

**A Precocious Youth Abroad:  
John Quincy Adams and the Adams Family in London, 1783-1797**

**Robert Shimp, Ph.D. Candidate, Boston University  
Tuesday, September 27, 7:00 pm – Wellesley College Club**



As a literal son of the American Revolution, John Quincy Adams was imbued by his parents, John and Abigail, with an ardent American patriotism and a wariness of Great Britain's vices and corruption. At the same time, British culture, history, and political systems profoundly shaped Adams's nascent worldview. Indeed, Britain stood as the common political and cultural reference point for the Adamses before the Revolution. Surprisingly, however, this trend continued even

afterward. Although seemingly inconvenient or improper for a "Founding Father's" family, it was spurred by their disparate yet meaningful experiences in Britain's capital over the last two decades of the eighteenth century.

Robert Shimp is a PhD candidate in history at Boston University with an MA in history from BU and a BA in history and broadcast and electronic communications from Marquette University. In the summer, he guides tours at the Adams National Historical Park in Quincy as part of the National Park Service Pathways Program. He resides in Brighton, MA, with his wife Megan.

**From the President: A Tribute to the Activities Committee**

Look at the Calendar page of the *Newsletter*. Each month there is at least one visit to a local museum, an historical site like Mt. Auburn Cemetery, or an interesting organization such as WGBH. And then there are tickets: to Highland Jazz, the Boston Ballet, Reagle Theatre and the Wellesley Players. Don't forget the four or five lunches and dinners at local restaurants every month.

None of this rich calendar arranges itself. The Activities Committee meets regularly to plan our offerings. Their creativity and thoughtfulness is on display each month, as is their hard work. They need to make arrangements for each event several weeks ahead to meet the *Newsletter* deadline, and often have plans more than six months ahead in order to ensure a variety of different excursions.



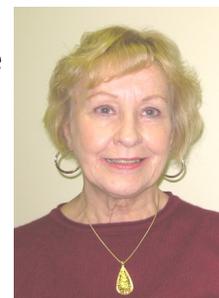
Each member of the committee takes responsibility for arranging one of the planned activities. The Committee is chaired by Maureen Donlon and Judy Frommer. The hard-working members are: Ruth Breden, Deb Cogill, Nancy Goldberg, Marcia Goldsmith, Ellen Hosbjor, Nancy Kaplan, Roz Kaplan, Barbara Offenhartz, Carolyn Pruyne, Shirley Schorr, Hank Solomon, Ruth Treitman, and Lena Tung.

When you see any of these people, thank them for their wonderful work in making and executing the plans that help us have fun together and build our community. They also welcome ideas from all of us for future events – just contact Maureen or Judy.

*Nancy*

## From the Executive Director : Older Adults and Technology

I've been asked by some members if younger older adults are more tech savvy. A 2014 report about the results of a Pew Research Center survey indicated that older adults, age 65 and up, are making greater use of the digital world. Two groups were identified. The first, those younger, more highly educated and affluent, use the internet quite a lot, while those older and less affluent are mainly disconnected from digital tools. Key findings of the survey include:



- 59% of older adults use the internet or email (65% men and 55% women);
- 77% have a cell phone (82% men and 73% women), but only 18% use smartphones;
- Barriers to using technology are physical or health conditions, skeptical attitudes and difficulties in learning how to use it;
- 46% (representing 27% of the total older adult population) of older adults that use technology are on networking sites such as Facebook;
- 6% of older adults use Twitter;
- 18% own an e-book reader and 18% own a tablet (34% of all American adults own a tablet).

Internet usage by older Americans still trails the general population, of which 86% now goes online.

Joyce

## Short Takes

**THE WN ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS** will take place at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 18, at the Wellesley College Club. We'll gather at 12 noon until 2 pm, and lunch will be provided at no charge.

**THIS PAST JUNE, WN MEMBER YUTAKA (KOBY) KOBAYASHI PUBLISHED** an expanded and updated version of his autobiography, *A Nisei's American Odyssey*. The Wellesley Free Library has a copy shelved in the biography section under "KO." Koby was profiled in the May 2016 WN *Newsletter*, which can be downloaded from our website.

**MEMBER RENATE OLSEN** will be teaching German conversation this fall for Wellesley-Weston Lifetime Learning (WWLL). Area seniors recently received mailers about WWLL courses, September 19-November 28 at Wellesley's Unitarian-Universalist Church. Register ahead or on opening day—or sample classes using the two free passes per term that are allotted to all seniors.

**PLAN TO ATTEND THE NOVEMBER 3 PROGRAM** at The Wellesley Free Library, co-sponsored by Wellesley Neighbors, World of Wellesley and the Library. A panel of refugees moderated by Mick Hirsch, director of religious education at the Unitarian Universalist Church, will discuss "Bridges Not Walls."

**AGAIN THIS YEAR WE WERE AWARDED** a two-column by three-inch free ad in the *Boston Globe* because a large number of readers chose WN as the nonprofit to be featured as part of the *Globe's* GRANT Program (Globe Readers and Non-Profits Together). The ad appeared with the picture below in the West Section of July 24, page 8. Thanks to all who made this possible.

J.B.



## *Sally Bradford-LaRhette: Chef Extraordinaire*

When Sally was new to Wellesley Neighbors, she hosted a potluck supper of haute cuisine. It was not surprising, because back in 1972 she discovered *The Making of a Chef* by Madeline Kamman, who then ran Chez Madeline in Newton. After taking Kamman's classes for non-professionals, Sally was one of 22 (out of 600 applicants) to begin a professional course.

Her first work was on Martha's Vineyard, where the family summered. "Being a pastry chef, I didn't work nights, which my husband appreciated," she notes. At home in Sudbury, she wrote "The Sudbury Chef" in the weekly paper and catered events. She taught cooking classes, "which is very hard work because you have to bring all the food and equipment!" She continued teaching and catering when the family moved to Wellesley, but has now retired.

Cooking was more than creative for Sally: it helped her survive the loss of her oldest child in 1971. Only 17, Lorene had a mountaineering accident with Outward Bound. "It was a very hard time," Sally says. "But cooking is like skiing: you have to focus. It takes you out of yourself."

Of course, she cooked before it became a lifeline. "I come from New England agrarian stock," she explains. "We never had much, but there was always the land to work. My mother's mother ran a farm, and we all really appreciated the crops, the seasons, the taste of things."

At a difficult family time, her sisters lived on that farm while Sally went to a foster home in Vermont. She recalls the feeling of not being anybody's



"special child," but also some good things: winning a gardening prize, helping the cook to make muffins—and discovering music. Now she is a "special mother," with three grown children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

A few years ago Sally moved to South Natick and has just moved again, to a new apartment complex in Natick. She still cooks for friends—or with friends—and is addicted to buying cookbooks.

During tomato season, she makes the simplest of all salads, panzanella: Cut up very ripe tomatoes and mix with torn leaves of basil and bits of good Italian bread (stale is OK, but not toasted). Lightly add olive oil, salt and pepper to taste, and let the flavors blend for 1-2 hours at room temp. Try it!

*L.P.*

### *August Service and Support*

**Service referrals:** TV repair (2), electrician, cleaning person

**Support requests:** computer/printer (2), cat sitter

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

## Happenings



*Men's BBQ*



*Bice piano concert*



*Tower Hill Gardens Visit*



*Charles Riverboat Cruise*



*Carol and Dick Rosenberg Sculptures*

## September 2016 Calendar

- Thur. Sept. 1, 12:30 pm** Men's Lunch at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**
- Wed. Sept. 7, 5:30 pm** Women's Night Out at Calif. Pizza Kitchen **RSVP**
- Fri. Sept. 9, 12 noon** Lunch at The Villa Restaurant, Wayland **RSVP**
- Fri. Sept. 9, noon** **DEAD-LINE for South Station Tour reservation**
- Sun. Sept. 11, 2 pm** Highland Jazz, Newton **RSVP**
- Tue. Sept. 13, 10:30 am** South Station Tour, Boston **RSVP**
- Thur. Sept. 22, 12 noon** Lunch for All at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**
- Fri. Sept. 23** Rose Kennedy Greenway Tour, Boston **RSVP**
- Mon. Sept. 26, 12 noon** Lunch at The Olive Garden, Natick **RSVP**
- Tue. Sept. 27, 7 pm** Speaker Robert Shimp at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**

## September

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
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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	

**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](mailto: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.

## Early October 2016 Events

- Wed. Oct. 5, 5:30 pm** Women's Night Out , Calif. Pizza Kitchen **RSVP**
- Thurs. Oct 6, 12:30 pm** Men's Lunch at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**

## Wellesley Neighbors Annual Meeting: Tuesday, October 18, at noon

### 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](mailto:director@wellesleyneighbors.org)

**President:** [president@wellesleyneighbors.org](mailto:president@wellesleyneighbors.org)

**Events:** [events@wellesleyneighbors.org](mailto:events@wellesleyneighbors.org)

**Newsletter:** [editor@wellesleyneighbors.org](mailto:editor@wellesleyneighbors.org)

Website:



[www.wellesleyneighbors.org](http://www.wellesleyneighbors.org)

Postal Mail:



Wellesley Neighbors

888 Worcester St. Suite 260

Wellesley, MA 02482

September Newsletter

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888 Worcester Street Suite 260  
Wellesley, MA 02482

**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

***“One does not get better but different and older and that is always a pleasure. “***

***Gertrude Stein, U.S. Author***