my cluster?

Every WN member either has or will receive shortly a printed list of their cluster members and their addresses and phone numbers. Each cluster has two co-chairs and their names will be indicated on the list. As members leave or new members join WN, your co-chairs will be notified and will be responsible for letting you know of the changes so you can update your cluster list.

What is the theory behind the clusters?

Clusters hold casual get-togethers in members’ homes to facilitate closer relationships with nearby WN members. The basic idea is to create a close, caring community who can call on each other for support and help when needed. Cluster members will get to know who might need a ride to a WN function, or appreciate a friendly phone call, or be invited to share a meal, or need something from the library or picked up from the grocery store. You have heard the saying, “It takes a village...”. Clusters are WN’s small villages.

Meet Peter Offenhartz



What happens behind the scenes when we register for an event? Whether we send an email or leave a phone message at Joyce's office, it's Peter Offenhartz who keys in the data (as we would do for ourselves, if signing up on line). Then we get a confirmation, which is sent automatically.

Peter spends an average of 30 minutes daily on this task, or a bit more if using his "slow computer" at the family place in Maine. Sometimes he's slowed by registrants who forget to leave their name, so be careful to provide all the details!

"It's just data entry, involving no skill whatsoever," he chuckles. However, he has an impressive computer background and helps WN members with their computers and printers, if Stan Treitman needs a back-up. He recently helped

Stan with a Windows update for Joyce—quite a big job.

Peter likes to say he's had four careers. First, he spent 15 years learning and teaching physical chemistry through fellowships, post-docs, and then positions at University of Colorado and Amherst. He did a lot of computer work and also wrote a textbook. Meanwhile, his wife Barbara was also learning and teaching physical chemistry. The two met at Swarthmore College, where Peter used to sing and play guitar (now he leaves musical performances to Barbara).

In 1973, the family moved from Amherst to Wellesley, and he worked 7 years at EIC Labs, in Newton, doing contract work in energy-related fields for the government. It was mostly research and development but, with about 40 employees, "we all did everything, including writing proposals."

Then Reagan was elected, ending "the good old days of government funding," and Peter started his third career: a series of small businesses over about 20 years. On his own or with various partners, he made computer peripherals; developed products for testing batteries (for Duracell and other firms), and built software for individual clients or product lines.

"Of course my fourth career is retirement: managing money, time, and homes in Wellesley and Maine," Peter concludes. He and Barbara travel to see their son, a computer scientist in SF, and their daughter, who teaches statistics in New York City—and their three grandchildren. Peter and Barbara are founding members of Wellesley Neighbors, and he has been elected to serve on the board, where she has already completed a term.

L.P.

WN Members at College Club Lunch November 17th



Short Takes

A LARGE GROUP OF MEMBERS ATTENDED THE NOVEMBER 1 PRESENTATION by Michael Wilsker on selecting home care providers for seniors. From personal experience with his family and co-owning Always Best Care Senior Services located in Sudbury, he had valuable information to share with those attending. We will have a detailed summary of his talk in the January *WN Newsletter*.

WN MEMBERS CONTINUE TO GET THREATENING PHONE CALLS from those who say they are from the IRS. Do remember that the IRS does not call people on the phone, ask for information, or threaten. It is best to report any call like this to the police. Here is a helpful link for information about this kind of call and what you should do: <https://www.irs.gov/uac/report-phishing>.

BRIDGE, ANYONE? CHESS? MOVIES? If you would like to form an interest group around any of these topics, give Joyce a call. The interest groups that are active – walking, hiking, *The New Yorker* –really enjoy getting together. Joyce can put you in touch with members belonging to these groups.

THE NOVEMBER 3 PANEL DISCUSSION ON REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT which WN sponsored, along with the Wellesley Free Library and the World of Wellesley, was very well attended. Congratulations and thanks to President Nancy Gans and Executive Director Joyce Wadlington who staffed a WN information table and had many inquiries and possible prospects for membership!

J.B.

Happenings



New Bedford Whaling Museum



South Station Tour



Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway

December 2016 Calendar

Thur. Dec. 1, 12:30 pm Men's Lunch at WCC **RSVP**
Sun. Dec. 4, 11 am Wang Center Brunch, Wellesley College **RSVP**
Wed. Dec. 7, 5:30 pm Women's Night Out at Calif. Pizza Kitchen **RSVP**
Wed. Dec. 7, 7:30 pm New England Conservatory Concert **RSVP**
Fri. Dec. 9, 1 pm Lunch at Rice Barn **RSVP**
Sun. Dec. 11, 3 pm Wellesley Chamber Concert, Dana Hall **RSVP**
Wed. Dec. 14, 7 pm Speaker Curtis Martin, "Early Cinema" WCC **RSVP**
Thur. Dec. 15, 11 am Davis Museum docent tour **RSVP**
Thur. Dec. 15, 12:30 pm Lunch for All, Wellesley College Club **RSVP**
Tue. Dec 20, 12 noon Bertucci Lunch **RSVP**
Thur. Dec 29, 12 noon Wellesley Neighbors Holiday Pot Luck Lunch **RSVP**

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 •	2	3
4 •	5	6	7 •	8	9 •	10
11 •	12	13	14 •	15 •	16	17
18	19	20 •	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 •	30	31

Note: Times and dates are subject to change. Email notices will be sent prior to events.

- ♦ Register on the website, call 781 283-0417, ext. 2, or email events@wellesleyneighbors.org
- ♦ Tell us if you need a ride or can offer a ride.
- ♦ **RSVP at least 24 hours before an event to ensure adequate seating and refreshments.**
- ♦ **Please call or email to cancel if you find you cannot attend an event.**
- ♦ Most events are open to non-members who would like to get acquainted with WN.

First Week in January 2017 Events

Wed. Jan. 4, 5:30 pm Women's Night Out **RSVP**
Thur. Jan. 5, 12:30 pm Men's Lunch at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**
Sat. Jan. 7, 12 noon Papa Razzi Lunch **RSVP**



November Service and Support

Service referrals: Power washer, Carpenter, Gutter cleaner, Mover

Support requests: Ride, Computer (3), Printer, Accompany to medical appointment



How to Contact Wellesley Neighbors

Phone:



Executive Director: 781 283-0417, ext. 1

Events: 781 283-0417, ext. 2

Email:



Exec Dir: director@wellesleyneighbors.org

President: president@wellesleyneighbors.org

Events: events@wellesleyneighbors.org

Newsletter: editor@wellesleyneighbors.org

Website:



www.wellesleyneighbors.org

Postal Mail:



Wellesley Neighbors

888 Worcester St. Suite 260

Wellesley, MA 02482

December Newsletter

Wellesley Neighbors
888 Worcester Street Suite 260
Wellesley, MA 02482

«Name»
«Street» «Addr 2»
«Town, State, Zip»

Board of Directors

Nancy Gans, President

Margot Lansing, Vice President

Ann Swanson, Clerk

Stan Treitman, Treasurer

Nancy Amstutz Mary Lefkowitz

Maureen Donlon Troy Murray

Mimi Ferrell Barbara Offenhartz

Bob Geiser Ilse Sangree

Peter Goldberg Joel Slocum

Sara-Jane Green Ralph Wagner

“I never think of the future. It comes soon enough”

Albert Einstein