

Wellesley Neighbors

Dover Natick Needham Wellesley Weston

Volume 12 Number 9

Newsletter

September 2019

From the Top: Great Music Expressed in the Hands of Great Kids Gerald Slavet, Thursday, September 26, Wellesley College Club Refreshments at 7 pm, Talk at 7:30 pm

Great art has been a part of every community since the beginning of history. And every community deserves to have great art. Gerald Slavet co-created and co-ran *From the Top*, a national weekly NPR show celebrating great music in the hands of great kids. There has always been a controversy about what makes music great and whether some genres of music express greater art than others. Duke Ellington famously said there are two kinds of music: good music, and the other kind. We will explore this topic as well as what leads some kids to excel at music. And we will watch some wonderful videos featuring kids that will surprise and delight you.

Jerry Slavet has been shaking up the often-stuffy world of classical music for more than 20 years. As cofounder of the national non-profit organization *From the Top*, Jerry brought the stories and talents of more than 3,000 incredible young musicians into the

limelight, celebrating their achievements with the same gusto that America celebrates its young athletes.

After winning two Emmys and producing more than

350 public radio shows, he and his co-founder, Jennifer Hurley-Wales, recently stepped aside, paving the way for a new generation of leadership.



Rather than heading to a beach with an umbrella drink, however, Jerry spent this winter in San Diego escorting refugees through the airport and bus station, helping them get to their destinations feeling safe and confident. He now is looking for his next adventure, sniffing out new projects and non-profit ideas.

Eighth Annual Meeting and Free Luncheon Wednesday, October 16, 12-2 pm at Wellesley College Club

The Wellesley Neighbors election of officers and board members will take place at the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, October 16, at the Wellesley College Club. We will gather at noon until 2 pm, and lunch will be offered at no charge. The slate is included with this issue, with more details provided in the October issue.

From the President: Kudos to the Nominating Committee



Since the president is also an ex-officio member of the Nominating Committee, I again had the pleasure of serving in this capacity. It is an interesting process when the Committee goes down the list of our members and realizes how many we know and how many members we do not really know. This fact is a challenge for the Nominating Committee, but trust in each other brings it to a successful outcome.

Once again, this year we have a wonderful list of candidates, and I hope that the date of our Annual Meeting (with lunch) is already marked on your calendar! *Ilse*

From the Executive Director: More Drivers Needed



Wellesley Neighbors members value the opportunity to call or email me to request a ride. In fact, rides are the most often requested type of WN support. Last month they were the only requests, as shown below.

Our member volunteers drive within Wellesley, Natick, Weston, Needham and Dover, and to Logan Express and the

Framingham bus terminal. For medical appointments, they drive to Dedham, Waltham, Chestnut Hill, and

Newton. They can choose whether to drive round-trip or just one way.

When I receive a request for a ride, I contact our volunteers until I find someone who is available. Given our small team of volunteer drivers, this can take time, and sometimes I end up driving. Like our volunteer drivers, I enjoy the satisfaction of helping others and connecting one-on-one with members—but our team needs to grow!

The more drivers we have, the easier it is for everyone. Please contact me and offer to join our group of volunteer drivers.

Joyce











August Service and Support

Service Requests: 4 (furniture refinisher, home health aide, handyman, house cleaner)

Support Requests: 7 (rides)



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

HELP WANTED!

Wellesley Neighbors previously had a "friend of a friend" doing our annual tax form reports for a nominal fee, but his service is no longer available. "A volunteer is needed to take over this important, basically once-a-year task that complements and certifies the work of the WN treasurer," says Ralph Adler, current treasurer. "It's a matter of using the financial information from the WN QuickBooks on-line account to complete the federal and state forms. Bookkeeping or accounting experience would be useful but not necessary."

The required forms are 990EZ from the IRS, plus a few MA schedules and the PC form from the MA Attorney General's office. Please step forward and help out our hard-working treasurer!

Staff: Jean Boyle, Mickey Goldin, Marcia Goldsmith, Curt Martin, Lucy Phillips, Ann Swanson, Ruth and Stan Treitman

Meet Mary Lefkowitz

Longtime members of Wellesley Neighbors know Mary because she has been quietly active since the beginning, as a founder and also a board member—our expert on Roberts Rules of Order.

Newer members may know that she conceived the Health Support Committee and co-chairs it with Nancy Gans. It has provided many WN speakers. Since grappling with the health problems of her late husband, Mary feels we all need more information to take care of ourselves and those who depend on us.

In spring 2019, the Health Support Committee presented "Stay or Go" panels on how to decide between staying at home as we age or going into a retirement community. Featuring WN members who've already made such decisions, the panels were presented just for us. But this fall, they will be presented to the wider community at the Wellesley Public Library main branch. "It's a big project but the library will help with marketing and other things," Mary says. "Joyce is also handling many details, thank goodness!"

Mary grew up in Manhattan and majored in classics at Wellesley College. In 1959, while completing her graduate work at Radcliffe, she began teaching classics at Wellesley. In 1979 she was named the Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities, a chair she held until she retired in 2005. She and some colleagues soon founded Emeriti/Emeritae, an organization for retired Wellesley faculty. Several of its members have contributed to our speaker series, and Mary has led WN seminars on several Greek plays.

Author of many scholarly articles and books, she most recently wrote *Euripides and the Gods* and the

introduction to *The Greek Plays*, a collection of new translations. She has been many times to Greece and the rest of its Mediterranean world, often as the "resident professor" on a Wellesley College tour. Last April she accompanied a group around the Peloponnese, home of



Sparta. The group stayed in the flourishing seaport town of Nauplion (Nafplio) and went to Mycene, Olympia, Corinth and other sites.

They were among the first to visit Messene, a Hellenistic town recently uncovered. "Then we took a ferry to Bari and saw parts of Southern Italy," Mary said. "The soil is so rich—you can see why the Greeks began colonizing there in the 8th Century BC."

Mary lives in Wellesley near the college. She shares her house with one of her two daughters and their combined cats (six in all). Her other daughter recently moved with her husband from the West Coast to Portland, Maine.

Mary feels that WN is doing a good job building a community and keeping people informed. "I've met a lot of people I would never have met otherwise," she adds. "Now we just need more pre-retirees to help and be part of the group."

Watch for Our Ad in the Globe

As in previous years, we have earned a small *Globe* ad through GRANT (*Globe* Readers and Non-Profits Together), a community initiative that allows subscribers (like you) to help deserving non-profits (like WN) earn free advertising space in the *Globe*. We've requested our ad to appear **Sunday, September 15, in the Metro Section.** Last time, it did not appear on the requested date but soon after. So if you don't see it September 15, keep watching! (Hint: It shows a row of WN members holding a big banner.)

GRANT distributes vouchers to print and digital subscribers through mail and email. Subscribers grant their vouchers to a non-profit of their choice online or by mail. The non-profits are then granted free advertising space to promote their organization. Ad size is based on the total amount that readers have donated. Be on the lookout for your vouchers, and help earn WN another ad!

Happenings







Top left and right: One very hot day we hiked around Fruitlands (or took a ride) and were rewarded with a beautiful lunch in a breezy shaded pavilion. At left: Another hot day we had an air-conditioned dinner at Agostino's in Natick after an air-conditioned movie at TCAN. Below: In late August, an intrepid bunch enjoyed perfect weather on a Boston Harbor cruise that took in three lighthouses.

For more photos of these and other events, log onto our home page and click on "Photo Albums" under "Documents-Photos." Contribute your own photos to the albums by sending them to bslavinb@gmail.com.







Wellesley Neighbors

Nomination Slate for Officers and Board Members

Officers (1-year terms begin January 1, 2020, and end December 31, 2020.)

President Catherine Connor Clerk Lucy Phillips

Vice President Adele Langevin Treasurer Ralph Adler

Catherine Connor moved to Natick from Illinois in 2011. Her undergraduate work in medical physiology led to graduate work in physiology/biophysics and research in electrophysiology at the University of Illinois. In 1988 Catherine accepted an administrative position with the University of Illinois' Biotechnology Center. Meanwhile, she built up a rental business that requires her to spend two or three months a year in Illinois. Over the years, she has also served on the boards of a number of nonprofit organizations. Her leisure time is spent traveling, growing vegetables, tending to the flower beds surrounding her home and caring for her grandchildren.

Adele Langevin earned a master's degree from Harvard University and a bachelor's from the University of Rhode Island. Her professional career has been invested in education and organizational management, including labor relations/mediation and human resources. She recently retired as Global Director of Human Resources for Oxfam America, headquartered in Boston. Adele served 25 years in the United States Navy Reserve in the field of intelligence, rising to the rank of Captain. Following the attacks on September 11, she was mobilized to active duty and served the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Northeast Field Office, Newport, RI, and the NCIS Middle East Field Office, Bahrain. She spent eight years on the nonprofit board of Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates.

Lucy Phillips was born in San Francisco, grew up in California, and graduated from Pomona College. She moved to Boston to work for Harvard Medical School and met her husband Hal who was at Harvard Business School. They came to Wellesley in 1973. Once their children were all in school, Lucy went back to work, mainly on hospital publications and PR. In the 90s, while earning an MA in linguistics at the Harvard Extension, she studied medical language and eventually began freelance editing of medical research papers, a sideline she continues. When widowed in 2011, Lucy moved to Wellesley Green and joined Wellesley Neighbors. She works on the monthly WN newsletter and is editor of the quarterly WG newsletter.

Ralph Adler was born in Bombay (now Mumbai) India, and in 1949 his family emigrated to San Francisco. He then earned his BS and MS degrees in Metallurgical Engineering from Stanford University. Next he moved to New Haven, CT, where he soon met and married his wife Susan and also earned his doctorate degree in Metallurgy from Yale University. As a materials scientist he has worked for defense and industrial corporations and served his last 24 years working for the US Department of Defense. Ralph and Susan have lived in Wellesley since the late 1960s, downsizing three years ago to Wellesley Green. Susan and Ralph are enjoying participating in many WN social and executive activities; Ralph's tenure as WN treasurer started last January 2019.

Nomination Slate for Board Members

(3-year terms ending December 31, 2022)

Teri Ann Lilly, Barbara Slavin, Lauri Slawsby, Stuart Zerner

Teri Ann Lilly

Teri Ann grew up in Glastonbury, CT, earned an associate degree in communications, married, raised a family and lived in Maine and New York State. When her children went to college, Teri moved to Northampton, MA, to study psychology at Smith College. She attended Boston College (MSW) and then pursued further graduate studies at Boston University. In addition to work as a clinical social worker, Teri's interest in research led to work at Boston College's Center for Work and Family. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends and looks forward to being an active member of Wellesley Neighbors.

Barbara Slavin

Barbara was born and raised in the Fells neighborhood of Wellesley on the corner of Pilgrim Road and Martin Road. After high school, she moved to the Boston/Cambridge area for some years of schooling, working and strolling along the Charles River. After moving back to Wellesley to care for her mother, Barbara returned to school to become a librarian. She now lives in an apartment complex in Framingham, between the Sudbury River and Route 9, where she tends her beautiful balcony garden, reads, chats at Starbucks across the street, and works as a part-time reference librarian at the Framingham Public Library.

Lauri Slawsby

Lauri grew up in Brookline and graduated from Boston University with a degree in American Literature. She lived in Cambridge and was a book designer at the MIT Press and the Harvard Business Review. With her late husband Alan and son Alex she moved to Wellesley in 1979 and continues to live in a lovely spot on the Fuller Brook Path. She is looking forward to a deeper involvement in the Wellesley Neighbors community.

Stuart Zerner

Stuart graduated from Syracuse University with a degree in Finance. He then served in the US Army Corps and gravitated to Wall Street after his discharge. His roughly 30-year career began as a security analyst and evolved into selling research to banks, pension funds and mutual funds, and eventually into management. He and Marilyn moved to Weston in 1974 when he was charged with starting and growing Bear Stearns' New England office. After a dozen productive years, he retired as partner to pursue other interests, including 20 years as a trustee of Beth Israel Hospital advising pension decisions, patent strategies, and computer software integration. Other interests are science courses, bicycling, reading, travel and some intensive tennis.

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September Events Calendar



September 2019

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Wed. Sept. 4, 5:30 pm, Women's Night Out, CPK California cooking in Wellesley

Thur. Sept. 5, 12:30 pm, Men's Lunch

A monthly favorite at Wellesley College Club (WCC)

Tue. Sept. 10, 12 noon, Fiorella's lunch, Newton

Stylish Italian specialties

Sat. Sept. 14, 1-4:30 pm, La Boheme

Pavarotti stars at Wellesley Community Center

Wed. Sept. 18, 12 noon, All Members Lunch at WCC

Catch up with friends and meet new ones

Fri. Sept. 20, 11 am, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

A beautiful tour in Brookline

Fri. Sept. 20, 12:30 pm, Bernard's, Chestnut Hill

Elegant Chinese cuisine

Sun. Sept. 22, 5 pm, Not Your Average Joe's

A friendly dinner in Waltham

Wed. Sept. 25, 11 am, South End Tour, Boston By Foot

Enjoy a special view of this Boston neighborhood

Thu. Sept. 26, 7:30 pm, Gerald Slavet on young musicians, WCC

Preceded by refreshments at 7 pm

Fri. Sept. 27, 12 noon, lunch at Lemon Thai

Exotic food near Wellesley Center

Sat. Sept. 28, 1:30 pm, Boston Ballet, Giselle

A haunting tale of love, betrayal and forgiveness

Early October Events

Wed. Oct. 2, 5:30 pm, Women's Night Out, CPK

Thurs. Oct. 3, 12:30 pm, Men's Lunch at WCC

A FRIENDLY REMINDER: The Activities Committee puts a lot of effort into organizing our many events, and you can help by paying promptly whenever pre-payment is requested. Often pre-payments are needed to hold places and/or special deals, and organizers appreciate receiving them well before "the last minute." THANKS!

Please register for events so planners can provide enough seating and refreshments.

Register on our website OR email events@wellesleyneighbors.com OR call 781 283-0417 (ext. 2). Tell us if you need or can offer a ride.

To cancel, please call or email if you find you cannot attend an event.

NOTE: Times and dates may change. Email notices will be sent before events.

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Wellesley, MA 02482

888 Worcester Street Suite 260

Wellesley Neighbors

Board of Directors 2019

OFFICERS

Ilse Sangree, President Catherine Connor, Vice President Lucy Phillips, Clerk Ralph Adler, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Nancy Amstutz Bette Lehman

Jean Boyle Troy Murray

Lee Delph Peter Offenhartz

Maureen Donlon Hank Solomon

Marcia Goldsmith Marlies Stueart

Sara-Jane Green Ann Swanson

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Margot Lansing Ralph Wagner