

Georgia O'Keeffe: In Her Own Voice
Professor Nancy J. Scott
Tuesday, January 31, 7:00 pm, Wellesley College Club



Professor Scott recently published a biography on O'Keeffe that delves into the artist's intent in creating her art. O'Keeffe's understanding of her innovation, the art market, and critics' response to her changing motifs becomes clearer with analysis of her letters. O'Keeffe exchanged more than 5000 letters over 30 years with the photographer Alfred Stieglitz, first her mentor and later her husband.

Scott will show a range of images of O'Keeffe's art, and discuss the letters that give new insights into the origins of O'Keeffe works, and also reveal the tenor of her relationship with Stieglitz, with fellow artists, and her wide-ranging interests in art and literature.

Professor Scott earned a B.A. at Austin College, and an M.A. and Ph.D. at New York University. She is Professor of Fine Arts at Brandeis, and has taught at the University for over 35 years. She teaches a curriculum in art history on European and American modernism through World War II, as well as interdisciplinary studies in economics and the arts. Currently she is working on a new project involving J. M. W. Turner and his great painting *The Slave Ship*.

From the President: A Board Retreat to Review and to Plan



A happy and Healthy New Year to everyone! While people are traditionally making New Year's resolutions, Wellesley Neighbors as an organization is engaged in the same exercise. Each year, the Wellesley Neighbors Board begins the year with a Retreat to review our programs and to plan for the next year. This year our Retreat will be on February 6.

Wellesley Neighbors is an organization run by members for members. As we plan for this year's Board Retreat, please send us ideas you have about things you think we can do better, new things we should be trying, and things you think we are doing very well that we should preserve or expand. Thank you in advance for your suggestions.

Nancy

*The editors wish all of our Wellesley Neighbors
a healthy, happy and active*

2017

The Important Role of Our Membership Committee

The purpose of WN's Membership Committee is recruitment and retention of members. Mimi Ferrell is chair of the Committee which includes Susan Camuti, Deb Cogill, Nancy Gans, Susan Kemp, Margot Lansing, Hank Solomon, and Joyce Wadlington.

An important task is follow-up on inquiries; Executive Director Joyce Wadlington sends materials to all prospects. When there is critical mass, we hold an informational meeting with follow-up.

New member coffees are held three to four times each year, where new members have the opportunity to converse with Committee members, have their questions answered and learn more about Wellesley Neighbors. This past year we had our first new-member potluck meal which was very successful. We call new members about four months after they join to check on how they are enjoying WN and ask for their feedback.

The Membership Committee meets monthly, and we make decisions about advertising, updating our materials, and manning tables at local venues such as Roche Bros. and Whole Foods where we pass out materials and answer questions.

In November we co-sponsored an event on immigration with the World of Wellesley and the Wellesley Free Library, held at the Main Library, and we staffed an information table, handling many inquiries about possible membership.

On January 14 we shall be hosting an informational coffee at Wellesley Green; this is a condominium development where we already have 13 members, and we hope there will be interest on the part of other residents to learn about WN.

Our Committee enjoys its work, and we would be happy to know of any other members who would like to join us. Please contact Mimi or Joyce if you are interested.

Mimi Ferrell

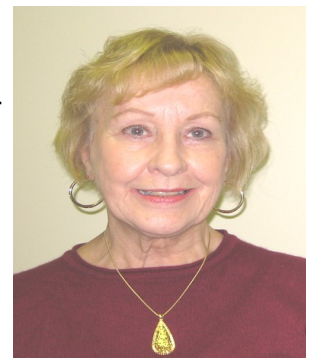
From the Executive Director: Introductory Membership Option

At its December meeting the Board approved offering introductory memberships. Over the past five years we've developed a caring community that offers many ways for members to connect through activities and events, member-vetted service referrals, and volunteer support. We believe that if people have the opportunity to spend six months with us and sample our offerings, they will be more likely to join Wellesley Neighbors as full-time members.

Currently we offer annual memberships to individuals for \$410 and to households for \$540. The new option

will enable prospective members to choose an introductory membership for six months at a cost of \$205 for individuals and \$270 for households.

You are our most effective resource for referrals to potential members, so please help us to spread the word about Wellesley Neighbors and our new introductory membership option.



Joyce



WELLESLEY NEIGHBORS VOLUNTEER SUPPORT ACTIVITIES



Wellesley Neighbors volunteers provide the following support to members. Contact Joyce Wadlington, Executive Director, at 781-283-0417 or director@wellesleyneighbors.org to request support.

- **Rides within Wellesley, Natick, Weston, Needham and Dover, to Framingham Logan Express, and for medical appointments in Boston, and at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Centers in Chestnut Hill and Dedham.**
- **Act as extra ear and scribe during meetings with medical staff.**
- **Provide meals short-term (e.g., member ill, death in family, etc.).**
- **Run errands.**
- **Grocery shop.**
- **Library pickups and drop-offs.**
- **Trips to recycling and disposal facilities.**
- **Friendly home visits.**
- **Phone buddy.**
- **Helper for small jobs (e.g., move air conditioner, etc.).**
- **Gardening/yard help.**
- **Pet sitting.**
- **Plant sitting.**
- **Dog walking.**

Please store or post this list where it's readily available for you and your family members to access.

January 2017

An Interview with Founding President Janet Giele



This month, founding president Janet Giele leaves the Wellesley Neighbors Executive Committee after 8½ years as an officer and board member. It seems an ideal moment to review WN history and how Janet became involved.

The story begins in May 2008 when the president of Beacon Hill Village spoke at the Wellesley Free Library (WFL) on the Village Movement and the ways that a village can help seniors stay in their own homes rather than move to a retirement facility. Janet and several others then got together “to see what we could do in Wellesley.” A bit later, Springwell offered the town a \$40,000 program to accomplish a similar purpose. “We felt that such costs could be avoided by forming a group that fostered community—through new friends and activities,” Janet says.

By November 2008 the group was ready to go public in a meeting at WFL where Janet gave a PowerPoint presentation to a packed audience, and it was voted to go forward as Wellesley at Home (WAH). Names were collected from people who might become future members. “Parky Damon asked if we needed money,” she remembers. “So we passed the hat and collected \$300. That became our working capital!”

From 2009 to the official opening in November 2011, the organization expanded through meetings, lunches, and coffees at people’s homes, to which interested friends and neighbors were invited. Ruth and Stan Treitman started an online newsletter, and Stan created an impressive website. Tom DeRiemer,

the treasurer, found an office and a pro bono lawyer to incorporate WAH as a nonprofit. Tom and Hank Solomon, assisted by faculty member Mary Lefkowitz, forged our unique link to Wellesley College.

With Ralph Wagner, Janet commissioned two Brandeis graduate students to develop a business plan that included a dues structure, plan for member recruitment, and a range of programs. It suggested a part-time executive director, so a search committee found Emily Grossman (2010) and ultimately Joyce Wadlington (2011).

Janet also raised funds from private donors, the Wellesley Hills Junior Women’s Club, and the Babson Foundation. She and her husband David made their own significant donation to assure that WAH would become a reality.

In October 2012 Janet resigned as president “to make way for new leaders. My role was mainly to get us going.” Margot Lansing followed with such contributions as our name-change to Wellesley Neighbors (WN), inclusion of more towns, and a stronger committee structure. Now Nancy Gans is pursuing her priorities to deepen friendships and help us learn how to give and ask for help from each other.

Janet’s dedication to WN is an extension of her interest in sociology and public policy related to the family and aging over the life course. After a career as a professor at Brandeis, she retired in 2004. She and David continue to enjoy WN, but she is also working on another book and is active in Town Meeting, where she helped to establish the Denton Road Neighborhood Conservation District (NCD) to protect against tear-down of trees and houses--the first and still the only NCD in Wellesley.

L.P.

Welcome New Members

Catherine Connor moved to Natick from Illinois in 2011. After earning a B.S. in electrical engineering and medical physiology, she did graduate work in physiology/biophysics and research in electrophysiology at the University of Illinois. In 1988 Catherine accepted an administrative position with its Biotechnology Center. She built up a rental business that requires her to spend two-three months a year in Illinois. Her leisure time is spent traveling, growing vegetables, tending to her chickens, and caring for her grandchildren.

Shirley Shih has lived in Natick since the summer of 2014. She moved there from Wichita Falls, Texas, where she had lived for almost 50 years, to be closer to her son and his family. Shirley is interested in playing the games of bridge and mahjong. She also likes to attend shows and visit museums, and she enjoys meeting new friends.

Short Takes

A VOLUNTEER SUPPORT ACTIVITIES INSERT is available with this Newsletter. It lists the volunteer support that we offer members. The Health Support Committee suggests that you post this insert where it is readily available to you and to relatives and friends.

THE NEW YORKER DISCUSSION GROUP has been meeting monthly and is very successful. There is room for two or three additional members. Contact Joyce at 781-283-0417 or director@wellesleyneighbors.org if you want more information or would like to join this group.

THANKS TO DEBBIE AND JOEL SLOCUM for opening their home to WN guests for a festive Thanksgiving Day meal. It was an enjoyable occasion for all who participated and a fine example of Wellesley Neighbors' hospitality and friendship.

WHEN YOU SHOP AT AMAZON, be sure to logon via smile.amazon.com and designate Wellesley Neighbors as your choice of charity. WN will then receive 0.5% of your purchase as a donation.

J.B.

Save the Date: Monday, February 13, 2017, 4:15 pm

Dr. Atul Gawande, surgeon and author of *Being Mortal*, will be the keynote speaker when Beacon Hill Village, the founding Village of the Village Movement, celebrates its fifteenth year of operation on February 13. His talk will be presented as a webinar, live-streamed to Villages throughout the country. He will speak about the value of community and opportunities as we grow older. Wellesley Neighbors members will be invited to view this event at the Wellesley College Club. Complete information will be available in our February *WN Newsletter*.

From the Health Support Committee: Primer on Home Health Care

The large group that attended this program on November 1 heard again the old refrain: “Don’t wait to discuss this with your family!” As with financial and end-of-life matters, home care options should be explored before they are actually needed, according to speaker Michael Wilsker.



Meeting the needs of his own parents inspired Michael to leave real estate law “to help people in a new way” as co-owner of Always Best Care (ABC) Senior Services of Sudbury. He described his and similar agencies that provide many levels of home care for you, someone you live with, or a distant relative. Whether or not they need ABC, he invites WN members to call him with questions (877-616-3404 or 508-728-4822).

Michael’s parents balked at accepting help but finally said “We’ll do it for you and your sister.” Getting help when needed is truly a gift to those who feel responsible for your comfort and safety. A caregiving spouse may be losing strength; children may be torn between your household and their own.

A caregiver who comes a few hours a week can make a big difference. Locally, their average rate is about \$25 per hour. You can find your own, but an agency offers expertise, oversight, and back-up when your regular caregiver can’t come.

An ABC care coordinator devises a plan, and most caregivers are nursing assistants certified by the state. They are chosen to be a good fit with the client and can be smoothly replaced if the fit proves unsatisfactory. “Clients should not hesitate to suggest changes,” Michael

says. He emphasizes their right to fine-tune caregivers and hours to maximize their satisfaction.

Of course, paid caregivers have rights, too! For example, those who stay overnight must have 6 to 8 hours of good sleep in a room of their own. If nights are too hectic, two caregivers may be needed to spell each other, which unfortunately adds to the cost.

Cost is the big problem unless you qualify for Medicaid. Medicare does not pay for private care. Veterans can get help from the VA program “Aid and Attendance,” but it’s limited; and long-term care insurance is costly and doesn’t cover everything (Michael’s parents have two policies).

On that sobering note, Nancy Gans reminded us that “the first step is to call Wellesley Neighbors” to see if a member can help, especially with a one-time or short-term problem. She added that Joyce can also provide references from among vetted caregivers.

L.P.



December Service and Support

Support requests: Rides (8), Computer (5), Website Access, Mobile Phone Instruction

To request service or support, call Joyce at 781-283-0417, ext 1..



A few of the activities we have enjoyed this year



Wellesley College Club Lunch



Peter Fergusson leads us
on a tour of Wellesley College



New Bedford Whaling Museum Tour



Audience at the Silent Picture Program



Touring the De Cordova Museum



South Station Tour, Boston



Lunch for all at the Wellesley College Club



Lyman Greenhouses Tour



January 2017 Calendar

January

Wed. Jan. 4, 5:30 pm Women's Night Out at CPK **RSVP**
 Sat. Jan. 7, 12 noon Papa Razzi Lunch **RSVP**
 Mon. Jan. 9, 3 pm Wellesley Neighbors Board meeting
 Tue. Jan. 10, 12 noon The Local lunch **RSVP**
 Wed. Jan. 11, 11am Concord Museum **RSVP**
 Wed. Jan. 11, 1 pm Lunch at Colonial Inn, Concord **RSVP**
 Thur. Jan. 12, 12:30 pm Men's Lunch at WCC **RSVP**
 Wed. Jan. 18, 12 noon All members lunch at WCC **RSVP**
 Thurs. Jan. 26, 5:30 pm Villa Restaurant, Wayland **RSVP**
 Mon. Jan. 30, 10:30 am Wellesley College Greenhouse tour **RSVP**
 Mon. Jan. 30, 1 pm Maugus Lunch **RSVP**
 Tue. Jan. 31, 7 pm Speaker Nancy Scott **RSVP**

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.

Fri. Feb. 10, noon Deadline for checks for Boston Ballet "Sleeping Beauty" Sat. April 29

Early February Events

Wed. Feb. 1, 5:30 pm Women's Night Out **RSVP**
 Thur. Feb. 2, 12:30 pm Men's Lunch at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**

How to Contact Wellesley Neighbors

Phone:



Website:



Executive Director: 781 283-0417, ext. 1

www.wellesleyneighbors.org

Events: 781 283-0417, ext. 2

Email:



Postal Mail:

Exec Dir: director@wellesleyneighbors.org

Wellesley Neighbors

President: president@wellesleyneighbors.org

888 Worcester St. Suite 260

Events: events@wellesleyneighbors.org

Wellesley, MA 02482

Newsletter: editor@wellesleyneighbors.org

January Newsletter

Wellesley Neighbors
888 Worcester Street Suite 260
Wellesley, MA 02482

Board of Directors

Nancy Gans, President

Ilse Sangree, Vice President

Ann Swanson, Clerk

Stan Treitman, Treasurer

Nancy Amstutz Troy Murray

Jean Boyle Peter Offenhartz

Maureen Donlon Joel Slocum

Mimi Ferrell Hank Solomon

Bob Geiser Ruth Treitman

Sara-Jane Green Ralph Wagner

Mary Lefkowitz

***“No one grows old by living, only by
losing interest in living”***

Fortune Cookie